

# News & Views From St Mary's Church Ecclesfield



# Church Magazine February 2018



# First Words

Happy New Year to you!

I write this on a snowy morning in the middle of January. Already 2018 seems to be passing very quickly!

On **Saturday 10th Feb at 9am** we have our monthly **Prayer Breakfast**. All are invited whether you have been before or not. There is time together over breakfast, followed by a time of prayer.

On **Monday 12th Feb 7.30pm - 9.30pm** we welcome into Church couples who are to be married at St Mary's in the coming year for our second **Marriage Preparation** session.

On **Tuesday 13th Feb 6pm-9pm** we have **Safeguarding Training** in Church. We only have 25 places so please let Tim or Andrea know if you would like to attend. The training is for those who work with children and young people, Vergers at funerals and weddings, PCC Members and Churchwardens.

This year Lent begins very early so many of the events for February are taken up with Lent as we begin our journey to the celebration of Easter and the Resurrection.

**Ash Wednesday** is on **Wed 14th Feb** and we have a celebration of the Eucharist at 7.30pm to mark the beginning of this season of preparation.

**Lent Groups** begin on **Wednesday 21st of Feb at 7.30pm** and will continue weekly. This year we will be looking at *Themes in Mark's Gospel*.

Looking ahead on **Saturday 17th March** New Wine are putting on a day of training for Prayer Ministry. We do need more people to be involved in this ministry at St Mary's so that every Sunday we can offer pastoral prayer for those who seek it. If you would like more information speak to me.

**God bless, Tim**



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**Front Cover** – A word cloud for Lent  
**Back Cover** – EPPiC Poster – Wild Goose Chase



# Thought for the Month

The Bible often surprises me. It happened the other day when I read a verse that is very familiar to me, Romans 2:4. I have probably read it hundreds of times over the years, but this time I paid attention to it. This is what Paul writes:

*“Do you not realise that God’s kindness is meant to lead you to repentance?”*

I don’t know about you, but I don’t usually associate repentance with God’s kindness. Instead it tends to make me reflect on my failures and shortcomings, on the ways in which I let others down or fail to live and speak as a follower of Jesus. I usually associate repentance with God’s anger at me and with my own feeling bad about myself.

Paul sees repentance as a gift from God, as God’s kindness and generosity at work in us and for us. When we make a mess of our lives, when we fail to be the person that we know we are called to be, it is the devil, not God who rubs our noses in it, who wants us to feel useless and filled with self-loathing. God lifts us out of the mess. God promises us a new start.

The New Testament word that we translate as ‘repentance’ means a change of mind and a change of direction. We are not trapped by our past and we are not prisoners of our mistakes and failures.

Repentance leads to mercy and forgiveness; to new life. This is good news. This is the kindness and generosity of God at work.

Even when we are forgiven though we may still have to face the consequences of our failures. We may have to make reparations to the people that we have harmed. But we can know God’s forgiveness and the presence of the Holy Spirit as we begin to live a new and better life. As God begins to re-shape us.

Repentance is an expression of God’s kindness to us; it is also a result of God’s redemption. In Jesus God takes on our mess and our failures. He stands in our place so that we can live in His.

As we stand at the beginning of a new year, we can all know God’s kindness. We can all experience God’s mercy. We can all find new life in the power of the Holy Spirit and by the grace of Christ.

Ash Wednesday falls on the 14th of February this year. On that day we can come to Church and repent of our sins and failures. We can experience for ourselves the kindness of God that leads to repentance; the kindness that leads to new life.

**God bless, Tim**



# Mothers' Union Meeting 10<sup>TH</sup> January 2018

We met as usual in the Gatty Hall. Unfortunately we were a lesser number than usual as many of our members were suffering with colds and flu; including our leader Stephanie Hartshorne. Norma Priest stood in for her and welcomed everyone to the meeting. She gave out all the notices, including asking for volunteers to help out on the monthly tea rota. The treasurer also reminded members that the annual subscriptions are now due at £19.00. There is also a form to complete for the Sheffield Diocese asking about specific skills members may have to offer to the wider Mothers' Union.

Audrey Sidebottom led our short service, and as we were still in the season of Epiphany we sang As With Gladness Men of Old.

The raffle, a tin of Shortbread biscuits was won by one of our speakers.

We all enjoyed a good, amusing and informative talk and slide show about the history of The E.P.P.i.C Theatre.

E.P.P.i.C stands for **Ecclesfield Priory Players in the Community**.

The group was founded in 1932 by the curate of Ecclesfield Revd Norman Graham. Rehearsals were held in The Priory, hence that part of the name. In 1962 they moved to Colley School and in 1967 to the junior school and at that time Revd Richard Page was their President. They had several other bases until in 1978 the Trinity Chapel came up for sale. In 1980 the players were eventually able to move in and start a very complicated and complete renovation and overhaul of the building. It did seem to involve an awful lot of concrete! All the hard work was done by members of the society and their friends and family. A lot of the friends and family were and still are members of our church. They were also well supported by the community in lots of various fund raising activities. The first production that they put on in their new venue was the well-known local play 'The Stirrings in Sheffield on a Saturday Night'.

The Community part of the Eppic name means that they are able to hire out the theatre to other local groups and schools and host fund raising coffee mornings etc., that benefit the local community.

*Continues on Page 15*



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# St James the Least of All - On the perils of parish cook books

The Rectory,  
St. James the Least

My dear Nephew Darren.

Thank you for your contribution to our proposed parish cook book, “My favourite weekday dinner at home” – although I have to say that baked beans on a baked potato was a little unadventurous, even if I suspect, sadly, true.

It is remarkable how many of my parishioners, when they know they will appear in print, apparently dine sumptuously every evening in their own homes. I could not help but feel that Miss Carruthers’ “weekday” recipe for “Gratinee de Coquilles Saint Jacques” was taking imagination rather too far, when everyone knows she lives on scrambled eggs on toast on a tray in front of the television.

