News & Views From St Mary's Church Ecclesfield



Church Magazine for April 2014

First Words...

- Holy Week Please join us for the journey from Palm Sunday to Easter Day. Check out the diary in this magazine, or look online. There's something happening in Church every day.
- Palm Sunday The Choir will be leading us in worship at 4.30 pm on Sunday 13th April as they sing The Darkest Hour
- **Easter Liturgy** The Easter Liturgy takes place on Easter morning, 20th April, at 10.00 am. This is a fantastic way to celebrate the central moment of the Christian Year Christ's resurrection. Come along and invite a friend along with you!

Daniel Hartley



Prayer for Month Collect for Easter Day

Lord of all life and power,
who through the mighty resurrection of your Son
overcame the old order of sin and death
to make all things new in him:
grant that we, being dead to sin
and alive to you in Jesus Christ,
may reign with him in glory;
to whom with you and the Holy Spirit
be praise and honour, glory and might,
now and in all eternity.

Amen

Front Cover – Easter Flower Arrangement in a church in the USA Back Cover – Lindisfarne Collage 2013 PFL

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The Vicars' Letter - The Journey

A few years ago I was best man at wedding in Australia. Unfortunately I could only stop over for four nights (that's four nights, not a fortnight!). As I got ready to travel, I realised that I'd spend almost as long getting their and getting back as I would in Australia itself. I made a promise to myself that I'd enjoy the excitement of the journey as much as the excitement of visiting Australia – and I did. I got a train from Darlington to Manchester Airport, enjoyed coffee and cakes before boarding my flight and then waved goodbye to England. Next stop Dubai.

On the plane I watched films, ate the food I was served and slept when I felt tired. On reaching Dubai I was greeted with the surprisingly familiar sight of a Costa Coffee and so enjoyed another coffee and cake session. After a couple of hours I was back on a plane heading for Sydney. I arrived in Sydney and then took a short haul flight to Canberra. I'd arrived without jet lag and raring to sample Aussie food and Aussie beer! The journey had indeed been enjoyable – it had been the start of the adventure.

So often in life we can forget about the journey and focus on the destination. In the life the Church this is never more true than in Holy Week. We can come to Church on Palm Sunday and then again on Easter Day. We've arrived at the destination of the resurrection without experiencing the journey of the cross. Yet if this happens, if we do not experience the journey, then we have missed out on so much.

In St Mary's we'll be observing a full and challenging Holy Week again in 2014. The details of this can be found in the Diary Page of the Magazine and online. It's fine to dip in and out, but it's much more enriching if you take the time to come to Church every day during Holy Week. It's only with a daily observance that you can experience the full journey and remind yourselves that there was no dipping in and out for the disciples.

The way in which we arrive at our destination is as important as the destination itself because this journey helps to shape who we are. I'd like to invite you to be people of commitment this Holy Week. People who prioritize the journey with Jesus over the cares and concerns of the world. There is much to experience and much to gain as we walk the way of the cross to the glory of the resurrection.

Daniel Hartley

On why a church should always resist change

The Rectory St. James the Least

My dear Nephew Darren

I am not the least surprised you have got yourself into trouble; innovation is never to be encouraged. New ideas tend to cause revolutions. The move from incandescent light-bulbs to energy saving ones may ultimately change the Church of England.

Change is something everyone claims to be in favour of – provided it has no measurable effect on their own lives. I remember as a young curate once suggesting that at the Harvest Supper, tables might be enlarged so that eight people could sit together rather than the traditional six, thus helping more people get to know one another. The response would have been similar if I had suggested we travel to London to murder the Prime Minister. I was firmly told that tables for six had been perfectly adequate for parishioners in Queen Victoria's day. For the rest of my curacy, I was regarded as a revolutionary, to be watched carefully.

So at your last visit to our Church, to suggest that our 11am Mattins may be moved to 10.30am, in order to encourage those who wanted have more of the day free to themselves, certainly lobbed a hand grenade among the post-Service coffee cups. The only person who was mildly in favour was Colonel Wainwright, who quickly realised that it would give him an extra half-hour at the gin and tonics before lunch.

Should you ever feel that people lack imagination, you should watch them in action when they find reasons for resisting an unwelcome suggestion. One said that the time couldn't be moved, since it would then be too early for the local bus – omitting to mention that none of our congregation travel to church by bus and that the service doesn't run on Sundays anyway. Another pointed out that it would confuse those who didn't attend church – not explaining why if they never attended, it mattered what time the Service was. A third, rather touchingly mentioned that it wouldn't give the rector time to enjoy his breakfast after the rigours of the 8am Service.

