

News & Views From St Mary's Church Ecclesfield



Church Magazine for April 2016

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Price 60p

First Words...

- **A Civic Service** - Councillor Sheila Constance, who is coming to the end of her year as Chairman of the Parish Council, is holding her Civic Service at St Mary's on Sunday 10 April at 10.00am. All are welcome.
- **Living Stones** our short monthly 4 o'clock service for children and families to come together to sing, hear stories, enjoy a craft activity, games and refreshments had a break for Easter Crafts but is back on 17 April. We will also meet on the 15 May, 19 June, and 17 July.
- We are holding our **Annual General Meeting on Sunday 17 April** straight after our morning worship to which we hope as many of you as possible will come and join us. It is a chance to find out a bit more about what goes on week by week. At this meeting we shall be electing our churchwardens for the coming year, and people to serve on the PCC.
- **21 April starting at 10.30am** our dedicated team of Bellringers will be ringing a peal in celebration of our Queen's 90th birthday.
- **Looking ahead to the Diocesan 10 days of prayer** from Ascension, 5 May to Pentecost, 15 May. We are called, says Bishop Steven, to a challenging adventure of discipleship to build up the church of Jesus Christ. This adventure must be underpinned by prayer. Please keep an eye on the weekly notice sheet for further information.

Pat Clarke



Prayer for the month

Gracious God,
we thank you for the light of new life
made possible through Jesus.
We praise you for the light of new life
that shone on the first witnesses of resurrection.
We praise you for the light of new life
that continues to shine in our hearts today.
We pray that the Easter light of life, of hope and joy
will live in us each day;
and that we will be bearers of that light
into the lives of others. **Amen**

Front Cover – Easter Garden - Tomb

Back Cover – Posters - A Sting in The Tale & Pirates of Penzance Posters

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Thought for the month

Easter isn't over the week after Easter Sunday. In fact, Easter is a season that lasts 50 whole days — until Pentecost. April is usually associated with Easter, but this year Easter Day was the last Sunday in March, so, maybe we can use April to reflect upon what Easter might mean to us. How are we being drawn into new life?

As we live in the weeks following Easter will we be thinking how Jesus's death and resurrection give us the opportunity to live our lives in a different way. The cross really does create a crossroads in our lives and points us to the possibility of travelling in the direction that really counts - the direction that leads us back to our creator. Jesus himself said "I am the way, the truth and the life", in other words, 'I am the direction you're looking for'. It's encouraging for me that in his earthly life Jesus didn't give us a list of things to do - he simply invites us to enter into a new life-giving, life-releasing relationship with him that fulfils the deepest and most profound need in all of us - the need for real direction that gives hope and purpose to our lives. All those who met Jesus after his Resurrection; experienced some deep and profound changes in their lives. Easter celebrates the possibility of change and new life for all.

On Good Friday as we travelled with Jesus to the cross we encountered in a series meditations, by Bishop Stephen Cottrell in his book “The Nail”, many of the people Jesus met along the way, we re-lived the events, and had an opportunity to enter into the sufferings of Christ during his last days on earth. The people involved in his death are so like us that we can identify with them.

One of the meditations shared was on the thoughts of Joseph of Arimathea. Joseph who kept his new loyalty a secret, Joseph who concealed his belief in Jesus, hid it from his friends and colleagues who would have ridiculed him. He's keen to make amends, so he summons up courage to ask Pontius Pilate for Jesus body. He loving takes Jesus to his own tomb, lays him to rest, and watches as his servants roll a huge stone across the mouth of the tomb. Towards the end of the meditation he speaks these words “I try to rejoice, but there is no joy in my heart, no sense of escape from the prison of my cowardice”.

Joseph was changed that day. He knew in his heart that he was wrong, that he should have had courage enough to be open about his new found faith, his new life in Christ. I'm sure there are times when we can put ourselves in Joseph shoes, or in the shoes of Peter, the much loved disciple who denied knowing

Jesus, times when we have let Jesus down, times when we have failed to offer him the commitment he deserves, failed to declare our faith when the opportunity presents itself. It's never too late to make amends, never too late to recognise our mistakes and never too late to offer our response. Through the forgiveness which comes from Christ's death on the cross, we can begin to experience a new relationship with God. God's offer of new life and forgiveness is there for each one of us. It's the meaning of the cross; it's the promise of Easter.

So as we give ourselves daily to the love of God, we can know from deep within us the new life, the fullness of life that comes from living in relationship with the resurrected Jesus. Spring is a wonderful time of year with signs of new life all around us. My hope and prayer is that this new life is a symbol for all that is happening inside each one of us as we live as Easter people at home, at church, at work and at leisure, in our families and among our friends, and in our neighbourhoods. I'll leave you with these words from Stuart Townend and Keith Getty's song "The Power of the Cross" a powerful reminder of Christ's love and forgiveness.

Oh, to see my name Written in the wounds,
For through Your suffering I am free.
Death is crushed to death,
Life is mine to live,
Won through Your selfless love.

This, the power of the cross:
Son of God, slain for us.
What a love!
What a cost!
We stand forgiven at the cross.

Pat Clarke



An Easter Prayer

May the celebration of resurrected life bring new hope to your being.
May the victory over earthly death turn your eyes to the promises of heaven.
May the empty tomb help you to leave your sorrows at the foot of the cross.
So that God's hope, promises and forgiveness reign in your life forever.

Amen.

