

ALL SAINTS' MALDON



PARISH NEWS

May 2021

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

£1

**CHURCH SERVICES****Sunday Services**

8:00am Holy Communion (BCP 1662)
 09:30 am Sung Parish Eucharist (except first Sunday of the month).
 6:00 pm Evensong and Sermon second and fourth Sundays of the month (4:0pm during GMT)

1st Sunday in the Month

09:30am Short all age service of stories songs and prayers.
 6:00 pm Evensong at St Mary's

3rd Sunday

6:00 pm Evensong at all Saints Purleigh

Last Sunday

6:00 pm Prayer and Praise Service

JUNIOR CHURCH

Sundays at 9:30am.in the D'Arcy Room in Church

WEEKDAY SERVICE

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

1st Thursday 11:00am Holy Communion (BCP 1662) followed by coffee and biscuits

Cover Picture: The Weir Pond Spital Road
By Geoff Dickman



THE PARISH LETTER

Cycling past the church at Little Totham, my daughter and I enjoyed the wall of scent that emanated from the blackthorn blossom there. It was quite an interruption to our game of eye-spy as we cycled back from exploring yet more of the beautiful countryside that surrounds us. She is a far better cyclist than me, confident and brave compared to my tentative and clumsy attempts.

She has a turn of speed upon her that belies her age and often times (it is because my bike is heavier, I tell myself) she'll disappear around the next corner oblivious to her old dad left far behind. She'll wait and let me catch up and then we chat again, until we have to pause and work out which way we go next.

They are always special times, even when the north wind blows down from the hills towards us.

Walking back from Curling Tye Green with my son was quite an adventure too. He is keen to share micro-adventures with me and is proving to be good at spotting where to go next without always needing to double-check the map.

We enjoyed our packed lunch of peanut butter sandwiches and a wisp in the lee of an ancient hedgerow as the sleet filled wind scudded over our heads. We took our bearings from the spire of Wickham Bishops and followed the path past Beeleigh Abbey and under the bypass, before playing tag on the salt marsh above the high tide mark.

A cake and coffee from costa and we sauntered home laughing like good 'uns as the snow returned.

Heaving a canoe onto our shoulders as we load up the car for a paddle on a local stretch of water is the least fun part of a day out with my wife, but it is still invariably fun. We find a put in and check we have the right license and then, with the flood tide, or into the prevailing wind we sally forth to see the land from the water.

One of our walls at home is adorned with a hydrographic chart of the Colne, Blackwater, Crouch and Roach. It is a wonderful trick to see the land blank, save for the most prominent landmarks and the sea full of soundings, shoals, cables and wrecks. It is like seeing a globe, upside down - still correct, but unfamiliar - and a little thrilling.

These are three things that I shall treasure from lockdown - time spent with my three favourite people (sorry Bishop John) doing simple things with *joie*



de vivre.

How we rest, where we go, what makes us smile and who we guard time jealously with, are key indicators for us to consider as we judge how well balanced our lives truly are. If we find rest in tasks like dusting and ironing, perhaps that is fine for a short while, but long term it cannot qualify as rest.

Maybe we return to the same haunts over and over again, or perhaps always try and go somewhere new: knowing which we prefer means that we can be intentional about choosing those places and get the most benefit from our time there when we do.

When we only smile at others misfortune, then we know we are in trouble! Finding something that makes us laugh (Harry Hill and Private Eye are firm favourites for me) will always help us stay that much more in step with the Spirit of God - when we can laugh at ourselves, we are in a good place.

Finally though, lockdown has robbed us of spending time with others through our own volition - we either cannot see others or cannot escape those we live with (I can hear my family nodding along to that). As we enter this new season, we can look back at good things we can recall from lockdown and pursue them still - but we can also jealously guard our time meeting together with God, so that we might encourage one another to keep on, keeping on with him in the months ahead.

Asa

A BRIEF HISTORY OF ST GEORGE'S HEYBRIDGE BASIN

The little church bus shelter in began life during Armstrong Hut, used hut on Goldhanger was first used as a by the Royal Naval March 1916 was Royal Flying Corps C Flight of 37 served as an eastern London against raids airship.

After the war the hut



building behind the Heybridge Basin World War 1, as an as the Sergeants' Mess Airfield. This airfield night landing ground Air Service, and in handed over to the and became home to Squadron, which line of defence for by airplane and

was purchased by Mr



E E Bentall of The Towers, Heybridge, who, as owner of the engineering firm in Heybridge, employed many Basin menfolk. In memory of his son Ernest Hammond Bentall, who had died in action in WW1, Mr Bentall gave the hut to St Andrew's Parish, Heybridge, to be re erected at the Basin and used as a daughter church or "chapel of ease". On March 4 1920 the hut was dedicated by the Bishop of Colchester. Simple wooden benches were provided for seating, manufactured by May and Butcher's Ltd in the village.

The design of the stained glass East window depicting St George, and incorporating Second Lieutenant Bentall's regimental badge, is attributed to Arthur Anselm Orr.

The stained-glass panel in the South Door, in memory of Joan McCreadie of Jacob's Farm, was designed by Basin resident Andrew Fawcett. Since the closure in 2004 of the URC, formerly Congregational Chapel in the Basin a memorial plaque commemorating those who fought in the Great War, and a lectern which carries the names of the three who did not return, have been housed in St George's Church.