Your suggestion did, however, serve one useful purpose; it brought our congregation together in united opposition. They may not necessarily always know what they are for, but they certainly know what they are against. For that, I thank you.

Your loving uncle Eustace

Ringing at Westminster Abbey

Westminster Abbey is perhaps is the best known place of worship in Great Britain. It is "the Nations Parish Church" and the place where for many centuries our kings and queens have been crowned. It is a "Royal Peculiar" established by a Charter granted by Queen Elizabeth 1. It has no parish, it is not part of any diocese, nor is it the responsibility of any bishop, and its Dean is answerable only to the Sovereign (who is the "Visitor").

The northwest tower contains a ring of ten bells cast by Whitechapel (the same founder as our new bells).

The ringing pattern at the Abbey differs from that at virtually every other tower in that the bells are rung only on special occasions as required by the Dean and Chapter. There are about 55 ringing occasions each year with the majority of these taking place midweek. There are 43 regular ringing days which include the major church festivals, certain saints' days, royal anniversaries, significant dates in the history of the Abbey and some civic occasions.

Another unusual feature of Abbey ringing is that the bells are rung after, rather than before services. The only exception is when HM The Queen is attending when the bells are also rung before the service "to welcome the Visitor".

Two special occasions in recent years in which the Abbey ringers were privileged to play a part were the funeral of HM Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother, when the tenor (largest and deepest toned bell) was rung 101 times at one minute intervals before the service and a full peal of 5101 Stedman Caters afterwards; and the wedding of the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge.

On both occasions the ringing was broadcast all over the world. For security reasons the ringers were kept up the tower for six and a half hours.

It is a great privilege to be asked to join the Abbey band where their ringing is so highly regarded and the highest standard of excellence is expected.

J&S A

(Extracts from an article written by Chris Rogers and published in The Ringing World dated 21 February 2014)

Editor: See also - http://www.westminster-abbey.org/our-history/abbey-bells



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The Bishop's Letter - April 2014

This month Bishop Steven writes:

As you will know, we celebrate our Diocesan Centenary this year, beginning with a great celebration in the Cathedral at Pentecost.

At the request of the planning group, I've composed a prayer for the centenary year which I hope that all parishes across the Diocese will use on that Sunday and on other significant occasions.



It's a prayer which begins with thanksgiving to God (as all prayer should). In particular we are thanking God for the long story of the Diocese of Sheffield, for all who have helped to build up its life over four generations: lay people, clergy and bishops. We are giving thanks for the distinctive contribution this Diocese has made to the wider church to the lives of the communities we serve.

It's a prayer which asks God's help to grow Christ like, lively and diverse communities in every place, echoing our Diocesan vision. It's a prayer which asks for grace as we sing for joy to the Lord and listen to God's voice today, echoing Psalm 95 which is the text for our centenary year.

Finally, the prayer asks that God will help us in our generation to be a community like the community of the first disciples. Mark 3.14 tells us that the first disciples were called together to be with Jesus and to be sent out in a mission of love for the world. So are we.

Please pray this prayer with me today and in the coming months.

+Steven

A Centenary Prayer

Gracious and generous God,
We thank you for this Diocese of Sheffield.
In our centenary year.
Help us to grow Christ-like, lively
and diverse Christian communities in every place;
Give us grace to sing for joy to the Lord
And to listen to your voice today;
Draw us together in fellowship with your Son Jesus Christ
And send us out to join in your mission of love for the world
In the power of the Holy Spirit and
through Jesus Christ our Lord

Amen.

On Palm Sunday the 13th April at 4.30pm The Choir and Friends will sing the Lenten Cantata

'The Darkest Hour'

By Harold Moore

Principals
Elizabeth Birkby – Soprano
Gary Baldwin – Tenor
Harvey Horner – Bass

Come and bring your friends to prepare for Easter, sing hymns and meditate on the message.

Refreshments will be provided and the service will last about an hour



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TUESDAY. 6-7pm & 7.15-8.15pm

High Green Methodist Church Hall, Wortley Rd, High Green.

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THURSDAY. 12-1pm

The Gatty Hall, Priory Rd, Ecclesfield.

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Will You Remember Them – April 2014 - Syria

Population 21.8 Million (1.3 Million Christians) Major Religion, Islam.