On the perils of small study groups

The Rectory
St. James the Least

My dear Nephew Darren

So, you are about to run an Alpha course in your parish; I am sure your bishop will be delighted. I remember him from my Oxford days. He was just starting his course as a gangly undergraduate when I was finishing my doctorate on Eusebius.

I recall him as a keen rugby player who took early morning dips in the Isis, who led intense discussions on Saint Paul's theology of "the body" over cups of cocoa in the evenings in his rooms and who spent his holidays laying paths for the National Trust in the Lake District while lodging in Youth Hostels. He's exactly the sort of person who will empathise with your ministry – hearty, enthusiastic and overflowing with compassionate intensity. We were not close friends.

We tend not to go in for those sorts of things here at St. James the Least of All, preferring matters a little more relaxed and understated. If we ever do hold discussion groups (and they are a regrettable necessity during Lent), they always start with a good lunch, finishing with coffee and one of Mrs French's excellent Madeira cakes. Once we have removed from the table, those who manage to stay awake will start to tackle the chosen topic.

However, we always seem to veer off to discussing more interesting matters, such as why Col. Chorley is never allowed to sing solos in the choir any more, or who moved Mrs Cholmondeley's flower arrangement from the font the previous week. Apparently she has given notice that her weekly contributions on the plate will be much reduced unless an appropriate apology is received.

These matters may not seem as important to you as deciding what the "white stone" in Revelation 4 is all about, but let me assure you that to members of our congregation, knowing why the second verse of the National Anthem is no longer sung at our Remembrance Services is of pivotal importance.

At 2pm we wake up those who have enjoyed an hour's slumber and totter off home, knowing we have once again done our bit for faith in the parish.

I am sure your own group will also return home after your sessions - even if a digestive biscuit and weak tea is all that has been offered – invigorated and braced to tackle the heathen in the parish. We all take our pleasures in different ways.

Your loving uncle,
Eustace



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Bishop' Letter

Thank you!

Posted by Bishop Steven Croft on 15th March 2016

I spent an hour or so yesterday signing around 200 certificates to be sent to churches across the Diocese of Sheffield to say thank you for the contributions to Common Fund, our shared Diocesan budget. This is something I do every year. I find it a very moving exercise.



The certificates are normally displayed in the Church porch or elsewhere on a noticeboard. I also write a letter to the Vicar and the PCC. Each one says thank you on behalf of the Diocese, but also on behalf of other churches across the Diocese for generous sacrificial giving.

The Diocese of Sheffield serves an area which is one of the poorest in the country in economic terms. However, for many years, the Diocese of Sheffield has been one of the most generous in the country in terms of the proportion of people's income which is given away to and through the local church.

Last year the churches of the Diocese gave £4.5 million to the Common Fund, our Diocesan budget. Each certificate I signed yesterday represents a double act of generosity and adventurous giving.

First it represents thousands and thousands of individual decisions by individuals and families to give generously and sacrificially to the life of the local church to sustain ministry in that place.

Second it represents hundreds of decisions by Church Councils to prioritise generous, adventurous giving to the Diocese in their own budgets. For that reason, I try and sign the certificates slowly, giving thanks for all that they represent.

If you are part of this adventurous, generous giving in any way then thank you. Common Fund is the cornerstone of our Diocesan budget. It enables us to support Christian ministry and mission in every part of this Diocese, especially in communities which would find it difficult, if not impossible, to support a priest. Generous giving to the Common Fund enables us to grow ministry in all kinds of ways and that enables us, by the grace of God, to grow the life of the Church and to make a bigger difference in the communities we serve.

Long ago, St. Paul reflected on the generosity of the churches of Macedonia. You can read his words in 2 Corinthians 8 and 9. Paul is moved by their gracious giving:

“For I can testify that they voluntarily gave according to their means and even beyond their means, begging us earnestly for the privilege of sharing in this ministry to the saints – and this not merely as we expected; they gave themselves first to the Lord and, by the will of God, to us” (8.3-5).

According to Paul, this generous act of giving flows directly from our faith and from the example of Jesus Christ:

“For you know the generous act of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that by his poverty you might become rich” (8.9).

Paul urges many others, including the Church in Corinth, to follow the example of the Macedonian Christians and of Christ himself and give themselves to the Lord:

“One who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work.” (9.6-8)

It is an extraordinary miracle of faith and generosity that God’s people in this place give in this adventurous way. Together through our giving we have a share in all of the ministry and mission which is taking place across this Diocese. Together we make that ministry and mission possible.

Thank you for your part in that and please persevere. The challenge continues from year to year and there is always more that we can do. If you are not yourself involved in this adventure of grace then there is plenty of room for more people to join in.

Together God has called us to grow a sustainable network of Christ like, lively and diverse Christian communities across this Diocese, effective in making disciples and in transforming our society and God’s world.

Week by week, month by month, year by year, we see that vision becoming more of a reality. Thanks be to God and to all God’s generous people.

+Steven

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Will You Remember Them – April

A Letter from Eritrea

Eritrea is the third most difficult place in the world to be a Christian, according to the 2016 Open Doors World Watch List. Thousands of believers have been tortured, held prisoner in shipping containers, mentally abused, or forced to do manual labour because of their faith. “The persecution and tribulation is ongoing. As some Christians are released from prison others are going in for the sake of the gospel. We accept and understand that this is how the gospel of Jesus Christ is to be preached, and we thank God for that.”

