



ALL SAINTS' *MALDON* **PARISH NEWS**

£1

August 2023

Church info

Visit our website:
<https://www.allsaintsmaldon.com>

First Sunday 6 Aug Trinity 9	08.00 Holy Communion 09.30 Worship for All PET SERVICE	Fr John Vicky & Betty
Second Sunday 9 July Trinity 5	08.00 Morning Prayer 09.30 Holy Communion	Adrienne Fr John
3rd Sunday 16 July Trinity 6	08.00 Holy Communion 09.30 Holy Communion	Fr John Rev Noelle & Rev Jordan
4th Sunday 23 July Trinity 7	08.00 Morning Prayer 09.30 Holy Communion	Alan Ven. Mike Power
5th Sunday 30 July Trinity 8	08.00 Holy Communion 09.30 Holy Communion	Fr John & Rev Jordan Rev Noelle

ALL SAINTS PARISH NEWS CONTENTS

2	Church Info		
4	The Parish Letter	26	All Saints' Church Maldon
5	Church News	28	Thoughts on Nagasaki
8	All Saints News & Views	31	Relativism and the Spirit Age
14	Do You Love Your Smartphone	33	Through The Furnace
15	New Estates Visitation	36	My Page
16	Update from Stephen & Sue	38	Crossword
18	The Parish Logo	39	Prayer Diary
18	Crossword Answers	40	For Your Diary
19	Mothers' Union	41	Parish Directory
22	The Big Question	42	Activities
25	St James The Least	42	From the Registers

Art is here because God meant it to be here. - Hans Rookmaaker

The Parish Letter



Wear our heart on our sleeve?

I read an article in Church Times recently in which children in the Diocese of Sheffield are being invited to design a logo for a new Bishop's Badge competition. The winning design will be worn by the Bishop of Doncaster during Wear Your Faith Fortnight (23 October to 6 November). The campaign encourages Christians to wear a symbol of their faith for two weeks.

The Christian Church has had a 'badge' for over two thousand years. It is a simple cross; the Cross on which Jesus Christ was crucified on the first Good Friday.

In the 21st century we see the Cross differently. The Cross has been included in jewellery design, and many people are to be seen wearing a Cross on a chain around their neck, or as earrings, and sometimes as a lapel brooch or pin. The sign of the Cross is clearly important to them, but do they ever stop and think why? Do they know and understand what it means? Do they, do we all, understand what this means?

Do you see the sign of the Cross as a sign of love? Not the 'Mills and Boon' sort of love, but the unconditional love shown to us through Jesus, God's own Son. God sent His Son that we might live. Whenever you look at a Cross, think

about what the Cross of Jesus means.

Over the past year or so, we have seen many pictures of Vladimir Putin, some of which have shown him wearing a simple Cross around his neck.

Do you think he sees this Cross as a sign of love? Does he see it as a sign of unconditional love shown to us, or him, through Jesus Christ.

How can this be, because Jesus gave us a new commandment to 'love one another as I have loved you.' Loving one another is not declaring war on your neighbours, seizing their property and land, bombing buildings, and killing men, women and children.

On the last Sunday of June this year, Father John – in his sermon – told us about the Churches Together in Maldon project, to visit each of the new homes being built in the town, to give them a

card with details of all the churches in the local area. Full details were given by Mike – our Parish News Editor – in last month's issue

The card states that the large number of churches in Maldon present the Good News of Jesus in a variety of styles, together proclaiming the Gospel of the risen Lord Jesus Christ in Maldon.

Each of those who are willing and able to deliver these cards, and speak to the new residents will be able to leave the card which will identify those visiting as Christians. How can you and I help in this act of mission?

The most obvious thing we can all do is pray that the project will be successful, by bringing the Good News of Jesus Christ to a great number of new residents to our town. We can pray for those who will visit, asking God to give them courage and wisdom as they visit.

Then we can continue to pray that the

Holy Spirit will continue to work, so that these newcomers will encounter the unconditional love, shown to all humankind by the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.

We can go one further step! How would you feel about wearing a badge as a symbol of your faith? There are many available, from a simple cross or a fish symbol, to more elaborate and evangelistic symbols. Many styles and varieties are available from Christian Booksellers on the internet.

Perhaps we could join the Bishop of Doncaster by wearing a symbol of our faith, not just for the two weeks as stated above, but always!

May God bless us all in our mission and outreach.

Alan



Heating the County

Petroleum Products BFS

www.bfs.uk.com

EJ07 DVK

Take advantage of our discounts. For all your supplies of heating and fuel oils direct from the BFS depot in Danbury, Essex

www.bfs.uk.com

BFS

01268 710310

Billericay Fuel Services, Downham,
Billericay, Essex CM11 1QU.



CHURCH NEWS

A brief look at current Church events

Church of England sets out hopes for Flourishing Schools System

The Church of England has launched a new publication outlining its hopes for students, teachers and educators to flourish across the schools system.

Underpinned by the Church's 2016 Vision for Education, the new document, entitled 'Our Hope for a Flourishing Schools System' makes recommendations including a once-in-a-generation re-imagining of Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) funding, provision, training and development, wise and compassionate accountability systems for school inspections, and performance measures and steps to ensure teaching is again regarded as a vocation in which adults can flourish and commit long-term.

Lead bishop for housing backs Prince of Wales homelessness project

The Church of England's lead bishop for housing Dr Guli Francis-Deqhani, has welcomed the launch of the five-year *Homewards* project by the Prince of Wales to end long term homelessness.

"The leadership of the Prince of Wales will undoubtedly have a tangible impact; his determination to address this crisis will be welcomed by churches up and down the country.

"The *Coming Home* report from the Archbishops' Commission on Housing, Church and Community set out the role that the Church can play in addressing a lack of truly affordable and high quality

housing - a major factor behind homelessness.

“Good homes provide a foundation for communities where everyone can flourish. Together we have substantial resources to bring to bear, and so we look forward to adding our support to the Prince of Wales as he leads on this vital issue.”

The Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, said: “We have long urged companies to take climate change seriously, and specifically to align with the goals of the Paris Climate Agreement and pursue efforts to limit the rise in temperature to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels. In practical terms that means phasing out fossil fuels, investing in renewables, and plotting a credible path to a net-zero world.

Some progress has been made, but not nearly enough. The Church will follow not just the science, but our faith – both of which call us to work for climate justice.”

Church Commissioners for England to exclude oil and gas companies over failure to align with climate goals

The Church Commissioners for England, which manages the Church of England’s £10.3bn endowment fund, has decided to exclude all remaining oil and gas majors from its portfolio, and will exclude all other companies primarily engaged in the exploration, production and refining of oil or gas, unless they are in genuine alignment with a 1.5°C pathway, by the end of 2023.

In 2021, the Church Commissioners excluded 20 oil and gas majors from its investment portfolio. It is now also excluding BP, Ecopetrol, Eni, Equinor, ExxonMobil, Occidental Petroleum, Pemex, Repsol, Sasol, Shell, and Total, after concluding that none are aligned

with the goals of the Paris Climate Agreement, as assessed by the Transition Pathway Initiative (TPI).

Church of England Pensions Board disinvests from Shell and remaining oil and gas holdings

The Church of England Pensions Board has recently announced its intention to disinvest from Shell plc and other oil and gas companies which are failing to show sufficient ambition to decarbonise in line with the aims of the Paris Agreement.

The new investment restriction will apply to all oil and gas companies that do not have short, medium and long term emissions reduction targets aligned with limiting global warming to 1.5°C, as assessed by the independent Transition Pathway Initiative. The exclusion will apply to equity and also debt investments.

John Ball, Chief Executive Officer of the Church of England Pensions Board, said: “There is a significant misalignment between the long term interests of our pension fund and continued investment in companies seeking short term profit maximisation at the expense of the ambition needed to achieve the goals of the Paris Agreement. Recent reversals of previous commitments, most notably by BP and Shell, has undermined confidence in the sector’s ability to transition”.

Church of England’s national Redress Scheme

Proposed details of the Church of England’s national Redress Scheme for survivors of Church-related abuse have recently been published. As we go to press, they were due to be presented and debated at the Church’s General Synod.

It is hoped that legislation will progress through Synod in forthcoming sessions

after which it will need Parliamentary approval. The Church remains committed to implementing a scheme specifically for people who have experienced abuse in the Church of England.

The Church's national proposals for redress are about more than money; financial payments will be offered alongside therapeutic, spiritual and emotional support, acknowledgment of wrongdoing on the part of the Church, and apology and support for rebuilding lives.

Where possible apology will be from the institution where the abuse took place (or from a part of the Church appropriate to the survivor's needs) in a format which is most appropriate to the survivor.

All survivors of sexual, physical, psychological, and emotional abuse (including spiritual abuse) relating to the Church will be eligible to apply for redress.

The Project Board has agreed the Redress Scheme will run for at least five years, and the contract between the Archbishops' Council and the third-party supplier will reflect this delivery period.

