News & Views From St Mary's Church Ecclesfield



Church Magazine April 2019

First Words

This year Holy week falls in April, and most of the activities in Church are related to this, the central festival of the Christian year.

On **Monday 1st April** 7.30pm we have our **PCC Meeting** (some have wondered if the date is significant!) to prepare for the AGM.

The **Lent Group** continues on **Wednesdays at 7.30pm**. You are welcome to come along even if you have not managed to get to any of the earlier ones.

On Saturday 13th April at 9am it is the monthly Prayer Breakfast.

Holy Week begins on **Palm Sunday, 14th April**. After the 10am Service of the Word there will be **Children's Crafts from 11.30 -12.30**.

On **Monday 15th** we are invited to the **Chrism Service** at the Cathedral at **7pm**.

On **Tuesday 16th at 7.30pm** we have a short service of **Compline** with a short 'Holy Week' reflection.

On **Wednesday 17th at 7.30pm** we have the last meeting of the **Lent Course** followed by Compline.

On **Maundy Thursday at 7.30pm** we celebrate **Jesus' Last Supper**, followed by a prayer vigil until 9pm.

On Good Friday there is All Age worship at 10am followed by hot Cross buns!

And from 12 noon until 3pm we have the 'Three Hours at The Cross' service. There will be a reading, a reflection and hymn every half hour. Please try to enter or leave Church just before the half hour.

We will be creating our **Easter Garden** at the back of church **on Saturday, 20th April at 10.00am**. All are welcome, especially children, to join in and help. If you wish to contribute, greenery and potted plants will be gratefully received.

On Easter Day, Sunday 21st April, we rejoice to celebrate the resurrection of Christ.

On **Sunday 28th April** we will hold our **Annual General Meeting** after the 10am service. We need to elect a Church Warden and 3 PCC Members. Please pray about these positions.

Later that day at **5pm** there is the **Youth Fellowship** followed by **Prayer & Praise at 6.30pm.**

God bless, Tim

Front Cover – The Paschal Greeting, also known as the Easter Acclamation, is an Easter custom among Eastern Orthodox, Oriental Orthodox, Eastern Catholic, and Anglican Christians. It is also found among some Christians from liturgical Protestant denominations, such as certain Lutherans. In place of "hello" or its equivalent, one is to greet another person with "Christ is Risen!" or "The Lord is Risen!", and the response is "Truly, He is Risen," "Indeed, He is Risen," or "He is Risen Indeed"

Thought for the Month

As we approach Holy Week, we come to what have been called the 'Three Great Days' that are at the heart of Christian life and worship. These Three Days are: Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Day.

On **Maundy Thursday** we celebrate the Eucharist, a meal that points us to the past and to the future.

It reminds us that Jesus welcomed the outcast, the forgotten and those who are usually left behind to His table. He was known for eating with those that the religious leaders called 'sinners.' On Maundy Thursday and every time we share the Eucharist we remember that no one is excluded from Jesus' table. All are welcome. We are welcome.

Maundy Thursday also points us to the future. It reminds us that one of Jesus' favourite images of the Kingdom of God is a feast. It tells us that we are invited to the great banquet in God's Kingdom. Of course, a tiny wafer of bread and a sip of wine are not anyone's idea of a great feast. They are merely a pointer, a signpost, a promise. Every time I share in the bread and wine at communion, but especially on Maundy Thursday, it reminds me that heaven is as far beyond my hopes and expectations as a rich feast is beyond the wafer and the sip of wine that we share. Maundy Thursday is a sign of the hope and promise of the kingdom of God.

On **Good Friday** we focus our attention on Jesus' cross. That Cross tells us of the love of God for us and for the creation. It tells us how deeply we are loved, what we are worth to God. It has been said that you only know the value of a thing when you see how much someone will pay for it. On the Cross God incarnate pays for us with His life, and God the Father pays the cost of allowing His beloved Son to die for us. That is what we are worth to God.

The Cross speaks not only of the immense love of God; it also tells us how lost we were. If **this** is the cost of our salvation, then our situation is far worse than we can know.

