

# ALL SAINTS' MALDON



# PARISH NEWS

February 2019

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). 4:00 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

**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:**

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

## EDITORIAL

In the January issue of this magazine, in Vicki's 'Waffle,' she reported the Christmas Tree Festival and correctly stated that the winning tree was the **Memory Tree**, which was the brain child of Barbara Gale. Unfortunately, as many of you will have noticed, I inadvertently put the wrong photo in the article it was of course the Ministry Team's entry that I printed.

I sincerely apologise to both Vicki and Barbara for this error and hope to make amends by printing the correct tree here.

I would like to say I won't make another mistake, but as the saying goes "*only those who do nothing don't make mistakes!!*"

*Peter Clark, Editor.*



## FROM THE VICARAGE

### FORTY YEARS ON

On the feast of the Epiphany, I shared in the celebrations to give thanks for the 40 years of ministry of the Reverend Canon Huw Mosford. Huw is Canon Residentiary of St David's and Dean of Bro Lliedi. He has spent more of his ministry in the Church in Wales, but also





served in Jamaica and as Director of Ministry for the Missions to Seafarers. Some of you will remember him preaching at All Saints. Huw and I were at university together in Wales, and he was one of the people who influenced my own decision to seek ordination. Though ordained three years after Huw, our ministry has spanned a similar time frame. Over a glass or two of fine Welsh malt whiskey, we reflected one evening on the huge changes that have taken place in church and society since our ordination.

There have been many positive changes. When we were ordained, only men could be admitted to Holy Orders. Now women are fully integrated into the ministry of the Church. There was then very little understanding of the ministry of the laity; and now the gifts of the laity have been released in the service of the Church. We have also seen a greater freedom in the patterns and styles of worship which has breathed new life into many congregations. But there are other changes which have been more challenging. In the last forty years, there has been a steady decline of the Christian influence in society. This is apparent in education and in our national institutions. Forty years ago even those who had no personal faith, still had a respect and good will for the Church. This is no longer the case, due more to the growth of militant humanism, than the presence of other faith communities. When we were ordained, most baptisms, weddings and funerals took place in the Anglican Church. Now only a minority turn to the Church for the "occasional offices". We have also seen during this period the erosion of Sunday as a distinctive day. Forty years ago, supermarkets did not open on Sundays. Now Sunday is one of the busiest shopping days and the most popular day for children's sporting events.

But there have been other profound changes in society which have influenced attitudes. Most people under fifty probably have very little Christian background. There is a huge gulf between the Church and the young. Churches are trying to respond to the challenge in new and imaginative ways. In our own parishes, "Messy Church" and "Open the Book" are reaching out to those who would not be attracted by traditional ways of worship.

Many of us older clergy are struggling to understand the huge cultural shift that we are living through. As our Bishops keep reminding us, new ways are needed for the survival of the Church and to pass on the faith to the next generation. A recent report I read put it like this

"If we just carry on with what we are doing, it will lead us to the point where the Church and Christianity will be relics of a bygone age: relegated to the past, irrelevant, small and of no consequence"

This is a dire warning. But there are many signs of hope and growth in the Church. In our own diocese, there were over 30 people ordained last year as Deacons, not to mention a huge range of authorised lay ministries. It is to



this new generation of Church leaders that we must look to give the inspiration and imagination to engage with the younger generations. Over the next few years, there will be a large proportion of stipendiary clergy retiring. This will mean the Church will need to embrace changes in the patterns and expectations of ministry. We need to pray for more vocations both to the ordained and lay ministry in the years to come. It is to them that my generation of clergy must pass on the baton to find fresh ways to engage with society and to win new disciples for Christ.

*Stephen*

## BISHOP OF CHELMSFORD'S LENT APPEAL

The Appeal in 2018 raised £60,000 from churches across the diocese. This money was sent to the drought stricken diocese of Marsabit, Kenya Mount East.

This year, the diocese of Chelmsford is supporting the appeal for St Andrew's College, Kabare. As well as training clergy and missionaries, the College also runs a number of vocational courses, to help people develop small businesses and therefore to become self sufficient and to improve their lives. You are invited to collect money during Lent (boxes can be provided for those who wish) and to return your savings to church at Easter.

## Lunch at All Saints

Soup – hot food- cakes

**12:00 to 1:30 pm**

**Wednesday**

**6th Feb**





# LETTERS

*Following Stephens article "From The Vicarage" in last month's magazine, entitled "AND THE RICH HE HATH SENT EMPTY AWAY....." we have received a letter from a person who, although providing his name and address, wishes to remain anonymous. The letter received is printed below.*

Dear Reverend Carter,

Excuse me emailing you but I have just read with interest your latest contribution to the Parish News [January 2019].

Difficult though it is to disagree with what you have written [re: global billionaires, greedy CEO's, rich footballers etc.] I think you have left out another obvious, powerful and exceedingly rich entity – your own Church of England.

Historically, religions worldwide have always been exercised by power and money and although, in this county at least, the power is now gone much of the rest is still in place. Despite the denials and concealment, is it not so that many, and the C of E is one, are very, very rich institutions – owning vast tracts of land and property and with hundreds of millions invested in the stock market. Its upper echelons occupy ministries and palaces and, as you must know, some live pretty high-on-the-hog. Isn't that a reasonable and fair reflection of how it is?

And yet, despite all this, the church either gets its proverbial begging bowl out from time to time [to repair a church roof or the like] or it castigates others for doing what, in truth, it is guilty of itself.

