# News & Views From St Mary's Church Ecclesfield



Church Magazine for September 2016

# First Words...

I write on a hot August afternoon just before leaving for a break in Northumberland. Although the plan was to take our holidays before my licensing, the bishop changed the date after we had already booked them. I must admit that moving is much more tiring than I imagined it would be, and I can't wait to get out into the Cheviot Hills and the coastal walks around Lindisfarne and Bamburgh.

One of the last things that I do before we go away on our summer holidays is to plan the services from September to January including the Christmas services (I usually get myself in the mood by playing Christmas Carols while I am planning the services and themes!)

In September we are keeping Church open for Heritage Open Days (8-11th Sept). I am sure that we will have many visitors who come to discover the history of the Church, but more importantly we will have people calling in to see the Church where they were baptised, where their parents or grandparents were married. I always think of a parish church as the place which keeps the memories of a community.

Once September arrives Church will be back into the full swing of worship and meetings and events. One new thing to watch out for is Time For God, an opportunity to meet together mid-week for worship and teaching and to pray for one another. I hope that we will be able to meet fortnightly and make it a regular event. I am not sure yet which evening we will meet on, so look out for more information in early September.

Finally, in September and October we will be having a short sermon series at the 10 o'clock service on Paul's letter to the Colossians. It is a short letter, only 4 chapters long, written when Paul was in prison in Rome. It is a letter full of joy, written to encourage a tiny, struggling Church. Colossians is such a positive letter it is hard to imagine that it was written by a man on death row, who did not expect to ever be free again. The main theme of the letter is Christ, the hope of salvation for all. In his letter Paul encourages us as individuals and as a church community to live up to our calling in Christ; to become who we truly are in Jesus.

God bless, Tim



Front Cover – Harvest Grains **Back Cover** – MU Group Photograph 2016 (See also MU Rogues Gallery page 17)

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# Thought for the Month

You may have noticed that I have started to leave open the gate in the communion rail in the chancel. This is not an accident. An open gate speaks of a welcome and an invitation to all; whereas I always feel that a closed gate says 'Keep out!'

I trained for ministry with a lady who had been brought up as a Roman Catholic and I always remember how moved she was when, as a server at communion she was allowed to enter beyond the rail to the communion table. She commented that when she was a child women were only allowed in the sanctuary to clean it!

In the Old Testament there were a series of barriers in the Temple in Jerusalem. The outer court of the Temple was the court of the nations, where non-Jews were allowed to gather to worship. Next came the Court of the women, female Jews and children were not allowed to progress any further. Next was the Court of Israel for adult male Jews, then came the areas for the priests and the levites.

At the heart of the Temple, cut off by a great curtain which fell from the roof to the floor was the Holy of Holies. Only one man, the high priest, was allowed to enter and only on one day in the year, the Day of Atonement. The message was clear: some places and some people are holier, are closer to God than others.

But when Jesus died on the Cross the curtain was torn in two, from top to bottom (Mark 15:38). Jesus has opened up the way to God. We no longer need priests and levites to stand in God's presence for us. We are all welcome, as we are, to know God for ourselves.

An open gate at the communion table is a symbol of openness and invitation. It says 'You are welcome, you belong.' Because of Jesus we can come before God without fear or shame. He loves us and accepts us as we are; of course, because He loves us He doesn't leave us as we are. He wants us to shine with His light and joy and peace in this world.

We are so fortunate to have a beautiful and ancient Church. A place where God has been faithfully worshipped; where 'prayer has been valid', to use a phrase of T.S Eliot, for many centuries. It is a Church which attracts visitors, some of them Christian, some not, and some who do not know if they belong or not. My prayer is that everyone who enters St Mary's will know that they are welcomed, not just by the church but, more importantly by the Father. I pray that some who feel this welcome will find here their spiritual home.

Tim

# Prayer for the month

Prayer is not simply something that we do at set times and in particular places; it is a way of life. It is maintaining an ongoing conversation 'at all times and in all places' with God who is our creator, our Father and our closest friend.

I always try to begin the day in prayer, but early in the morning I am not very creative or eloquent. This is why my day begins with praying a few well known prayers, the Lord's Prayer, verses from Colossians 3 and Matthew 11, Psalm 23, and, every morning, a prayer that comes from John Stott.