School children often ask me why we call the day on which Jesus died *Good* Friday. The answer is simple. It is Good Friday because it is the day that the lost are found, the broken healed, the sinful forgiven. It is the defeat of death once and for all. Our hope is in the love of God, and that is seen most clearly in the Cross of Christ.

Easter Day is the day of the victory of life and love over death and evil. Easter has been called the start of a whole new world, because Easter and the empty tomb do not fit into any existing world-view.

John, in his Gospel, tells the story of the resurrection in ways that recall the story of Adam and Eve.

continues on page 4

God and The Arts

Editor: The National Gallery at Trafalgar Square in London houses one of the finest collections of European paintings in the world. It is home to 2,300 works spanning the centuries of artistic creation. During this year we shall be journeying through the gallery to explore one of those treasures each month. By the Rev Michael Burgess.

The Mond Crucifixion – by Raphael

This month's painting in the National Gallery is known as the Mond Crucifixion. It has an interesting history, because Ludwig Mond, the German born scientist and industrialist, offered to lend the painting to the Gallery in 1892. The trustees for some reason declined the offer. Ludwig Mond was undeterred and at his death in 1909 he bequeathed to the Gallery over 40 paintings. It was an amazingly generous gift, and included this Crucifixion by Raphael. It belongs to the artist's early years and was painted when he was just 20, for a church altarpiece in Urbino in 1503. On Good Friday we hear those words from Lamentations, 'Is it nothing to you who pass by? – look and see.'



We might look on the cross of Jesus and see a sign of agony and death. But here in the Mond Crucifixion, all seems serene and still. It is a far cry from the harshness and cruelty of the Gospel accounts. Look at the angels with their ribbons and feet resting on the clouds, the hands and feet of the four bystanders so delicately painted, and beyond, the softly lit Umbrian landscape with a river, trees and low hills stretching away into the distance.

It is as if Raphael has frozen this moment of death on his canvas to tell us that here is an enduring message of love and generosity for Mary, John, Mary Magdalene and Jerome gathered below. Our Lady and John look at us, inviting us to discover there the solemn beauty that moves their lives and that can move us.

In our worship on Good Friday we encounter this paradox of the cross – a sign of suffering and death, but a sign also of generosity. We can think of the generosity of Ludwig Mond, the generosity of Raphael sharing his gifts with us, but above all the generosity of our Prince of Glory. Here, in the words of Isaac Watts' hymn, we see how 'love so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all.'

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Thought for the Month - continued

It is set in a garden early on the first day of the week. Instead of Adam and Eve we find Jesus and Mary Magdalene. Instead of the defeat of the Fall, rooted in our rebellion against God, there is the victory of Jesus who was a faithful Son of God. One figure though is missing from the garden on Easter Day: the serpent; because on the Cross the serpent has been defeated once and for all.

John tells the story of Easter in this way because for all who come to faith in the risen Lord Jesus, it is the start of a new life. It is hope breaking into the despair of the world. It is the promise that death is a defeated enemy.

Easter is the victory of the risen Christ, and He calls us to follow Him, to live in this world as a people who live the Easter hope and victory every day of our lives. And Jesus reminds us that this hope is given not only for ourselves, but also for those who have no hope.

May the risen Christ fill you with the peace and the joy of His resurrection as we celebrate these Three Great Days once again, and as we are reminded of the great gift that is ours in Christ.

Tim.

St James the Least of All

On why a vicar should avoid wedding receptions

The Rectory, St. James the Least

My dear Nephew Darren.

My generous offer to take last week's marriage service for you in your church, so that you could attend your weekend plumbing course, proved most unwise. You may now be qualified to unblock church hall kitchen sinks, but I will not be taking another marriage ceremony for you again, no matter how much you have set your heart on that electrician's course next year, so that you can re-wire the vestry.

At first, I was delighted when the bride's mother called, inviting me to the reception. I assumed that somewhere called Charnley Hall would be a most fitting location, full of oak floors and waiters bearing sherry to guests. I did not realise until too late that it is only the rather dubious pub next door to your church.