St George's is a place of worship and a meeting place for Basin folk, which (apart from a 3-month closure for major repairs in 1952) has been in continuous use for the past 98 years. Generations of villagers have worshipped here; their baptisms and their funerals have taken

place here. They may have attended Christmas parties, socials or dance classes here, and in recent times come to cast their vote in elections, or make their voice heard at a village meeting. The first marriage took place by Archbishop's licence in June 2008 and the church has since been licensed for marriages.

In 2009 the Friends of St George's Church Trust was launched with the aims of raising funds to maintain and improve the fabric of St George's Church, thus increasing its suitability for community use. This project was so well supported that in 2015 an extension housing the Community Room with kitchen and toilets was opened by the Bishop of Chelmsford. The Friends Trust continues to actively support the maintenance of our church building.

Asa





Diocese of
Chelmsford

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Given the sad news of the death of Prince Philip, here follows an excerpt from my sermon for St Giles, Langford in the days that followed.

'This past week we have celebrated the rising of Christ from the dead, his death on our behalf being commuted by God's grace. We wish and pray that more of those we love might experience such a bodily resurrection and that we may encounter them and set things aright, embrace one more time - laugh together and, yes, say goodbye.'

Before news of the death of Prince Philip, I was already grieving the death of an old colleague - Peter Ainsworth MP, who sadly died this week. I shared an office with his researcher in the House of Commons and have very fond memories of working alongside Peter in supporting his constituents and untangling governmental log jams. He was incredibly generous to me, even though I officially didn't work for him, and I was greatly saddened by his death. He was a good man.

My recollections of Prince Philip are at once both more distant and more intimate. I love the way that he managed to fox the Government when he



was involved in the process of decimalisation back in the early 1970's. The story goes, that there was a disagreement over the design of the coins, with one official being pretty blunt about the royal input. Prince Philip called their bluff and offered a public competition instead for the design. Needless to say, the committee decided to go with the Prince's initial offering and we still have the proof of his political dexterity in our pockets today.

My especial memory though, is of sitting on my late grandfather's shoulders at the Royal Tournament in the late 1980's to catch a glimpse of the Queen and Prince Philip as they walked by. I still recall Prince Philip looking across, smiling warmly at my elevated position. Zacchaeus himself couldn't have felt taller.

We continue our journey through Eastertide, celebrating Christ being risen; but we do so going forward more aware of the truth we share in the funeral liturgy - in the midst of life, we are in death. As we remember the eternal life offered through the risen Christ, let us pray more wholeheartedly for those caught up in the tragedy of death - starting with Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II.

A prayer for this time:

Most merciful God, whose wisdom is beyond our understanding, surround the Queen and the Royal Family with your love, that they may not be overwhelmed by their loss, but have confidence in your goodness, and strength to meet the days to come. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen

Liturgical Commission

Pax et Bonum,

Asa

Ascension

To complete Your seamless robe, and so to complete our faith, You ascended through the air into the heavens, before the very eyes of the apostles. In this way You showed that You are Lord of all, and are the fulfilment of all creation. Thus from that moment every human and every living creature should bow at Your name. And, in the eyes of faith, we can see that all creation proclaims Your greatness.

A prayer of Bernard of Clairvaux (1090 – 1153). He was the main inspiration of the Cistercian Order of Monks.

Taken from the Parish Pump website

Statement by the Archbishop of Canterbury on the Death of HRH The Duke of Edinburgh



"I join with the rest of the United Kingdom and the Commonwealth in mourning the loss of His Royal Highness Prince Philip, The Duke of Edinburgh, and give thanks to God for his extraordinary life of dedicated service. Prince Philip continually demonstrated his unfailing support and unstinting loyalty to Her Majesty The Queen for 73 years.

"He consistently put the interests of others ahead of his own and, in so doing, provided an outstanding example of Christian service. During his naval career, in which he served with distinction in the Second World War, he won the respect of his peers as an outstanding officer.

"On the occasions when I met him, I was always struck by his obvious joy at life, his enquiring mind and his ability to communicate to people from every background and walk of life. He was a master at putting people at their ease and making them feel special.

"The legacy he leaves is enormous. The Duke of Edinburgh's Award, which he founded in 1956, has inspired generations of young people to help others and instilled in them a vision for citizenship and a desire to serve their



communities. His work with countless charities and organisations reflected his wide-ranging, global interests in topics including wildlife, sport, design, engineering and inter-faith dialogue.

"In his powerful advocacy for conservation his was a prophetic voice for over half a century, as he brought people from around the world to a new concern and commitment to action for the future of our planet.

"As we recover and rebuild after the terrible trial of the coronavirus pandemic, we will need fortitude and a deep sense of commitment to serving others. Throughout his life Prince Philip displayed those qualities in abundance, and I pray that we can take inspiration from his example.

"I also join many people in giving thanks for the marriage of Her Majesty the Queen and Prince Philip, and for their children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Theirs was a marriage grounded in friendship and mutual respect and sustained by shared faith in Christ.

"I pray that God will comfort Her Majesty and the rest of the Royal Family at this time. May His Royal Highness rest in peace and rise in glory."

Justin Welby

Taken from the Archbishop of Canterbury's Website.