John was one of the most influential Anglicans of the twentieth century. He was vicar of All Souls Church in Langham Place. He was an extraordinarily gifted preacher and evangelist, writer and Biblical interpreter.

His biographer records that every morning as he lay in bed, before he rose to meet the new day, John would pray this prayer:

Heavenly Father, thank you for this new day. Be with me and help me to serve and honour you.

Lord Jesus Christ my saviour, be with me this day and help me to take up my cross and follow you.

Holy Spirit of God, fill me today and nurture in me your fruit: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.

(See Galatians 5)

My first prayers of the day are not said, as John Stott's were, as I lay in bed. I pray as I walk the dogs. First thing on a morning I am not the best company, I like to have some time silently connecting with God and offering to Him the opportunities and challenges of the day ahead. It is only after this that I am fit company!

Tim.



# On what clergy should wear on their feet

The Rectory St. James the Least

#### My dear Nephew Darren

Thank you for sending me the photograph of you having your face painted at your parish's 'Fun Day' - although I can't help feeling that to label an event 'fun' is the most effective way of draining it of all amusement whatsoever. Why on earth can't parishes continue with the traditional title of 'Crowning of the Rose Queen and Fete', equally traditionally grimly enjoyed to the accompaniment of thunder and torrential rain.

However, the one thing that caused me the greatest concern in your photo was the fact that you were wearing sandals. Sandals are only to be worn by Franciscan monks (without socks) and holidaymakers on Blackpool promenade (regrettably, generally with socks). I know that you will argue that Jesus wore sandals. This was mainly because reliable pairs of brogues had yet to be invented, but also because He lived in a hot, dry country. We live in a cold, wet one.

The only appropriate colour for footwear for a parish priest is black and the only appropriate material is leather - although I will concede that can create difficulties. Wet leather shoes and polished marble sanctuary floors are a potentially lethal combination.

I well remember as a curate when old Canon Griffith entered the Sanctuary, having just got drenched coming from the Rectory. His feet moved across the marble floor some miles per hour faster than the rest of his body. Had he landed face down, the congregation may have assumed he was reverently prostrating himself before the altar. But lying in a supine position, staring in a dazed state at the rafters, only conveyed inappropriate indolence, when he should be at work.

However, do not take the alternative of wearing crepe soles. I suspect your present church will be fully carpeted - it seems to go with your sort of theology - and there will be no problem. But crepe soles and any sort of polished stone floor are a truly disastrous mixture. The slightest movement will make it sound as if you are being followed by a swarm of demented frogs.

Your loving uncle, Eustace

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# Uncertainty and Hope

*Editor:* The Ven John Barton looks back on the horrific attack on Nice this summer.

If the audience at the First Night of the Proms this year had not heard the national news broadcasts that day, they would have been startled by an unscheduled addition to the programme. It opened with a rousing rendition of the French National Anthem.

Scores of unsuspecting holidaymakers in the French resort of Nice had been mown down by a fanatical lorry driver; his was the latest in a chain of massacres perpetrated by Islamists in Europe and beyond. Ironically, it was Bastille Day, commemorating French unity. The playing of the Marseillaise in London's Albert Hall was a demonstration of solidarity with French people everywhere and a defiant message of hope.

Church leaders the world over published their prayers the next day. An Anglican chaplain based near Nice said, "Prayer is the thing. We can't do anything tangible or practical in support of the security service apart from our own vigilance . . . but we do have a very strong and a very powerful thing that we can do . . . and that is prayer . . . because with faith we trust in God's love and mercy for those who have died, but for the families left behind this is a most terrible time from which many may not recover."

Terrorist acts of this kind are motivated by a deadly combination of false faith with hatred. No one is risk-free, and the nations' leaders are hard-pressed to safeguard their people. St. Paul's advice to Timothy has never been more apt: "I urge that ... prayers... be offered to God for all in authority, that we may live a quiet and peaceful life with all reverence towards God and with proper conduct."

We must be on our guard, but also trust God. In Nice churchyard is the grave of Henry Lyte, the writer of the hymn, *Abide with me*, which encourages us to disarm our fears by expressing confidence in God's purposes:

I fear no foe, with thee at hand to bless; Ills have no weight, and tears no bitterness; Where is death's sting? Where grave thy victory?