These are the words of Eritrean pastors who sent Open Doors a letter telling us about persecution in this closed and dangerous country. But their words also contain the hope they have for their nation. “Before, we used to serve God in a scattered way, but now we testify like Paul, “My imprisonment is for Christ and is known by all the prison officials and security guards of the prison – We are very thankful for (your support) and we hope things will change soon so that we are able to give thanks to God and gather with you freely in our homeland.”

Please Pray

- That pastors and other believers in Eritrea will be strengthened to hold onto their faith and will know God’s protection, despite the extreme persecution.
- For Eritrean refugees fleeing from persecution, that they will find shelter, be kept safe and allowed to worship in freedom.
- That the authoritarian Eritrean regime would come to know God’s grace and mercy from the witness of these Christians who stand strong for God’s Name.

JD

Editor: - Eritrea won independence from Ethiopia in 1993 after a 30-year war.

Bordered by Sudan, Ethiopia and Djibouti, it occupies a strategic area in the Horn of Africa but remains one of the most secretive states in the world. Tensions with Ethiopia remain high across a closed and heavily fortified border. The perceived threat of war is said to have been used by the government to clamp down on society. A one-party state, Eritrea's 1997 constitution was never been fully implemented. Military conscription is mandatory and indefinite, according to Amnesty International. Prolonged periods of conflict and severe drought have adversely affected Eritrea's agriculture-based economy and it remains one of the poorest countries in Africa. In a damning report into human rights abuses, the UN accused the government of crimes against humanity. By UN estimates, hundreds of thousands of Eritreans have fled the country in recent years, making the perilous journey across the Sahara and the Mediterranean to Europe.

Ecclesfield Guide May Queen

Thursday 12th May, Friday 13th May
And Saturday 14th May



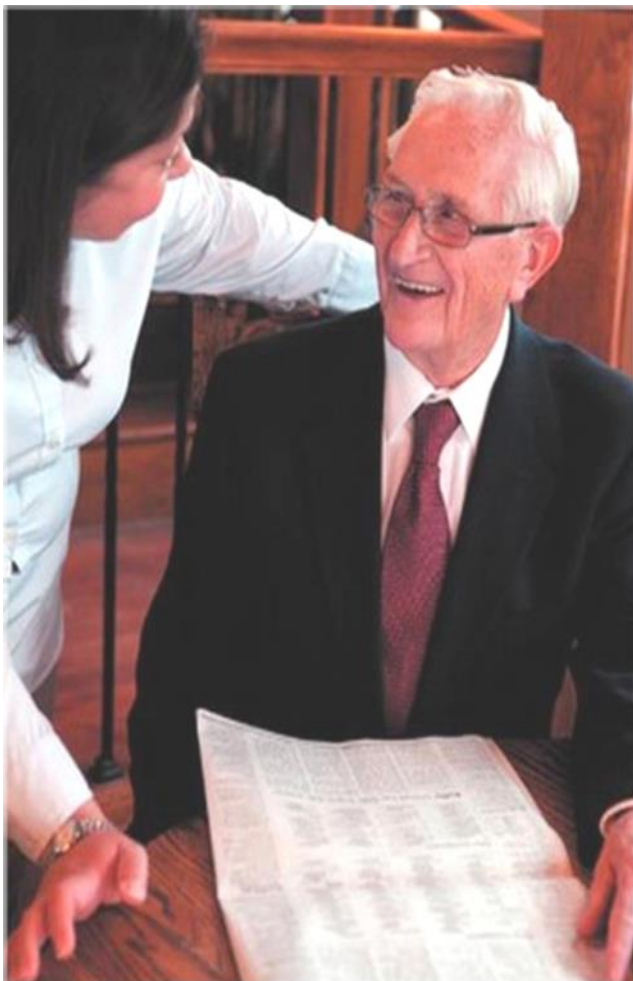
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COLOURS IN CHURCH

Have you noticed that, from time to time, the colour of things in church changes? No, I don't mean the minister goes a funny colour or someone paints the walls, but the special robes that the priest wears, and the front of altar among other things, change from time to time. Each season of the Church's year has its own distinctive colour and these are called liturgical colours.

GREEN is the colour we have more than others. Green, the ordinary colour of nature, is used during the seasons of Epiphany (after Christmas) and Trinity (between Whitsun or Pentecost and Advent). Trinity lasts for about half the year so green is the colour we see most.

The next change of colour is to **PURPLE**. Purple, the colour of penitence and preparation, is used for Lent (the 40 days before Easter) and Advent (the 4 weeks before Christmas).

Then comes **WHITE** and **GOLD**, which are used for all the joyful

festivals - Easter, Ascension and Christmas.

RED, the colour of fire and blood, is used at Pentecost to remind us of the coming of the Holy Spirit to the disciples like tongues of flame (Acts 2:11). It is also used on the festivals of martyrs to remind us of their sacrifice.

COLOUR QUIZ

Complete each of these with a colour, for example cordial would be LIME cordial. Each colour is only used once.

1. admiral
2. Christmas
3. marmalade
4. quick
5. sky
6. Royal
7. ribbons
8. glass
9. submarine
- 10..... elephants

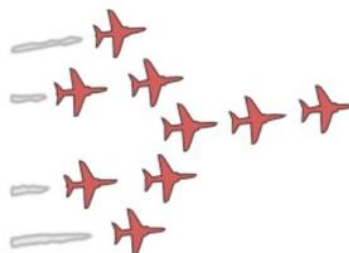


What is yellow and black and has red spots?