C of E to provide National Professional Qualification – for school leadership in partnership with Catholic Church

The Department for Education has recently announced that a partnership between The Church of England and the Catholic Church will provide part of the Government's reformed National Professional Qualification training for teachers from September 2021.

The new National Professional Qualifications will provide training for teachers in different areas of school leadership, including senior leadership, headship and executive leadership as well as specialist areas of teaching.

The Church of England NPQs will support up to 2,500 teachers each year across the whole country.

The Bishop of Durham, Paul Butler, the Church of England's lead bishop for Education, said: "I'm delighted that the Government has demonstrated its confidence in our track record of leadership training. Through the Church of England's Foundation for Educational Leadership, we have a first class and innovative team."

Taken from the Parish Pump Website



At Maldon & District Citizens Advice, we can help you find a way forward, by giving free, confidential advice in all subject areas.

Debt.

It is important to get help straight away if you are in debt, or worried about money. Don't ignore your bills or letters about money you owe. There are things you can do if you are struggling to pay your bills because of coronavirus. You might be able to claim benefits or get more money on your current benefits if:

- you have coronavirus, or you are following guidance to stay at home
- you have lost your job
- you are self-employed and can't get work
- you can't work because your workplace has closed

It is also worth speaking to the organisations you owe money to – they might be able to help by letting you pay smaller amounts or take a break.

Case Study.

I've fallen behind on my bills and the debts are building up. I don't know where to start?

You've already taken a great first step by asking for help, and it is important to know you don't need to face this alone. You can contact Maldon and District Citizens Advice for help.

In the meantime, here are four steps you can take to get started:

1. **Work out how much you owe** - Make a list of whom you owe money to and add up how much you need to pay each month. If you don't have your most recent statements, contact your creditor to find out how much you owe. Some creditors will have special arrangements for people with Covid-related arrears.
2. **Prioritise your debts** - Your rent or mortgage, energy and council tax are called priority debts as there can be serious consequences if you don't pay them. Separate these and work out how much you owe. Again, you can ask the companies or council what support might be available during the pandemic.



- 3. **Work out how much you can pay** - Create a budget by adding up your essential living costs, such as food and housing, and taking these away from your income. The Citizens Advice budgeting tool can help. Any money you have spare can be put towards your debts, starting with the priority debts first. If you have any money left after paying priority debts, but not enough to make your usual payments on other debts, consider getting advice on the best way for you to start getting on top of them. Or contact your creditors and offer them what you can afford to pay.
- 4. **If you can't pay your debts** - If you've got little or no money spare to pay your priority debts seek advice from Maldon and District Citizens Advice straight away. If you're struggling to pay for basics like food, seek help immediately to see what support might be available to you. If you can't pay off other debts, such as credit cards and loans, it would also be worth contacting Maldon and District Citizens Advice.

We know it can feel very daunting to deal with debt, but having a plan really helps and our team will be here to help you each step of the way.

Our website has a great deal of relevant information including:

Citizens Advice Budgeting Tool:

www.citizensadvice.org.uk/debt-and-money/budgeting/budgeting/work-out-your-budget

Getting Help with Debt:

www.citizensadvice.org.uk/debt-and-money/help-with-debt

If You Can't Pay Your Bills Because of Coronavirus:

www.citizensadvice.org.uk/debt-and-money/if-you-cant-pay-your-bills-because-of-coronavirus

Please contact us for advice on any subject by:

ringing 01621 875774 – leave a message and an adviser will return your call that day or emailing bureau@maldoncab.cabnet.org.uk

Sally Babbage, Maldon CAB

.....
Gift?

I asked my mother if I was a gifted child. She said I must be, because they certainly wouldn't have paid for me.

.....



Deputy Warden's Waffle

Oh Easter joy – we had our church open for Easter Sunday. Now we have a few choir members singing, I have even had a few friends and family, to tea in my garden. The weather as I write is getting warmer, barbers and hair dressers are well and truly back in business, I think I would be right in saying things are looking up! Life is starting to open up again after a long hibernation. Of course we all understand that the lock downs were so necessary , but let us hope we are cautious and realize that we are doing very well, but care is still needed.

Over the last few weeks there has been a lot said about duty, loyalty, self sacrifice , constancy, don't they all sound rather staid and old fashioned! But how wrong that opinion is . Far from being old fashioned, and out of touch with the modern world, these values still shine strong and we hope they always will. The passing of HRH Prince Philip, brought all these values to the attention of us all. The Prince was an example to us all, and held standards to which we should all adhere.

One of the priceless blessings that has shone through in the time of pandemic, is caring for others and that of friendship. A friend unexpectedly arrived on my door step, we had a chat, and later she sent me this, and thought I might like to include it; dear Joan, wrote;

“I was on my way to the doctor’s surgery for a routine ECG on my heart and as I was getting ready, I thought of my friend Vicky, who has not been too good lately. So I thought I would drop by just to say hello at the doorstep. Not only was I greeted by Vicky with a lovely smile on her face but by a very handsome Pusscat! Sadly he didn't want to speak to me as to him I smelt of DOG!!! After a pleasant exchange of greetings and news we parted company and Vicky was going back to writing her good words and prayers . I think Pusscat was about to take the sun.”