UN Security Council adopts Bishop's recommendations on Freedom of Religion or Belief

The Bishop of Truro, Philip Mounstephen, has welcomed the UN Security Council's recent adoption of a joint UK / UAE Government resolution highlighting threats to Freedom of Religion or Belief.

The steps taken by the UK Government followed a review authored by Bishop Philip at the invitation of the then Foreign Secretary, Jeremy Hunt, the implementation of which has since become Government Policy.

In a vote, the Security Council adopted the proposal, which will see the UN Secretary General produce an oral report on Freedom of Religion or Belief related threats to international peace and secu-

rity. The initial deadline is 14th June 2024, with the intention of such a statement becoming an annual event.

Bishop Philip welcomed the vote, saying: "I'm delighted by this news. That it's happened is huge credit to the UK's UN team and speaks volumes of the UK's commitment to this vital human right. This, along with other recent actions, puts this issue firmly on the international geo-political table."

The Rt Hon Jeremy Hunt said: "I'm proud and delighted to see this key recommendation of Bishop Philip's report implemented and send my warm congratulations to the UK team at the UN on their very impressive work."

The action taken by the British government is the first time a Security Council Resolution has been passed on Freedom of Religion or Belief, and puts in place Recommendation 20 of the Truro Independent Review.

Church's Chief Education Officer recognised in King's Birthday Honours

The Church of England's Chief Education Officer, Nigel Genders, received a CBE in the recent King's Birthday Honours.

As Chief Education Officer and Chief Executive of the National Society, Nigel has for the past nine years led the work of the Church of England Education Office, which serves the church's ministry with children and young people in churches, schools, colleges, and universities.

The Church of England provides 4,700 schools educating over a million children and is committed to a vision for education which is deeply Christian, serving the common good. Approximately one million children attend Church of England schools today, and around 15 million people alive today went to one.

All Saints' NEWS & VIEWS

CHURCH WARDEN'S WAFFLE

Well that felt a bit odd! for after a long time heading up or signing off with **Deputy** Warden, I now must do away with a word! So no, not a mistake . Seriously I feel extremely honoured and humble to be chosen as a warden along with Colin. I know I shall be relying a lot on Colin for his past experiences as indeed I shall on many others of you who have far more knowledge and expertise on a number of things. Dennis and his understanding about the difficulties and care of maintaining such an old and much loved building, I am not much good at the top of a ladder! Barbara for her astounding administrative skills, and many others of you who know the way round a computer better than I. Everyone has just so much to offer, have you ever watched Merie cutting a huge pile of sandwiches , or any of the creative flower arrangers ? As for all the technical side of things, all I can say is thank goodness for Mike Kneller and Brian to name a few.

Although it has been quite a while we have been in vacancy; in so many ways it has brought out hidden talents, and I feel we all have done/are still doing, a brilliant job in keeping our beloved church up and running. I am only too aware of my short comings , but with the help of you all I feel sure we will continue to go forward with confidence. We are very lucky to have such dedicated retired, local clergy who help us so much in providing worship and leading services, along with Alan and Adrienne who do such an important job in leading service of the word, and Evensong etc, not only here but in other churches.

There are individuals I have not mentioned I know---the list goes on and on, I am confident if we all continue to help and support each other the life of our much cherished church family will continue to grow and flourish .
With all love

VICKY WARDEN

NB. COPY DEADLINE FOR SEPTEMBER PARISH NEWS
AUGUST 15th

Readers' letters

Further to my letter last month about Neighbourhood Watch, I would also add -

When away from home overnight your house should appear the same as it was before your departure. So if your curtains were drawn the same should occur when you are away. But of course unless a neighbour will do the necessary your curtains should not be drawn the week before your departure.

I've noticed in our street that people normally draw their curtains so it's fairly obvious to a possible intruder that their house is empty when those same curtains are not drawn.

Also, rather obviously, milk deliveries should be cancelled. But in case your milkman forgets perhaps one of your neighbours could be alerted. And perhaps a neighbour could park one of their cars in your drive.

Regards, Geoff.



TEN to TEN The RAMBLING GROUP

The date of the next walk is Saturday 12th August. This will be led by Peter and will start from Hatfield Peverel village hall (CM3 2HW) This will be a circular walk via Papermill Lock. We will meet at the village hall ready to set off at 9.50. For more information please ring Peter on 01621 854108

An email will be sent round to regular walkers the week before. Everyone welcome!

Sue Smith

Make sure it is God's trumpet you are blowing - if it is only yours it won't wake the dead, it will simply disturb the neighbours. - W Ian Thomas

All Saints' Handbell ringers

After our traditional Christmas activities, it's pleasing to report that our team has been 'out and about' since January 2023 attending 'rallies', and accepting invitations from local clubs / societies to play for their members etc.



We are members of the 'Handbell Ringers of Great Britain' (HRGB) and attend 'rallies' organised by nearby regional groups – East Anglia (EA) and the South East (Kent, Sussex, South London). We've had enjoyable times recently at Chelmsford (EA), Wortwell (EA), and Headcorn (East Kent). There is also an annual national rally which we try to attend. This year's venue was in Scotland, but unfortunately we were unable to attend. To listen to 4/500 handbell ringers at the same time is a sight and sound to behold! Before each of the regional rallies (attended by around 15 or so teams), we are provided with music to be played as 'massed' ringing. We practise these beforehand at our weekly 'rings', and, on the day of the rally, join the rest of the regional teams to make a really joyous sound! We also play a couple of our 'own choice' party pieces to the assembled audience. That's a rather nervous experience!

We've recently played for the 'Parkinsons' group at Chelmsford and have oncoming bookings to attend a couple of local summer fayres. The pieces we play are quite varied - with favourites being 'Sheep, may safely graze', 'Hyfrodol' and 'Cym Rhonda' and, amongst many others, we play a rather unique 'Beatles' medley!

If you fancy trying out handbell ringing then you would be most welcome to attend one of our regular Wednesday pm sessions held in the D'Arcy room (6.30 to 8.15pm – except August). You do not need to have any particular musical background. A willingness to learn and make some mistakes is essential, and you'll find our group is most supportive and very friendly. So if you want to have a 'go' at ringing or, perhaps, want us to 'perform' at an event etc. then please get in touch with Derek Hall at the Church or telephone 01621 741690.

Thank you!



furry friends are welcome



Last month the Pets' Service at All Saints

Our Worship For All at the beginning of last month was the annual Pets' Service at which both Vicky and Betty officiated. Revd. Paul kindly offered to bless the animals. I can remember a donkey at one of these services some years ago, but not so this time, but there were plenty of dogs!

A Service of the blessing of pets is a wonderful opportunity to thank God for the gift of animals, and for us to ask God's blessing on all that he has made.

A blessing involves praise of God; the wish that spiritual good fortune will go with what is blessed and dedicates someone or something for a sacred purpose. A blessing also reminds us that all good gifts are gifts from God.





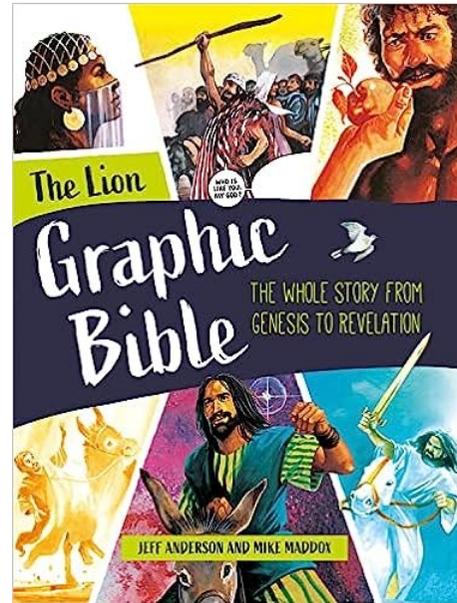
All Saints School YEAR 6 LEAVER'S SERVICE

Once again this year All Saints' church echoed to the sound of hundreds of tiny voices as the children, teachers and parents of All Saints School filled the pews for the school's sixth year leavers' service, held annually at the end of the term, just before the start of the summer holidays. The hymns, visible from the screen, were sung with some gusto before the high-light of the morning, the giving of a book to each leaver—a Bible, the Lion Graphic Bible.

Revd. Jordan talked to the students during the service:

'It was such an honour to address All Saints school and particularly year 6 and their parents at their End of Year Service.

I started by acknowledging the excitement but also anxiety they may be feeling as they move to a new year, new teacher or even on to BIG school! The change might come as a welcome relief but maybe for many



Copies of 'The Lion Graphic Bible' are given to each of the 6th form leavers

its upsetting saying goodbye to a School they have grown up in.

I then asked who has lots of plans over the holidays? Maybe so many things that it lots to juggle. I invited a student up to hold some things that represented the End of a school year and summer, a BIKE HELMET for those who will ride around all summer, HEADPHONES for those who just want me time, HAIRBRUSH because a break from school might mean you have more time in the mornings to get ready, or that you don't have to.... along with an array of other objects.