As the civil conflict inside Syria becomes more and more sectarian, targeted violence against Christians has escalated. The Syrian opposition is increasingly "Islamising" and Christians are becoming more vulnerable in all spheres of life. Many Christians were reported to have been abducted, physically harmed or killed, and many churches damaged or destroyed. Amidst all the violence and persecution, there are also sparks of hope. Though some Christians have left the country or are internally displaced, there are growing—numbers of active Christians as well as people who have converted to Christ in this deplorable situation of civil war. A Syrian pastor has recently said, "We have prayed for a revival for years and now it's here, but we never expected that God would use a civil war."

<u>Maaloula nuns released.</u> A group of nuns kidnapped in Maaloula, Syria, over three months ago, were released on Monday 10th March, tired but unharmed and full of praise for those who had negotiated their release. One nun told reporters, "We want to thank God, who made it possible for us to be here now." Jihadists seized the 12 nuns and 3 attendants on 2nd Dec. from the Christian village of Maaloula – where residents still speak the ancient Aramaic spoken by Jesus----- and took them to nearby Yabroud, near the Lebanese border.

Maaloula became the battleground of fighting between rebel groups and the government army last year, with a number of civilian casualties, including Christians. The majority of the towns Christian population were forced to flee during the fighting, leaving behind a now majority Muslim population. The 40 nuns of the order of the Orthodox Mar Takla convent had been the major exception, until 12 were abducted in December. The nuns were handed over on 10th March to Syrian authorities as part of a prisoner exchange involving 150 women and children previously held by the Syrian government. Mother Pelagia Sayyaf, superior of the convent, said she and the other nuns and their attendants were well treated during their captivity in Lebanon. "God did not leave us," she told reporters.

Third Anniversary Of Conflict Marked By Vigils - It is now three years since the Syrian conflict began. The anniversary (15th March) this year has been marked by candle – lit vigils in London, Belfast, Edinburgh and other cities around the world.

Please Pray

- Thank God for every sign that He is at work in Syria
- That God will continue to protect and strengthen the church in Syria to stand strong.
- For a resolution to the conflict and a restoration of peace

Amen. JD

Mothers Union Meeting – Wednesday 5th March.

Jon Buckley – ECONITE ECUMENICAL Links Officer for the YMCA came to speak to us about 'Tomorrows Heroes', a charity for street children in Uganda run by his friends Kate and Luke Cheeseman. Jon began by telling us a little about his work with Y.M.C.A. and added "it is amazing where God leads you". And in 2003 his friend Humphrey invited him to Uganda. He described Uganda as a great place, very beautiful known as 'Pearl of Africa'. It has a young population because of AIDS, 25,000 of the children were abducted for child soldiers. There is little employment many earn less than a dollar a day. Children often miss out on education as parents cannot afford to send them to school.

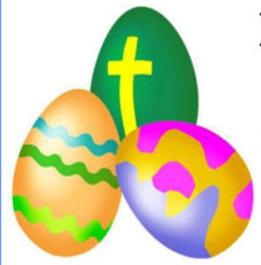
On arriving in Uganda Jon was struck by how many were wearing British football shirts and the charity 'Watoto'. Humphrey took Jon to visit a village built by Watoto, a charity founded through the Kampala Pentecostal Church in response to the vulnerable orphaned children. Their motto is – 'Rescue a child, Raise a leader, Rebuild a Nation'. The villages consist of a cluster of homes where individual families made up of a house mother and eight children are cared for in a homely environment. Jon asked himself what he could do and returned the following summer, taking amongst other things a load of football shirts. A year later he returned again with a team from his church to build a classroom.

In 2012 Jon visited his friend Kate who teaches at the International School in Kampala. She would take food to the children living on the streets, some slept in large metal containers or under tarpaulins on the mud floor. Their parents may have died or couldn't afford to send them to school the children find work by collecting bottles and scrap metal earning about 50 pence a day, enough to buy some water, rice or bananas. 'Tomorrows Heroes' was founded, they have two homes where 15 youngsters care cared for and educated.

In 2012 because of his charity work Jon was nominated to carry the Olympic Torch through Doncaster.

Despite all their hardship and poverty Jon finds the people of Uganda rich in spirituality, contentment and hospitality. He said rich or poor we can always pray, finishing with a prayer and asked, "Who knows where God will take us"? Jon left with his car loaded with shoes, clothing and blankets for the street children.