A leopard with the measles.

Define the word 'information'.

How the Red Arrows fly.



ANSWERS:

- 1.red 2.white
3.orange 4.silver 5.blue 6.Navy
7.scarlet 8.wine 9.yellow 10.pink

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8.30 am Holy Communion (BCP) - On 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month

10.00 am Services

1st Sunday of the month - Parish Communion with organ and choir

2nd Sunday of the month - Service of the Word with music group

3rd Sunday of the month - Parish Communion with organ, choir and music group

4th Sunday of the month - Parish Communion with organ, choir and music group

5th Sunday of the month - Sunday Celebration Services

12:00 pm Baptism Service

Baptism Service 1st Sunday of the month – (Except: August no baptisms)

4.00 pm Living Stones Service

An interactive service for children and families 3rd Sunday of the month

6.30 pm Evening Service

Except: 2nd Sunday of the month Holy Communion and 4th Sunday of the month
Prayer and Praise

Midweek Holy Communion – Thursdays at 9.30 am

Eva Ratcliffe Service - Wednesday at 10.30am

St Mary's - Activities & Groups

Church Office Opening times

Tuesday 9:30 am to 11:30 am

Wednesday 9:30 am to 11:30 am

Thursday 9.00 am to 12.00 pm

Coffee Shop

Tuesday 10.00 am to 12.30 pm

Friday 10.00 am to 12.30 pm

Bell Ringers

Tuesday 7.30 pm Bell ringing practice

Friday 7.30 pm Silent Bell ringing practice

Choir Practice

Friday 7.30 pm Choir practice in choir vestry

Music Group Practice

Thursday 7:30 pm Music group practice in church

Wedding Bookings

Thursday 7.15 pm to 8.45 pm wedding booking evening

Church Diary Items to Note for April 2016

Day and Date	Time	Item
Sunday 3 rd	12.00 pm	Baptisms
Monday 4 th	7.30 pm	PCC Meets in Church
Sunday 10 th	10.00 am	Civic Service (Parish Council)
Monday 11 th	9.00am	Coit School Rick Stordy
Thursday 14 th	2.00 pm	Service at Hartwell House
Sunday 17 th	11.30 am	AGM (Following on from 10.00 am Service)
Monday 18 th	7.30 pm	Outreach Team Meet in Church
Wednesday 20 th	7.00 pm	Baptism Preparation
Monday 25 th	7.30 pm	Ignatian Prayer in Church
Thursday 28 th	7.30 pm	Finance Team Meets in Church

From the Registers

Baptisms

6 th March	Emily Mae Mathews
6 th March	Lucas William Battersby

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

Weddings

5 th March	Christopher Unwin & Kimberly Reynolds
19 th March	Daniel Makepeace & Jessica Fletcher

May each be to the other strength in need a comfort in sorrow and a companion in joy.

Funerals

3 rd March	Robert Napier McGill	80
22 nd March	Jo-Anne Bamforth	46

Grant them, O Lord, refreshment, light and peace.

Flower Rota April 2016

3 rd	Vacant	17 th	W. Brunt & V. Brunt
10 th	C. Wright & S. Johns	24 th	P. Hawley & J. Hawksworth

Cartoon Humour



...and when it comes to 'the peace' I want all those who want to stay in Europe to shake hands with all those who want to leave...



Mary wished she'd never mentioned Fresh Expressions of Church



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The Gardening Year – April

The general weather is much the same as March and differences between south and north are still quite great. Showers sometimes of sleet or snow are common when the wind is in the north or north west. Snow is by no means unusual but it rarely lasts long. Cold grey weather is again possible; the best April days are those bringing warm rains from the west, or the occasional southerly wind with the promise of summer to come.

A Summary of the month's work – Lawns – mow, aerate, apply spring fertiliser and scarify. Level humps and fill in any hollows, treat fusarium patch if present. Apply selective weed killers and moss compounds.

Flowers – roses, complete pruning, and feed with rose fertiliser and hoe it into the surface soil. Tie new growths of climbers and ramblers to a separate cane to simplify pruning later. Mulch rose beds with manure, garden compost or moist compost. Hardy herbaceous plants, plant let flowering herbaceous plants and those slow to make new growth. Lift and divide old clumps of Michaelmas daisies, re-planting on well dug and manured ground. Treat Rudbeckias, Helianthus and Monardas similarly. Hoe between plants to control weeds, stake and tie delphiniums late in the month. Carnations and pinks apply fertiliser to growing and mature plants and continue planting border carnations and pinks up to the middle of the month. Stake pinks if necessary by pushing branching twigs into the ground so that the flower stems can grow up through them. Staking is more likely to be needed with tall growing varieties.

Fruit – apple, pear plum and cherry will start flowering in April. Watch flowering closely because the first essential for fruit formation is that there should be flowers on the trees. As long as only 10 per cent of the flowers set fruit there will be a satisfactory crop, if every flower of a blossom sets fruit there would be too many small fruits. Honey – (bees do not fly actively if the temperature is much below 16°C (61°F), but if the hives are near the fruit garden the bees will be active during short periods of good weather. Many wild insects are useful pollinators below these temperatures. Do not spray open flowers with insecticides which will harm pollinators.

Vegetables – Plant onion sets and early potatoes if not done in late March, parsley and salad crops can be planted if the soil is sufficiently dry to work, plant main crop potatoes this month. Sow seeds of cauliflower, cabbage, etc., in a nursery bed for planting out next month. Sow garden peas this month, soak peas overnight in a dish or water this will swell the peas to give them a good start. In my opinion and I have grown many varieties the sweetest pea you will ever grow is the variety onward.