Lastly I pulled out a raw slimy fish and explained that for the Disciples when Jesus died, they thought it was the end of all their hopes and their End meant going back, going back to stinky slimy fish (fisherman by trade).

I recalled the story of how they were one day fishing and a stranger from the shore line called out for them to cast their nets on the other side, they did and they hauled a large number of fish. Suddenly they knew this was no stranger this had to be 'The Lord' Jesus himself!

I ended by explaining to the children that this story reminds us that we might not always feel Jesus with us or recognise it is him, but he promises to be with us to walk along the shore lines of our lives.

So as you head out to what is new, know that God goes with you and there is always hope, we might just need to cast our nets on the other side.'



Do you love your smartphone too much?

How much time a day do you spend on your smartphone? According to one app monitoring firm, App Annie, we can spend an average of 4.8 hours a day on it.

And so much time is not doing us any good.

As one writer has put it, our smartphone “removes us from the present moment and wastes time that could be more profitably and purposefully spent.

Imagine, at the end of your life, receiving a balance sheet stating the number of your hours on Earth lost to scrolling.”

Scientists explain the attraction of smartphones in this way : responding to the ‘push notification’ rewards you with dopamine, the brain chemical that makes you happy. “The smartphone is the modern-day hypodermic needle, delivering digital dopamine 24/7 for a wired generation,” Dr Anna Lembke, professor of psychiatry and behavioural sciences at Stanford University, California, wrote in her book *Dopamine Nation* in 2021.

Dr Lembke warns: “The scrolling and visual stimuli release dopamine in our brain’s reward pathways, and the way our brain compensates for overstimulation is [by entering] a dopamine deficit state. Once we’re in that state we continue scrolling to try and bring those dopamine levels back up to baseline, so we get into a place where we’re chasing our tail. We’re chasing dopamine.”

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN MALDON

New Estates Visitation in Maldon

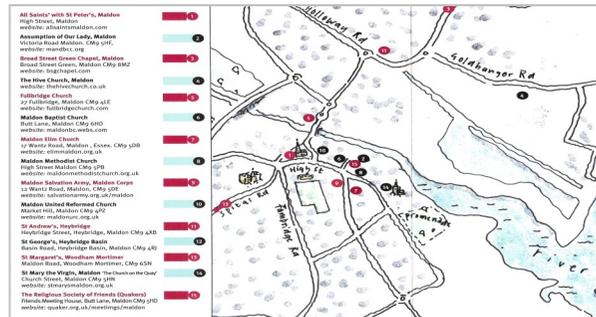


It won't have escaped your notice that Maldon is growing in size. Several housing estates have sprung up during the past few years and thousands of new houses have been built and are gradually being filled.

Churches Together in Maldon have prepared a leaflet and a welcome pack for churches in Maldon to distribute to these estates. All that is needed now is for volunteers to help.

In his 9.30am service last month Fr. John said that the Gospel passages we heard were all about Jesus sending his disciples on a mission. We are Jesus' disciples today and we are being sent out on a mission.

If you would like to be part of this initiative please have a word with us.



How can we help ?

Karen from the Sion Community speaking last month about visitation said that one of the most important parts of any outreach programme is prayer, prayer before going out and prayer whilst visitation is taking place.



“Remember that we are **ambassadors for the joy of the gospel**. Keep a good positive, joy filled demeanour ...

Prayer is the foundation stone. Pray before you go out visiting and if possible have people praying at home or in your churches while the visiting is taking place

Karen - the Sion Community, Brentwood, June 2023

Mark 16: 15

“And He said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptised shall be saved...”



An update from **Stephen & Sue**

I would like to begin by thanking Peter Clark for all his work with the Parish News in the time I was at All Saints, and for many years before that. The editing and production of the magazine requires a huge amount of time and commitment. All Saints has been truly blessed in having Peter, and now Mike Kneller, who is keeping up the tradition of a first-rate magazine, which is such an important means of communication in the parish.

After ten years in Maldon, it was a great wrench for us to leave All Saints, super colleagues, our lovely Vicarage, and the town we had grown to love. We will never forget the kindness and support we received from

In the Church of England, clergy are expected to quietly fade away and keep their heads down when they leave a parish. I suppose the reason for this is that they should not become a problem for their successor. But as you are still in vacancy, I feel I can take up the editor's kind invitation to give you an update on our news since we left Maldon.



All Saints during my illness in 2011 and after Nick's accident in 2017. But Sue and I have now settled in very happily to our new home in Lawford. We are in walking distance of the shops in Manningtree and of Manningtree station. When we are feeling energetic, we can walk to Flatford Mill and Dedham, and there are lovely walks along the Stour estuary. We have lovely neighbours, all of whom are young families.

It was a difficult time to leave Maldon, just a few days before lockdown in March 2020. So, for our first months here, we couldn't really get to know anyone. Then from July 2020, things gradually began to open up again, including church. Our arrival coincided with the departure of the local Rector, and for the last three years, I have been kept busy most Sundays, and with baptisms, weddings and funerals, and reluctantly with assemblies in our church school. As with Maldon, there has been pastoral re-organisation, which has reconfigured the local rural parishes. These changes have been very challenging for the local churches.

Our spiritual home has become St George's Great Bromley, where we have been made very welcome.

The worship is very similar to All Saints, with good music and a dignified liturgy. Sue sings with the choir. St George's has now been reorganised from being part of a group of three parishes, into a group of nine. In October, the three year vacancy will be coming to an end. Though I am usually taking the service at St George's twice a month, I also help out regularly at Mistley, Lawford, St Osyth and Harwich. It is a particular joy to help out in the Harwich churches, as this was where I was brought up and spent my early life. As I can no longer drive, I am so fortunate that Sue drives me all over North Essex to help in these parishes. I could not do it without her.

Sue continues to teach at least one day a week at Kendall CofE school in Colchester. For most of her time there, she has been responsible for RE and Collective Worship. So Father Mole and Reverend Rachel Rat are familiar visitors to the school! Richard and Debi are living in Chichester, though they are hoping to buy a house in Bognor later this year. Richard is still teaching music, and Debi is working for a film company. They were married two years ago, and I was pleased to be asked to take a service of blessing for them, which

incorporated elements from Debi's Jewish background.

Nick and Hannah live in Norwich, where Nick is working for Natural England. He seems to have become their expert on ponds. No doubt the experience of the pond in the Vicarage, with its wonderful newts, has stood him in good stead. Hannah travels around schools in Norfolk and Suffolk training staff on the teaching of phonics. They have asked me to take their wedding in St Leonard's Lexden next year.

The great sadness this year has been that we had to have Tommy the cat "put to sleep". Some of you may remember Sky, the previous Vicarage Cat. When she died, in 2016, Merie and Helen Keeble gave us Tommy, whom they had been looking after. He was a great character, and we miss him terribly.

So that's a bit about our news. We often think of you all, as All Saints will always have a special place in our hearts. If any one feels up to venturing to the Suffolk border, we will always be pleased to see you and to offer some refreshment.

Stephen and Sue



The Greek word for fish = ΙΧΘΥΣ = Ichthys

Iota (i), *Iēsoûs* (Ἰησοῦς), "Jesus"
Chi (ch), *Christós* (Χριστός), "anointed" (Christ)
Theta (th), *Theoû* (Θεοῦ), "of God",
Ypsilon (y or u), *(h)uiós*^[1] (Υἱός), "Son"
Sigma (s), *sōtēr* (Σωτήρ), "Savior"

which translates into English as
"Jesus Christ, Son of God, (*my*) Saviour"

THE PARISH LOGO

What can *you* see in it ?

The Cross is supreme over everything reminding us of the sovereignty of Christ, and that He is King of Kings and Lord of Lords. He has saved us all by His death on the Cross and all people must look to Him to be saved. We are reminded of our enormous task to share His good news with others and never to rest until those around us know and love Him

The circle reminds us of the worldwide task we have. It is the round world the Church must win for Christ. Every Christian must take their part in loving and serving others through their daily work and their free time. The world will accept only a Church that serves. We have no rights, only duties.

The circle stands for a halo as well reminding us that we are to be 'saints'. Not the plaster fragile sort, but ordinary folk dedicated to God's service in today's world. We are very conscious of our limitations and so we strive to be better Christians by worshipping more regularly, praying and studying our faith. This is all part of practical holiness which the halo suggests.

Hidden away within the circle is a fish. The fish was a symbol of the early Church in days of persecution when the Cross was a dangerous sign to show. The Greek initials make up the word "fish". We use it to show that we are not alone in being 'saints' but part of God's great family—the Christian Church—here in Maldon and in the world.

CROSSWORD ANSWERS

ACROSS: 1, John. 3, And James. 8, Near. 9, Omission. 11, Theocratic. 14, Asleep. 15, By-path. 17, Stalingrad. 20, Backbone. 21, Baca. 22, Whose eye. 23, Seth.