Asking the bishop to write the preface for our cook book has not turned out entirely successfully, since the greater part of it extolled the virtues of fasting. I suspect this may have something to do with his attraction to lean, muscular Christianity and his disapproval of my ample waistline. And when attending a social occasion at the bishop’s palace, “lean” would definitely be my description of the size of the sherry he pours.

When you buy a copy of the book – which I am sure you will do as an act of solidarity – do not attempt to follow Colonel Humphrey’s recipe for a Madras curry. His father acquired a taste for it when he was serving in India and, regrettably, he brought the recipe back to England. It is guaranteed to reduce the bravest of men to tears; the Colonel’s four pink gins before dinner seem to give him a certain anaesthetic protection.

The editor returned my own recipe, mentioning that the “two large glasses of red wine” specified in the list of ingredients was not mentioned in the recipe. I had thought it was perfectly obvious that they were there to be drunk while making the meal.

The project is to raise funds to repair our medieval tower, which our architect tells us is largely held in place by its own weight. It is rather comforting to think that we shall preserve it for another generation by selflessly eating our way through roast pork, beef Wellington and chicken cooked in a wide variety of unpronounceable French sauces.

Your loving uncle,  
Eustace



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## St. Mary's Cemetery – Priory Road

In the Cemetery across the road from the church is a parcel of land which belongs to St. Mary's Church that is divided in to three sections, North, South and Old burial which is also known as the Gatty Hall section due to the closeness of it to the Cemetery.

While doing research for people looking for burials in the Cemetery Linda and I took on the task of surveying the area. As we had surveyed the St. Mary's Churchyard previously we had an idea of what was required to do the task. We knew the Cemetery was a lot larger than the Churchyard and a lot more work would be needed in clearing the headstones in order for us to find the inscription wrote upon them.

We planned to record the inscriptions and use with the information taken with the Ecclesfield Burial books to be used at a later date in compiling a register of burials which could be accessed by the general public to use. We started recording the inscriptions from the headstones, each plot in turn, row after row covering the area until the weather conditions of rain, hail, and eventuality snow left us too cold to continue. In the remaining of the year we would use our time by checking our records matching names to headstones and plot numbers from the maps. This became a bigger job than we envisaged as at times names did not match up to plots numbers, so more work had to be undertaken viva the headstones and Church records or with another visit to the Sheffield Archives. More time was taken up when people would approach us while we were working in the Cemetery asking us for help in finding a family headstone.

As the years went by we finalized our work and recorded it on to the computer. Mr Peter Lonsborough from Ecclesfield Church helped us with the final composition of our work and has updated a map which relates to what can be seen on in the Cemetery. We have helped many people in finding their relatives graves over the years, many who have been researching their family ancestry.

Now by accessing the St. Mary's Website they will be able to obtain the information they require to continue with their family tree and visit their loved ones graves. Our work has taken six years to complete from start to finish and we have met some lovely people from all over the world who have become our friends which we meet up with on their visits to the Church.

*Mrs J. Fell & Mrs L. Smith*



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# Will You Remember Them - Syria

## Renewed Fighting In Syria - Please Help Suffering Christian Families Today

The past week has seen renewed conflict across Syria. In a Christian area of Damascus near Bab Sharqi [East Gate], a shell fell on a church compound killing seven Christians and wounding others. Aleppo, which has had peace for a year, is now seeing fighting again in a major battle in Idlib. The Christian community in Homs mourns a new death every week or so; there was a particular sorrow when a group of young Christian women, university students, died all together as their bus was targeted just before Christmas.

The remaining Christian community in Syria is under great pressure and desperately need your prayers and your support, in particular the children, the disabled, the sick and the elderly. They have endured years of conflict that have seen their homes destroyed, husbands and fathers martyred, hundreds of thousands displaced, and anti-Christian persecution from Islamist groups. The result is trauma and a sense of futility and hopelessness, especially amongst young people. Many struggle to get the most basic needs; medical care is inadequate or in some places non-existent.

The city of Aleppo endured 1700 days of war, with daily bombardment the norm. The Christian community was heavily targeted. During this time, there were several sieges, one of them lasting seven months, which caused serious hunger and sickness. Now violence has flared up again.

Even where conflict has passed, the legacy of destruction, bereavement, disrupted and broken lives remains. The humanitarian needs are considerable.

Barnabas Fund is providing food and medical aid for thousands of Christians affected by the conflict.

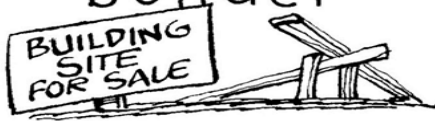
Please Continue To Pray For All These Families.

**JD**

**Editor:** Approximately 10% of Syrians are Christians (2.5 million), a sizable number of whom are found among Syria's population of Palestinian refugees, are divided into several groups. Chalcedonian Antiochian Orthodox make up 45.7% of the Christian population; the Catholics (Melkite, Armenian Catholic, Syriac Catholic, Maronite, Chaldean Catholic and Latin) make up 16.2%; the Armenian Apostolic Church 10.9%, the Syriac Orthodox make up 22.4%; Assyrian Church of the East and several smaller Christian denominations account for the remainder. Many Christian monasteries also exist. Many Christian Syrians belong to a high socio-economic class.



# The tale of the Tower Builder



JESUS OFTEN TOLD STORIES WITH HIDDEN MEANINGS

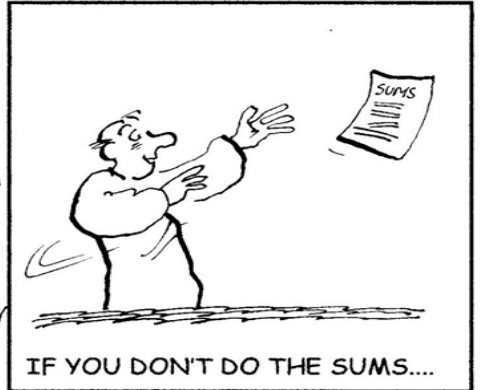


ON ONE OCCASION JESUS EXPLAINED HOW IT WOULDN'T ALWAYS BE EASY TO FOLLOW HIM.