Should the church, for all the good work it does, not examine its own situation? Hypocrisy in this life abounds everywhere and the church is no exception. Perhaps you might think it worthwhile to address this at your next sermon – and not least explain why the C of E does what it shames others not to do.

*Name and address supplied.*

*Letters on any subject are always welcome. Ed.*

## ASH WEDNESDAY

The first day of Lent is March 6th. There will be a Sung Eucharist at 7.30pm in All Saints, at which the Imposition of Ashes will be available for those who wish. For those preferring a morning service, there will be a Book of Common Prayer service of Holy Communion at 10.30am at St Michael's, Woodham Walter.



## LENT GROUPS

We will again be having Lent Groups in All Saints, on five Wednesdays in Lent, beginning on March 13th, from 10.30am-12.00. This year's theme is "Letters to the Churches". This will be helpful for those wishing to deepen their understanding of the New Testament. Each week we will look at a different Epistle, and consider its historical background and message. There will be a short Bible study from that Epistle, and we will conclude with discussion in groups. Full details of the programme will be available on the weekly notices.

Commencing on Monday 11th March at 7.30pm at St Mary's, there will be an evening Lent Course, on "Christian Basics," lead by Father John and Father Robert. This will be helpful for those who would like a "refresher course" on the basics of the Christian faith.

## PARISH OFFICE

Most of you will be aware, from the public notice in the church before Christmas, that plans are moving forward to complete the final stage of the church re-ordering with the installation of a parish office. This has the support of the PCC and has been authorised by Faculty by the Chancellor of the Diocese, and we are hoping that work will begin in a few weeks time.

This work is being funded from part of the legacy to All Saints from John and Maureen Clifford, for which we are most grateful. Installing the office will involve some structural changes in the present upstairs clergy vestry/storage area, together with the entrance area by the priest's door and the choir vestry/meeting room. It may mean some disruption for a few weeks as we rearrange some of the furniture and fittings. The office will house a computer and telephone as well as the photocopier and parish filing system.

I do hope everyone will understand that we will all need to be a bit flexible for a few weeks and deal with it in good humour!

Given the huge amount of work John Clifford did in parish administration, it seems a very appropriate use of the money that he and Maureen have left to us.

*Stephen*



# Church Warden's Chat

My memories of 2018 Christmas services range from safety worries over the numbers at a candlelight service, to Julie playing Pass the Parcel with the congregation on Christmas morning! It was a joyful way to celebrate the birth of Christ.

In last month's magazine, Stephen gave us a list of figures of church attendance for the Christmas services over the last four years. They made interesting reading, but one can't help but remember Avril's words at one Service of Light service, asking the large congregation where they had been during the rest of that year!

As I thought of her words, I remembered a sign I had seen on the church door while on holiday at Cricket St. Thomas in Somerset:

'Church is.....

Where your PARENTS bring you to be christened.

Where your FRIENDS bring you to be married.

Where your RELATIONS bring you to be buried.

Why not try coming on your own sometime?'

This seems to be many people's idea of church these days, when the 'hatch, match and despatch' services are the only times they attend services. It is a common problem that many churches face, where their congregations are getting older and there are fewer younger families among them.

We are quite lucky at All Saints', weekly service numbers are good, our junior church numbers have increased and many people use the church during the week, but we still need to think carefully about the future life of our church. We must not be frightened to try new ideas, (even if they don't always work!) and adapt to changing ways of doing things. This need not mean throwing out the old; tradition and the known are good and to be treasured, but it should not mean closing our eyes to alternatives occasionally.

After a busy Christmas period at church, we now look forward to events in the New Year, beginning with a Bistro Evening in early February. It looks to be a great evening with good food and hopefully good company. Please see Merie or Gwen for tickets.

Later in the month the work will begin to improve the vestry and storage areas upstairs in church. It will mean some disturbance and inconvenience for a couple of weeks, but I hope we can all put up with it!

*Best wishes, Jenny.*





*If you ever need a grumpy old Vicar, the Vicar of Old Heath, Colchester, Fr Richard Tillbook, will never disappoint. This article, is reprinted from his parish magazine, with his permission, and submitted by Stephen.*



## THE VICAR MOANS

I need to pass a law telling people not to say "Train Station"

It is a RAILWAY station: a station on the side of the railway. A train stops (stationary) at a station. Whilst on a railway theme, the train is pulled behind the locomotive. The locomotive is not "the train". The train is what follows-just as a bride has a train on her dress: but we don't call the bride "the train"

I also want to know why so many people begin a sentence with the word "so". For example, "What time is the service on Sunday?"

"So the service is at 10.00am"

Then I really have to put a stop to "Yeah, no" For example, did you enjoy the party?" Yeah, no. I was OK" Grrrrr

Finally, before my blood pressure rises, I must put a stop to "I'm good"

For example, "would you like a cup of tea?"

"No, I'm good".