DOWN: 1, Jonathan. 2, Heavenly. 4, No meat. 5, Justifying. 6, Maid. 7, Sins. 10, Acceptable. 12, Marriage. 13, Shadrach. 16, Plenty. 18, A bow. 19, ECHO.

MOTHERS' UNION

Three years ago on the 4th of September,
I became Enrolling Member
Of All Saints, Maldon, Mothers' Union
I was later admitted at Family Communion.

First tonight my thanks are due,
To Wendy, and to Arthur too,
For letting us meet in their beautiful home
No matter how many members have
come.

We have welcomed 13 new members
At two enrolments I well remember –
The first at a Deanery Festival in May,
It really was a beautiful day,
The second occasion was All Saints' Tide
With husbands and families at our sides.

We have attended services at Epiphany
and Lent,
For Women's World Day of Prayer again
we went.

Our meetings included various speakers,
Police, ex-Mayoress and a Head Teacher,
Talks on the training of clergy and nurse
And a quiz on the contents of our Church.

Demonstrations by Bamix and with flowers
And slides of the Crown Jewels in the
Tower,
We heard of the Viewers and Listeners
Association
And later enjoyed Wendy's love symposium.

We have heard of working with the deaf
Structure of Mothers' Union and "Top Ten"
"Increase Your Faith", our present theme,
Goes forward to 1983.

3 Christmas parties have been held
With Wives' Group and afternoon members
as guests
We have put our recipes in the Church
Cook-Book
And, for competition, compiles a Log
Book.

At 3 Bazaars and Summer Fetes
We have helped by selling cakes,
Bread, pastries and various buns,
Raising money for Church funds.

Each year, one evening in the summer,
We have held a Pot Luck Supper,
Invited our friends and our families
And raised money for M.U. charities.

On our outings we have had good times,
We have taken our families to pantomimes,
We have been to Cavendish to taste the
wines
And over to Northey and Osea Islands.

A coffee morning raised a good sum
For our Diocesan Caravan Fund.
At a sponsored knit-in with needles and
wool
We raised money for the Two Towers
Fund.

Sewing together proved no obstacle
And we made 3 blankets for St Peter's
Hospital.

Now my thanks to the Committee –
Eva, Jennifer, June and Rene,
Who, for 3 years have been so hard-
working
Always helpful, reliable and willing.
Last but not least, my thanks to you
For supporting all we do.

Now it's election time again,
Time for me to hand over the reins
To a new Enrolling Member
And some new Committee members.
I hope they will enjoy their time
As I have thoroughly enjoyed mine.

Thank you
Edna Hutchinson

iPC Solutions

computer sales and repairs

We buy, sell and repair

- ◆ Virus & Spyware Removal
- ◆ Collections & Repairs Done in Your Home
- ◆ Gaming PC's Built & Supplied
- ◆ Laptop Screen Replacements
- ◆ 3D/CAD Workstations Built & Supplied



☎ 01621 857085 ✉ ipc-solutions@live.co.uk

☎ 07751087687 🌐 www.ipcsolution.co.uk



SH
SIMON HOLDING
EST. 1997

01621 859 484
07990 972 676

TRADITIONAL AND MODERN UPHOLSTERY CURTAINS AND BLINDS
BESPOKE FURNITURE SOFT FURNISHINGS JACARANDA RUGS
BESPOKE LEATHER FRENCH CLUB CHAIRS VOYAGE MAISON RETAILER
WALLPAPER AND HANGING SERVICE

www.simonholding.co.uk Unit F, Stock Chase, Heybridge, Maldon, Essex CM9 4AA

A.G. Smith

Funeral Directors & Monumental Masons



Serving our local community since 1912

- Private chapel of rest
- Mercedes Benz hearse & limousines
- 24 hour service
- Hand crafted memorials
- Home visits by appointment
- Prepayment funeral plans



Maldon - 01621 854 293

7 Spital Road, Maldon, CM9 6DY

Southminster - 01621 774 557

Hallmark House, 44 Station Road, Southminster, CM0 7EW

agsmithfunerals.co.uk

From All Saints School the **BIG** question

Our latest big question, what would you answer?

When do you feel good about yourself?

I feel good about myself everyday because I like to learn and I'm getting good at maths and everything.
- **By Charlotte**

When I do maths and art. I love learning at All Saints. - **By Izzabella**



OTHER NEWS IN SCHOOL

Year 6 Residential

On Monday 6th June me and all the other Year 6's went on our residential trip to Hilltop in Norfolk. At 6am I got ready, grabbed my suitcase and left the house. On the way to school I got a bacon sandwich and when we got to school we had to wait for everyone else to arrive. I was feeling very excited but a little nervous too. When the coach arrived, we put our luggage on then everyone went into the hall to find out what our day group was. After that we got into partners and went onto the coach, I was with Jessica. On the way there most people went to sleep, I didn't and when we were almost there Mr. Cairey put music on and everyone in the back was vibing to music. It was really funny because the front of the bus was just staring at us like we were mad. When we finally got there we had our packed lunch and after lunch at 1:30 we did our first activity which was the tree top trail. This is like an obstacle course high above the ground. I really enjoyed it, it was really fun. I liked how there was a high and low level, I went on the highest one a couple of times and then I went on the lower one because apparently it was harder. I actually thought it was easier than the top level though. After that we had dinner which was jacket potato, then we chilled in the lounge and got ready for bed. It was strange not being at home but I really enjoyed staying in a room with my friends. We didn't get to sleep until late but that is because the alarm went off and we all had to go outside. Luckily there was no fire, but it made us all extremely tired.

Day 2

On day 2 we did rock pooling and high ropes. The high ropes were really fun because there was something called the leap of faith which is kind of a trapeze thing. You have to jump and try to grab onto a bar that hangs in the air away from you and then you just



here !

let go and be let down to the ground. At the high ropes activity there was also a wooden pole that you have to climb up on and when you're up at the very top, standing on the pole you have to help your teammates up. Eventually, when everyone is up you have to hold hands and then lean back, then let go of their hands. Then you fly backwards and get let down to the ground. It was really fun but I was really scared, when I shook with nerves, the pole shook with me, it was really funny. Later we went to West Runton beach to do rock pooling where we found a dead shark with its head off, it was very interesting and cool. After that we had dinner and did our evening activity which was the swimming pool and it was great fun, everyone jumped in.



Day 3

On day 3 we learnt about coastal erosion at Overstrand beach. Coastal erosion was excellent because we built a dam with the sand and at the end we smashed it down. Then we got to go to knee high in the sea and we really enjoyed that. After that we went back, had dinner and did our evening activity which was a game called Mad Hatters. In this game the people wear-



ing funny hats had to chase all the others around the woods. If you got caught you had to wear the hat and it was your turn to be 'it'. It was a funny game. After that I chilled in the lounge and went to bed but whenever we turned the lights of, Jess started making gargling sounds and made us all laugh!

Day 4 (last full day)

On day 4 we did an Obstacle and Agility course and Caving. In caving we had to crawl through tunnels on our hands and knees with helmets on and knee pads. There was a bit called the Up and Over where you had to try not to get stuck. At first I thought it was all very scary because I didn't know what would happen. But then I got used to it and started to enjoy it and relax - we even played 'it' in the tunnels. In the evening we had a Disco, it was so much fun, everyone was dancing. What was really funny though was when the teachers started dancing, the boys got Mr. Smith to do this funny move where he was shaking his hips. That night there was a huge queue for the tuck shop!

Day 5

On day 5 we did a climbing wall and the power fan. This was probably one of my favourite activities because you had to jump off this platform with a harness on over a huge fan. At first I was really scared because I'm scared of heights but when I did it I wanted to do it 1 million times. It was amazing. After that we got our things and we set off on our journey home.

I really miss Hilltop and I would like to go again but I can't. Thank you to all the staff that went and gave us the opportunity to go. I would definitely recommend going to Hilltop, it was brilliant.

- by Mia

St James the Least of All

Editor: The Rev Dr Gary Bowness continues his tongue-in-cheek letters from 'Uncle Eustace' ... If you would like a copy of our published booklet of Uncle Eustace's letters, please email us at: enquiries@parishpump.co.uk

On why it is so hard to read

The Rectory
St James the Least

My dear Nephew Darren

Your suggestion that every month at clergy meetings, someone should review a book of theology they have been reading, was bound to be greeted with uneasy resistance. It would mean that the majority would have to start *opening* books, rather than just occasionally dusting them. Possessing books does not necessarily imply that they are ever read.

Your high church colleagues will only read the Racing News, low church members the Railway Review, liberals the Knitting Weekly and those with tendencies towards non-conformism, the Vegetarian Times. Clerical studies may be lined with books, but they are largely for effect – and to hide damp patches on the wallpaper. Anything with hard covers will have been bought with the best of intentions - but somehow the vicarage lawn or the church hall drains will have taken precedence. And from what I know of your colleague over at St Crispin's, the only books he will buy will be to colour in.