ML



Easter Crafts for Children

For Primary School Children

At St. Mary's Church Ecclesfield

Easter Crafts for Children 2.00 pm - 3.30 pm
On Palm Sunday - 13th April 2014
£2.00 per child.

Please complete a slip and bring it with you to the church if you wish to come to the craft session.

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www.stmarysecclesfield.com

See our Forthcoming Events page.





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DAISIES

There is an old saying 'when you can stand on seven daisies at once then spring has come'. I like daisies with their bright yellow middles and tiny petals. If you look closely, you'll see that not all the daisies in any lawn will be white: some of them are edged with pink. When I was little I asked my mum why and she told me this story to explain why.

On that first Easter morning, when Jesus walked in the garden and was seen by Mary and the other women who thought he was a gardener, his bare feet touched just some of the daisies in the grass. And because he still had the wounds in his feet his blood touched the daisies and marked their petals pink.

I love this story and still to this day I feel sorry for the daisies that Jesus didn't

touch - because when Jesus touches our lives all things change and spring comes into our hearts forever.

BIBLE 'D's

Can you find all the answers to this Bible quiz? All the words begin with the letter D. Answers at the bottom of the page.

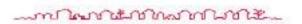
- A tribe of Israel.
- He spent the night with some lions.
- Where Saul was going when he met Jesus on the road.
- Followers of Jesus.
- These made Joseph unpopular with his brothers.
- A famous king of Israel who played the harp.

How do dinosaurs pass exams? With extinction



What is the main ingredient of dog biscuits? Collie flour.

My little brother's name is Dad. Why is that? They named him after my father.



Answers: 1.Dan 2.Daniel 3.Damascus 4.disciples 5.dreams 6.David.

Diary for the Month of April

Tuesday 1 st	12.30 pm	Christian Aid Soup Lunch - last serving 1.30 pm				
1	7.30 pm	Bell Ringing Practice				
Wednesday 2 nd	10.30 am	Service at Eva Ratcliffe House				
	1.00 pm	Mothers' Union meet in the Gatty Hall				
		Mary White – Stations of the Cross				
— a rd	-	Lent Reflection				
Thursday 3 rd		Holy Communion				
		Prayer Meeting in Church				
	7.30 pm	Ladies' Group meet in the Gatty Hall				
Emidos 1th	7.20	Coffee Evening Pall Dinging Practice / Silent Dinging				
Friday 4 th	7.30 pm	Bell Ringing Practice / Silent Ringing				
Sunday 6 th	10.00	The Fifth Sunday of Lent				
		Parish Communion				
		Baptism Service				
		Annual General Meeting				
— a th	•	Evening Service				
Tuesday 8 th		Christian Aid Soup Lunch - last serving 1.30 pm				
	-	Service at Hartwell House				
	-	Prayer Meeting in Church				
41.	-	Bell Ringing Practice				
Wednesday 9 th	10.30 am	Service at Eva Ratcliffe House				
41.		Lent Reflection				
Thursday 10 th	9.30 am	Holy Communion				
	7.30 pm	Ladies' Group meet in the Gatty Hall				
T:1 11th	7.20	Suzanne Bingham – Anti Slavery Movement				
Friday 11 th	7.30 pm	Bell Ringing Practice / Silent Ringing				
Sunday 13 th		Palm Sunday				
		Holy Communion				
		Palm Sunday Parish Communion				
	-	Craft Afternoon until 3.30 pm				
d.	-	Palm Sunday Choral Service / The Darkest Hour				
Monday 14 th	7.30 pm	Holy Communion				
Tuesday 15 th	-	Christian Aid Soup Lunch - last serving 1.30 pm				
		Godly Play				
d	_	Holy Communion				
Wednesday 16 th		Service at Eva Ratcliffe House				
	-	Godly Play				
	-	Holy Communion				
Thursday 17 th						
		Holy Communion				
	2.00 pm	Holy Communion Godly Play Maundy Thursday Liturgy				

Friday 18 th Saturday 19 th		Good Friday Liturgy Holy Saturday/Prayers & Readings
Sunday 20 th		Easter Day
v	8.30 am	Holy Communion
		Easter Liturgy
	6.30 pm	Evening Service
Tuesday 22 nd	7.30 pm	Bell Ringing Practice
Wednesday 23 rd	10.30 am	Service at Eva Ratcliffe House
Thursday 24 th	9.30 am	Holy Communion
Friday 25 th	7.30 pm	Bell Ringing Practice / Silent Ringing
Sunday 27 th		The Second Sunday of Easter
·	10.00 am	Service of the Word
	6.30 pm	Holy Communion
Monday 28 th	-	Ignatian Prayer in Church
Tuesday 29 th	7.30 pm	Bell Ringing Practice
		From the Degisters

From the Registers

Baptisms

2nd March	Alice Rose Foster
2nd March	Georgia Mae Twycross
2nd March	Jaiden-Lee Grayson
2nd March	Alfie-Jai Grayson

May they know the love of God in their lives and may all thing of the Spirit live and grow in them.