I do thank all and everybody for friendship and caring, nothing can beat that
My love and very best wishes to ALL

Vicky , Deputy Churchwarden.



FAREWELL YOUR ROYAL HIGHNESS.

I, like millions of others, watched the funeral of HRH The Duke of Edinburgh. It was a very sad occasion but very well organised and a wonderful tribute to a man who has contributed so much to our Country and who has supported our Queen for a very long period and indirectly helped shape the lives of those of us of a certain age for almost as long as we can remember. I thought that the service, which the Duke had organised himself was a very thoughtful one and reflected the man himself very well. I was intrigued to see that the Archbishop of Canterbury was not the celebrant, that honour going to the Dean of Windsor. Both these gentlemen did their respective duties with due reverence and a spirit which would have pleased the Duke. I noted too that all the guests fulfilled the requirement of the pandemic safety guidelines and that too would have been in keeping with the Duke's wishes at this time.

I once had the pleasure of meeting the Duke when in 1998 I represented my Company who had received the Queen's Award to Industry (for Export Services). I had been invited (Along with representatives from other Companies) to Buckingham Palace to meet with the Queen and the Duke. My company was Maldon based Wavespec Limited. We were presented to Her Majesty and having made the customary bow to the Queen I moved on to shake hands with the Duke. As we faced each other he looked at his notes and said 'Wavespec? I suppose you are hairdressers?' 'No sir' I replied, 'we design and build ships, large ones.' He replied 'Thank goodness that somebody is!' With that I had to move on but I think that in his inimitable way the Duke was pulling my leg and had done his homework and knew what our business did.

It seems that the whole service was exactly as the Duke would have wanted it and it would have been almost the same even if there had been no pandemic. It seemed to me to accurately reflect the attitude of the Duke, True to his Christian Faith; No fuss; No pomp; Good taste.

Of course, the Duke was renowned for saying what some considered 'gaffes' or what some considered 'outlandish' things, but who among of us does not say or think such thoughts at some time? Most of us are fortunate that when we make or say outrageous comments we are usually in a small group and our mistakes do not get publicity. The Royal Family is quoted worldwide if they slip up. As our Australian friends might say, 'Good on you Duke'

A truly remarkable man departing this life with dignity and, considering his position in life, with simplicity. HRH the Duke of Edinburgh, RIP.

Ken Downham



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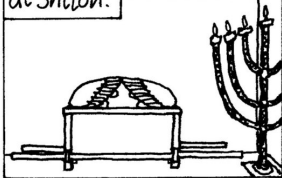
Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in
1 Samuel 4:1-10, 5:1-7:1

God gave Moses two stone slabs with His laws for the Jews on them. They were kept in a special chest, the Ark, and carried with them

When the Jews got to Israel, the Ark was kept at Shiloh.



The Jews did not keep God's laws so the Philistines attack and defeat them.



The Jews took the Ark into battle with them to make God help them win.



But the Philistines won. They took the Ark to their city of Ashdod and put it in the temple of their god Dagon.



The next day they found Dagon's statue face down.



The next day it was over again and its head and hands had broken off.



Then the people became covered in sores.



They moved the Ark to the city of Gath.



They were going to move the Ark to Ekron, but the people there wouldn't let them.



So they put the Ark on a new cart with a gift of gold.



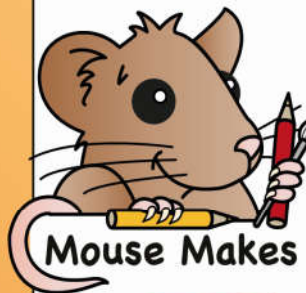
At Bethshemesh, people harvesting saw the Ark.



But some treated it without respect and died.



So it was moved to Keriath Jearim for safe-keeping.



Mouse Makes

Re arrange the scrambled letters to find the missing words.

 The Holy Spirit
VSEIL
with us and in us.

The Holy Spirit helps us to
WKNO
we belong to God.

The Holy Spirit
HCTSEEA
us about God. 

The Holy Spirit
KPESSA
God's word to us.

The Holy Spirit
PHLSE
us to tell others about Jesus.

The Holy Spirit helps us when we
AYPR



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

What sound did they hear?

Acts 2:2

What did they see?

Acts 2:3



What filled them?

Acts 2:4



How did they speak?

Acts 2:4



What did the crowd hear?

Acts 2:6



Which countries had they come from?

Acts 2:9

What was their reaction?

Acts 2:12-13



Who explained what was happening? What did he say?

Acts 2:14-36

How many people were baptised that day?

Acts 2:41



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

KPZ
IVNJMJUZ
TFMG DPOUSPM
GBJUIGVMOFTT
LJOEOFTT
QBUJFODF
QFBDF
MPWF
HPPEOFTT

Goldens 5:22

What is the work of the **Holy Spirit**? What does He do?
Fill in the missing letters.