At least I had been placed with the happy couple and both sets of parents. Then it slowly dawned on me: I was there to stop the bride's mother from attacking her newly-acquired son-in-law. My presence may have kept an uneasy peace at our table, but it had no such effect on some of the others.

Well before the speeches, bride's and groom's supporters were exchanging snide remarks and bitter looks. Then all hell broke loose: a bridesmaid slapped an usher and burst into tears.

That was the starting signal for the liveliest wedding reception I have ever attended: chairs were knocked about, plates broken, wedding cake thrown, flowers snapped in two, and memorable insults exchanged. Of course, I could cope with all that, but then someone snatched the bottle of champagne that had been placed in front of me. They were going to waste it by breaking it on someone's head. I knew then that things had gone far enough.

It took but an instant for me to leap to my feet, lean over the table, and try and grab my bottle back. Unfortunately, that was when the police arrived. Were our churchwarden, Lord Jelleby to have been on the bench that day, matters could have been settled quite amicably. It was not to be: you may enthusiastically pass the peace in your church; I am now bound over to keep it.

Your loving uncle, Eustace

'Be Prepared' - 25th Ecclesfield Scout Group - CUB Scouts

My name is Emily Nganga and I am 10 years old.

Back in 2017, I joined scouting as a cub. Before that I had never thought of joining since I never got the chance to think about it (because I was busy, I think). My mother would tell me stories about how much fun she had as a girl guide when she was my age. I would enjoy listening to them but never ever imagined myself as a cub scout. Quite a lot of people in my class did it and seemed to love it so much but, unfortunately, I never thought about it as an activity I would love, but all that changed in November 2018.



Cubs is the kind of place almost anyone would wish to go to and if you never did or do scouting you are missing out on several new and fun games and activities. You can do cooking or even climbing but my favourite camp of all is the one and only CASTLETON it was one of the greatest times of my life! You won't believe how much I loved it. All the adventures I have been on have brought joy and happiness to me and I wish I could go again. In summer we would go outside and make different foods that were so delicious, and I loved it. Summer was the best since we got the chance to have some quick games like my favourite one called bulldog.

At cubs we have leaders and their names are based on the Jungle Book. Like Akela that leads us, Kaa that tells us several interesting stories about how cubs began and the 1st and 2nd World Wars and a few others. In addition, we have young leaders who don't have jungle book names but they still help around and are an inspiration to us.

I look forward every week to our meeting at the hut and I couldn't change Cubs Scouts for anything.

Ecclesfield Guide May Queen



Thursday – Friday – Saturday the 16th to 18th of May 2019 At 7pm In The Gatty Hall, Priory Road, Ecclesfield

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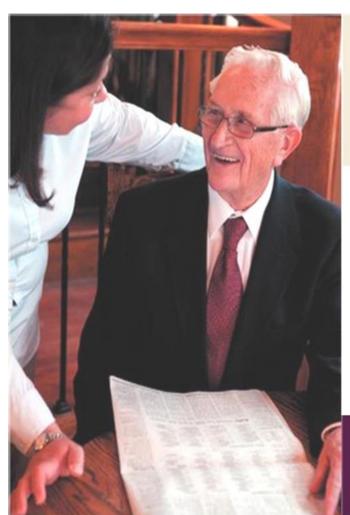
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Will You Remember Them – April 2019

Christian Persecution Set to Rise in 2019

Christian persecution charity Release International is warning that Christians in Nigeria, China and India may face even more Violence. The news comes after The Foreign Secretary insisted the UK must do more to help persecuted Christians around the world. "In China we are seeing a growing number of attacks against unregistered house churches, and the bigger higher profile churches that are now being closed down and the pastors arrested."

One of the reasons the partners on the ground gave is that - "there are very few protests from the West against this behaviour." This year militants have attacked Christians in Nigeria, a planned attack was foiled in Karachi, Pakistan, and security has been tightened around churches in Egypt. The Foreign Secretary has ordered a review into an estimated 215 million Christians who face violence and discrimination.