# Miscellaneous observations on life

The beginning of a cure must be the recognition of the real disease. Halford E Luccock

The joy that isn't shared, I've heard, dies young. Anne Sexton

To live without listening is not to live at all; it is simply to drift in my own backwater. *Joan Chittister* 

I guess it's true what they say: there's a fine line between gardening and madness. *Cliff Clavin (Cheers)* 

A teacher ought to be a stranger to the desire for domination, vain-glory, and pride; one should not be able to fool him by flattery, nor blind him by gifts,... nor dominate him with anger; but he should be patient, gentle, and humble as far as possible; he must be tested and without partisanship, full of concern, and a lover of souls. *Benedicta Ward* 

A wise man will desire no more than he may get justly, use soberly, distribute cheerfully and leave contentedly. *Anon* 

Our eyes are placed in front because it is more important to look ahead than to look back. *Anon* 

Gardens are not made by singing 'Oh how beautiful', and sitting in the shade. *Rudyard Kipling* 



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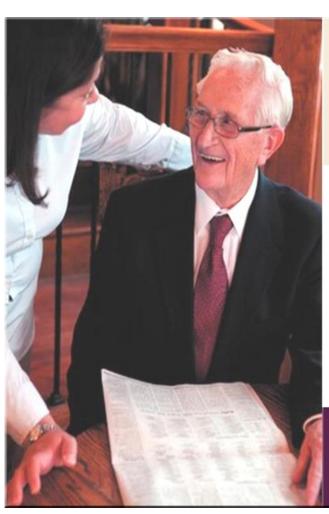
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# Will You Remember Them September 2016

# Persecution in Turkey

The presence of radical Islam, the ethnic conflict, and a regime that aims to islamise the country are all affecting the church in Turkey. The renewed fighting between the government's military forces and the Kurds is stimulating Turkish nationalism but converts from Islam most of all. Pressure on them from both family and community is especially acute. The presence of Islamic fundamentalists in Turkey has already proved to be a huge threat for Protestant pastors; Muslim - background believers can expect similar treatment.

**Turkey** - Leader - President Recep Tayyip Erdogan. Population - 79.6 million (219,000 Christians) Main Religion Islam. Government republic, persecution: Islamic extremism / religious nationalism. World watch list rank 45.

#### **Religious Leaders Call for Peace.**

Including the Director of Religious Affairs Mehmel Gormez, Greek Orthodox Patriarch Bartholomew. The Chief Rabbi Rav Haleva, Patriarch Aram Atesyan, and a number of other Christian faith group leaders in the country. A joint press statement was issued condemning the coup, asking for wisdom and understanding for the country's leaders, and praying for peace.

## **Please Pray**

- Praise God for signs of reconciliation between Armenian and Turkish Christians; ask Him to make the church in Turkey healthy and strong
- For God to protect and give courage to believers who have received death threats
- For politicians and leaders to wisely govern the country for the benefit of all sectors of society
- For the church to be proactive in demonstrating Jesus's love to their community

JD

NB. The world watch guide 2016 highlights the 50 countries where it is most difficult to live as a Christian, in their private, family, community, national and church life.

# Ecclesfield St. Mary's Mothers Union.

140<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Mothers Union worldwide.

On Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> July we held a Coffee Morning in St. Mary's to celebrate the 140<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of MU. All this year we have been busy fund raising for this event. Each branch was given £14.00p and asked to make, bake and grow anything to sell to increase that amount.

It started with chocolate Easter Eggs in knitted egg cosy's which sold like hot cakes!! Many people sold pot plants and everyone baked cakes much more than once. The church was trimmed up for the 140<sup>th</sup> anniversary, with flags and bunting and a union jack was draped over the font. Tim Gill our new vicar opened the event and spoke about the world wide work the mother union do to help nations in need. People brought bottles and items for the raffle stall. There was a stall for gifts and also a stall of lovely hand painted cards to buy. The event was well supported by friends and families and raised the princely sum of £371.00p

On the 15<sup>th</sup> July we set off on our Annual Outing. This time to East Riddlesden Hall near Keighley a lovely Tudor mansion with beautiful grounds and a lake, we also had a tour of the house it was beautiful with carved wooden furniture and many four poster beds from different centuries, and lovely tapestries and paintings from the same eras. The gardens were full of flowers and bees, with lots to interest the children in the Wild Wood and the Bothy. Down a sloop beyond the grounds was the picnic area, and the river and the further you walked along side it the wider it got.