TEAC _ES

COMF _RTS

REVEA _S



IN _OU



TRAN _FORMS

HEL _S



GU _DES

_GENEWS

CONV _CTS

SANC _IFIES



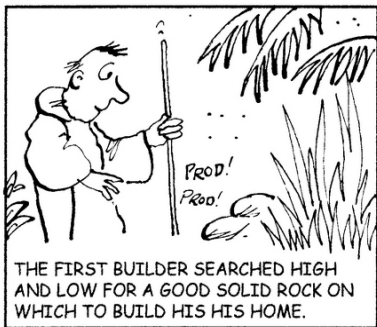
The Tale of the TWO BUILDERS



JESUS OFTEN TOLD STORIES WITH HIDDEN MEANINGS



ONE WAS ABOUT TWO MEN WHO BUILT THEIR OWN HOUSES

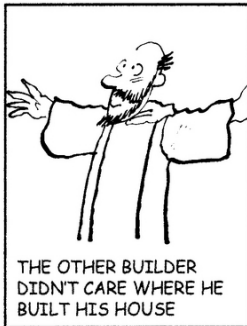


THE FIRST BUILDER SEARCHED HIGH AND LOW FOR A GOOD SOLID ROCK ON WHICH TO BUILD HIS HIS HOME.

AT LONG, LONG LAST HE FOUND THE IDEAL SPOT.



SO HE BEGAN TO BUILD.

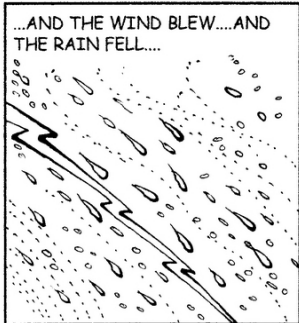
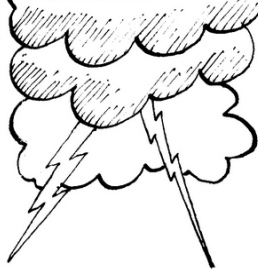


THE OTHER BUILDER DIDN'T CARE WHERE HE BUILT HIS HOUSE

HE THOUGHT SOME NICE FLAT SAND WOULD BE AN EASY PLACE TO BUILD.



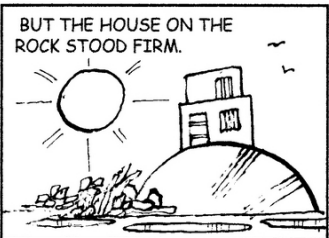
BUT ONE DAY THE STORM CAME...



...AND THE WIND BLEW...AND THE RAIN FELL...



...AND THE HOUSE ON THE SAND COLLAPSED!



BUT THE HOUSE ON THE ROCK STOOD FIRM.

JESUS EXPLAINED - IT'S IMPORTANT OUR LIVES HAVE A FIRM FOUNDATION.



Music in the Christian Church



Music has played a crucial role in religious belief and ceremonies since the very earliest times. The Old Testament makes frequent reference to trumpets, drums, tabors, cymbals, harps, strings and pipes. Psalm 100 exhorts us to “make a joyful noise unto the Lord”, and “come before his presence with singing”. It is interesting to speculate what form communal singing might have taken in early times, or whether it was always the province of a Cantor, a tradition which is still going strong today of course. Clearly instruments were used, as Psalm 150 gives quite a comprehensive list – and even encourages “every thing that hath breath” to praise the Lord.

In all those years when only a few people were literate, it was perhaps very natural that groups who could read words and whatever musical notation was available, should sing to enhance communal worship. There is I think a stylistic link between the chanting which we see in Tibetan monasteries, the singing of the cantor in Jewish worship, and the codifying of chanting into Plainsong in the Christian Church.

Interestingly, many scholars believe that Plainsong evolved naturally. If a single person is reading out or proclaiming some sort of text, inside a building, or even perhaps outside, in a setting where their voice “comes back to them” through the acoustics, they develop a natural rise and fall; this is really an extension of ordinary speech, in a way which carries well through the acoustic environment. You can often see this in action for yourselves. Station announcers often develop their own semi-musical inflections, and those at York were renowned for it at one time. Our own Bishop John, you may have noticed, has his own particular style! Although often much more elaborate, Plainsong is really a very natural way of singing. This can be very beautiful indeed.

However, when plainsong became standardised and codified, eventually the Church started to insist that nothing else was allowed in Worship, and the power of the Church was such that even music outside the Church was rigorously controlled, hindering development for many centuries. It took the Renaissance to liberate arts and music from these shackles, and then even the Church became a proponent of new styles of music.



We in the Anglican church are used to singing hymns and psalms, but it is surprising how recent a development they are. We have a very fine body of hymns, some written specifically, some translated, and some passed down from ancient times. A surprising fact to me is that the Methodist church, in the early 19th century, really got regular hymn singing – as we know it - under way, and “old fashioned” though it now seems, Hymns A and M was the culmination of a very modern and democratic process involving many churches and congregations. Psalms have been sung in many ways, but Anglican Chant was a specific invention of our own Church, and to my mind very beautiful and challenging when done properly – something to be treasured. I could say a lot about the associated development of the Organ, which was sudden and rapid in England, but will have to save this for a future article.

Of course another form of music which interests me specifically is Choral and liturgical music. A wonderful breadth of styles over so many centuries makes possible a truly inspirational experience in worship today. Just recall a few of these for a moment. “Gaudete” and “O come O come Emmanuel”, “Gloria” by Vivaldi, “Jesu joy of Man’s desiring” by Bach, “O for the wings of a dove” by Mendelssohn, Magnificats in G, C and Bb by Stanford, “The Lord is my Shepherd” by Howard Goodall, and “You Raise me up” by Secret Garden. This covers very many centuries - and all are in the repertoire of our own Church Choir.