According to official figures, with 250 killed each month. "Release International say, "If you get the UK government along with others saying these are countries of particular concern, then the message to those who are running those countries is "we are watching you, we want to help you, help you deal with your militants. We expect you to deal with it and we are watching to see that you do so"

Please pray for concerns of both peoples and countries above.

JD

Mothers Union - Being Safe in The Home

Our speakers for March were Tricia and Nicky from the "NHS Integrated Care Team". The team receive referrals from GPs to visit someone at home to assess them and their environment to prevent falls. Falls are usually caused by a number of factors. By changing some of these the risk of falls can be reduced. Personal factors would include eating and drinking sufficiently to avoid dehydration which may result in dizziness. Wear correct fitting footwear. Have your eyesight checked annually. Have your medication reviewed every six months and if someone is at risk of falls are they taking bone protection medication.

The home environment checklist would look at trip hazards such as loose wires and rugs keeping pathways clear of clutter. Ensure halls and stairs are well lit and clutter free. Use a non slip mat in the bath or shower. Turn on lights if you need to get out of bed in the night and to avoid "light-headedness get out of bed or a chair in slow stages. The team can obtain equipment such as grab rails, second stair rail a shower stool etc.

There is an emphasis on the importance of keeping active we lose strength as we get older there are leaflets and an exercise programme Otago which encourage people to keep moving. The Falls Pathway team are able to spend six months working with someone.

We had an opportunity to ask questions and felt we were more aware of services which are on offer and the need for us to keep moving, exercise and be safe in our homes.

ML

News and Events from Your Local Ecclesfield Library

Run by volunteers
113 High Street, Ecclesfield. Tel: 0114 246 3615
Open Monday 13.00-18.00, Wednesday & Friday 10.00-17.30, Saturday 9.30-12.30

Free IT / Computer Workshops Coming Soon to Our Library

Starting in May there will be weekly IT and computer support workshops from Libre Digital covering topics such as sending emails, social media, networking, blogging, internet security on a range of operating system and devices

Please follow us on Facebook and Twitter or call into the Library for more information

Sharp Big Pad Interactive Nursery Table

We now have a wonderful new edition to our Library, courtesy of a grant from Ecclesfield Parish Council. It is the perfect mobile activity board and is ideal for Early Years Foundation.

Contact the Library for more information

TAI CHI New Weekly sessions in the Library

Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 11.15-12.15 The sessions are FREE - but donations to the library are welcome Refreshments available

Phonics Bear Wednesdays from 10.00-11.00

Calling all pre-schoolers. Join us for some learning fun with Phonics Bear and Bettina Bear.

Show off your groovy moves in our dough disco, learn all about letters, join us in lots of making,

team games and messy mark marking!

Book Your Place Today - £3.50 per child

Fun Science - DNA & Inheritance Saturday 11th May 10.30am - 11.30am

We will be finding out what makes us who we are, and about evolution and can even extract our own DNA!

The charge is £1.50 per child towards keeping our library open and running more of these events

To book your place or for more information about these or any future events please either call into the library, phone us on 0114 2463615, email us at ecclesfieldlib@gmail.com or follow us on Facebook and Twitter

Prayer for the Month

"Alleluia! Christ is risen.

He is risen indeed, Alleluia!"

The traditional Easter greeting is usually seen as an acclamation, a triumphant cry of victory and praise. And although it certainly is a cry of victory of life over death; of hope over despair, of the light of Christ over the forces of chaos, it is also, I believe a prayer.

We live and worship in a world in which Christ has come, in which Christ has triumphed; and yet, evil still destroys many, many lives. If Easter is the victory of God over evil and chaos, then why is evil still such a force in our world?

We live between the times; between the victory of Christ on that first Easter, and the coming of God's kingdom healing our world and our lives. Easter tells us that evil has been defeated, but until God's kingdom finally comes in all its fulness, evil is still active and powerful in the world and in our lives.