Most of us made use of the Café with morning Coffee followed by a tour of the house and lunch, and then a lovely cup of tea in the afternoon, truly a day to remember.

PB

# **HELP WANTED!**

The small dedicated team who keep the church yard beautiful with flowers and plants are desperately in need of your help. Could you help them by giving your time however short it may be.

Please contact Pat Wood if you can help them. Tele: 246 5086

# The Mothers' Union Annual Outing

This year we visited East Riddlesdon Hall. Forty one members and friends set out from Ecclesfield. Arriving at the Hall the entrance was just wide enough for the coach and we were all grateful that we were not driving.

As we entered through the gate in beautiful sunshine we came upon a wonderful lake with many birds and the day looked set well for us.





East Riddlesden Hall is a 17th-century manor house in Keighley, West Yorkshire, now owned by the National Trust. The hall was built in 1642 by a wealthy Halifax clothier, James Murgatroyd. There is a medieval tithe barn in the grounds.

The Hall perches on a small plateau overlooking a bend in the River Aire on its way downstream from the town of Keighley. Interesting features include well-restored living accommodation on two floors, two Yorkshire Rose windows, walled garden, the ruined Starkie wing and several ghosts (reputedly). A hiding place for Catholic priests was installed during the 16th century.

The property was extended and re-built by James Murgatroyd and his wife Hannah, using local Yorkshire stone, in 1648. He also built other stone manor houses throughout the West Riding of Yorkshire. In the great hall, a small fireplace can be seen above the main fireplace, where the floor for the first floor accommodation was not built. James Murgatroyd was a Royalist and this can be seen in royalist symbols and graffiti on and in the building. For example, the Bothy (now the tea room and shop) has the heads of Charles I of England and Henrietta Maria of France carved in the top most stone work.

Most of us took a guided tour of the Hall which was extremely interesting. The gardens were small but still had lots to see.

The restaurant was well used by everyone for morning coffees and lunches. The staff in the restaurant were very accommodating and an enjoyable day was spent.

SH

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# St Mary's - Weekly Services

#### 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 September 2016

Day and Date	Time	Item
Sunday 4 <sup>th</sup>	12 noon	Baptism Service
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup>	7.30 pm	PCC meets in Church
Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup>	10.30 am	Service at Eva Ratcliffe House
Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup>		Service at Hartwell House
Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> to	Sunday 11 <sup>th</sup>	Heritage Open Days
Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup>	10.30 am	Service at Eva Ratcliffe House
Sunday 15 <sup>th</sup>	4.00 pm	Living Stones Service
Monday 19 <sup>th</sup>	7.30 pm	Fabric Meeting in Church
	7.30 pm	Mission Team Meet in Church
Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup>	10.30 am	Service at Eva Ratcliffe House
	7.30 pm	Baptism Preparation in Church
Saturday 24 <sup>th</sup>	7.30 pm	Worrall Male Voice Choir
Sunday 25 <sup>th</sup>	6.30 pm	Prayer and Praise Service
Monday 26 <sup>th</sup>	7.30 pm	Ignatian Prayer in Church
Wednesday 28 <sup>th</sup>	10.30 am	Service at Eva Ratcliffe House

# **From the Registers**

W	ed	di	in	gs
		•		<b>~</b> ~

5th August	Paul Dunwell & Emma Jane Hodgkins
13th August	Tolly Jacob Shield & Rebecca Anne Drillot
13th August	Scott Gerard Taylor & Katie-lea Morris
20th August	Richard Terence Elliott & Nicola Louise Taylor
20th August	Lewis Matthew Lambert & Jennifer Leigh Marsden

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

## **Funerals**

1st August	Ethel Anne Higgins	91
8th August	Annis Hobson	96
16th August	Rene Rees Deans	71
17th August	Christine Swindlles	72
18th August	Hazel Stansfield	85
23rd August	Winifred Yeardley	89

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

# Flower Rota September 2016

$4^{th}$	N. Priest	$18^{th}$	Vacant
$11^{th}$	P. Prior & H. Rollins	$25^{th}$	K & L Atkin