There is absolutely no doubt that worship, in the form of singing together, not only ascends to Our Lord, but also releases “feel good” substances and emotions within ourselves. And what a variety, even in Anglican hymns. The 19th and 20th century hymn writers got it absolutely right when they, like the Psalmists, explored various aspects of our human experience on earth. Not simply “Praise the lord because He is good” but also subjects such as “The Stony Path”, doubts, difficulties, bereavements, marching to war, and countless other things which make up our regular experience and which we are encouraged to bring before God in our journey here on Earth.

I, for one, am really looking forward to the day when we can all get back to singing in Church once more!

Dr Stuart Pegler, Director of Music.



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 the perils of holding a Rose Queen celebration

My dear Nephew Darren,

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

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

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

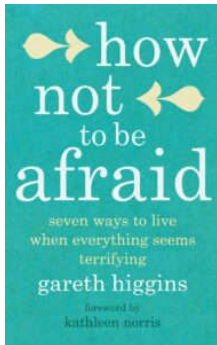
I must concede that the group who decided to make a papier mache swan for one of your floats showed great imagination. It was such a pity that they did not know a 15-foot-high swan would be driven under a 12-foot bridge. The drama of its emergence, headless, was only exceeded by the following float which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

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



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

Your loving uncle,
Eustace



Book Reviews

How Not To Be Afraid – seven ways to live when everything seems terrifying

By **Gareth Higgins and Kathleen Norris,**

Canterbury Press, £14.99

We live in a time where we seem more afraid than ever. The rise of populism, polarisation and aggression in politics, the media and popular culture, and the climate crisis have coincided with the collapse of previously cherished norms and expectations about economic stability, community life, and even the future of the planet.

And all this before the pandemic struck. No wonder we are overwhelmed by anxiety. Popular speaker, storyteller and activist Gareth Higgins exposes the root causes of fear and shows how we can break its power through life-giving stories, simple spiritual exercises and practical steps to take as individuals and communities.

Taken from the Parish Pump Website

N.B.

COPY DEADLINE FOR THE JUNE 2021

MAGAZINE 23rd MAY



There will be a
MEETING OF PARISHIONERS
in
ALL SAINTS CHURCH, MALDON
SUNDAY 23 May 2021
during and immediately following the 09.30 service

for the purpose of electing **TWO CHURCH WARDENS.**

All persons whose names are entered on the
REGISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTORS
by reason of such residence shall be entitled to attend and vote at the meeting.

ANNUAL VESTRY MEETING: The Communion Service as our corporate act of worship during which will be the election of two Churchwardens

The **ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING** will be included in this. Only those persons whose names are entered on the **CHURCH ELECTORAL ROLL OF THIS PARISH** are entitled to vote at this meeting.

AGENDA

- 1 Minutes of the Annual Parochial meeting held on October 11th 2020 will be posted on the Church Website www.allsaintsmaldon.com from May 9th 2021.
- 2 Matters Arising from these minutes to be raised in writing to the PCC Secretary by 09.30 on May 16th 2021.
- 3 Any Other Business proper to an Annual Parochial meeting (to be received in writing by the PCC Secretary by noon May 19th 2021)

During the *Gathering* of our act of worship we shall receive the following four written reports.

- 4 Electoral Roll Report, as posted on Church Website from May 16th to be formally received.
- 5 Treasurer's Report, as posted on Church Website from May 16th to be formally received.
- 6 Fabric Report, as posted on Church Website from May 16th to be formally received.
- 7 Deanery Synod Report, as posted on Church Website from May 16th to be formally received.

During the *Liturgy of the Word* we shall hear the following report and hold the following election.

- 8 The PCC Report, including any responses to Matters Arising and AOB (see above and below for details) will be given as the sermon of the service and made available subsequently on the Church website.
- 9 Before our intercessions, the election of four members to the Parochial Church Council.

During the *Liturgy of the Eucharist* an invitation will be made for those wishing to serve in the following roles to come forward for a blessing, as well as all those who serve on the PCC.

- 10 Appointment of Sides Persons
- 11 Appointment of The Independent Examiner of Accounts

During the *Conclusion* of our service we will have a Prayer for our APCM.

- 12 Closing Prayer

A short PCC meeting will follow the APCM to welcome the new members and arrange roles and responsibilities for the coming year.



HOLY DAYS

13th May: Ascension Day, 40 Days with the Risen Christ

40 days after Easter comes Ascension Day. These are the 40 days during which the Risen Christ appeared again and again to His disciples, following His death and resurrection. (Matthew 28; Mark 16; Luke 24; and John 20.)

The Gospels give us little of Christ's teachings and deeds during those 40 days. Jesus was seen by numerous of His disciples: on the road to Emmaus, by the Sea of Galilee, in houses, etc. He strengthened and encouraged His disciples, and at last opened their eyes to all that the Scriptures had promised about the Messiah. Jesus also told them that as the Father had sent Him, He was now going to send them - to all corners of the earth, as His witnesses.

Surely the most tender, moving 'farewell' in history took place on Ascension Day. Luke records the story with great poignancy: 'When Jesus had led them out to the vicinity of Bethany, He lifted up His hands - and blessed them.'