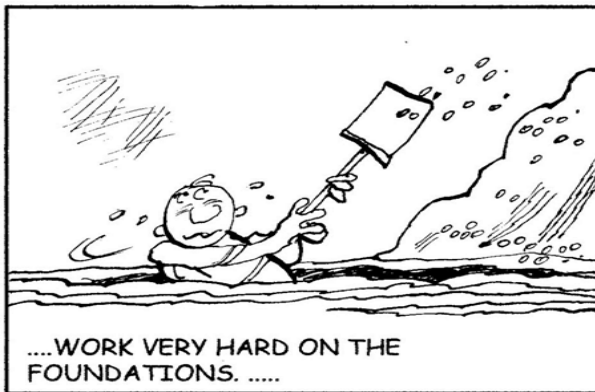
JESUS BEGAN, 'IF ONE OF YOU PLANS TO BUILD A TOWER....

...YOU'LL FIRST NEED TO WORK HOW MUCH IT WILL COST.



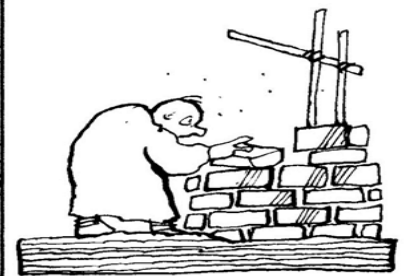
IF YOU DON'T DO THE SUMS....

...YOU MIGHT MAKE A START, ....

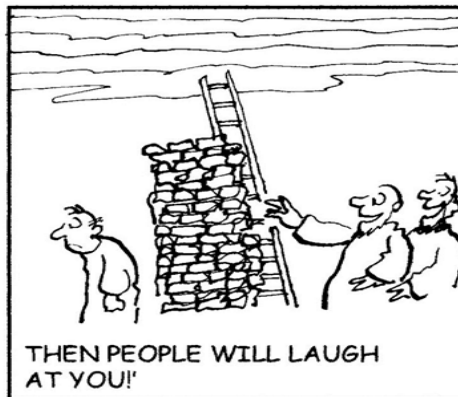


....WORK VERY HARD ON THE FOUNDATIONS. ....

...THEN START TO LAY THE BRICKS,...



...BUT SUDDENLY RUN OUT OF MONEY!!



THEN PEOPLE WILL LAUGH AT YOU!



WE NEED TO REALISE THAT ALTHOUGH FOLLOWING JESUS IS THE RIGHT THING TO DO.; IT'S ALSO A GREAT CHALLENGE.

## MU Make a Mother's Day Coffee Morning

Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> March 10am to 12pm

Includes Bring & Buy, Raffle Etc.

All Welcome



# Prayer for the Month

I am stretching a point this month - the 'prayer for the month' is actually a hymn; in fact it is probably the first Christian hymn ever written. It is found in Paul's letter to the Philippians chapter 2 verses 6-11. We do not know if Paul wrote the hymn or is quoting it in the letter that he wrote from prison to encourage and challenge the Christians in Philippi.

I committed this hymn to memory many years ago and I often find myself praying it or reflecting on it, especially when I am out walking and don't have a Bible to hand.

It is a good summary of the Christian Gospel, and focuses on Christ's life as the inspiration for our lives. As we have just started a new year, and as Lent begins in the middle of February I thought that this would be a good prayer for us to adopt.

The first half of the hymn reflects on Christ the eternal Son of God who did not grasp at power or status, but "emptied Himself." The writer has in mind the contrast between Jesus and Adam. Adam wanted to be like God and sought status and power for himself apart from God. The essence of sin is our rejection of God and our enthroning of ourselves. We grasp at divinity and it leads to our downfall. This is not just Adam's fault. It is something deep within each one of us.

We want to have power and authority; we want recognition and glory for ourselves. We compete with each other for these things. This hymn reminds us that Christ, the only one who has divine authority by right, gave it all up. He humbled himself.

Because Jesus was content to let the Father be God He was lifted up - firstly on the cross, and then in glory.

As I prayed the words of this hymn and reflected on them in the first days of 2018 I realised that Jesus the humble God calls us to humility. Not to seek our own glory but to glorify the Father. As Jesus said, those who exalt themselves will be humbled and those who humble themselves will be lifted up.

Humility is not weakness. In fact it is the opposite of weakness. It is the weak who grasp at power and status. Paul quotes this hymn in his letter to the Philippian Church because he wants them to reflect on Jesus and to follow Jesus' example. He wants the Church to look more and more like Jesus; to become the Gospel that we proclaim.

As we begin this New Year may we have the strength to become more Christlike, as individual Christian disciples and as a Church. So that in us and through us God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit may be glorified. **Amen**



# St Mary's – Regular 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)

## **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

## **Time for God – Wednesday at 7.30pm**

Every 2nd & 4th Wednesday during school term time

A time for worship, teaching and prayer

# St Mary's - Activities & Groups

## **Church Office Opening times**

Tuesday 9:00 am to 1.00 pm

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



## Church Diary Items to Note - February 2018

<b>Day and Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Item</b>
Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup>	10.30 am	Prayer Meeting
Monday 5th	7.30 pm	PCC meet in Church
Wednesday 7th	1.00 pm	Mothers' Union meet in the Gatty Hall
Saturday 10th	9.00 am	Prayer Breakfast
Tuesday 13th	7.30 pm	Safeguarding Training in Church
Wednesday 14th	7.30 pm	Ash Wednesday Service
Wednesday 21st	7.30 pm	Lent Meeting in Church
Sunday 25th	6.30 pm	Prayer and Praise Service
Monday 26th	7.30 pm	Ignatian Prayer in Church
Wednesday 28th	7.30 pm	Lent Meeting in Church

### From the Registers

#### Baptisms

3rd December	Aston-Jay Blue Dewsnap
3rd December	Esme Rose Makepace
3rd December	Esmae Rose Weston
7th January	Sid Leo Stocks

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

#### Funerals

14th December	Dennis Stringfellow	94
18th December	Angela Simmonite	57
19th January	Irene Brooke	92
26th January	Mary Howells	62

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

#### Flower Rota February 2018

4th February	S. Pratt & K. Bailey
11th February	P. Hawley & J. Hawksworth
18th February	Lent - No Flowers
25th February	Lent - No Flowers



# Mothers' Union Meeting 10<sup>th</sup> January 2018 - Continued

Recently one local school went on a visit and tour of theatre and one of the guides was amazed to discover that for most of the young children, their only experience of a theatre was through YouTube!