Colin Williams.



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Why Did the Chicken Cross the Road?

(Theological Version)

- Billy Graham: The chicken was surrendering all.
- Rick Warren: The chicken was purpose driven.
- John Wesley: The chicken's heart was strangely warmed.
- John Piper: God decreed the event to maximize his glory. OR . . . it was an act of Christian hedonism. The chicken realized that his greatest joy would only be found on the other side.
- C.S. Lewis: If a chicken finds itself with a desire that nothing on this side can satisfy, the most probable explanation is that it was created for the other side.
- N.T. Wright: This act of the chicken, which would be unthinkable in British barnyards, reeks of that American individualism that is destructive to community.
- Pluralist: The chicken took one of many equally valid roads.
- Universalist: All chickens cross the road.
- Tim LaHaye: The chicken didn't want to be left behind.
- Emergent: For this chicken, it's not the destination that's important. It's the journey itself.



Crossword Puzzle - Solution is here

U		E		A		A		I		T		A
T	R	A	N	S	G	R	E	S	S	O	R	S
M		S		S		C		I		H		A
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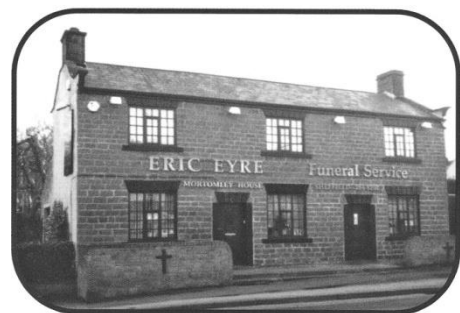
The Funeral Home

Mortomley House
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British Institute of Funeral Directors Eric Eyre National President
1989 - 1990



Saint of the Month – Peter Chanel – 28th April

Peter Chanel – missionary and martyr in the South Pacific 1841

Many of us can show great dedication in pursuit of a career that will bring us a good salary or position. Peter Chanel should be the patron saint of anyone who shows quiet determination in doing what they believe to be God's call upon their life; regardless of the harsh personal consequences.

Chanel was born at the end of the 18th century in mid-eastern France. He'd heard stories of the foreign missions as a youngster, and wanted to be a missionary. His first step was seminary training and ordination in 1827.

But then Chanel hit a blank wall. Though eager to go abroad, his bishop sent him to a run-down local parish instead. Obedient, Chanel went – and revitalised the parish within three years. But he also joined the then still forming Society of Mary (Marists) who had a heart for foreign missionary work. But then – another blank wall – as even the Marists kept him in France – as the spiritual director at the Seminary of Belley.

It was not until 1836, that Chanel finally was allowed to join a mission to the South West Pacific. He set out with a band of Marist missionaries for Tahiti and Tonga – finally reaching the neighbouring island of Futuna, in November 1837.

Chanel and the other missionaries were initially well received by the island's king, Niuliki. But when they began preaching to the people, the king grew restive. He feared Christianity would threaten his supreme powers. When the king's son, Meitala, sought baptism, the king decided to take action. His favoured warrior, Musumusu went to Chanel feigning need of medical attention. While Chanel tended him, Musumusu took an axe and clubbed Chanel on the head. Chanel died that day, 28 April, 1841.

Chanel had only three and a half years on the mission field, but he did not die in vain: his work had laid the base for a future mission there. Within a very few years the people of Futuna converted, and even the warrior, Musumusu converted. As Musumusu lay dying he asked to be buried outside the church at Poi, so that those who came to revere Peter Chanel in the Church would walk over his grave to get to it. Chanel had achieved his life's goal: a mission that took Jesus Christ to people in a far-flung corner of the world.

Whitley Hall Cricket Club



Cricket will be with us again later this month and the 1st XI will be looking forward to the new season in the new ECB Yorkshire Premier League. For Whitley, this really is the “big time”, playing in a league directly below County Cricket level. The season will be a tough one though, with the local strong teams as our opposition – Barnsley, Rotherham, Sheffield Collegiate, Wakefield and Cleethorpes to name just some. We have also been invited to join the Black Sheep knock-out competition again – a competition we have won on two occasions. Do come and support you local club and enjoy some really good cricket. All are welcome to use the pavilion – come and collect a full fixture list.

Senior Home Games at Cinder Hill Lane

Saturday April 16	2 nd XI	v	Shiregreen
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Sunday April 17	1 st XI	v	East Brierley
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Black Sheep All Yorkshire Champions knock-out

Saturday April 23	1 st XI	v	Wakefield Thornes
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Saturday April 30	2 nd XI	v	Norton Oaks
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Saturday May 7	1 st XI	v	Aston Hall
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Early season matches start at 12.30

Contacts:

Joe Webster, Secretary: 0114 245 2518

Steve Fletcher, Director of Cricket: 0114 245 2406

Andrew Robinson, Publicity and Fundraising: 0114 246 3646

Website: <http://www.whitleyhallcricketclub.co.uk>

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Crossword Puzzle (Solution is on page 21)