Someone once described our situation by using the analogy of the Second World War. Easter is a bit like D Day. Once a bridgehead had been established for the allied forces, victory was assured, and so in one sense you could say that the Third Reich was finished on that day. And yet it took many months of fighting and struggle until VE Day.

We live between the times; between the establishment of God's kingdom when Christ defeated death and hell once and for all on the Cross and by the empty tomb, and the fulfilment of the kingdom, when every broken heart will be healed and every tear wiped away.

And so, until God's kingdom comes we live in the hope of the victory of Easter in a world which too often feels more like 'Good Friday', a day of crucifixion. To be a Christian, to follow Jesus is to be a person of hope. And this hope is expressed in the great Easter acclamation. When we proclaim that Christ is "risen indeed" we commit ourselves to live in the hope of Easter and the Resurrection, and we pray that Christ's victory will bring healing to our world.

For as the great Fourth century Bishop and theologian Saint Augustine wrote: "We are an Easter people, and 'Alleluia!' is our song."

God bless and a very happy Easter, Tim

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

Baptism Services - Monthly

Times vary – please contact us for details

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 - April 2019

April 2019		Time	Item
April	1^{st}	7:30pm	PCC Meeting
April	$3^{\rm rd}$	7:30pm	Lent Group
April	6 th	1:30pm	Wedding
April	7^{th}	12:00pm	Baptism Service
April	8^{th}	12:00pm	Funeral
April	9 th	8:00pm	Wedding Rehearsal
April	10^{th}	7:30pm	Lent Group
April	13^{th}	9:00am	Prayer Breakfast
		1:00pm	Wedding
April	$14^{\rm th}$	10:00am	Palm Sunday
April	15^{th}	7:00pm	Chrism Eucharist at Cathedral
April	16^{th}	7:30pm	Compline & reflection
April	$17^{\rm th}$	7:30pm	Lent Group
April	18^{th}	7:30pm	Maundy Thursday Eucharist of Last supper and vigil
April	19^{th}	10:00am	Good Friday - All Age worship
		12:00pm	Three hours at the Cross
April	21 st	10:00am	Easter Day Eucharist
April	24^{th}	7:30pm	Finance Team Meeting
April	28^{th}	11:30am	Annual Parish and Church Meeting (AGM)
April	29^{th}	10:00am	Provisional Beginners Photography Course

From the Registers

Baptisms 24th March Ella Rose Harper

May she know the love of God in her life and may all things of the Spirit live and grow in her.

Weddings

9 th March	Perry Taylor and Freya Goddard
16 th March	James Russell and Harriet Boot
23 rd March	Thomas Thackery and Jennifer Glaves

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

Funerals

28 th January	Norma May Marsden	76
21 st February	Ruby Brogan	88
27 th February	Bessie Julia Goddard	93
8 th March	David Leslie Juett	71
2 nd March	Lynwood Lincoln	87
18 th March	Irene Rutter	93
19th March	David Frederick Bishop	75

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

Flower Rota April 2019

April 21st Easter Flowers April 28th Vacant Lent - No Flowers

God in the Sciences

Editor: This month we are delighted to launch a new regular series, 'God in the Sciences'. It is written by Dr Ruth Bancewicz, who is based at The Faraday Institute for Science and Religion in Cambridge, and writes on the positive relationship between Science and Christian faith.

The Beauty of Good Friday

Some of the most beautiful things in the world have an ugly side. What about the emperor penguin chick, nestling in a feathery pouch above its parent's feet? There's a lovely moment when mum and dad greet each other over the gaping beak of their fuzzball offspring. Heads bent together, making a heart shape in the air, we can't help seeing a reflection of our own ideals of love in the pair.

But the reality of what those birds are going through is even more gruelling than human parenthood. Father penguin has spent all winter sheltering the egg from freezing hurricane-force winds, while mother penguin was feeding at sea. When the chick hatched its parents started an exhausting game of tag, taking it in turns to walk across the ice and risk being eaten by leopard seals or killer whales in order to catch fish for their new offspring.