Over the years many of the Priory Players productions have won awards and the certificates are hung on the walls of the stairs and coffee lounge for all to see.

The Priory Players now put on three productions a year in February, May and October. They rehearse on two nights a week for ten weeks before the show, and finish with a party on the last night!

The Players are rightly proud of their theatre and the part they play in the community. They are always on the lookout for new members, to act, make costumes or help with scenery building.

If you have not been to see one of their productions I would urge you to do so. They are very, very good and deserve our support.

*Jennifer Armeson*

## Ecclesfield Library now has Colour

*Ecclesfield Library is a non-profit organisation run entirely by volunteers and solely for the benefit of the local community.*

We have taken delivery of multi-functional device, donated by Sharp that allows us to print, copy and scan in either black & white or colour. Printing can be via your device, USB stick or from our Print Station.

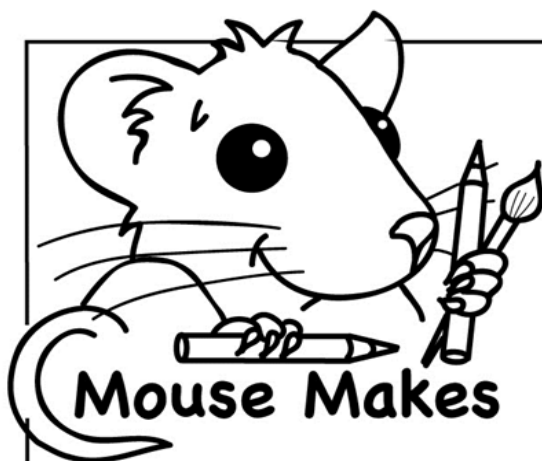
*Children print free* - as part of this new service we are offering free use of this facility (up to a reasonable quantity) to our local children, who are members of the library, to help with any homework related projects.

Please come in and give us a try. If you don't have any printing needs but would like to donate to our library we would be delighted to receive books from you, provided they are in good condition, or indeed cash donations. Or just come in and browse our latest books and have a coffee.

Any donation, no matter how small, helps to keep your library open and helps us to improve the services that we provide to our community. Or simply donate your time as a volunteer.

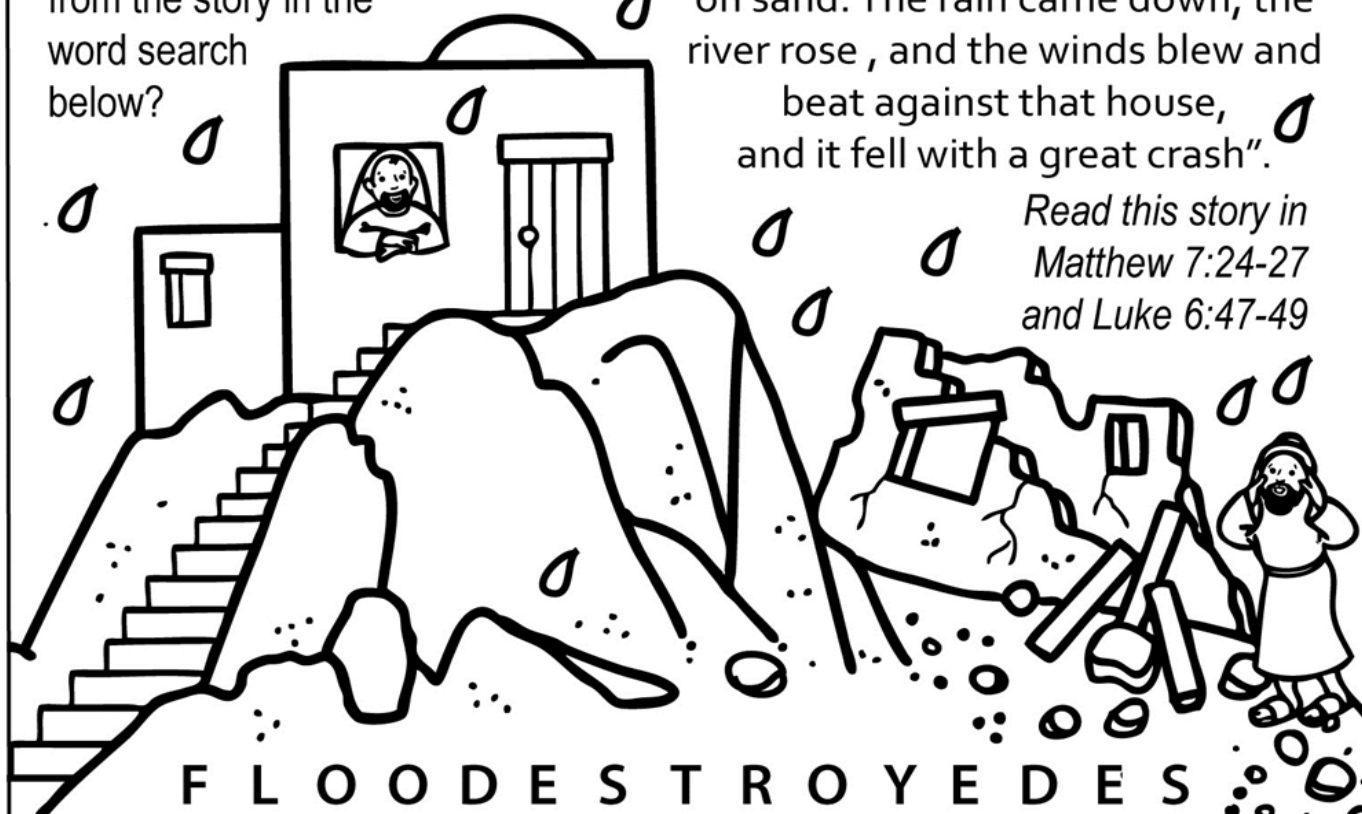
*Thank you - Friends of Ecclesfield Library CIO, 113 Main Street, S35 9UA  
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## Mouse Makes

Can you find the words from the story in the word search below?