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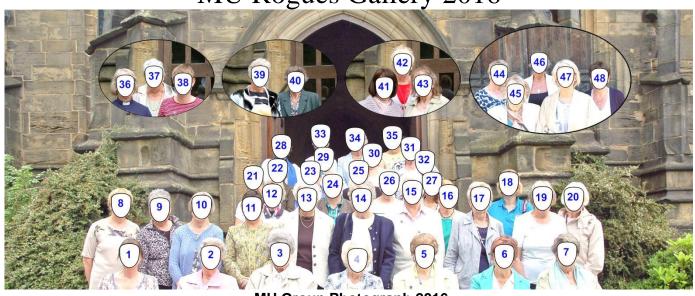
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MU Rogues Gallery 2016



#### **MU Group Photograph 2016**

MO Group Friotograph 2010				
1-KayThompson	11-LyndaWaldron	21-AnnHackett	31-NormaPriest	41-JackieEastwood
2-BettyMitchell	12-MargaretPowell	22-ElaineHolland	32-JosieCatlyn	42-JanetRodber
3-MargaretRoberts	13-JoanAdams	23-PatriciaSmith	33-AudreySidebottom	43-JenniferBailey
4-JoyceBooth	14-GlynisLoxley	24-JamesKay	34-JosephineHawksworth	44-JenniferArmeson
5-JanetDaniels	15-AnneBriddock	25-MeganCooper	35-MarilynKing	45-PaulineBown
6-KathyBailey	16-PatriciaBlackburn	26-KathyWebster	36-JenniferFryer	46-PatriciaAshall
7-HeatherJohnson	17-PamelaPrior	27-VeronicaTingle	37-StephanieHartshorne	47-ChristineAmbler
8-MaureenLambert	18-DawnJohnson	28-PatriciaClarke	38-YvonneRidgeway	48-JeanneSutton
9-PatriciaWright	19-HazelRollins	29-PaulineLeach	39-JaneWebster	
10-IreneProctor	20-KathleenWilliams	30-JenniferCooper	40-IrisGlaves	

# The Gardening Year – September 2016

The Flower Garden – Remove all seed pods and dead flowers. This is the best month for planting peonies. They should be planted in soil that is deeply dug, and contains plenty of manure as well as some lime. If lime is absent or insufficient the soil should be dressed six weeks before planting and well mixed as digging is done. The manure should be well rotted and should not be allowed to come into direct contact with the roots. Pansies and violas for spring bedding should be planted now in their permanent quarters. Rooted cuttings of pinks may be planted in their permanent position preferably as an edging beside a long path. Keep beds and borders tidy by removing exhausted annuals and cutting down withered perennials. Lift gladioli that have done flowering, tie in bunches and hang up in a shed to dry. Plant out daisies, honesty, anemones, crocuses, monbretia, narcissi, snowdrops etc., but not tulips.

**Fruit** – most of the fruit is gathered this month and a new year of operations commences in the orchard. Do not however gather the fruit unless it parts readily from the tree when lifted in the palm of the hand. Clean up the orchard and fork or hoe the soil between the young fruit trees and soft fruit bushes. If the crops are heavy they should be thinned. Early apples and pears which do not keep must be gathered and all young shoots on pear trees should be stopped.

**Vegetables** – use the hoe very frequently in the kitchen garden to keep down the weeds. Clear of crops as they finish composting them or dig them in to rot down. The soil between broccoli plants may receive a light dressing of nitrate of soda or sulphate of ammonia, preparatory to being stirred with the hoe. Protect the heads of cauliflowers by covering them with their own leaves. Where young heads are forming draw their own leaves together above them and tie them loosely with string. Keep runner beans well-watered and pick regularly if seed is allowed to mature, further growth and the production of beans will be checked.

Colin Williams

Editor: Montbretia – common name Crocosmia - a small genus of flowering plants in the iris family, native to the grasslands of southern and eastern Africa. They grow from basal underground corms, the corms are unusual in forming vertical chains with the youngest at the top and oldest and largest buried most deeply in the soil. The roots of the lowermost corm in a chain are contractile roots and drag the corm deeper into the ground where conditions allow. The chains of corms are fragile and easily separated, a quality that has enabled some species to become invasive and difficult to control in the garden. There are over 400 known cultivars with flower colours varying from yellow to deep red.