The living world is truly wonderful in so many ways, but the darker side of the picture is never far away. Creation is groaning (Romans 8:22), and waiting to be rescued. Enter Jesus, through whom all of creation was made. The king of the universe came to live with us, bringing His great love and wisdom to the human population of first-century Israel. The Creator was relating to His creation in a very personal way, and this could have been a totally beautiful picture.

But there is a horrifically ugly side of Jesus' story that threatens to obscure the beauty of what He did on Good Friday. It was a brutal and terrifying day when human sinfulness resulted in the Son of God being executed by His enemies, but thankfully there was much more to it than that. The death and resurrection of Jesus Christ set off a seismic wave of spiritual events whose effects are still rippling out across the world.

So that ugly day nearly 2,000 years ago is called 'good' because of what it achieved. Those who follow Jesus find their lives are changed for the better, even if their day-to-day existence may still be incredibly tough. When people come to understand what creation is for and who it belongs to, they can begin to serve and preserve the earth as they should. These things are only whispers of what is to come, but they give me hope for the future redemption of all Creation. I can choose to dwell on the beauty of Jesus' death because it was not the end of the story – the future beckons.

This article is extracted (with permission) from New Life: Reflections for Lent edited by Amy Robinson and Wendy H Jones (£7.99).

Recipe of the Month - Cauliflower with Cheese Sauce

Often served as a side dish to accompany a roast: Cauliflower with Cheese Sauce is a filling dish that can be eaten as a main course. It makes the most of great British cauliflowers, which are not only cheap and nutritious, but are so versatile in recipes and can be steamed, boiled, baked and roasted, with each method creating its own flavours

Serves 4 as a Lunch or 2 as a Main course - Preparation time around 30 mins - Cooking time 30 to 45 minutes - Vegetarian but not vegan

Ingredients:

1 large head of cauliflower whole (cooking whole helps retain its flavour and saves time)

55g / 2oz butter

55g / 2oz plain flour (00 or sauce flour is best)

400ml/14fl oz milk

1 heaped tsp English mustard ready-made (or 2 tsp of French mustard – seeded or Dijon)

120g / 4oz mature cheddar cheese grated – for the sauce

25g / 1oz of crated hard cheese or cheddar cheese - for the topping

Salt and freshly ground black pepper

Method - Preheat the oven to 200C/180C Fan/ 400F or Gas 6

Cauliflower - Remove any leaves and excess stem but not the core, rinse thoroughly and place in a large saucepan of salted water. Bring to the boil and cook for 3-4 minutes, the cauliflower should be almost tender, but still firm to the touch. Place the whole head in a colander and leave to steam and drain – this helps to remove excess water.

Cheese Sauce - To make the sauce, melt the butter in a medium size, heavy-based pan and stir in the flour. Cook over a gentle heat for one to two minutes. Remove the pan from the heat and gradually add the milk, a little at a time, stirring or whisking well between each addition. Return the pan to a medium heat and bring the mixture to the boil, stirring constantly. Simmer for two minutes to cookout the flour, then remove from the heat, season the white sauce with salt and freshly ground pepper to taste.

Finishing - Add the mustard and the cheese to the sauce, blend in and set aside. Place the head of cauliflower in an ovenproof baking dish, cut it into quarters and gently break into florets. Carefully pour over the cheese sauce, ensuring the cauliflower is completely covered. Scatter the topping cheese evenly over the dish and bake for 25-30 minutes, until the top is golden-brown and bubbling. If it hasn't browned enough place under a very hot grill for 2-3 minutes.

Serve – in warmed dishes on its own or with crusty bread or with a baked jacket potato

The Gardening Year – April 2019

Flowers

Irises – Bearded irises are in active growth this month, and the dwarf varieties are in bloom. Flowers cut for indoor decoration will last longer if removed in the early morning or in the cool of the evening and stood at first in hot water before being transferred to a vase of cold water. When the early flowering irises have finished blooming, remove the stems. Inspect leaves of bearded irises for signs of leaf spot disease (brown spots with yellow margins, enlarging quickly and becoming grey). If this disease appears before flowering spray with fungicide or dust with copper lime dust.