The question is not asking whether you are good or bad. It is for others to decide whether you are good or not"

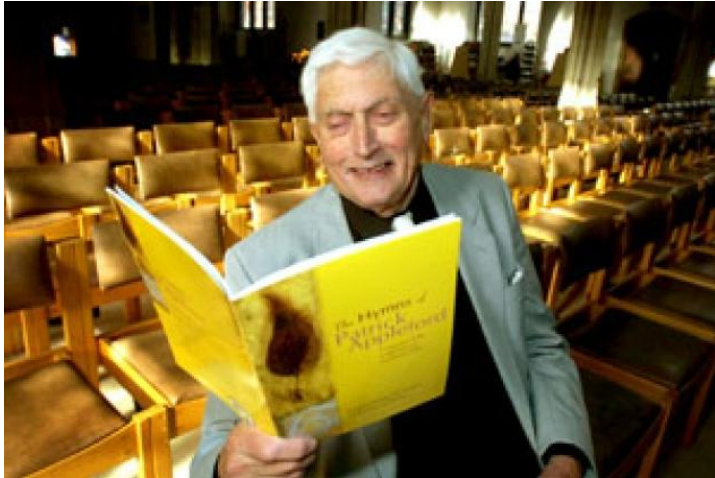
*Fr Richard Tillbrook*

Perhaps we should also add to this list "See you later!" when we clearly have no intention of seeing that person again that day.SC

Another irritant is the misuse of 'Lay and Lie'. A chicken will **lay** an egg but we **lie** down. It is incorrect to tell a dog to lay down when we want it to lie down. *Ed.*

# REV CANON PATRICK APPLEFORD

## (1925 - 2018)



It is sad to record the death of Patrick Appleford. He served his title in Poplar, in east London, from 1952 until 1958. In 1961, he became Education Secretary to the SPG (which later became USPG).

In 1966 he moved with his family to Zambia where he became Dean. When he returned from Africa he took a rural parish in Hereford.

Then in 1975, he was invited by the Bishop of Chelmsford (John Trillo) to become Director of Education in the Diocese of Chelmsford, an office he held until he retired in 1990. He had a long and significant ministry as a priest, the last 43 years of which were spent in our diocese.

Patrick (as he became fondly known) devised an adult education course for anyone interested in learning more about their faith. This course – now known as The Course in Christian Studies – is probably his most important legacy to the diocese, and still continues to this very day.

Patrick became a parish priest in the diocese in 1976, and for 12 years was instrumental in the direction that the parish of All Saints', Chelmsford would take.

We know Patrick best for the hymns he wrote, and the music he composed. Did you know that the sung setting of the Eucharist we use on the third Sunday of the month was written by him? It is the setting most widely used



in this Diocese!

He was a hymn writer for 50 years. He also wrote three cantatas: The way of the Cross; Follow the Way; and Messiah comes to Town. Probably his most sung hymn is 'Living Lord' which he wrote for a youth club in Poplar. It is said that he wrote it to 'show Jesus was not a dead hero of an olde world but a living Lord'. He also wrote a favourite hymn of Stephen's, 'Earth in the dark'. This hymn is about Mary of Magdala on Easter Day, and we sing this regularly too.

Patrick wrote many other hymns, and one he wrote for All Saints, Poplar; All Saints, Chelmsford; and All Saints, Maldon. The tune for this hymn is aptly named 'Maldon'. This hymn – 'Glory be to God the Father' – we sang at All Saints' tide last year. Perhaps it will become our 'theme tune'!

Patrick Appleford was a good friend of Arthur Dunlop, a previous Vicar of this parish.

I recall a Sunday evening at which Patrick had been invited to speak. Before he spoke, he asked if the piano could be moved to the front of the church (it used to reside against the wall in the D'Arcy aisle). Patrick sat at the piano and proceeded to teach us one of his new hymns, 'O Lord, all the world belongs to You'. After playing over the first verse he said that there was not enough volume coming from our ancient upright piano, so he decided to dismantle it panel by panel, until – from the front of the instrument – only the strings and keys were visible. It was an enjoyable half hour learning a new hymn, but very worrying when Patrick said that he had no idea how to put the piano back together again!

The following quote from one of his books is about one of his hymns 'Glory be to God the Father':

*'The basic Christian hymn is simply 'Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit'. We thank the Father for the blessings of this life, the Son for his amazing love and the Spirit for his inspiration.....Alan Bennet says of hymns, "Hymns help, they blur." They don't have to be precise, just express what people may want to sing to God. At least a hymn of thanksgiving is suitable at all times and in all places, and it is good to worship, to revel with others in the infinite worth of God, and to pray that we may acknowledge the worth of each other and of the whole creation.'*

May many of Patrick Appleford's hymns become well-loved, like many other 'modern' hymns, and we thank God for the educational and musical legacy left to today's Church.

A memorial service will be held at 13.00hrs in the Cathedral on Thursday 21st March 2019.

*Alan Marjoram*



# ALL SAINTS' HANDBELL RINGERS

Each year the handbell ringers have a very hectic time of ringing over the festive period; and this year was no exception.

We focus on raising funds for a local charity and CHESS (Churches Homeless Emergency Support Scheme) of Chelmsford was our nominated organisation. This service also provides support for the homeless in our own area of Maldon and Burnham.

Our 'ringing' venues broadly fall into 4 sections – care / residential homes; local 'christmas' festivals; supermarkets / high street shops; and church events. Each brings with it a slightly different approach and range of music. Residents at the homes love to join in with traditional carols; Christmas festivals and high street shops need a full repertoire of traditional Christmas 'ditties'; and the church performances offer the challenge of more intricate pieces.

We played at the stroke club (Fullbridge Hall), Embassy Court, Firstlings (Heybridge) and St Peters Court. All were really enjoyable. It's very rewarding when you hear the listeners joining in with the words and smiling the whole way through.