Jesus taught his disciples...  
 "Anyone who listens to my teaching and follows it is wise, like a person who builds his house on solid rock. Though the rain came down, the river rose and the winds blew and beat against the house it did not fall. But everyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on sand. The rain came down, the river rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash".

*Read this story in  
 Matthew 7:24-27  
 and Luke 6:47-49*

F	L	O	O	D	E	S	T	R	O	Y	E	D	E	S
..	O	W	J	H	W	A	R	B	I	F	E	L	L	F
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# The Gardening Year February 2018

The following months explain how to deal with the plant pest and diseases. Though the list appears daunting many of these troubles will be avoided if the soil is fed and limed adequately, so that the plants grow vigorously.

**Garden hygiene** – Rubbish and dead growth harbour pests and diseases, so put fallen leaves on the compost heap and keep the garden free from debris. It is better to bin diseased growth rather than to make compost of it.

**Using fungicides and pesticides** – Follow the manufacturer's instructions to the letter especially with regard to the interval between spraying and harvesting. If a particular pesticide does not seem to work try another: the pest in your area may have developed immunity. Do not spray plants or trees indiscriminately or you may run the risk of destroying the insect predators and bees that are doing half your work for you.

**Safety Rules** – Keep all chemicals locked up and out of reach of children. Make sure the bottles are correctly labelled and do not transfer the contents into, for example lemonade bottles. If possible, spray on dull still days, wash all implements in detergent. Ideally, keep a separate set for use with chemicals. Wash your hands and face after using pesticides and fungicides. Very little can be grown in February so complete digging if the weather is suitable. Prepare the greenhouse and cold frames ready for the coming season.

*Colin Williams*

## **Health and Safety**

**Triple Rinsing** - Cleaning of spray equipment and pesticide containers prior to disposal

Means just that; rinsing the container three times. You can triple rinse most rigid containers in the following way:

1. Fill the emptied container 10 – 20% full of water and replace the cap securely
2. Depending on container size shake, rotate or roll it vigorously to rinse all inside surfaces
3. Remove the cap, add the washings to the spray tank and let the container drain for 30 seconds or more
4. Repeat steps 1 to 4 twice more
5. Put the cap back on the container and dispose of according to the section on disposal.





# Retired Gentlemen Wanted!

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## Smile lines

**Oops!** - Memory is what tells a man his wedding anniversary was yesterday.

**Listen** - My wife says I never listen, or something like that...

**Insanity** - Doctor: 'Has there been any insanity in your family?'

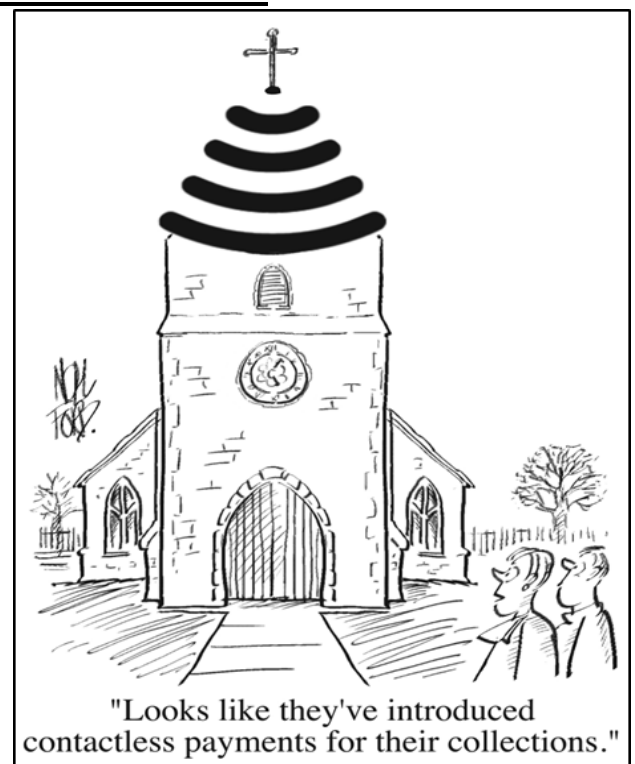
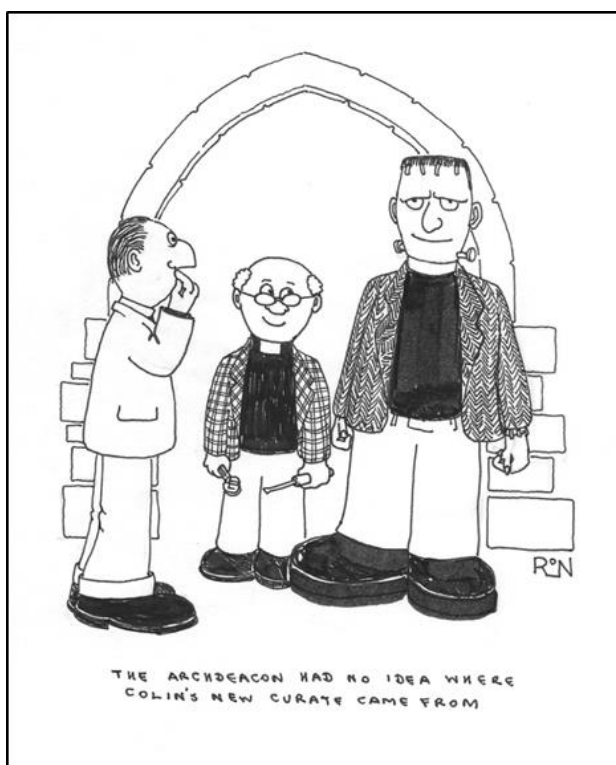
Woman: 'I'm afraid so. My husband sometimes thinks he's the boss.'