Funerals

14th February	Jean Beevers	90
7th March	Maureen Ann Milton	72
18th March	Leslie Woolhouse	95
13th March	Ivan Charles Pierson	69
19th March	John Mallows	68
21st March	Lily Mary Callaghan	2months

Grant them, O Lord, refreshment, light and peace

Flower Rota

6th April No Flowers 13th April No Flowers –Palm Sunday 20th April Easter Flowers 27th April Vacant



The Gardening Year – April 2014.

Some Examples of Successional Sowings

May, June. - To follow winter cauliflowers, winter lettuces, spring cabbage, lettuces, marrows, ridge cucumbers, spinach, sweetcorn or tomatoes.

June, July to follow early potatoes (Mid June to Early July) early varieties of carrot and peas, leeks, celery, swedes, spinach, beet or salad onions. To follow broad beans or early peas (early to mid-July). Turnips, globe beetroot early varieties of carrots, calabrese, autumn or winter cauliflowers or sprouting broccoli.

July, August – to follow second early potatoes main crop peas or dwarf beans. Kale sow where it is to grow, spring cabbages (for transplanting or to leave standing closely where sown for spring greens), lettuce, radishes and before the end of July a final planting of Leeks. As seen from this calendar, successional crops are sown or planted in the summer, when the ground is generally dry. A different form of soil preparation is necessary from that in spring. Clear away the remains of the old crop and any weeds, break up the top few inches of soil with a fork or hoe, but do not dig deeply. Deep digging will only accelerate loss of moisture from the soil. On heavy land where the soil had been trodden down fork the top few inches into lumps and leave to dry thoroughly. Give a thorough soaking with water and leave for another day. When the clods have broken down rake to a fine tilth, dress the ground with Growmore 4oz per sq. yd. water the drills before sowing and give a good soaking to the ground after planting.

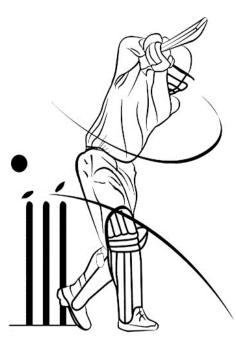
Emergency Sowings – if sowings of winter vegetables fail in the seed bed, make a direct sowing in the prepared bed before the second week in July, sow a pinch of seeds, spaced at the distance the brassicas would normally be planted, when the plants are about 2 in. high carefully remove weak seedlings to leave only the strongest in each batch.

Vegetables – that can be planted this month. Early potatoes, second early potatoes, main crop potatoes, onion sets, sturod, stutgarter, turbo, if you can still get them, first early, sensue yellow a Japanese type that gives a good size onion a little earlier. Also this month, early carrots, early peas, parsley, main crop onions from seed.

If you have a greenhouse most summer vegetable seed can be planted in seed trays ready to go out in the next month or so.

Colin Williams

Whitley Hall Cricket Club



Another year and the start of a new season. As you read this at the start of April, work on the ground and the pavilion will have been underway for several weeks in preparation for the season. Changes have included the installation of new monitored security systems and recorded CCTV at the site, following last autumn's theft, plus wi-fi in the pavilion. Following a successful 2013, there is optimism that we can have another good year and the main ingredient which has been missing for several years now is some sunny weather. We do have some opportunities for cricketers if anyone would like to join us, especially at the under 15 age group. We are also looking for a permanent scorer – a fee for each

match plus a free tea is offered to the scorer. Please contact Steve Fletcher on 07764 559747 for further details. Remember that Whitley Hall is <u>your</u> local cricket club and all are welcome at matches and to use the facilities in the pavilion.

Selected Home Matches at Cinder Hill Lane

19 th April	$2^{nd} XI$	V	Aston Hall
21 st April (1.30pm)	Colts	V	Caribbean
22 nd April	U17	V	Whiston
26 th April	1 st XI	V	Tickhill
3 rd May	$2^{nd} XI$	V	Rotherham Phoenix
10 th May	1 st XI	V	Norton Oakes

Saturday matches commence 12.30pm in April and 1.00pm in May. Weekday matches at 6.00pm.