Clues Across

- 8** 'He poured out his life unto death, and was numbered with the — ' (Isaiah 53:12) (13)
- 9** 'When they had sung a hymn, they went — to the Mount of Olives (Matthew 26:30) (3)
- 10** Comes between Galatians and Philippians (9)
- 11** 'Your heart will — and swell with joy' (Isaiah 60:5) (5)
- 13** Muslim holy month (7)
- 16** Ten ears (anag.) (7)
- 19** Under (poetic abbrev.) (5)
- 22** How Abram described himself to God when he complained that his inheritance would pass to a servant (Genesis 15:2) (9)
- 24** 'Go to the — , you sluggard' (Proverbs 6:6) (3)
- 25** Debar from receiving Communion (13)

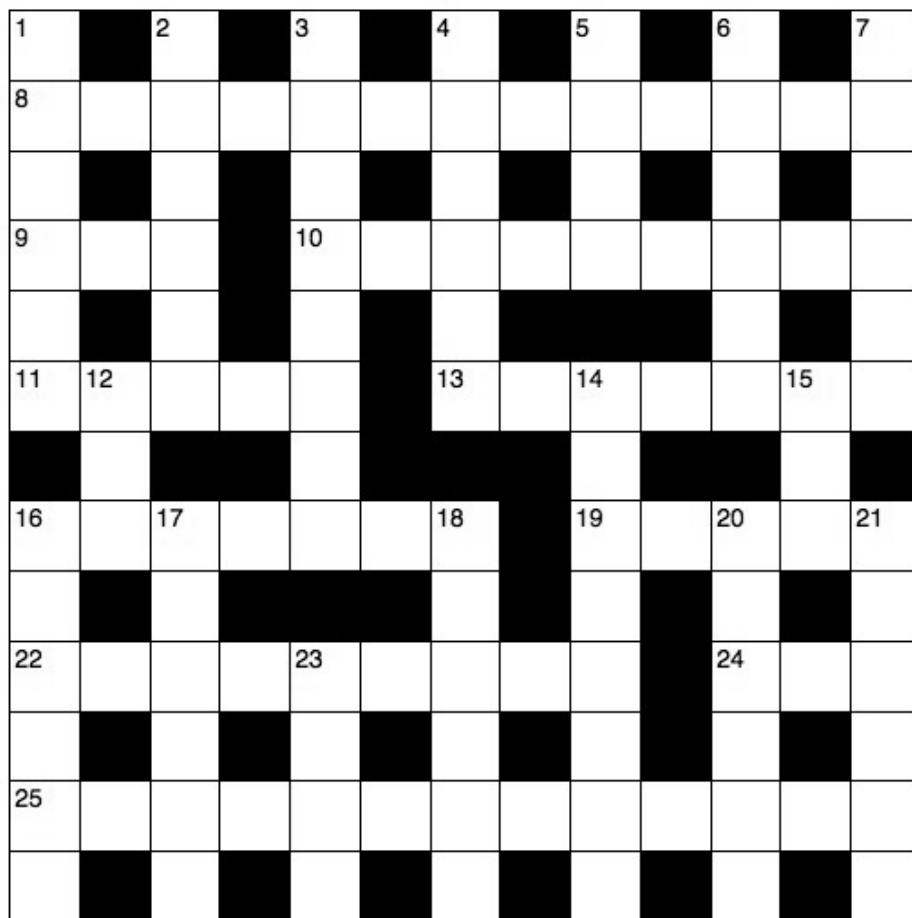
Clues Down

- 1** My — for His Highest (Oswald Chambers' best-known book) (6)
- 2** Festival of the resurrection (6)
- 3** 'His sons will prepare for war and — a great army' (Daniel 11:10) (8)
- 4** 'Let not the — string his bow' (Jeremiah 51:3) (6)
- 5** Name of the River Thames in and around Oxford (4)
- 6** 'From then on Judas watched for an opportunity — — him over' (Matthew 26:16) (2,4)
- 7** 'But Christ is faithful — — — over God's house' (Hebrews 3:6) (2,1,3)
- 12** Long-handled implement used to till the soil (Isaiah 7:25) (3)
- 14** Order to which monks and nuns devote themselves (8)
- 15** Appropriate (Proverbs 15:23) (3)
- 16** I, uncle (anag.) (6)
- 17** 'They gave him — — of broiled fish' (Luke 24:42) (1,5)
- 18** 'Weren't there three men that we — — and threw into the fire?' (Daniel 3:24) (4,2)
- 20** Mountain where Noah's ark came to rest (Genesis 8:4) (6)

21 ‘Don’t you know that friendship with the world is — towards God?’ (James 4:4) (6)

23 Prominent architectural feature of large cathedrals such as St Paul’s (4)

Solution is on Page 21



Some miscellaneous observations on life...

The world will never starve for want of wonders; but only for want of wonder. - **G K Chesterton**

How amazing it is that we have so few tears these days when there is so much to weep about! - **Isaac Ababio**

Wars to end wars are an illusion. Wars, more than any other form of human activity, create the conditions which breed more war. - **John Foster Dulles**

Four freedoms: The first is freedom of speech and expression – everywhere in the world. The second is freedom of every person to worship God in his own way, everywhere in the world. The third is freedom from want.... everywhere in the world. The fourth is freedom from fear... anywhere in the world. – **Franklin D Roosevelt**

Prayers and Poems Page

Prayer for every day after Easter

Living, Almighty God,
Thank you that by your Spirit living in me, made possible by the life, death, resurrection and ascension of Jesus, you give me all I need.
Like Peter, you forgive and re-commission me. Like Thomas, you meet me in ways tailor-made for me.
Lord, thank you for the daily personal “nudges” that assure me of your reality, your presence in my life, just when I need so much to know you are here.
Thank you that we are Easter People every day, because of Jesus, and in His name we pray.
Amen.