As Christmas began the story of Jesus' life on earth, so Ascension Day completes it, with His return to His Father in heaven. Jesus' last act on earth was to bless His disciples. He and they had a bond as close as could be: they had just lived through three tumultuous years of public ministry and miracles - persecution and death - and resurrection!

Just as we part from our nearest and dearest by still looking at them with love and memories in our eyes, so exactly did Jesus: 'While He was blessing them, He left them and was taken up into heaven.' (Luke 24:50-1) He was not forsaking them, but merely going on ahead to a kingdom which would also be theirs one day: 'I am ascending to my Father and to your Father, to my God and your God...' (John 20:17)

The disciples were surely the most favoured folk in history. Imagine being one of the last few people on earth to be face to face with Jesus, and have Him look on you with love. No wonder then that Luke goes on: 'they worshipped Him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy. And they stayed continually at the temple, praising God.' (Luke 24:52,53)

No wonder they praised God! They knew they would see Jesus again one day! 'I am going to prepare a place for you... I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am.' (John 14:2,3) In the meantime, Jesus had work for them to do: to take the Gospel to every nation on earth

Taken from the Parish Pump Website



ROSE'S STORY



Rose strives to provide for her grandchildren who live with her. She does all she can to give them happy childhoods, like the times she remembers when there was plenty of food. But the climate crisis is driving her to the brink.

In times of drought, Rose sets out on a long and dangerous journey every morning to collect water for her family. She walks on an empty stomach. 'Because I am old, I can't walk very fast. When I get home I just rest in the evening. I have no energy to do anything else,' Rose says.

Even when the rains do come, relief for Rose is often short lived. There is a nearby earth dam just minutes away from Rose's home. It should be a life-line. But it's not wide enough or deep enough for everyone's needs. It runs out of water too quickly.

Imagine how dispirited Rose must feel watching the rain fall for days, only to find the dam empty just a short while later. What's more, the rains are much heavier than they should be, putting Rose's community at risk of flooding.

Rose is over 60 years old and simply won't have the strength to fetch water from further afield for much longer. **We need to fight this climate crisis together.**



With a reliable source of water, people like Rose would be free from long, painful journeys. They would be able to grow fresh vegetables to eat. And they would be able to protect themselves from the dangers of coronavirus. With such dire need, every last drop of water that falls in Rose’s community is precious.

This Christian Aid Week, will you stand with people like Rose for every last drop and help them fight the climate crisis?

Your gifts could help communities build better earth dams to harvest more water; sow drought-tolerant crops that grow even with the fewest of drops; or set up an advocacy group to demand change at the highest level and put a stop to this climate crisis.



Rose and her community are working together to clear the weeds and rubbish from the Itukisya dam. - Adam Finch/ Christian Aid

People like Rose need every last drop to survive this climate crisis. Your gifts will help ensure they can. Give today and help ensure people like Rose have the water they need to live.

Taken from the Christian Aid Website

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Chicken run

Idealistic politician: “I dream of a better tomorrow where chickens can cross the road and not have their motives questioned.”

.....



All in the Month of MAY

It was:

200 years ago, on 5th May 1821 that Napoleon Bonaparte, Emperor of France (1804 – 1815) died of stomach cancer. He was in exile on the island of Saint Helena in the South Atlantic, aged 51.

175 years ago, on 30th May 1846 that Peter Carl Fabergé was born. This Russian goldsmith and jeweller was best known for his fabulously decorated Fabergé eggs.

150 years ago, on 11th May 1871 that John Herschel, British astronomer, mathematician, chemist and pioneering photographer died. Amongst other things, he named seven of Saturn's moons and investigated colour blindness. He was also President of the Royal Astronomical Society three times.

100 years ago, on 3rd May 1921 that Ireland was divided into Northern Ireland and Southern Ireland (now known as the Republic of Ireland).

Also 100 years ago, on 15th May, that the British Legion was founded.

90 years ago, on 1st May 1931 that the Empire State Building in New York City was officially opened.

80 years ago, on 1st–7th May 1941 that the German Blitz on Liverpool left nearly 3,000 dead and 70,000 homeless. Liverpool was the second most heavily targeted British city, after London.

Also 80 years ago, on 10th May 1941 that the last major attack on London during the Blitz caused heavy damage to many important buildings, including the Houses of Parliament, Westminster Abbey, St James Palace and Lambeth Palace, several railway stations and hospitals, the British Museum and the Old Bailey. More than 1,300 people were killed on one night. At one point during the Blitz, London was bombed for 57 nights in a row.

75 years ago, on 11th May 1946 that the first CARE packages for Europe arrived in Le Havre to help people who were starving after WWII. The first CARE packages were actually surplus US Army rations.

70 years ago, on 3rd May 1951 that the Festival of Britain and the Royal Festival Hall in London were opened. The aim of the Festival was to lift the nation's spirits by celebrating British industry, arts and science.

Also 70 years ago, on 9th May 1951 that the Lake District National Park was established. It was Britain's second national park.

Also 70 years ago, on 25th May 1951 that the British spies Guy Burgess and



Donald Maclean fled to Moscow. They were members of the infamous Cambridge spy ring, and their whereabouts remained unknown until 1956.