For the full list of games, please call in for a fixture card

Contacts:

Joe Webster, Secretary: 0114 245 2518

Steve Fletcher, Director of Cricket: 0114 245 2406

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Hotpoint

Why we should be like donkeys



Are you a pet-lover? Many people own a dog, a cat or a budgie, but most of us don't own a donkey! Yet in Bible times, donkeys were essential to daily life. They did everything from helping to grind corn, to ploughing, to carrying people, to transporting their belongings.

Despite their small frame, donkeys are surprisingly tough. They are content with poor fodder like thistles, and can travel an average of 20 miles a day.

There are two occasions in the Christian calendar where donkeys walk into the picture. At Christmas, Mary travelled the 100 miles from Nazareth to Bethlehem on a donkey. And although a donkey doesn't get a specific mention in the manger story, that same one that transported her was probably there; where else would it have been?

On Palm Sunday Jesus entered Jerusalem riding on a donkey. Jesus deliberately chose this animal rather than a horse. Why? In Bible times, the horse was associated with war, conquest and worldly might. But the donkey was a symbol of peace and humility. Jesus used this animal to show that he had come with the dignity of the king of peace. His entry into the Holy City also fulfilled Zechariah's prophecy concerning the Messiah.

Donkeys are hardworking and undemanding. They wait for their master to put them to the work he has chosen for them. And, remarkably, each one bears the mark of the Cross on their backs!

Perhaps that is something we should learn—to wait for Jesus our Master, to be always obedient to him, to serve him with all our hearts, and to bear the mark of his grace in our lives.

Crossword Puzzle - Solution is here

DOWN: 1, Cliffs. 2, Scholar. 3, Issue. 5, Holy war. 6, Moist. 7, Sphere. 9, Deliverer. 13, Candace. 14, Deacons. 15, Psyche. 16, Stolen. 18, Dance. 20, Debar.

ACROSS: 1, Cosmic. 4, Thomas. 8, In his. 9, Delaiah. 10, Falwell. 11, Water. 12, Recovered. 17, Sidon. 19, Radiant. 21, Centaur. 22, Broil. 23, Eleven. 24, Prison.

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Maundy Thursday – Time to wash feet

Maundy Thursday is famous for two things. The first is one of the final acts that Jesus did before his death: the washing of his own disciples' feet. (see John 13) Jesus washed his disciples' feet for a purpose: "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another." His disciples were to love through service, not domination, of one another.

In Latin, the opening phrase of this sentence is 'mandatum novum do vobis'. The word 'mundy' is thus a corruption of the Latin 'mandatum' (or command). The ceremony of the 'washing of the feet' of members of the congregation came to be an important part of the liturgy (regular worship) of the medieval church, symbolising the humility of the clergy, in obedience to the example of Christ.

But Thursday was also important because it was on that night that Jesus first introduced the Lord's Supper, or what we nowadays call Holy Communion. Jesus and his close friends had met in a secret upper room to share the Passover meal together - for the last time. And there Jesus transformed the Passover into the Lord's Supper, saying, 'this is my body' and 'this is my blood' as he, the Lamb of God, prepared to die for the sins of the whole world. John's gospel makes it clear that the Last Supper took place the evening BEFORE the regular Passover meal, and that later Jesus died at the same time that the Passover lambs were killed.

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Wheel Chair Access

Prayers and Poems Page

The Lost T

Seated one day by my wireless I was nervous and ill at ease, As the speaker rambled idly And carelessly dropped his t's. He told us 'wha' he wan'ed' And 'wha' he was gonna do' When all at once the radio ceased For I'd smitten it with my shoe!

Laying one day by the wayside
A sight that could break your heart,
A sad, discarded letter
Which no longer had a part –
For someone has an alphabet
With no twennieth le'er there;
And all regret that our Mother Tongue
Has succumbed to this sad affair.

By Nigel Beeton

For God so Loved

For God so loved this world of sin, He sent his only Son That whosoe'er believes on Him, Eternal life has won!

No sin can live with God in Heaven – The price of sin is death – So how can my sin be forgiven While I've still life and breath?

One only went through death and hell, To pay that price of pain For Jesus Christ, the Bible tells – He died and rose again!