The festivals included an early November event at 'Five Lakes' - Tolleshunt Major ; and the Museum of Power. We also participated in the Christmas street fayre in Burnham. With the team standing outside on a lorry trailer, people particularly welcomed the variety of music and the 'christmas' atmosphere created by the bells. Thank goodness it did not rain!

For several years we have been invited to St James church, Dengie by the local flower group. This is a delightful venue which seems to bring out the best of handbell ringing. Our performances are always much appreciated.

Of course, we enjoy playing at All Saints! And this year, we were very pleased to ring on the Saturday morning of the Christmas Tree festival – and what a tremendous event this was! Our tree had over 100 knitted bells – with particular thanks to the sterling work of Susan P from the 'tenor' bells. And, of course, we continue to ring the congregation both in and out of the candlelit service on Christmas eve.

We have raised over £1100 for CHESS and will be making a formal presentation to them early in 2019. Additionally, we were one of several musical groups that played during the week before Christmas in the 'waiting area' at Broomfield Hospital. Donations received here were for the provision of robotic surgery equipment for use at the hospital.

We would particularly wish to thank Tesco's (Maldon), Sainsburys and Marks & Spencers (Chelmsford) for allowing us to ring at their stores and collect donations for CHESS. Their support is greatly appreciated.

We now have a well earned rest; but we are also intending to meet a couple of late requests in the new year where we were unable to attend during the Christmas period.

If anyone reading this, fancies having a go with handbells then please give Susan Duke a call. We meet most Wednesday evenings at 7.30pm in the Church.

*Derek Hall*



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## SERVICES FOR FEBRUARY

- 3rd Feb**            **The Presentation of Christ in the Temple, “CANDLE-MASS”**  
8:00 am Holy Communion (BCP 1662)  
10:00 am Worship for All  
11:15 Said Parish Eucharist  
6:00 pm Evensong at St Mary’s
- 4th Feb**            **Monday**  
7:00 pm Holy Communion in D’Arcy Chapel
- 7th Feb**            **Thursday**  
11:00 am Holy Communion (BCP 1662)
- 10th Feb**          **Fourth Sunday Before Lent**  
8:00 am Holy Communion (BCP 1662)  
10:00 am Parish Eucharist and Junior Church  
4:00 pm Evensong and Sermon
- 11th Feb**          **Monday**  
11:00 am Holy Communion in Hailey House
- 14th Feb**          **Thursday: St Valentine**  
11:00 am Holy Communion (BCP 1662)
- 17th Feb**          **Third Sunday Before Lent (SEPTUAGESIMA)**  
8:00 am Holy Communion (BCP 1662)  
10:00 am Parish Eucharist and Junior Church..  
4:00 pm Evensong and Sermon
- 21st Feb**          **Thursday**  
11:00 am Holy Communion (BCP 1662)
- 24th Feb**          **Second Sunday Before Lent (SEXAGESIMA)**  
8:00 am Holy Communion (BCP 1662)  
10:00 am Parish Eucharist and Junior Church..  
6:30 pm Prayer and Praise Eucharist
- 28th Feb**          **Thursday**  
11:00 am Holy Communion (BCP 1662)



## DIARY FOR FEBRUARY

Sat 2nd Feb	Bistro Evening in the D'Arcy Room
Mon 4th Feb	10 am - 12 Maldon Pioneers Drop In 7:30 pm PCC in Meeting Room
Tues 5th Feb	10 am - 12 noon Meeting Point 10 am Prayer Group 2 pm U3A visit to All Saints' 7 pm Mothers' Union
Wed 6th Feb	Accession of HM Queen Elizabeth 1952 10:30 am Stewardship Committee in Meeting Room 12 - 1:30 pm All Saints Lunches 7:00 pm Parish Office
Thu 7th Feb	9:15 am Sunshiners 2-4 pm Maldon Ladies 7 - 8 pm Junior Choir Practice 7:30 pm Choir Practice
Sat 9th Feb	10-12 am Church Coffee Morning
Mon 11th Feb	9:00 am Men's Breakfast (Rose and Crown) 10 am - 12 Maldon Pioneers Drop In
Tue 12th Feb	10 am - 12 noon Meeting Point 10:00 Am Prayer Group in Meeting Room
Thu 14th Feb	9:15 am Sunshiners 2-4 pm Maldon Ladies 7 - 8 pm Junior Choir Practice 7:30 pm Choir Practice
Sat 16th Feb	2 - 4 pm Messy Church
Mon 18th Feb	10 am - 12 Maldon Pioneers Drop In
Tues 19th Feb	10 - 12 noon Meeting Point
Wed 20th Feb	7:00 pm Parish Office
Thu 21st Feb	9:15 am Sunshiners 2-4 pm Maldon Ladies 7 - 8 pm Junior Choir Practice 7:30 pm Choir Practice
Mon 25th Feb	10 am - 12 Maldon Pioneers Drop In 7:30 pm Mission and Outreach Committee
Tues 26th Feb	10 - 12 noon Meeting Point
Thu 28th Feb	9:15 am Sunshiners 2-4 pm Maldon Ladies 7 - 8 pm Junior Choir Practice 7:30 pm Choir Practice



*As part of our commitment to help charities, we collect stamps and postcards which are passed on to the Leprosy Mission for them to raise money. Here is a little more information about Leprosy and the Leprosy Mission.*

## **Our Mission**

“We are an international Christian development organisation that diagnoses, treats and offers specialist care, including reconstructive surgery, to leprosy patients. Our aim is to transform and empower the lives of people affected by leprosy.”