**Love** - 'Love is when a little old woman and a little old man are still friends, even after they've been married forever.' Tommy - age 6

---

## Crossword Puzzle - Solution is here

C	R	E	D	I	T		T	A	C	K	L	E
O		P			A		E		A		E	
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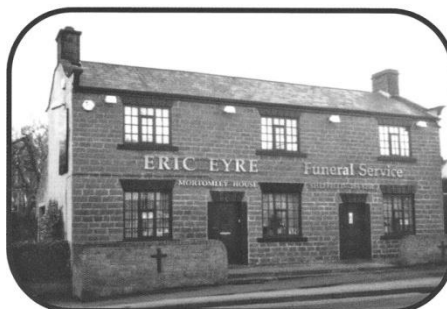
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# Saint of the Month - February

## **2 The Presentation of Christ in the Temple/ Candlemas**

In bygone centuries, Christians said their last farewells to the Christmas season on Candlemas, 2 February. This is exactly 40 days after Christmas Day itself.

In New Testament times 40 days old was an important age for a baby boy: it was when they made their first 'public appearance'. Mary, like all good Jewish mothers, went to the Temple with Jesus, her first male child - to 'present Him to the Lord'. At the same time, she, as a new mother, was 'purified'. Thus, we have the Festival of the Presentation of Christ in the Temple.

So where does the Candlemas bit come in? Jesus is described in the New Testament as the Light of the World, and early Christians developed the tradition of lighting many candles in celebration of this day. The Church also fell into the custom of blessing the year's supply of candles for the church on this day - hence the name, Candlemas.

The story of how Candlemas began can be found in Luke 2:22-40. Simeon's great declaration of faith and recognition of who Jesus was is of course found in the Nunc Dimittis, which is embedded in the Office of Evening Prayer in the West. But in medieval times, the Nunc Dimittis was mostly used just on this day, during the distribution of candles before the Eucharist. Only gradually did it win a place in the daily prayer life of the Church.

## **14 Ash Wednesday: a good time to admit you are sorry**

Have you done something which haunts you? Which makes you feel restless and defensive, every time you think of it? Why not deal with it this month, and put it behind you? Whatever your mistake has been, consider what the Bible has to say to you:

'I have not come to call the virtuous but sinners to repentance' (said Jesus). (Luke 5.32)  
'Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the Lord, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. (Isaiah 55.7)

'Yet even now, says the Lord, return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; rend your hearts and not your clothing. Return to the Lord, your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and relents from punishing.' (Joel 2:12-13)

God is inviting you to come to him this Ash Wednesday. What a wonderful offer! Make the most of it, and remember how the prodigal son was welcomed back by his compassionate father.



# Lent With Mark

This Lent you are invited to spend some time every day in the presence of Mark. Mark was a companion of both Peter and Paul, and after Peter's execution Mark wrote down Peter's teaching about Jesus. His is both the shortest and the earliest of the Gospels. It was written about AD 60, some 25 to 30 years after the events of Jesus' life, death and resurrection.

To help with reading Mark on the first Sunday in Lent (Feb 18th) we will have some booklets available for everyone in Church. For each day in Lent there will be a reading from Mark's Gospel and a brief thought based on the Gospel. There will be a prayer for the week.

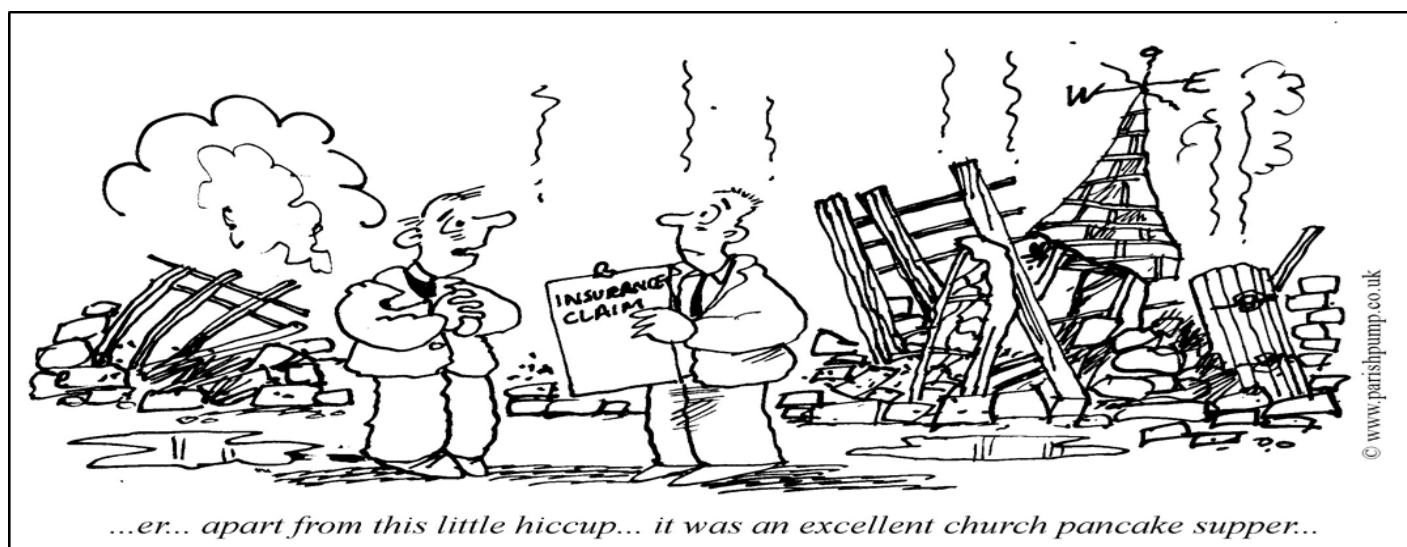
I would encourage everyone to read through Mark. You may like to meet with friends to read and pray, or simply read it by yourself. Most people find either first thing in the morning or last thing at night works best.