Continues below

A Prayer before the Cross

Dear Lord, my sin is mine and mine alone: That folly of my humanness which I must own As having moved against the best-self You, Lord, worked within my heart, 'til now my worst-self forms the greater part Of what I see and you must judge.

My Lord, it is no more than I deserve
For I indeed do let old Adam hide
Within the New Man you would forge.
So, Lord, my sin, in each and every part
Betrays that loyalty displayed upon the cross
Before which I, in penitence, now plead.

Dear Lord, forgive my fall from grace And as I look into your eyes Restore to me the robe of love you gave That I may walk, full face, along your way Towards our Father's house Wherein a joyful welcoming will say -'My child, now you are home at last.'

By Sam Doubtfire

wooden cross, some iron nails That held God's Son on high – Yet was it those that held him there Or love for you and I?

Else why should he, God's only Son, Forsake His home above, And hang in shame, in pain, alone If not through His great love?

But neither nails, nor tombstone's weight Could hold Him in the grave, He rose to life, His vict'ry great, And helpless sinners saved!

So I must leave Him all my wrong, And none must I withhold... Then follow Him my whole life long And give Him full control.

Yet all that I might have, or be Is really not enough, For all that He has done for me The depth of His great love!

By Nigel Beeton

Crossword Puzzle

Clues Across

- 1 Relating to the whole universe (6)
- 4 The disciple who made the remark in 8 Across (John 20:24) (6)
- 8 'Unless I see the nail marks — hands, I will not believe it' (John 20:25) (2,3)
- 9 He urged King Jehoiakim not to burn the scroll containing Jeremiah's message (Jeremiah 36:25) (7)
- **10** Baptist minister and controversial founder of America's Moral Majority, Jerry (7)
- 11 'Look, here is . Why shouldn't I be baptized?' (Acts 8:36) (5)
- **12** Repossessed (Genesis 14:16) (9)
- 17 Port from which Paul sailed on his last journey to Rome (Acts 27:3–4) (5)
- 19 'Moses was not aware that his face was because he had spoken with the Lord' (Exodus 34:29) (7)
- 21 Roonwit, C.S. Lewis's half-man, half-horse (7)
- **22** Grill (Luke 24:42) (5)
- 23 'The lot fell to Matthias; so he was added to the apostles' (Acts 1:26) (6)
- 24 'I was sick and you looked after me, I was in and you came to visit me' (Matthew 25:36) (6)

Clues Down

- 1 Coastal rockfaces (Psalm 141:6) (6)
- 2 Academic (1 Corinthians 1:20) (7)
- **3** Publish (Daniel 6:26) (5)
- 5 For example, the Crusades (4,3)
- 6 11 Across is certainly this (5)
- 7 He reps (anag.) (6)
- **9** Liberator (Psalm 18:2) (9)
- Man who asked the question in 11 Across was in charge of all treasury (Acts 8:27) (7)
- They must be 'worthy of respect, sincere, not indulging in much wine' (1 Timothy 3:8) (7)
- 15 The human mind or soul (6)

- 16 'O Lord, while precious children starve, the tools of war increase; their bread is ' (Graham Kendrick) (6)
- 18 'We played the flute for you, and you did not —' (Matthew 11:17) (5)
- **20** Bared (anag.) (5)

Crossword Puzzle - Solution is on page 21 2 5 9 8 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 19 17 18 20 21 22

Some One-Liners...

23

Give God what's right - not what's left.

Man's way leads to a hopeless end - God's way leads to an endless hope.

24

A lot of kneeling will keep you in good standing.

He who kneels before God can stand before anyone.

To be almost saved is to be totally lost.

Don't put a question mark where God puts a full stop.

Are you wrinkled with burden? Come to the church for a facelift.

When praying, don't give God instructions - just report for duty.

God grades on the cross, not the curve.

Saint of the Month - Catherine of Siena

Born 25 March 1347 in Siena – Died 29 April 1380 in Rome

Saints Day 29th April - How to Survive In A Large Family

Catherine of Siena, who was born 1347, should be the patron saint of anyone who has grown up in a large family, and mastered the two vital skills for survival: how to stand up for yourself, and how to make peace with others.

Catherine had siblings! At least 19 of them. Her father was a Sienese dyer, and Catherine was the youngest. Her parents wanted her to marry, but Catherine did not. She became a nun instead, a member of the Dominican Third Order.