I do try to keep up with my reading, but sleep mercifully intervenes after the first 10 minutes. On those days when I sit by my study window, so passers-by can see me deeply occupied in intellectual activity, it is most useful that my large tome on the letters of Eusebius can easily conceal an Agatha Christie inside it.

I confess that I was once gloriously put down when I tried to impress one of our blue stockings by mentioning a new edition of a Dostoevsky novel. She replied: "I have never read Dostoevsky in translation." It only confirmed my suspicions that she had worked as a Russian spy in earlier years.

I was hugely impressed when, during the bitter cold of last winter, the Earl of Stowe, whose library would comfortably contain one of our cathedrals, told me he was slowly getting through its contents of tens of thousands of volumes. It was only some time later that I discovered he meant he threw the occasional one on the fire, when he was running low on wood.

No, my dear Darren, the only literary activities that will spark interest will be cross-words for the majority, or diocesan reports for the truly dedicated – with weighty tomes being used as door stops.

Your loving uncle,

Eustace





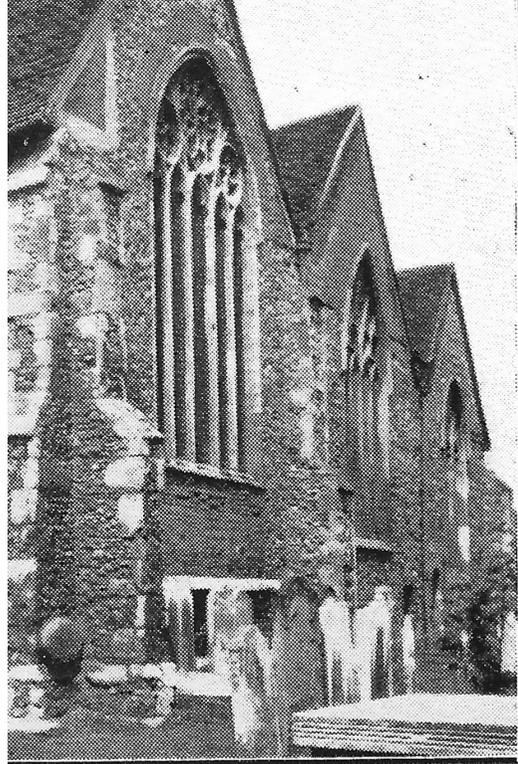
ALL SAINTS' CHURCH MALDON, ESSEX.

A detailed account of this interesting Church is given below.

When Robert Mantell endowed and re-founded Beeleigh Abbey in 1180 he gave as part of the Abbey's endowment the Churches of All Saints and St. Peter, Maldon—

that is to say, their advowsons, tithes and other possessions. The Church of All Saints was perhaps in existence before the Norman Conquest. The present structure dates from about 1250, but there is evidence of an earlier Church in the presence of re-used Norman fabric of the previous century.





This is the continuation of the account of the recently discovered 1928 souvenir booklet on the unveiling of the stained glass window to be found in the D'Arcy Room.

Part 1—(June) The Washington Memorial Window

Part 2—(July) The Love Story of Farnbridge Ferry

It has been thought that Robert Mantell who presented All Saints Church to Beeleigh Abbey in 1180 may have also founded and built the Church. Although this guess may be correct it is equally likely that it is wrong. Robert Mantell gave to Beeleigh Abbey not only All Saints' Church, but St. Peter's, Maldon, St. Lawrence (Newland) and half the Church of St. Margaret, Bures (i.e. Bowers Gifford). Robert Mantell need not be credited with having founded all these Churches. Indeed, it may be confidently supposed that Maldon, an important place in pre-Conquest days, had a Church or Churches for its Saxon

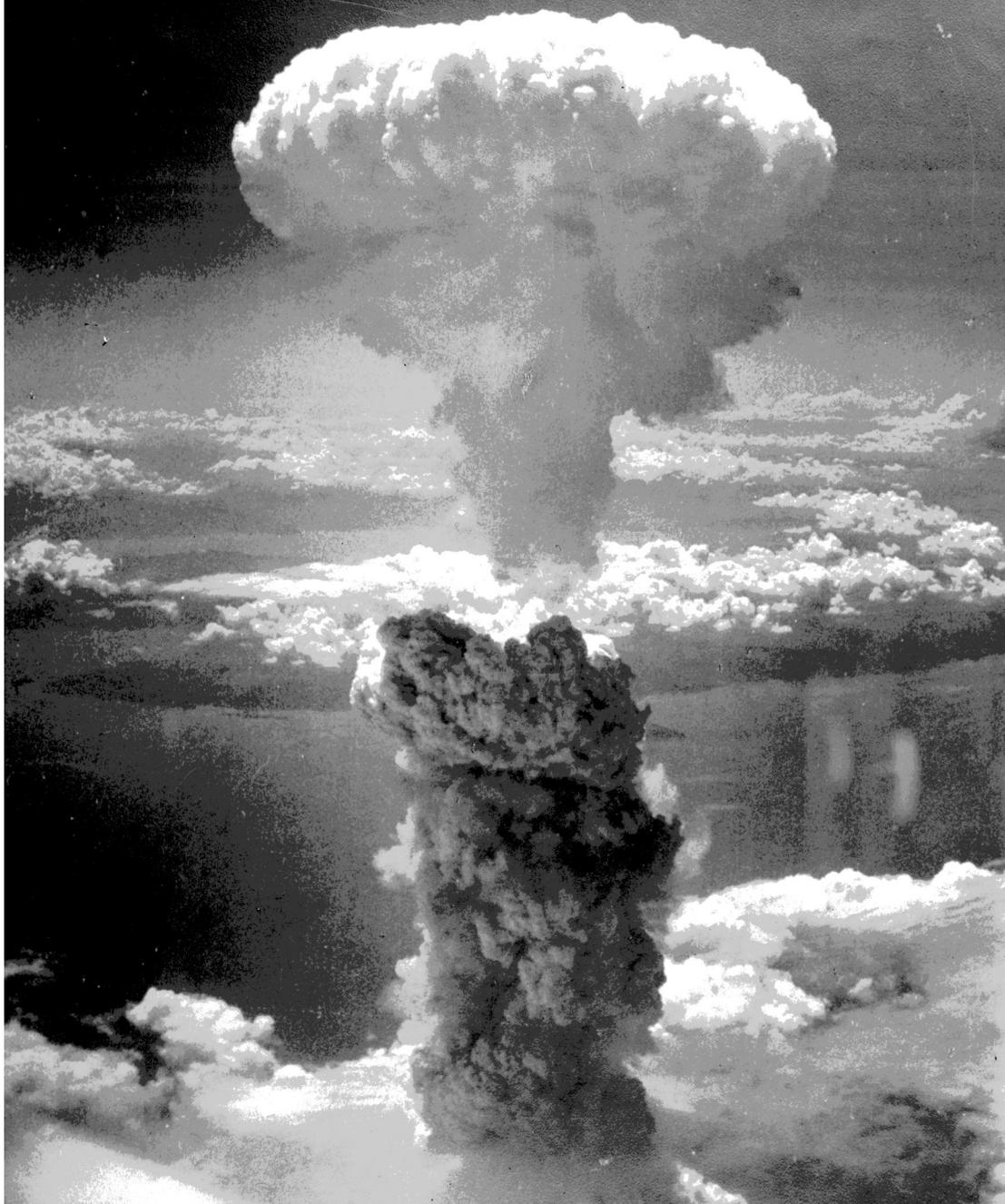
inhabitants.

The Triangular Tower is perhaps unique. Newcourt wrote of it in 1710:- *The Tower or Steeple of All Saints, with a Spire on it, is built in the form of an equilateral Triangle, which I could not forbear taking Notice of, because I never saw or heard of a Church Steeple built in that Form.* The Tower was built about 1250 but it contains re-used Norman material of the previous century, indicating the presence of an earlier Norman or Saxon church.

The South Arcade with the south aisle were built about 1330 and the crypt under the aisle (an old "bonehouse") is of the

same date.

About 1443 the South Chapel of All Saints was built, probably as the Chantry of Sir Robert D'Arcy which was founded in 1443. The North Chapel was added somewhat later. The Nave was entirely rebuilt in 1728 with the Chancel. The Church was restored in the 19th century and also in the 20th century, and the North Porch is modern. In the South Aisle is some remarkable good carved work of about 1330 or a little later. The arcading is specially fine and interesting. Many old brasses were once in this Church, but they have gone—only the indents being left.



Thoughts on Nagasaki

Nagasaki

August 9th (1945)

The butterflies are back in Nagasaki !
You see them on the walls and in the trees
Stirring memories of a childhood now forgotten
Like far off noises on the summer breeze.

In thoughts, I hear the cries and smell the burning
The sunken eyes in faces all around
In one great whirlpool arms and legs are turning
A kaleidoscope of ever silent sound.

No living thing was left to tell the story
In dust that once was trees no bird would call
The choking cloud of death had done its duty
The Dragon King had sounded final call.