In addition to this there will be a Lent course on Wednesday evenings starting on Wed 21st Feb at 7.30pm in Church where we will explore themes from the Gospel.

The Bible is our spiritual food. It is always a bestseller, but it is too often an unopened and unread bestseller. When we feed our minds on God's word we do not simply grow in our knowledge and understanding; we grow in our spirit. We grow closer to God.

You never know, spending the days of Lent reading Mark's Gospel might be the start of a lifelong habit of Bible reading and reflection. But reading the Bible always comes with a health warning. It will challenge and inspire you. It will change your life.

**Tim**





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# Crossword Puzzle

## Clues Across

- 1 'If you love those who love you, what — is that to you?' (Luke 6:32) (6)
- 4 'They threw the ship's — overboard' (Acts 27:19) (6)
- 7 The first murderer (Genesis 4:8) (4)
- 8 He was the head Levite in charge of the singing when the ark of God was brought back to Jerusalem (1 Chronicles 15:22) (8)
- 9 Samson was noted for this (Judges 16:6) (8)
- 13 Solicit money or food from passers by (Acts 3:2) (3)
- 16 What William Booth's Christian Mission became in 1878 (9,4)
- 17 Alliance of Religions and Conservation (1,1,1)
- 19 'I will praise your name for ever and ever. — — I will praise you' (Psalm 145:1–2) (5,3)
- 24 Simon had (anag.) (8)
- 25 Desperate (Deuteronomy 28:48) (4)
- 26 Elisha witnessed the boy he was seeking to resuscitate do this seven times before opening his eyes (2 Kings 4:35) (6)
- 27 The belly and thighs of the statue in Nebuchadnezzar's dream were made of this (Daniel 2:32) (6)

## Clues Down

- 1 'Before the — crows, you will disown me three times' (Matthew 26:75) (4)
- 2 Relating to the books of the Bible between Acts and Revelation (9)
- 3 'They have — the Lord out of the tomb, and we don't know where they have put him!' (John 20:2) (5)
- 4 Belief (5)
- 5 'Take the following fine spices: ... 250 shekels of fragrant — ' (Exodus 30:23) (4)
- 6 'Do not — Jerusalem, but wait for the gift' (Acts 1:4) (5)
- 10 A seer (anag.) (5)
- 11 'Even there your hand will — me' (Psalm 139:10) (5)
- 12 The wild variety was part of John the Baptist's diet (Mark 1:6) (5)
- 13 A non-Greek speaker who was looked down on by civilized people (Colossians 3:11) (9)
- 14 Famous 1950s musical whose characters included members of



16 Across, — and Dolls (4)

15 The province from which Paul wrote to the Corinthians (1 Corinthians 16:19) (4)

18 'He was standing in the gateway with a linen cord and a measuring — — his hand' (Ezekiel 40:3) (3,2)

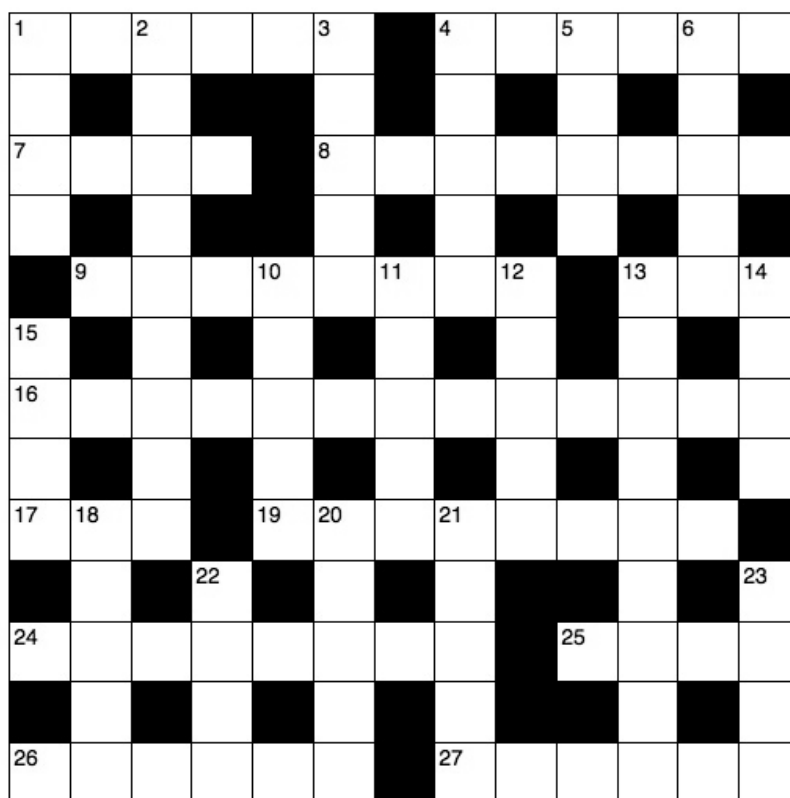
20 'Today, if you hear his — , do not harden your hearts as you did in the rebellion' (Hebrews 3:15) (5)

21 The Jericho prostitute who hid two Israelite spies on the roof of her house (Hebrews 11:31) (5)

22 'And now these three remain: faith, — and love. But the greatest of these is love' (1 Corinthians 13:13) (4)

23 'God has numbered the days of your reign and brought it to an end' (Daniel 5:26) (4)

Solution is on Page 20



## Know your spouse

While attending a Marriage Seminar dealing with communication, Tom and his wife Grace were told by the instructor that it was essential that husbands and wives know the things that are important to each other. He addressed Tom. 'For instance, can you name your wife's favourite flower?'

Tom leaned over, touched his wife's arm gently and whispered, 'It's self-raising, isn't it?'

The rest of the story gets rather ugly, so I'll stop right here.



# Prayers and Poems Page

## Christ the Hiding Place - A prayer of Soren Kierkegaard (1813 – 1855)

The birds have their nests and the foxes their holes. But you were homeless, Lord Jesus, with nowhere to rest your head. And yet you were a hiding-place where the sinner could flee. Today you are still such a hiding-place, and I flee to you. I hide myself under your wings, and your wings cover the multitude of my sins.