Perhaps after sharing a house with at least 22 people, Catherine wanted some peace and quiet: in any case she spent six years in solitude, giving herself to prayer and penance. Then she moved back into the world, through nursing the local sick people, and then beginning to travel. Catherine travelled frequently, with a number of her 'disciples' – a mix of Dominicans and Augustinians, and even an English Friar. Wherever they went, people listened to their proclamation of the total love of God through Jesus Christ, and their calls to reform and repent. There were some spectacular conversions.

Catherine could not write, but soon someone else was taking down her 'Dialogue' by dictation – it ran to 383 letters. Catherine's thoughts centred on Christ crucified; the supreme sign of God's love for man. The quality of these letters made them widely read for years to come.

A godly woman who could lead and teach... soon new opportunities presented themselves: in the last five years of her life, Catherine found herself involved in the politics of both State and Church. This included trying to make peace during the Great Schism in the Church after 1378, when Pope Gregory XI died, and two new popes – bitter rivals – claimed the papacy. Catherine wore herself out in trying to promote peace, had a stroke on 21 April 1380, and died eight days later. (A warning to ecumenists everywhere?!)

Catherine soon became Siena's principal saint, loved for her writings and her example of godliness and self-sacrificing love. Her house and an early portrait survive at Siena, and her memory lives on today: she was declared a Doctor of the Church in 1970, nearly 600 years after her death.

Wiki - http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Catherine_of_Siena

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Tuesday 15 April
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Contact Numbers for Local Groups



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Ecclesfield Brownies

Gatty Hall Monday 5.00 pm to 6.30 pm Leader - Mrs J Hutchinson Tel: 0114 257 8609

Ecclesfield Brownies

Gatty Hall Tuesday 6.15 pm to 7.45 pm Leader - Mrs A. Kendall Tel: 0114 246 8866

Ecclesfield Guides

Gatty Hall Thursday 6.30 pm to 8.30 pm Leader - Mrs C Topham Tel: 0114 246 1289

Ecclesfield Priory Players

EPPIC Theatre Monday 7.30 pm to 10.00 pm Wednesday 7.30 pm to 10.00 pm Secretary - Carol Travis

Ecclesfield Community Garden

Ecclesfield Community Garden

Ecclesfield Park off Mill Lane / Church Street For winter opening times please phone 0795 706 6404

email: rose@rosetanner.plus.com

Ecclesfield Cubs

Scout Hut (off Yew lane) Wednesday 4:45 pm to 6:15 pm 2nd Pack 6.30 pm to 8.0 pm Leader - Mrs A Hancock Tel: 0114 245 2780

Ecclesfield Beavers

Scout Hut (off Yew lane) Monday 6.00 pm to 7.15 pm Leader - Mrs J Steel 0114 246 0218 Thursday 6.00 -7.15 pm Rachael Otter 0114 246 1752

Ecclesfield Scouts

Scout Hut (off Yew Lane) Tuesday 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm Leader - Mr E. Buttimer Tel: 0114 258 6935 Group Scout Leader John Otter Tel. 0114 246 1752

The Grenoside Singers

Practice Monday in St Mark's Church Hall at 7:30 pm Secretary: Garry Leigh Tel: 0114 246 4714 www.grenosidesingers.co.uk

Whitley Hall Cricket Club

Matches every Saturday and some Sundays and weekdays. Please contact Steve Fletcher if you wish to play or learn. Manager – Steve Fletcher 245 2406 Secretary – Joe Webster 245 2518 www.whitleyhallcricketclub.co.uk

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Ecclesfield Ladies Group.

On the 13th March our speaker was Pat Clarke who came to give us a talk about her love of Lindisfarne, Holy Island.

On her first visit Pat felt the peace and tranquillity of the Island, along the sea shore and in the ruined Abbey it was beautiful. The history of the monks like St. Cuthbert who was to become the one most remembered reached out to her. He was a shepherd boy who became a monk at Melrose in 651. In 664 Cuthbert became Prior of Lindisfarne.

Pat returned to Lindisfarne with her sister-in-law, but this time they would stay on the island after all the tourists had gone home, this was wonderful as they walked along the shore with its upturned boats sawn in half to make a home, and then on to the castle set high on a mound with its many steps to climb. The inside of the Castle was beautiful with vaulted ceilings and the views from the windows of Lindisfarne took your breath away. Some of us can remember many years before Bishop David Lunn leading a pilgrimage to Holy Island walking across the causeway before it was once again covered by the waters of the sea.

Thank you Pat for a magical evening.

PB