“Leprosy is a disease of poverty and as well as providing healthcare, we offer rehabilitation, education, vocational training, small business loans, housing and fresh water supplies and sanitation to tens of thousands of people each year. We provide a springboard to restored health, self-sufficiency and renewed hope. Our services are provided regardless of religion or ethnicity, promoting equality and social justice.”

## **What is leprosy?**

Leprosy is a mildly infectious disease associated with poverty. It is easily cured. Leprosy starts by damaging the small nerves on the skin's surface resulting in a loss of sensation.

Without the gift of pain, everyday activities are fraught with danger. Unnoticed burns and ulcers can lead to permanent disability. Due to the inability to detect grit in the eye, blindness is a common consequence of leprosy.



## **Disability**

If left untreated, leprosy goes on to damage the large nerves in the elbow, wrist, knee and ankle. The resulting damage can lead to loss of sensation in



the hands and feet and muscle paralysis, which causes clawed fingers and foot drop. Loss of sensation in the hands and feet means everyday activities are fraught with danger – burns go unrecognised and stones in shoes unnoticed leading to ulcers developing. These can be difficult to heal and become infected, often leading to the shortening of fingers and toes or ultimately, amputation of limbs.

## Treatment

An effective cure for leprosy has been available since 1982 in the form of multidrug therapy – a combination of three drugs taken daily for six to 12 months. But while treatment halts the progression of this cruel disease, it cannot turn the clock back in terms of disability. A clawed hand or foot drop can be restored with surgery. Surgery, however, cannot restore the feeling to hands and feet meaning they can become easily injured. Protective footwear can be worn to reduce the chances of injury and of ulcers developing. The blinking mechanism can also be restored to the eye by surgery. But once eyesight has been lost as a result of injury to the eye, nothing can be done to reverse the situation.

**Sunday January 27th** was The International World Leprosy Day when BBC Songs Of Praise's, Pam Rhodes, hosted a free talk in Peterborough Cathedral.

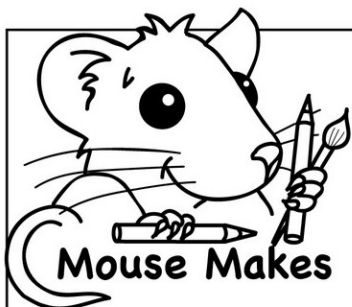
Having recently taken up the position of Vice-President of The Leprosy Mission, Pam visited the charity's Anandaban Hospital in the foothills of the Himalayas in Nepal and spoke about her recent visit to Nepal, a country recovering from the devastation of the 2015 earthquake which killed 9,000 people, leaving an already poverty-stricken nation still struggling to rebuild lives.



**Pam Rhodes and Ram during her visit to Anandaban Hospital in Nepal.**

*The information for this article was taken from the Leprosy Mission Website [www.leprosymission.org.uk](http://www.leprosymission.org.uk) where much more information can be found. Ed*





### WHAT IS LOVE?

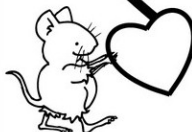
Cross out every other letter to find the Bible verse, then look it up.

OHNKEWJLOSHCNP  
CGHUADPBTFEKRA  
FJOMUORD  
VWEURDSKEV  
TOEGNP

### God's love is...

Change each letter to the letter before it in the alphabet.

"Hpe mpwfe uif xpsme tp nvdi  
uibu if hbwf ijt pomz tpo tp  
uibu fwfszpod xip cfmjfwft  
jo ijn nbz opu ejf cvu  
ibwf fufsobm mjgf."  
Kpio 3:16



### How does God show he loves us?

Look at this in a mirror!

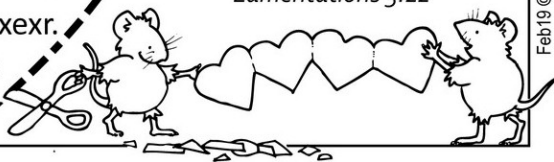
God showed his love for us  
by sending his only Son into  
the world, so that we  
might have life  
through him.  
John 3:16

### HOW LONG IS GOD'S LOVE?

Cross out all the xxx to find out!

xxGxixvxxxtxhxaxnxkxsxxtxoxtxhx  
exxLxoxrxdx,xfxoxrxxHxexxiixsxxg  
xoxxoxdx,xxHxixsxsxxtxeaxxdx  
fxaxsxtxxlxoxvxeexnxdxu  
rxxexsxfxoxrxxexvxxexr.  
pxpsxaxxlmx  
1x3x6:1

"The steadfast love of  
the Lord never ceases"  
Lamentations 3:22



Feb 19 © Deborah Noble • at partispump.co.uk





# Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

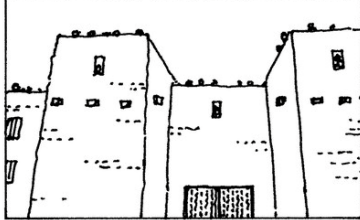
It can be read in the Bible in Joshua chapter 6 verses 1-27

Joshua led the Israelites across the river Jordan. They camped near the town of Jericho and prepared to fight.

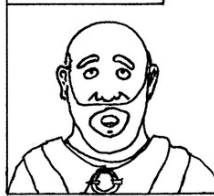
The people in Jericho locked the town gates.