Where are they all, and do they slumber easy
The chosen ones who in time's circling lay
When death rained from the skies above them
The Nagasaki people of that day.

There's life anew and scarcely but a thought now
For the innocents who fell asleep back there
Now the butterflies are back in Nagasaki
But the blind man on the corner doesn't care.

My piece this month is about the Japanese City of Nagasaki. Those of you of a certain age will recall that it was one of only two places in the world that have ever had the misfortune to have had an atomic bomb dropped on it (the other one being Hiroshima also in Japan). In the course of business I have been to both of these places multiple times and I have seen the relics of the damage the bombs caused and have been to the Peace Parks and Museums that each city has. The devastation that one bomb could cause is hard to imagine, and these bombs were miniscule compared to the ones in existence today.. I write about it here because August 9th (1945) is the anniversary date of the Nagasaki bomb.

Each year about this time I spend a few moments to think about these two now once again beautiful and prosperous Cities and also because a friend I made in Nagasaki still lives there with his wife and children and even now has to un-

dergo tests each year for radiation sickness he had inherited because his parents were on the perimeter of the City on the day the bomb was dropped. Fortunately he never developed any illness as a result, but his mother eventually died from the sickness. I am and never have been a campaigner, but I have always been affected by having been to Hiroshima and Nagasaki. I was so moved on these occasions that on one visit I *needed* to write a poem about my thoughts. I think it was around 1985, 40 years after the bombs were dropped.

In 2015, my Granddaughter Breanna was chosen to represent Essex Scouting at the world jamboree held in Japan. I changed the word 'Nagasaki' to Hiroshima as they scan the same, because the scouts were visiting Hiroshima. Breanna was able to visit the peace park and museum of Hiroshima and was similarly moved by the experience

Joan once told me that "Nagasaki" is her favourite piece from what I have written. Maybe because she too has experienced the piece parks and museums.

I am sorry if this piece is rather sombre, but it was and is a very sad thing. If you feel the same, please join me in prayer that it never happens again.

Ken Downham

PC MISBEHAVING?
Get your PC problems fixed!

PC Care for PCs and Macs
For all your problems including



Virus removal,
performance tuning, software,
hardware & network installations
& repairs

Your local computer support

Nick Smith
01621 893290 or
07986 405838
pc.care.essex@gmail.com
www.pccareessex.co.uk

PC CARE
essex

Barnes Gardening Services
Est 2005

All aspects of general gardening undertaken

- Pruning
- Weeding
- Lawn Mowing

One-off garden clearance or regular maintenance.

Also

- spring cleaning,
- ironing and
- basic decorating

Fully insured
No job too small
Call Lorraine on
07754 791 387

RELATIVISM AND THE SPIRIT OF THE AGE

I read an address by Michael Raiter, a theologian from Sydney, and would like to share the salient points from his speech... no opinion of mine is intended.

He starts with a conversation on a Sydney bus. A stranger asked him his job and he replied 'a missionary'. "Oh, OK," the man said, "a man of faith. You either get Faith or you don't". He meant that some people are inclined to a belief in God and some aren't, because they are just not wired that way. He thought believing in God was like abstract art: you either get it or you don't. He believed that Christian faith is subjective, it's not a question of right or wrong, or what is true or false; it's a matter of what works for you. Michael replied that it was none of these, it is a question of whether or not you believe the true claims of the Christian faith. Thus he had confronted in this typical man a mindset that reflects the spirit of the age, indeed the spirit of every age!

All this pre-supposes the implication that there is a transcendental force influencing the worldview, inter-

preted as the attitudes, convictions, beliefs and behaviour of the people of that time and place. The spirit of the age will also manifest itself differently in different cultures and at different times in history. Although Jesus is unchanging, as is the Devil, the Truth as envisioned by people will change over time. In some past cultures God's Truth was the only truth, in other cultures it was said to be a corrupted truth, while in more modern Western cultures Christian truth is only one of a variety of truths. This prevailing pluralistic worldview is 'relativism' – not one but many truths. The man on the bus reflected this worldview: he didn't think my worldview was right or wrong, it was just my view not his view. It was not better or worse than his, or more true or false. It was just a worldview that works for him and not for me.

The largely forgotten group of scholars called 'The Jesus Seminar' were highly sceptical about the trustworthiness of the Four Gospels. Their leader, Crossan, was once asked, "Did Jesus rise from the dead?" He replied, "Yes, yes – for Christians." In other words

it is true and meaningful for Christians but not for Hindus, Buddhists, Muslims and atheists. The Muslim Jesus, called Isa, is true for Muslims. The Jesus who is a wise teacher and nothing more is true for agnostics. The resurrected Jesus is true for Christians. One particular view of Jesus is not right, and another wrong. It is only right for you, they argued.

Relativism developed in the West in the 18th century Age of Enlightenment which placed human reasoning as the basis of knowledge, not tradition or edicts of the Church. Religious and moral belief was now relegated to the world of personal opinion and it opened the gates to religious, cultural and moral relativism. Further, it became clear that written or spoken words imbibed cultural context. For example, the word 'peace' would mean something completely different to a person in an English village than a refugee in Rwanda. Similarly, 'rich', 'religious', 'brave' and so on. So when reading a text, or in daily speech even, there can be no single authoritative interpretation, simply different interpretations. Meaning is only found

in the mind of the receiver, not the sender or the word itself, and this meaning will be interpreted in a variety of ways by different cultures. As an example, if someone said, "I am a landlord," this could elicit respect, anger, hatred, jealousy, bribery etc from a range of different listeners. Hence, from that moment on relativism, in word, thought or deed, soon replaced objective truth.

Therefore today people talk less and less about objective truth, since what is true for one is not for another. People also tend to think in terms of 'preference' than truth: preference in religious belief, lifestyle, sexual behaviour, morality, thus resulting in the freedom to mix and match. People can even learn at one and the same time the different spiritual truth expounded by a Muslim Iman, a Buddhist priest and a Christian theologian, taking the bits that best resonate with their individual understanding of God.

But this situation is far from being a new phenomenon. Even the 1st century world of the Apostles was every bit as pluralistic as the UK today: a smorgasbord of religious beliefs. Consider the countless temples, shrines, idols and altars in Athens when Paul visited and tried to convert people to Christianity. Paul rejected the pluralism and relativism and told them there is

only one true God, proclaiming "In the past God overlooked such ignorance, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent" (Acts 17:30). Paul refused to give any credibility to any alternative religious viewpoints and his challenge was universal: there were to be no exceptions, all people everywhere, with a final reckoning on Judgement Day. This viewpoint stands in stark contrast to the spirit of the age, just as we Christians still do today.

Unfortunately, to go against the spirit of the age in many things is deemed intolerant, and intolerance is a deadly sin. Tolerance is the glue that keeps the fabric of society intact, especially a multi-racial, multi-faith one. The old definition of 'tolerance' was to 'put up with, or bear' but today it has swung more towards 'acceptance'. Indeed, we use the word tolerance less and less because it implies value judgements, a 'right' and a 'wrong'. For example, acceptance says that you have a certain religious faith because that's the way you were brought up, so it works for you but may not for me. Therefore we need to accept each other. I cannot say that I am right and you are wrong; both of us need to be true to ourselves...and our culture, our faith, morality etc. We must not judge others who are different.

Since this creed of acceptance is the new attitude prevalent in our society, then those not prepared to accept the views of others are outsiders. It is a costly thing to oppose or resist the spirit of the age and this puts many Christians in a difficult position because there are some things we refuse to accept. We can tolerate other religious viewpoints but we cannot accept them as equally valid. We cannot compromise on the truths about Jesus and God. To affirm that Jesus is the unique Saviour and Lord of all people is a dangerous assault on the spirit of the age, but we do it because we know there is true worship and false worship, true beliefs and false beliefs, truth and untruth. We know that the Gospel of Jesus Christ is true. It is rooted in verifiable fact and historical events.

So in being a Christian we are not primarily 'being true to myself', we are firstly being true to God. We are not Christians because that particular worldview works for us, but because we are intellectually and morally bound to commit ourselves to that which is true. There is no relativism here, no pluralism: we reject rightly and faithfully the spirit of the age and we hope to convince "every knee to bow and every tongue confess" the importance of our true faith.

D Trueman

THROUGH THE FURNACE

BY F.E. READE

And do you suppose that the priest may absolve a sick person who is troubled in conscience but not any other penitent sinner?" asked the Vicar.

"I have looked all through the prayer book and I cannot find any directions for people in health to avail themselves of such a privilege," said Mr. Harvey.

"You have not noticed the Exhortation in the Communion Office," said the Vicar, taking the prayer book into his own hand, and pointing to the place. "You see here that anybody who wishes to receive a sacrament but who cannot quiet his conscience, is to come to his parish priest or to some other duly qualified minister of Christ, to open his grief, which means confess his sins, in order that he may obtain absolution and spiritual advice."