### Desert Difficulties - Luke 4:1-12, John 16:33

Life is difficult, sometimes.  
No matter how faithful,  
no matter how trusting,  
no matter how hard we try,  
life is difficult, sometimes.

Jesus understands.  
He walked in the desert,  
day after day after day.  
Faithful and trusting, yes,  
but hungry and weakened and vulnerable  
and tempted.  
Even for Jesus  
life was difficult,  
especially for Jesus,  
knowing the end from the beginning.  
But He overcame the desert.  
He overcame death.  
The world is full of trouble,  
but He overcame the world.  
Take heart!  
Jesus can help.

*By Daphne Kitching*

### The Ten Commandments - Isaac Watts 1709

Thou shalt have no gods but Me.  
Before no idol bow thy knee.  
Take not the name of God in vain,  
Nor dare the Sabbath Day profane.  
Give both thy parents honour due,  
Take heed that thou no murder do.  
Abstain from words and deeds unclean,  
Nor steal, though thou art poor and mean.  
Nor make a wilful lie, nor love it,  
What is thy neighbour's, do not covet.

### You, Robot!

You gaze with an unblinking eye  
And, as you gaze, I wonder why  
We've reached a point where we must settle  
For colleagues who are made of metal?

For you, who are completely wired  
You are not lazy, don't get tired.  
You don't drink coffee, or eat cake  
You never need a 'natural break.'

You never fail at any task  
You do whatever you are asked  
You're never found just sitting snoring  
But, for all that, you are so BORING!

What happened to those humans who  
Would make me smile when I was blue?  
Or, stood around the old decanter  
Would cheer me with chat and banter?

I know, before you burst my bubble  
My human colleagues caused me trouble  
I know they used to grouse and groan  
Late for work and early home.

But they had that human 'thing'  
That quality that made me sing,  
Compassion of the human heart –  
That's what set my friends apart!

I know you won't take it amiss  
If I sit and reminisce -  
If I could have my selfish way  
I'd have them back, this very day!

*By Nigel Beeton*



# Our Alongside-Helpers

*David Winter considers a small prefix*

There are many words in modern English that begin with the prefix ‘para’, but nowadays undoubtedly the best-known is ‘paramedic’. We all know what they do. We’ve seen them in their green jackets on television, at road traffic accidents and terrorist incidents, kneeling beside the wounded and dying. We’ve also seen their work in many TV documentaries and dramas, so that their appearance on our door-step when we’ve dialled 999 is both unsurprising and welcome. Over sixty years ago during my national service I was, I suppose, for a while a kind of proto-paramedic - I and my colleague Taffy (still a friend) were the emergency medical team on a large RAF station in Berkshire. We had had some training, but nothing like the level of today’s paramedics.

The title intrigues me, because the ‘para’ bit always means something like ‘with’ or ‘alongside’. Think of parallel lines, or parachute. There’s an odd example in some of our more traditional hymns, where the Holy Spirit is called the ‘Paraclete’. That’s taken from John’s Gospel, when Jesus says He would send His followers a Helper – *paracletos*, in Greek. Split into its two parts, it simply means ‘alongside helper’, which is how for years I have thought of the Holy Spirit. A paramedic is literally someone who’s also an ‘alongside helper’ at moments of great need. So green jackets with PARACLETE on their backs? There’s a ‘thought for the day’!

---

## What’s in your toothbrush?

*How often do you contemplate your toothbrush? By Tim Lenton*

What you put in your mouth every night changed dramatically 80 years ago, when the first toothbrushes with nylon bristles were introduced by Du Pont on 24<sup>th</sup> February 1938.

Until then, the bristles had been made from the stiff, coarse hairs taken from the back of a hog's neck and attached to handles made of bone or bamboo. Understandably, the first nylon toothbrush was called a Miracle Toothbrush.

Back in around 3000 BC the Babylonians and the Egyptians made a brush by fraying the end of a twig. The hog’s neck version originated in China in the 15<sup>th</sup> century, but a more modern design was made by William Addis in England around 1780.

Pig-hair toothbrushes are still used today, sometimes by people concerned about the environment. Discarded plastic brushes can end up in places such as the gullets of albatrosses and other large sea birds.

Whole sermons have been preached on the holiness of toothbrushes (<http://fervr.net/bible/my-toothbrush-is-holy>). American pastor Larry Phillips claimed to have been inspired to put Scripture verses on them as a regular reminder to read the Bible.



## Contact Numbers for Local Groups ☎

### Ecclesfield Rainbows

Gatty Hall  
Tuesday 5.00 pm to 6.15 pm  
Leader - Debbie  
Tel: 07860 471793

### 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  
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Tel : Angela 0114 2461095

### Friends of Ecclesfield Library

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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

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### Whitley Hall Cricket Club

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e-mail – [fletcher177@hotmail.com](mailto:fletcher177@hotmail.com)  
[www.whitleyhallcricketclub.co.uk](http://www.whitleyhallcricketclub.co.uk)

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Mrs P Blackburn ☎ 0114 246 8453





## Useful Contacts



**Vicar**                                      Revd Tim Gill                                      257 0002  
E-mail: [tim.gill@sheffield.anglican.org](mailto:tim.gill@sheffield.anglican.org)

**Churchwardens:**                      Ann Hackett                                      246 7159  
   Irene Proctor                                      246 0373  
   Andrew Robinson                                      246 3646  
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**Readers:**                                      Pat Clarke                                      257 7191  
   Stephanie Dale                                      245 2392

**Pastoral Workers:**                      Pat Wood                                      246 5086

**Church Office:**  
Tuesday 9:00 am to 1.00 pm  
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: Stephanie Hartshorne                                      245 9435

**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: Revd Tim Gill                                      257 0002

“                      Or email: [tim.gill@sheffield.anglican.org](mailto:tim.gill@sheffield.anglican.org)

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