65 years ago, on 24th May 1956 that the first Eurovision Song Contest was held in Lugano, Switzerland. It was won by Switzerland.

60 years ago, on 1st May 1961 that betting away from racecourses was legalised in the UK and the first betting shops opened.

Also 60 years ago, on 28th May 1961 that Amnesty International was founded in London.

40 years ago, on 13th May 1981 that Pope John Paul II was shot and seriously wounded by a Turkish gunman in an assassination attempt in St Peter’s Square, Vatican City.

30 years ago, on 16th May 1991 that Queen Elizabeth II became the first British monarch to address the US Congress.

25 years ago, on 30th May 1996 that Prince Andrew, Duke of York, and his wife Sarah, Duchess of York, were divorced.

20 years ago, on 7th May 2001 that Great Train Robber Ronnie Biggs returned to the UK from Brazil where he had lived as a fugitive for 36 years. He was immediately arrested and sent to prison to complete his sentence. Released on compassionate grounds in 2009, he died in 2013.

10 years ago, on 2nd May 2011 that Osama bin Laden, Saudi Arabian-born terrorist, died. Founder of al-Qaeda, he was thought to have masterminded the 9/11 attacks on the USA. Shot dead by US forces in Pakistan.

Taken from the Parish Pump Website

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Ah – but where are they now?

The children had been grouped together around the minister to pose for the annual Sunday School photograph, and the minister was smiling encouragement.

“Just think how nice it will be to look at it when you are all grown up,” he said. “You could point to each other and say: ‘There’s Jennifer; hope she’s made it as a solicitor,’ or ‘That’s Michael, hope he’s made it as a doctor.’”

A small voice at the back rang out, “And there’s the minister – hope he made it to heaven...”

.....



Dates for the Diary

Due to the current situation we are not including Dates for the Diary

Lunch at All Saints

Soup – hot food- cakes

12:00-2:00

**No Lunches Until
Further Notice**



From the Registers



Funerals

31st March 2021 **Raymond Sheen** formerly of Maldon aged 73

8th April 2021 **Suzanne Elizabeth Argent** formerly of Maldon aged 75



Prayer Diary May 2021

1 St Philip and St James	Churches dedicated to St Philip or St James
2 5th Sunday of Easter	All who lead Services today
3	All who have recently moved house
4	Newly elected Church Officers and PCC Members
5	Churches currently in interregnum
6	Bishop of Bradwell John Perumbalath
7	Bradwell Episcopal Area
8	Christian Aid
9 6th Sunday of Easter	The Archdeacon of Chelmsford and all
Christian Aid Week begins	Churchwardens
10 Rogation Day	Those who work on the land
11 Rogation Day	Churches dedicated to St Barnabas
St Barnabas	
12 Rogation Day	Arable and Dairy Farmers
13 Ascension Day	The Christian Church throughout the world
14 St Matthias	Churches dedicated to St Matthias
15	Families preparing for Baptism
16 7th Sunday after Easter	Our Ministry Team
17	Those who preach God's word in hostile circumstances
18	Those involved in the media
19	The work of Farleigh Hospice
20	Mothers with new-born babies
21	Those living with chronic pain
22	Hymn and Religious Song Writers
23 Pentecost	Teachers of God's word
24	Followers of other Faiths
25	The work of The Salvation Army
26	The Church Army
27	Othona Community
28	Christian Members of Parliament
29	Leaders of Political Parties
30 Trinity Sunday	Eucharistic Ministers
31 Visit of the Blessed	Nurses and Midwives
Virgin Mary to Elizabeth	

**ACTIVITIES**

ACTIVITY	CONTACT	TELEPHONE
Choir Practice (Thur 7:30pm)	Dr. Stuart Pegler	01621 850530
Junior Choir (Thur 7:00 pm)	"	"
Junior Church	Elaine Brown	01621 850484
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	01621854655
Childrens Society	Elaine Brown	01621 850484
Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Explorer Scouts (14-18yrs)	Zoe Franklin	Email
	1stmaldonallsaintsscoutgroup@gmail.com	
Meeting Point	Barbara Gale	01621 928538
Maldon Pioneers	Mike Frederick	01621 840951
Maldon Ladies Group	Vivien Clark	01621 869667
Ramblers Club		
Prayer Group		
Messy Church	Elaine Brown	01621 850484

To register your daughter's interest in joining either:
Rainbows, Brownies, Guides or Rangers
please visit www.girlguiding.org.uk
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



PARISH DIRECTORY

VICAR	Rev'd Asa Humphreys Tel 01621 841274
AUTHORISED LOCAL PREACHERS	Mrs Adrienne Knight Tel 01621 841329 Alan Marjoram Tel 01245 243868
CHURCHWARDENS	Dennis Johnson 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 869667
HON TREASURER	Eddie Sewell Tel: 01621 851961
PCC SECRETARY	Mrs Julie Ovenden Tel: 01621 858803
OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR	Mrs Barbara Gale Tel 01621 928538
ORGANIST and CHOIRMASTER	Dr Stuart Pegler Tel: 01621 850530
RECORDER OF THE CHURCH	Mike Gibson
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WEB SITE MANAGER	Mike Kneller Email: bigglesworth@btinternet.com

Website www.allsaintsmaldon.com

All Saints' Maldon



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