By Daphne Kitching

Dawn Chorus

A glow in the east, faint fingers of dawn
A single bird wakes, and greets the dim rays
His voice fills the air, as morning takes form
And soon he is joined by a chorus of praise.

They praise for their life, and the end of the night
For perils survived, and hunters unfed.
They praise for the day, and the beauty of light
The praise for their flight; while we lay abed!

And yet, as we lay, and hear their fine song
Our praises join theirs, our hearts lift with joy.
We can't match their skill, but yet sing along
The birds and ourselves our voices employ

In worship of God, for gifts of new days
A cadence of song, dawn chorus of praise.

By Nigel Beeton

Editor: Nigel Beeton writes: Springtime is the one time of the year when one is pleased to be up with the dawn. The sound of the birds greeting the new day at this time of year is so incredibly uplifting, they could melt a heart of stone.

The Pilgrim Road to El Camino

By many ways they travel down
Across the countryside
From Paris, Chartres and other towns
Where shells their pathway guide.

And in St Jean their trails all meet
Before the Pyrenees,
Then on and up with steady tread
Where buzzards take their ease.

Past Roncevalles where Roland fought
To where the bulls will run,
Then on into the Spanish plains,
Their long, last leg begun.

And day by day and week by week
Going where others strode,
Attending the ancient pathway
That is The Pilgrim Road.

By El Cid's city and Leon,
On towards their goal,
Walking to the Field of Stars
In far-off Santiago.

Such may not be our choosing,
Each carries their own load,
But life's journey we are making
Should be our Pilgrim Road.

By Allan Lewis

MOTHERS UNION MEETING 2nd MARCH 2016

We marked the birthdays of Glenys and Joyce.
Heartily singing as if with one voice.

Then sharing some 'goodies' we did partake,
Toasting the girls with both tipple and cake.

Then Jeni led us in meditation,
Giving us all time for contemplation.
Using a hymn as each verse we moved through,
Placing in God's hands the things we can't do.

Then with our neighbour we'd listen and share
Our hopes and concerns of those in our care.
Given a seed, a sign of potential
Where God's nurture is always essential.

And lastly we looked at others we meet.
Our family, our friends, the ones down our street.
To show them that God's love is for them too
And not just for the likes of me and you.

Jo Hawksworth

With our Christian faith in mind...

- As we go to the cradle only in order to find the baby, so we go to the Scriptures only to find Christ. - Martin Luther
- The Lord does not shine upon us, except when we take His Word as our light. - John Calvin
- The New Testament knows nothing of free-lance Christianity. It is the corporate witness of the redeemed fellowship that is used by the Spirit of God. - Geoffrey King
- Christians would never dream of intentionally running down other people with their cars; then why do we do it with our tongues? - Doug Barnett
- If you believe what you like in the Gospel, and reject what you like, it is not the Gospel you believe, but yourself. - Augustine
- The church should be a community of encouragement. - Fred Catherwood
- Our God is a missionary God. - William White
- Evangelism is one beggar telling another beggar where to get bread. - Anon

Contact Numbers for Local Groups ☎

Ecclesfield Rainbows

Gatty Hall
Tuesday 4.45 pm to 6.00 pm
Leader - Mrs B Travis
Tel: TBA

Ecclesfield Brownies

Gatty Hall
Monday 5.30 pm to 6.45 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
Theatre Tel No. 0114 240 2624

Ecclesfield Community Garden

Ecclesfield Park - Located between
Ladycroft bridge/stream and Bowling
greens. Open Wednesday + Saturday
10 am to 12 noon
Tel : Angela 0114 2461095

Friends of Ecclesfield Library

Run by the community for the community.
Volunteer helpers always needed.
Tel: 0114 246 3651
email: ecclesfieldlib@gmail.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 - Bryony Hemming
Tel. 07983 719155
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

If you would like your local group
advertised please contact:
Mrs P Blackburn ☎ 0114 246 8453



Useful Contacts



Vicar Vacancy – we are currently in Interregnum'

<u>Churchwardens:</u>	Katharine Lonsborough	286 4332
	Irene Proctor	246 0373
	Andrew Robinson	246 3646
	Michael Waldron	246 3091
<u>Readers:</u>	Pat Clarke	257 7191
	Stephanie Dale	245 2392

<u>Pastoral Workers:</u>	Pat Wood	246 5086
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Church Office:

Tuesday - Wednesday 9:30 am to 11:30 am

Thursday 9.00 am to 12.00 pm 245 0106

Church Choir Practice in Church

Friday 7:30 pm - Contact: Don Knott 246 8430

Music Group Practice in Church

Thursday 7:30 pm - Contact: Andrea Whittaker 246 0746

Mother's Union in Gatty Hall

1st Wednesday of month 1:00 pm

Contact: Maureen Lambert 246 9690

Ecclesfield Ladies Group in Gatty Hall

Thursday 7.30 pm - Contact: Anne Rostron 245 5492

Bell Ringers meet in Church Belfry

Tuesday 7:30 pm Contact: Phil Hirst 286 2766

Gatty Hall Bookings,

Contact: Margaret Roberts 246 3993

Baptisms: Contact – Pat Clarke 257 7191

Weddings: Contact – The Church Office 245 0106

“ Or email: ecclesfield.weddings@gmail.com

Office e-mail office.stmarys.ecclesfield@googlemail.com

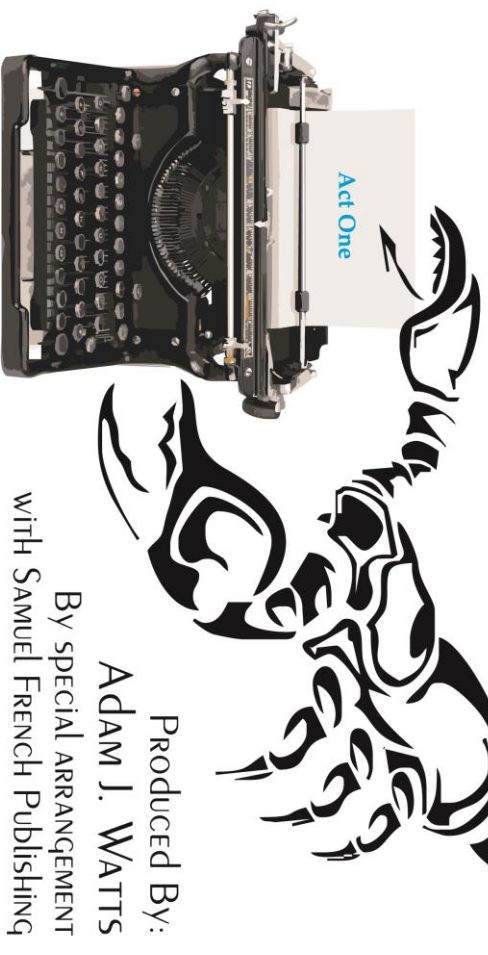
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A SING In The Tale

Ecclesfield Priory Players Presents...

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Brian Clemens & Dennis Spooner



Produced By:

Adam J. Watts

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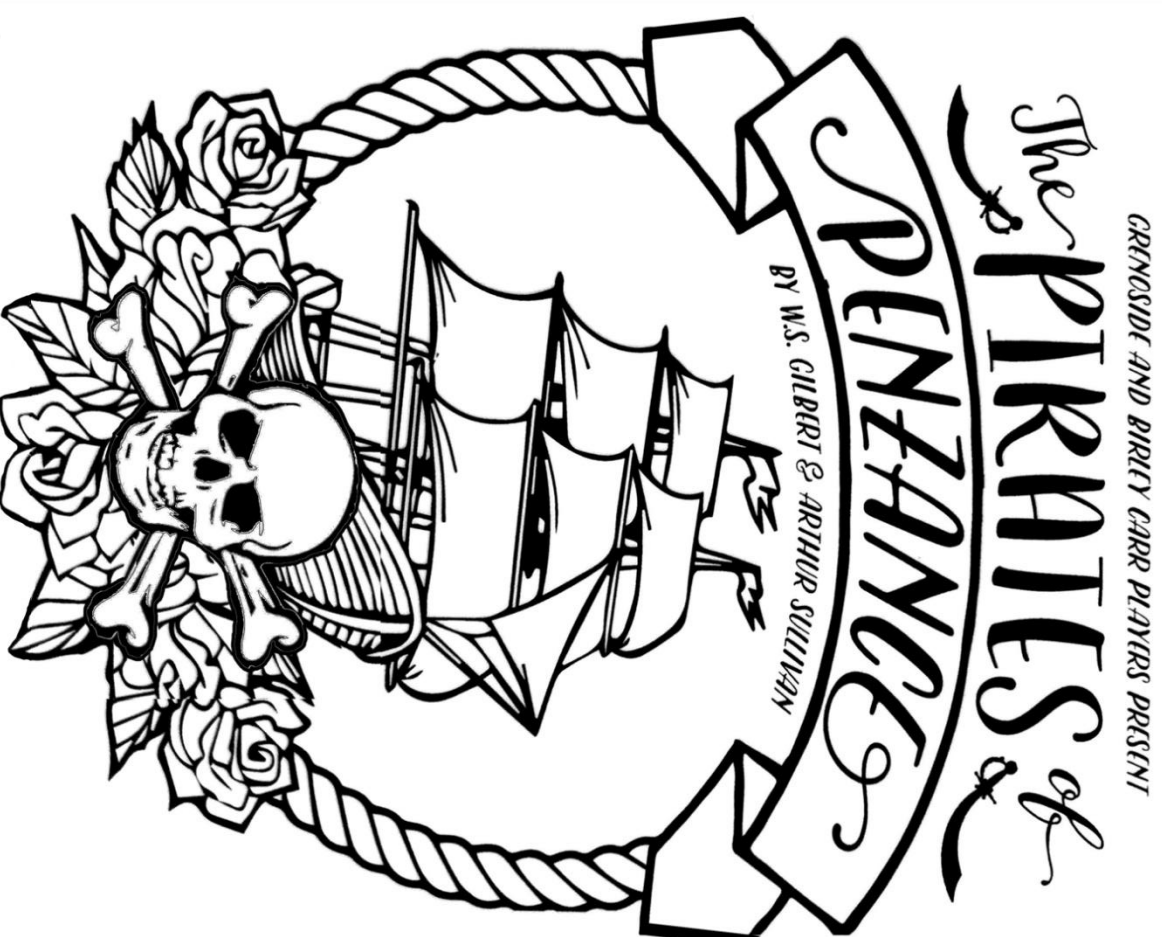
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www.eppictheatre.co.uk



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