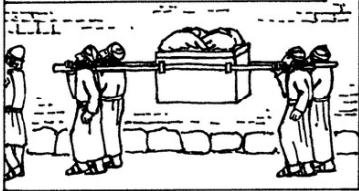
They thought they were safe.



God told Joshua what to do.



On the first day, the priests carried the sacred chest,



they blew trumpets, and walked round Jericho once.



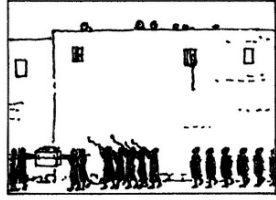
The army followed not saying a word.



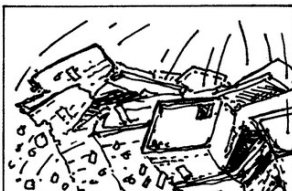
They did this for 6 days.



On the 7th day they walked round 7 times.



The army gave a victory shout!



The walls of Jericho collapsed.

The army rushed into the town and captured it.



Jericho was destroyed.

# MARRIAGE



In a recent sermon given by Reverend Graham, the Gospel reading had been from the Gospel according to John, chapter 2 verses 1-11. It told about a marriage in Cana in Galilee and of the miracle Jesus had performed turning water to wine. From this Graham talked about marriage and attitudes of people to it, particularly in today's world. He commented on the fact that whether the marriage partners are from rich or poor backgrounds it is only human for them to want the best ceremony and celebrations possible in order to mark the occasion which will be a huge event for them and one which will change their life for ever. Graham said that regardless of finances available, most people want to show that they think it is a momentous occasion for them and wish to please their parents and their family and friends by making it as lavish as they can afford. He mentioned that we all are aware that when 'celebrities' or 'important socialites' get married, it is more often than not the case that they spend massive amounts of money and invoke outlandish 'gimmicks' in order to show their importance. Reverend Graham said that he did not necessarily think that this was wrong as long as it was remembered that God was present at every marriage. It does not matter about the importance and background of the couple involved, God would still be there. This point he made again and again, that God is present at every marriage. I do sometimes get very sceptical and even disdainful when I see people getting married and they appear to be spending too much money on 'making a show' of it. Perhaps now I will not, as I have learned that all marriages have a special guest in their midst.

I found that point particularly reassuring, as when Joan and I married many years ago we could not afford a wedding rich in material things but we did



manage to save enough money to have the usual things like flowers, a car for the bride and bridesmaids and a wedding breakfast. The ceremony was in our local Anglican church in Dagenham where I had been born and baptised and where Joan's family now lived. Would you believe that the whole cost of the day was counted in hundreds of pounds only? The parents did think it was splendid and I am pleased to say I think that God was present, as our marriage has proved to be 'splendid' too and I think that our parents would be pleased to know that.

I wanted to pen this little piece to relate just how much an impact Canon Graham's sermon had on me, and maybe on others present, and how it brought home to me that God is present at every marriage. I must say that I had not given too much thought to that fact until now. It is said that Priests think that their sermons are only remembered for a short period and then are forgotten by one and all, but I will not forget the message in this one. Joan and I do not go to many weddings nowadays, due mainly to not having too many in our family and circle of friends being of marrying age, but when we next do get such an invitation I shall certainly make sure I look and listen for the presence of God.

*Ken Downham*

## Where will your journey take you in 2019?



*Just starting out?*

*Not sure of the direction?*

*Tentative steps?*

*Striding out with confidence?*

*At a crossroads?*

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 A Workshop for Young People

**This day of discovery is for you**

**Bradwell Area Vocations Day**

**Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2019, 9am to 3.30pm**

Meadgate Church, The Orchards: [Mascalls Way](#), Chelmsford, Essex, CM2 7NS

To register your place, please call Helen Powney on 01375 673806 or email [hpowney@chelmsford.anglican.org](mailto:hpowney@chelmsford.anglican.org)

Lunch is included. Please notify Helen of any dietary requirements. Please reserve your space by **Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2019**.



# HOLY DAYS

## 2nd February: The Presentation of Christ in the Temple/ Candlemas

In bygone centuries, Christians said their last farewells to the Christmas season on Candlemas, 2 February. This is exactly 40 days after Christmas Day itself.

In New Testament times 40 days old was an important age for a baby boy: it was when they made their first ‘public appearance’. Mary, like all good Jewish mothers, went to the Temple with Jesus, her first male child – to ‘present Him to the Lord’. At the same time, she, as a new mother, was ‘purified’. Thus, we have the Festival of the Presentation of Christ in the Temple.

So where does the Candlemas bit come in? Jesus is described in the New Testament as the Light of the World, and early Christians developed the tradition of lighting many candles in celebration of this day. The Church also fell into the custom of blessing the year’s supply of candles for the church on this day – hence the name, Candlemas.

The story of how Candlemas began can be found in Luke 2:22-40. Simeon’s great declaration of faith and recognition of who Jesus was is of course found in the Nunc Dimittis, which is embedded in the Office of Evening Prayer in the West. But in medieval times, the Nunc Dimittis was mostly used just on this day, during the distribution of candles before the Eucharist. Only gradually did it win a place in the daily prayer life of the Church.

*Taken from the Parish Pump Website*

## Prince Charles Praises Persecuted Middle Eastern Christians

Prince Charles has praised the ‘extraordinary grace and capacity for forgiveness’ of the thousands of Middle Eastern Christians facing persecution.