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# Miscellaneous observations on our Christian pilgrimage

Holy means set apart. Not like a set of cutlery that comes out only on Sundays. More like a Swiss army knife – remove a splinter, cut a rope, open a bottle, anytime, anywhere. Whatever the boss needs. *Milton Jones* 

The new birth is a change of direction and change of affection. It's a union of the soul with Christ. Christ comes to you through the Holy Spirit and you become a partaker of God's life. *Billy Graham* 

If we complained less, and praised more, we should be happier, and God would be more glorified. Let us daily praise God for common mercies.... *Charles Spurgeon* 



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Hotpoint

## **Smile Lines**

#### Visit

A bishop visited a primary school in his full episcopal attire — with his mitre, robes and bishop's crook or crozier. A little lad's mother asked him later what he had thought of the bishop's visit to his school. The little boy replied: 'It was great — now I know what a *real* crook looks like!'

#### Permission

Extract from an official letter notifying residents of a new boundary road: 'It is hoped to take the new by-pass through the old cemetery, provided we can get permission from the various bodies concerned.'

#### Bible sense

Being married to a woman who reads her Bible can have its drawbacks. When a man protested to his wife that wiping dishes was not a man's job, his wife replied simply: "2 Kings 21:13", and handed him a tea towel. Later he looked it up: 'And I will wipe Jerusalem as a man wipeth a dish, wiping it and turning it upside down."



# Crossword Puzzle - Solution is here



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# Saint of the Month - September 14

# Holy Cross Day

On Holy Cross Day the Church celebrates the Cross as a symbol of triumph, as the sign of Christ's victory over death. Holy Cross Day goes right back to 14 September 335, and we have the mother of a Roman Emperor to thank for it.

Helena was a devout Christian, and after her son, Constantine, was converted, they agreed that she should travel from Rome to Israel, and seek out the places of special significance to Christians.

Of course, much of Jerusalem had been destroyed by the Romans around 135 AD. But even so, Helena finally located what she believed to be the sites of the Crucifixion and of the Burial (and modern archaeologists think she may well be correct). The sites were so close together that she built one large church over them - the Church of the Holy Sepulchre.

That church, built in honour of the Cross, was dedicated on 14 September 335.

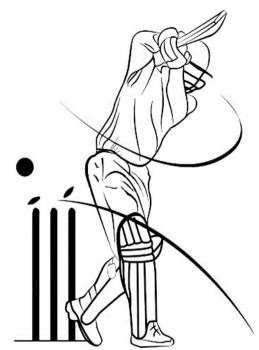
The sign of the Cross has been used by Christians since early times. Tertullian, writing his De *Corona* (3:2) around AD 211, noted that Christians seldom did anything significant without making the sign of the cross.

What is its significance? Well, people often put their initials or some sort of personal mark on something to show that it belongs to them. The Cross is the personal mark of our Lord Jesus Christ, and we mark it on ourselves as a sign that we belong to him. Even in the book of Revelation, we read that the servants of God are 'sealed' or 'marked' on their foreheads as a sign that they are his.

A preacher once put it this way: if you were explaining to someone how to make a cross, you would say: "Draw an I." That is you standing before the Lord, saying, 'here I am'. Then cancel that vertical stroke with a horizontal stroke – as if to say: "Lord, I abandon my self-will and make you the centre of my life instead. I abandon myself to your love and service."

On Holy Cross Day, we recall Jesus' wonderful promise: "And when I am lifted up, I will draw all men unto me." (John 12:32)

# Whitley Hall Cricket Club



The first Premier League game in August saw a home win over Appleby Frodingham followed by a home win against Sheffield and Phoenix United and then a fine away win at Doncaster Town.

The 1st team therefore enter the final weekend of August in good shape with two matches in 3 days against Barnsley and Sheffield Collegiate. They are currently in 3rd position in the ECB Yorkshire Premier League South with Wakefield in 1st place - with too great a lead to be a target.

With 12 points for a full win, a closer look at the table shows that nearly half the teams in the

middle of the table can easily change places before the end of the season so there remains a great deal to play for. The 2nd XI are currently mid table in the South Yorkshire Division 1 with the 3rd XI just above the relegation zone in Division 4.