"Then that certainly applies to me," said Mr. Harvey, eagerly; I wish to make up for past neglect and to receive the Holy Communion, but I could not do in my present unquiet state of mind.

"Then if you turn to the service for the Ordination of Priests," continued the Vicar, "you will see that the same power which our Lord conferred upon His Apostles is given to them, by the power of the same Holy Spirit. We read in St. John, the twentieth chapter, verses twenty-two and twenty-three; 'Receive ye the Holy Ghost: Whosoever sins ye remit they are remitted unto them, and whosoever sins ye retain they are retained.' In the ordination service, when the hands of the bishop and the priests are laid upon the heads of those about to be made priests, the bishop says to each one: 'Receive the Holy Ghost for the office and work of a priest in the Church of God, now committed unto thee by the Imposition of our hands. Whose sins thou dost retain they are retained.'"

"This is all quite new to me," exclaimed Mr. Harvey, eagerly, "then there actually is provision made in the Church for the

relief of those who are troubled in conscience?"

"There is," said the Vicar solemnly, "and woe be to the priest who refuses to use the power entrusted to him. He will receive the judgement pronounced upon the servant who kept his talent hid in a napkin."

"Then you will not refuse to help *me*," exclaimed Mr. Harvey. "I shall be allowed to lay my whole burden of sin at the Feet of the Saviour, and I shall hear Him speaking to me through His appointed Minister, to tell me that I am forgiven?"

"Even so," replied the Vicar, in a moved tone.

"After that I shall be able to make a start in the right direction. I shall feel able to take up any work for God with which you may see fit to entrust me."

On the following evening Mr. Harvey closed the shop at the usual time and told Margaret that he was going to the church to keep an appointment with the Vicar.

When he came home, an hour later, she was startled by the change in his countenance.

"Father!" she exclaimed, but she could say no more; the joy and peace upon his face were so evidently from above that she was awed into silence.

On Thursday evening at seven o'clock, everything was ready for the reception of Newlyn, and Margaret surveyed her table with satisfaction. The new table-napkins were there, flowers tastefully arranged, the silver shining brightly, and pretty cups and saucers. Margaret's face was flushed from bending over the kitchen fire. The chicken was roasted to perfection, the bread sauce irreproachable. The cold sweets, which she had made the day before, had turned out well. All was ready; only the guest was wanting.

As the minutes passed by Margaret be-

gan to feel nervous and irritable. At last a cab laden with luggage drove up to the door, Newlyn sprang out; Margaret hastened to greet him, and after some bustle and delay, the boxes were carried upstairs and the meal was served.

"The chicken is overdone, my dear," observed Mr. Harvey, as he began to carve. "We are nearly half an hour late," replied Margaret in a mortified tone.

"That is my fault," said Newlyn, "I am so sorry, but I could not get my packing done, and I fear that I am not a very punctual fellow at the best of times."

Margaret smiled her forgiveness, and handed him a cup of tea.

"I will not take any tea, thank you," said he; "I think that it spoils one's dinner."

"We do not dignify this little meal by the name of dinner," remarked Mr. Harvey; "it is only high tea."

"But I shall have to make it my dinner, whatever you may call it," said the young man, in his light, good-humoured say, "for I can't eat a heavy meal in the middle of the day; a little cold meat or soup does for me then; I have been used to dining late all my life."

"Did you have late dinner in the boarding house?" asked Margaret, who was beginning to feel anxious.

"Oh yes, we used to sit down to raw joints, or greasy stews, at seven every evening, or as near seven as the deity in the kitchen would allow; I have not seen as such a tempting meal as this for some months."

Margaret felt gratified, although she was secretly uneasy about the meals of the future.

"What will you take to drink then?" asked Mr. Harvey; "I fear that we have not any wine or beer in the house."

"I never take either," replied Newlyn, rather quickly, "a dear friend of mine went to the bad through drink, and I determined that I would never touch it again, in the hope of helping other fellows to leave it alone as well."

Mr Harvey nodded approvingly, and Margaret resolved that she would make a cup of her best coffee later on.

The evening passed pleasantly, for Newlyn discovered that Mr. Harvey had been a great chess player in bye-gone years, and declared that he himself was devoted to the game. The board was brought out and the two sat down to play, and found that they were equally matched.

Margaret found enough to occupy her in making the coffee, bringing it in and watching the eager faces of the players. She was very glad that her father had found a congenial companion in their new inmate, for she thought that it would smooth the way for her to indulge him in all his little fancies.

However, Mr. Harvey shook his head the next morning when he found that he and his daughter were to eat boiled eggs at eight and that bacon was to be fried and fresh tea made to give the young man a comfortable breakfast at nine. "But I am sure that he is not strong," pleaded Margaret, "I heard him coughing in the night, and he looks so pale and delicate; I should like to nurse him up and get him into better health."

Mr. Harvey smiled. "I believe that this young fellow will give you more trouble than two women would have done," were his parting words as he left the room to open the shop.

Days passed by and proved that Mr. Harvey's prediction had been a true one. Margaret found that it took up all her spare time and thoughts to devise tempting meals for her guest, and to serve them up in the way that he fancied. She also discovered that a guinea a week soon melted away when she had to buy extra towels, table-linen, and to provide little luxuries to which she and her father had never been accustomed. In fact, she foresaw that she would have to pinch herself in pocket money in order to make both ends meet, but she kept these difficulties to herself, for she seemed to have but one desire in her mind, to please and satisfy the person who was becoming the first object of her thoughts.

Continued next month



A.G. Smith
Est. 1912
Memorial Stonemasons

- Personal hand carved designs
- New memorials on display in showroom
- Additional inscriptions
- Cleaning & Restoration
- Free no obligation quotations

agsmithfunerals.co.uk **01621 502 262**

LOCALLY HAND CARVED STONE MEMORIALS




W CRAWFORD
Painting & Decorating
City and Guilds.

- All work undertaken, interior & exterior
- Coving, paper hanging, painting
- Any odd jobs considered
- No job too small

FRIENDLY & RELIABLE SERVICE
Public liability insurance
For free estimate call
Warren on:- **01621 855564**

Mobile 07947705028

Wall & Floor Tiling

Avanti Photographics

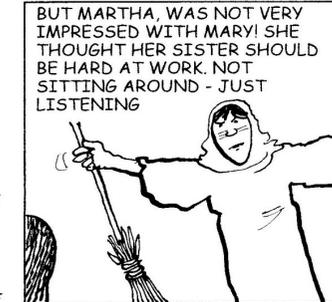
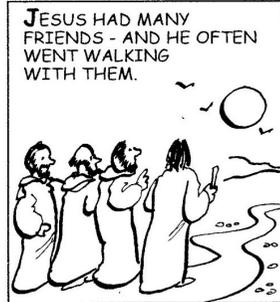
Bespoke Frames –
*Made to order frames for prints,
memorabilia and canvases.*

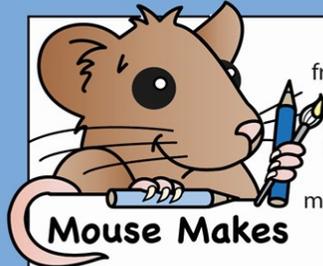
Passport, ID and visa photos –
*Taken in the comfort
of your own home
and guaranteed.
Digital or physical prints*

Family and Pet Portrait Sessions
Birthday Parties and
Special Events Photography
Wedding Photography

For more information
or to book an appointment
please call me on
07485 467 976

Words and Actions





Mouse Makes

After Jesus miraculously fed 5,000+ people from two fish and five loaves, he sent his disciples off in a boat across the Sea of Galilee before going up a mountain by himself. Later in the night, as the boat was being blown and buffeted by the wind, Jesus came miraculously walking on the water towards them...

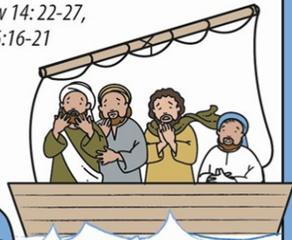
Read the story in: *Matthew 14: 22-27, Mark 6:45-56 or John 6:16-21*

What did Jesus do when he went up on the mountain?

Matthew 14:23

What was the boat struggling against?

The _____ and the _____
Matthew 14:24



What did Jesus say to his disciples?
Do not be _____

Matthew 14:27

What did the disciples think Jesus was when they saw him walking on the sea?

A _____
Matthew 14:26



Who walked out on the water to Jesus?

Matthew 14:29

What did Jesus say to Peter?