Speaking late last year, the Prince said he had been “deeply humbled” by meeting Christians from the Middle East ‘who, with such inspiring faith and courage, are battling oppression and persecution.’

He wanted to assure these Christians of ‘steadfast support and most heartfelt prayers’ as they battle ‘oppression and persecution.’



*The Maldon Branch of Family Carers was one of the Charities the PCC decided to support through the collections received over the Christmas period.*

## **About Action for Family Carers**

### **Mission Statement**

Action for Family Carers makes a positive difference to the lives of Carers including Young Carers.

A family Carer is someone who, without payment, provides help and support to a partner, child, relative, friend or neighbour, who could not manage otherwise. This could be due to age, physical or mental illness, addiction or disability.

Action for Family Carers is an Essex charity, which for over 25 years, has been providing information and support to Carers who have unpaid caring responsibilities for others.

We are a Carers Trust Network Partner and Centre of Excellence and we hold PQASSO level 3, NCVO's highest quality mark for charity management and governance.

We provide information, advice, befriending, counselling and respite day care across the county. We also work with Young Carers and professionals in schools.

.....

### **Why teenagers worry**

One teenager was talking to another,  
‘I’m really concerned. My father slaves away at his job so I’ll never want for anything, and down the years has set aside thousands of pounds so that I can go to university. And my mother spends every day washing and ironing and cleaning up after me. She even takes care of me when I’m sick.’

The other teenager said:

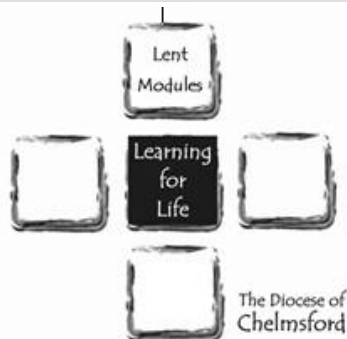
‘Sounds perfect – so what are you worried about?’

The first teenager replied:

‘I’m afraid that one day they might try to escape.’

.....





## The Lent Modules 2019

A series of short courses running across the diocese between  
The last week in February and Good Friday 2019.  
Courses cost between £7.50 & £40 and themes include:

Last Things – The Great Divorce;  
Church History – Christians and Moslems;  
Pastoral Care – Practical insights from Psychology;  
Christ Pictured; Being Christian Beyond Church;  
An in-depth study of the Fourth Gospel;  
The Development of Holy Communion;  
Spiritual Companionship and the Big Life Questions;  
Introduction to Icons; The Wondrous Cross;  
Journeying the Emmaus Road with people with  
additional needs and dementia;  
The nature and character of God – an exploration of  
the Trinity

For further information, brochures, posters and booking forms please contact:  
Diane Hardy at the Diocesan Office: Tel: 01245 294449  
Email: [dhardy@chelmsford.anglican.org](mailto:dhardy@chelmsford.anglican.org) or download from [www.chelmsford.anglican.org](http://www.chelmsford.anglican.org)



South Woodham Ferrers Rotary Club presents:

# MEN<sup>2</sup>SING

with  
*Gia Macuja Atchison*

## CHARITY CONCERT

**SATURDAY 16TH FEBRUARY 2019**

at William de Ferrers Centre

South Woodham Ferrers. CM3 5JU

from 7.30pm



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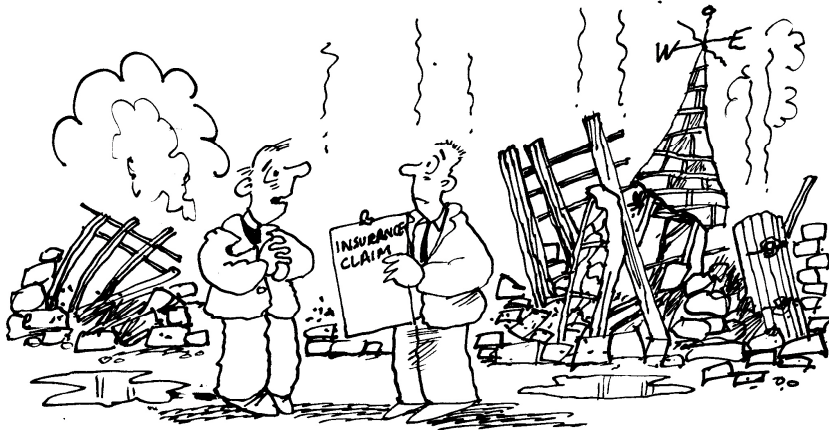
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...er... apart from this little hiccup... it was an excellent church pancake supper...

**N.B.**

**COPY DEADLINE FOR MARCH MAGAZINE  
17th FEBRUARY**



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



The Rectory  
St. James the Least

## **On How to Survive a Parish Retreat**

My dear Nephew Darren,

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

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

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

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





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

Your loving uncle,

*Eustace*

## Book Reviews

### Home Freed: the Theology of Decluttering

By Jane Brocklehurst,

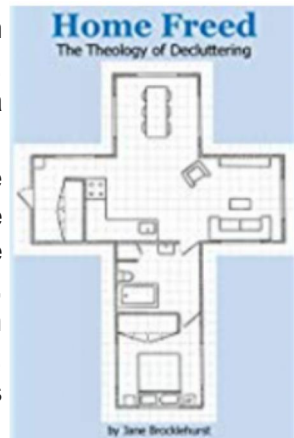
Kindle edition, £1.99

Clutter begins in the mind, with a certain attitude toward material possessions. Decluttering with other people is as much a ministry as a job.