## **Remaining Senior Home Games at Cinder Hill Lane**

27<sup>th</sup> August 1<sup>st</sup> XI v Barnsley

3<sup>rd</sup> September 2<sup>nd</sup> XI v Sprotborough

10<sup>th</sup> September 1<sup>st</sup> XI v Wickersley

1st team games start at 12.30 and 2nd team at 12 noon in September

#### 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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Wheel Chair Access



# Coffee Shop at St Mary's Church



Every Tuesday and Friday 10.00 am to 12.30 pm

Luscious Cakes, Tea / Coffee All Welcome – Free Internet Wi-Fi

# Crossword Puzzle (Solution is on page 21)

#### **Clues Across**

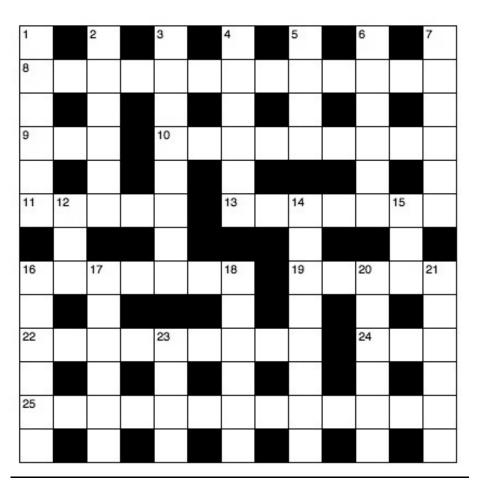
- **8** Where the ark of the covenant was kept for 20 years (1 Samuel 7:1) (7,6)
- 9 One of the parts of the body on which blood and oil were put in the ritual cleansing from infectious skin diseases (Leviticus 14:14–17) (3)
- 10 Uncomfortable (3,2,4) 11 'Yet I have loved Jacob, but Esau I have —' (Malachi 1:3) (5)
- Where Paul said farewell to the elders of the church in Ephesus (Acts 20:17) (7)
- 16 'Jesus bent down and to write on the ground with his finger' (John 8:6) (7)
- **19** Prophet from Moresheth (Jeremiah 26:18) (5)
- 22 Comes between Exodus and Numbers (9)
- 24 and 2 Down 'Then Elkanah went home to Ramah, but the boy ministered before the Lord under the '(1 Samuel 2:11) (3,6)
- 25 There was no room for them in the inn (Luke 2:7) (4,3,6)

#### **Clues Down**

- 1 Rough drawing (2 Kings 16:10) (6)
- 2 See 24 Across
- 3 Underground literature (including Christian books) circulated in the Soviet Union (8)
- 4 Lo, mash (anag.) (6)
- 5 The Bible's shortest verse: 'Jesus ' (John 11:35) (4)
- 6 'Can a mother forget the baby at her and have no compassion on the child she has borne?' (Isaiah 49:15) (6)
- 7 Can be seen in a dying fire (Psalm 102:3) (6)
- 12 'Send me, therefore, a man... experienced in the of engraving, to work in Judah and Jerusalem' (2 Chronicles 2:7) (3)
- **14** Second city of Cyprus (8)
- 15 United Nations Association (1,1,1)
- One of the women who first heard that Jesus had risen from the dead (Mark 16:1) (6)
- **17** Braved (anag.) (6)
- **18** of Evangelism, outreach initiative in the 1990s (6)
- Woe to those who are wise in their own eyes and in their own sight' (Isaiah 5:21) (6)

- 21 'Neither nor depth... will be able to separate us from the love of God' (Romans 8:39) (6)
- What Jesus shed in 5 Down (4)

Solution is on Page 21



# Church Notices that didn't quite make it...

- A talk on drugs will be given at the next Mothers' Union meeting. This will be followed by a Bring and Buy Sale.
- A sudden gust of wind took all who were at the ceremony by surprise. Hats were blown off and copies of the vicar's speech and other rubbish were scattered over the site.
- The Rector is on holiday this month. Local clergy will be celebrating with us all the Sundays that he is away.
- Don't allow anxiety to kill you. Let the church help.
- Don't miss the Young Wives' Victorian evening next month. It will be a fun night and some of the women will wear clothes.

# Prayers and Poems Page

#### Forgive?

"I can't forgive!" I hear them say, And then I start to think If they think that from day to day Their lives may one day sink.

For hatred like a cancer grows
Extending harm with time
And hotter than an ember glows
As crime is built on crime.