Oh you of little _____ why do you _____
Matthew 14:31

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

JESUS • DISCIPLES • BOAT • OTHER SIDE • CROWDS • MOUNTAIN • EVENING • ALONE • LAND • NIGHT • SEA
WALKING • TERRIFIED • FEAR • COME • WATER • SINK • SAVE • INTO • CEASED • WORSHIPED • SON OF GOD

Answer the questions then find them in the word search

Aug23 © deborah noble • parishpump.co.uk

CROSSWORD

Across

1 and 3 Two of the disciples who witnessed the transfiguration of Jesus (Luke 9:28) (4,3,5)

(4,3,5)

3 See 1 Across

8 'Let us draw — to God with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith' (Hebrews 10:22) (4)

9 O Simon is (anag.) (8)

11 Form of government under the direct rule of God or his agents (10)

14 How Jesus found his disciples when he returned to them after praying in Gethsemane (Luke 22:45) (6)

15 In The Pilgrim's Progress, the name of the meadow into which Christian strayed, which led to Doubting Castle (2-4)

17 Glad sin rat (anag.) (10)

20 Spinal column (Leviticus 3:9) (8)

21 Valley of the Balsam Tree with a reputation of being a waterless place (Psalm 84:6) (4)

22 'The oracle of Balaam son of Beor, the oracle of one — — sees clearly' (Numbers 24:3) (5,3)

23 Adam and Eve's third son (Genesis 4:25) (4)

Down

1 David's great friend (1 Samuel 20:17) (8)

2 'The Lord... will bring me safely to his — kingdom' (2 Timothy 4:18) (8)

4 'I, Daniel, mourned for three weeks. I ate no choice food; — — or wine touched my lips' (Daniel 10:3) (2,4)

5 Seeking to vindicate (Job 32:2) (10)

6 Female servant (Isaiah 24:2) (4)

7 'For Christ died for — once for all' (1 Peter 3:18) (4)

10 'Offering spiritual sacrifices — to God through Jesus Christ' (1 Peter 2:5) (10)

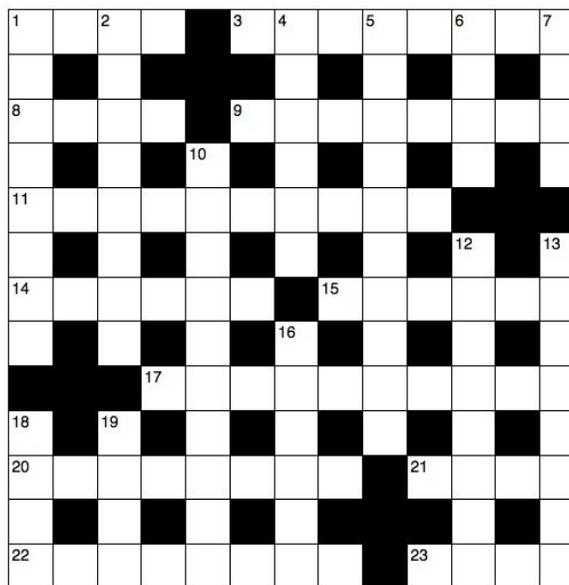
12 Jesus said that some people had renounced this 'because of the kingdom of heaven' (Matthew 19:12) (8)

13 One of the three men thrown into the furnace for refusing to worship Nebuchadnezzar's golden image (Daniel 3:20) (8)

16 'You have — of good things laid up for many years. Take life easy; eat, drink and be merry' (Luke 12:19) (6)

18 'There before me was a white horse! Its rider held — — , and he was given a crown' (Revelation 6:2) (1,3)

19 Equipment to Charity Hospitals Overseas (1,1,1,1)



Prayer Diary August 2023

1	Peace in Ukraine
2	Victims of drought and famine
3	Workers in the hospitality sector
4	People facing difficult decisions
5	The work of Farleigh Hospice
6 Trinity 9	The Leprosy Mission
Transfiguration of Our Lord	
7	Those in Residential Care
8	Prison Chaplains
9	All members of The Mothers' Union
10	Those living with chronic pain
11	All Nurses
12	All Health service workers
13 Trinity 10	All Clergy leading Services today
14	Those who manage and support Food Banks
15 The Blessed Virgin Mary	Churches dedicated to St Mary
16	Those who worship at St Mary's Church, Maldon
17	Students receiving Examination Results today
18	Students seeking University placement
19	Those who are mentally ill
20 Trinity 11	All Authorised Local Preachers in the Diocese
21	Members of The Salvation Army
22	The Nurses' Christian Fellowship
23	Churches dedicated to St Bartholomew
24 St Bartholomew	Students receiving Examination Results today
25	St Bartholomew's Hospital in London
26	Churches in our Mission and Ministry Unit
27 Trinity 12	All retired Clergy
28	Visitors to our Town today
29	The work of MIND
30	The work of the Citizens Advice Bureau
31	Those seeking employment

FOR YOUR DIARY

AUGUST 2023

	All Saints 08.00	All Saints 09.30	All Saints <i>18.30 Apr-Oct 16.00 Nov-Mar</i>	St Giles 09.30	St Andrew's 11.15	St Georges 09.30
First Sunday 6 August <small>Transfiguration</small>	Holy Communion Fr John	Worship for All Adrienne & Mary		Holy Communion Fr John	MP&P Lynne	
Monday 7 August						Holy Communion Fr John
Second Sunday 13 August <small>Trinity 10</small>	Morning Prayer Adrienne	Holy Communion Fr John	Evensong Alan	MP&P Gerald	Holy Communion Fr John & Rev Jordan	
Monday 14 August						MP&P Julia
Third Sunday 20 August <small>Trinity 11</small>	Holy Communion Rev Julie & Rev Jordan (P)	Holy Communion Rev Noelle & Rev Jordan		Holy Communion ? Rev K Dunstan?	MP&P Julia	
Monday 21 August						Holy Com- munion Rev Julie & Rev Jordan (P)
Fourth Sunday 27 August <small>Trinity 12</small>	Morning Prayer Alan	Holy Communion Rev Noelle & Rev Jordan		MP&P Gerald	Holy Communion ?Area Dean? or Rev King or MP&P Rev Jordan	
Monday 28 August						NO SERVICE

PARISH DIRECTORY

VICAR	In Vacancy
ASSISTANT CURATE	Rev Jordan Palmer All Saints Vicarage, Church Walk, Maldon CM9 4PY Tel 07535 001840
HONORARY ASSISTANT PRIESTS	jordanmpalmer@outlook.com Rev John Dickens Tel 01621 858136 Rev Noelle Taylor Tel 07779 491723
AUTHORISED LOCAL PREACHERS	Mrs Adrienne Knight Tel 01621 841329 Alan Marjoram Tel 01245 243868
CHURCHWARDENS	Dennis Johnson Tel: 01621 842410 Colin Brown 01621 850484
DEPUTY CHURCHWARDENS	Mrs Vicky Tropman Tel: 01621 857291 Mrs Jenny Clinch Tel: 01621 840057
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 Tel 01621 784354
SAFEGUARDING OFFICER	Mrs Elizabeth Blyth Tel 01621 854068 Email: elizabeth.blyth@gmail.com
PARISH NEWS EDITOR & WEB SITE MANAGER	Mike Kneller Email: bigglesworth@btinternet.com

Website www.allsaintsmaldon.com

ACTIVITIES

ACTIVITY	CONTACT	TELEPHONE
Choir Prac/Thu (7:30pm)	Dr. Stuart Pegler	01621 850530
Choir Prac/Sat (11.30am)		
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	Derek Hall	01621 741690
Flower Group	Betty Smith	01621 854143
Bible Society	Joan Downham	01621854655
Childrens Society	Elaine Brown	01621 850484
Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and	Zoe Franklin	Email
Explorer Scouts (14-18yrs)	1stmaldonallsaintsscoutgroup@gmail.com	
Meeting Point	Barbara Gale	01621 928538
Maldon Pioneers	Mike Frederick	01621 840951
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 tel: 0800 169 5901.

From the Registers



When considering your future: give God what's right - not what's left. - Anon



Care in the heart of your own home

Are you or an elderly loved one looking for extra care and support at home in **Maldon** or the surrounding areas? Then our local carers are here to help.

Novus Care is regulated by the Care Quality Commission and can provide a qualified carer to support your loved one in their own home from just a **visit per week to around the clock live-in care.**

For more information or to arrange a care assessment please call:
01268 960286 or email
hello@novus-care.com

Paul J King

FUNERAL DIRECTORS





MALDON

Causeway House, The Causeway

01621 855552

A family-run firm,
caring at your time of need.

Day and Night

Bereavement Support

Pre-payment Plans

Chapels of Rest

Horse-drawn funerals

Green Funerals

www.pauljking.com



ALL SAINTS MALDON

www.allsaintsmaldon.com

PARISH OFFICE

Requests for Baptisms and Marriages should be made at the Parish Office situated in the Church (St Katherine Room) - 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

This cover is sponsored by

	<h2>South Wood Timber</h2> <p><i>Hands on timber supplies</i></p>			
<p><i>We are an established timber yard in Great Totham Who supply timber & fencing to the public and trade.</i></p> <p><i>Also, Bespoke Quality Sheds & Stables</i></p> <p>Home & Garden Construction & Farming</p>				
				<p>Treated Sawn Timber</p>
<p>Broad Street Green Road, Great Totham, Maldon CM9 8NU 01621 891999 * www.southwoodtimber.co.uk</p>				