If we own nothing at all, it makes us miserable because none of our basic human needs are met. Having food and clothes and a secure place to sleep are essential to well-being. So, it's logical to assume that the more we own the happier we will be, right? Well, no. Perhaps surprisingly, having too many things also makes people miserable.

Drawing on the ancient wisdom of the Bible, Home Freed looks at the spiritual effects of living with clutter and explores historical reasons why material overabundance has become a lifestyle issue for so many people in Britain today. There is practical advice on what to do about it, drawn from ten years' decluttering experience, including a flow chart designed to make it easier to decide what to keep, and what to do with the rest of it. See your possessions differently and set yourself free.

*Taken from the Parish Pump website*



# JAIL BREAK

**A musical about Paul in Philippi**  
*by Roger Jones*

**Maldon Methodist Harambee Drama Group**

Are performing this great Musical

Friday 8th March 2019 7.30pm (Doors open 7pm)

Saturday 9th March 2019 2pm (Doors open 1.30pm)

Saturday 9th March 2019 7.30pm (Doors open 7pm)

We are Pleased to announce the Author/Composer Mr Roger Jones himself will be with us for our Saturday Evening Performance as well as leading our Sunday Service Worship at 10.30am

Adults £6.00 Children/Pensioners £4.00

Box Office Harambee Julia 01621 859778 or Email [jj-ribbits@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:jj-ribbits@hotmail.co.uk)

"Performance authorised by Christian Music Ministries/Sovereign Music UK" - [sovereignmusic@aol.com](mailto:sovereignmusic@aol.com)



Christian  
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Ministries

Family Tickets £20.00

Saturday Afternoon Tickets

Adults £4.00 Child/Pensioners £3.00



**After-eight Social Club**

**Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> February  
Dance Night!**

**West Maldon Community Centre  
Doors open 7.30pm**

**No bar - please bring own drinks  
Optional Fish & chips can be ordered and paid  
for on the door**

**Admission: £6 members, £8 non-members**

**The after eight social club runs various activities every month  
of the year including quiz nights, meals out, coffee evenings,  
excursions etc.**

**For further information contact Mike on 01621 856219  
[www.aftereightsocialclub.co.uk](http://www.aftereightsocialclub.co.uk)**



## Sin

A young minister, serving his first church, noticed that one of his flock had been absent from services several Sundays in a row, so he decided to see her and ask the reason.

The old woman shook her head and looked at him pityingly. "Son," she said, "you can't help me. You are not old enough to have sinned enough to have repented enough to be able to preach about it."



### Dates for the Diary

3rd March	4:00 pm Tea at the Vicarage for Church Cleaners
6th March	Ash Wednesday
9th March	Messy Church
13th March	10.30 to 12 am Lent Groups begin (5 weeks)
25th March	Lady Day ( The Annunciation) 6:45 pm Holy Communion
25th March	Church AGM
31st March	Mothering Sunday
13th April	Quiet Day in St Mary's
14th April	Palm Sunday
19th April	Good Friday
21st April	Easter Day
6th - 8th Dec	Christmas Tree Festival

*Please email me with ALL your future dates.*

## FROM THE REGISTERS



### BAPTISM

### FUNERALS

January 2nd BETTY NEWTON aged 92 of Hailey House  
January 15th ERNEST ARTHUR BLUCK aged 89 of Temple Way  
January 17th JOY JOSLIN formerly of Hylands Drive



# Prayer Diary

## February 2019

1	Ven. Elizabeth Snowden, Archdeacon of Chelmsford
2	The Ambulance Service
3	The Presentation of Christ
	5th Sunday before Lent
4	Licensed Lay Ministers
5	Those who are terminally ill
6	All pharmacists
7	The housebound
8	Members of our Mission & Education Committee
9	Those addicted to drugs
10	Churches together in Maldon
11	4th Sunday before Lent
12	Authorised Local Preachers
13	Residents of Care Homes in our town
14	Hospital Domestic Staff
15	Our observance of Lent
16	All General Practitioners
17	Those struggling to cope with depression
18	Those who lead and attend 'Messy Church' today
19	3rd Sunday before Lent
20	Youth Chaplains
21	Those who are persecuted for their beliefs
22	Hymn and Worship Song writers and composers
23	Our Royal Family
24	Our troops serving abroad
25	Members of our Standing Committee
26	Members of our Worship Committee
27	2nd Sunday before Lent
28	Members of our Estates Committee
	Members of our PCC
	Those who teach our Young People in Church
	All Firefighters
	Our Police Force

**PARISH DIRECTORY**

VICAR (also Priest in Charge of Woodham Mortimer with Hazeleigh and Woodham Walter)	Rev Canon Stephen Carter Tel: 01621 854179
ASST CURATE (also Asst Curate of the Woodhams)	Rev Julie Willmot
HON. ASST. PRIEST	Rev. Canon Dr. Graham Blyth Tel: 01621 854068
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VERGER	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
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SAFEGUARDING OFFICER	Elizabeth Blyth Tel 01621 854068 Email: <a href="mailto:elisabeth.blyth@gmail.com">elisabeth.blyth@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	Elaine Brown	01621853238
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	Joan Downham	01621 854655
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



# All Saints' Maldon



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