Some people say "Revenge is sweet!" It leaves you feeling good... Until your foe returns the 'treat', As well you knew they would.

A vortex of increasing hate The Devil casts his spell. So must it be the feuder's fate To spiral into hell?

A heavy heart, weighed down, like lead Raw hate, its burden sore. O hear the words our Saviour said – Hear Him, and hate no more!

His lonely voice is heard to cry, "O Father, please forgive!"
O hear His voice, He'll tell you why
To seize the chance to live!

By Nigel Beeton

#### The United States of the Blonde

Now Boris and Donald, they went to see The effect on the world of blonde blokes; They spent lots of money, but you know it was funny

That the world saw a couple of jokes.

So Donald looked up at the stars in the sky, And sang to a guitar he had there "Oh Boris! Oh Boris! You've quite caught my eye With your wonderful head of blonde hair!

Blonde Hair!

With your wonderful head of blonde hair!

"You say that of mine, but yours is quite fine!" So Boris then spoke to his mate.
"Our futures entwine, our hair is a sign

"That our lives are united by fate!"

And Donald could see that his friend was quite right;

"Wow! Boris! Of that I am fond!

"Your Brexited country and mine must unite

"In the United States of the Blonde!

"The Blonde!

"The United States of the Blonde!"

(With apologies, profound ones, to Edward Lear)

by Nigel Beeton

#### Prayer of thanks for teachers

Dear Father,

Thank you for teachers. Thank you for their gifts of knowledge and communication. Please give them patience and understanding in their work and most of all the wisdom to listen to you and to be directed by your Kingdom values. Thank you for Jesus – the best teacher of all. Help us all to learn from Him that greatest of all lessons, that you are the living God, His Father and ours, and that you love us and want us to know you.

Father, as we pray and trust in the name of Jesus, our teacher and Lord, may that close knowledge of you become our reality. Amen.

By Daphne Kitching



# LET DOWN BY HIS FRIENDS

In the Bible there are many accounts of Jesus healing people. You can read about one in Mark's Gospel, chapter 2, verses 3 - 12. I like this one because it is about friends.

The four men made a tremendous effort to bring their paralyzed friend to Jesus. When they reached the house where Jesus was it was surrounded by lots of people; they could have given up and gone home. But they didn't. What did they do?

At that time houses had flat roofs and a stairway outside the house that led up to the roof. The four men broke through the roof and lowered their friend down on his bed. Imagine all the faces looking up and wondering what was going on as the dust, earth and lumps of wood fell down! Then the Bible says "When Jesus saw their faith..."

The all important change came from faith - not from the faith of the man but from the faith of his friends. One man's life changed forever because of four good friends and one Best Friend, Jesus.

#### OVER & UNDER?

The answers to all of these are either OVER or UNDER...

- When a car passes another vehicle.
- In London, they call it the Tube.
- A thick winter garment you wear outside.
- Dungarees, or worn to do a dirty job.
- One way to throw a ball.
- Another name for a funeral director.
- When someone falls off a boat.
- 8. Knickers, vests etc.

(Answers at the bottom of the page)

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On a school trip to France, the teachers were reminding the children about behaving properly. 'And,' said the headmaster, 'what do you do if one of the children falls overboard?' 'Shout for help, sir,' said one boy. 'Good. And what do you do if one of the teachers



falls overboard?' 'Which one, sir?'

Answers: 1. overtaking 2. Underground 3. overcoat 4. overalls 5.underarm 6. undertaker 7. overboard 8. underclothes

## 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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 2 0114 246 8453

#### **<u>Useful Contacts</u>** Revd Tim Gill Vicar 257 0002 E-mail: tim.gill@sheffield.anglican.org **Churchwardens:** Katharine Lonsborough 286 4332 Irene Proctor 246 0373 Andrew Robinson 246 3646 Michael Waldron 246 3091 Pat Clarke **Readers:** 257 7191 245 2392 Stephanie Dale **Pastoral Workers:** Pat Wood 246 5086 **Church Office:** Tuesday - Wednesday 9:30 am to 11:30 am Thursday 9.00 am to12.00 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 245 0106 **Weddings:** Contact – The Church Office Or email: ecclesfield.weddings@gmail.com office.stmarys.ecclesfield@googlemail.com Office e-mail Magazine e-mail magazine.stmarys.ecclesfield@googlemail.com