Lilies – all lily bulbs should be planted by now, though those temporarily potted up can wait until May, if necessary, or even until September if kept watered. Sow lily seeds in boxes outdoors. In muggy weather spray fortnightly against botrytis with fungicide. Spray monthly with a systemic insecticide to control aphids which spread virus diseases among lilies.

Flowers from Seed – Many hardy annuals can be sown outdoor this month if weather and soil conditions are favourable. Fork into the soil a dressing of general fertiliser. Hardy annuals are particularly useful for providing colour on bare ground. Many make delightful ground cover plants and help to stifle weeds. For instance, sow drifts of dwarf nasturtiums under ornamental cherries or other spring blossoming trees. Trailing nasturtiums provide rapid ground cover in awkward spaces or gaps.

Vegetables – complete shallot planting as soon as possible. Onion sets can be planted later this month of the weather is OK also if you are growing potatoes in pots or grow bags the best variety is one called Swift as this variety only grows to about one foot tall.

Colin Williams

Eat the Seasons - Seasonal food for April

Vegetables - Cauliflower, Asparagus, Broccoli, Jersey Royal New Potatoes, Lettuce & Salad Leaves, Purple Sprouting Broccoli, Radishes, Rocket, Samphire, Spinach, Spring Onions, Watercress, Wild Nettles

Fruit - Bananas (Windward), Kiwi Fruit, Lemons, Oranges, Passion Fruit, Pineapple, Rhubarb

Herbs - Basil, Chives, Dill, Sorrel

Meat – Wood Pigeon, Lamb – (Meat from a sheep up to 1-year old is Lamb – 1 to 2 years old is Hogget - 2-years or more is Mutton)

Fish - Cockles, Crab, Langoustine, Lobster, Plaice, Prawns, Salmon, Sea Trout, Shrimp, Whitebait

Visit - www.eattheseasons.co.uk

Whitley Hall Cricket Club



So following a sunny February, the wind rain and sleet in March must mean that the cricket season is not far off! Matches start in April and indoor nets are already taking place. We welcome new players – boys, girls, women and men. If you are interested in playing or learning to play, please contact Steve Fletcher. All spectators and guests are very welcome and are invited to use the facilities in the pavilion.

Home Games at Cinder Hill Lane

13 th April	3 rd XI	\mathbf{V}	Green Moor 2 nd XI
20 th April	$2^{nd} XI$	V	Elsecar 2 nd XI
27 th April	$1^{st} XI$	V	Aston Hall 1 st XI
4 th May	$2^{nd} XI$	V	Thorncliffe 1 st XI

Matches start at 12.30pm

Contact: Steve Fletcher 0114 245 2406

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Here I am, Send Someone Else

Often, we think that others are better qualified, more able for the task, but if God is calling YOU...

It is not for us to respond with "Here I am, Send Someone Else" I came across this piece of 'doggerel' and thought I would share it with you. *NP*

There was a very clever woman named 'Someone Else' There was nothing she couldn't do. She was busy from morning till late at night Substituting for you.

You're asked to do this or do that And what is your ready reply? Get 'Someone Else' to do that job She'll do it much better than l.

So much to do in this weary world So much to do and workers so few, And 'Someone Else', all weary and worn Is still substituting for you.

The next time you're asked to do something worthwhile Let this be your reply if 'Someone Else' can give the time Then surely - so can 1.

Crossword Puzzle - Solution is here



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Saint of the Month - Martyrs of the Early Church

3th April - Carpus, Papylus and Agathonice:

In the month of Christ's ultimate sacrifice of Himself for us, the martyrdoms of Carpus, Papylus and Agathonice are well worth remembering. What they said as they died could be said by the many thousands of Christians who are facing persecution all over the world today.

Carpus, Papylus and Agathonice lived in Pergamum (see note) in the late second century. Carpus was a bishop, Papylus was a deacon, and Agathonice was his sister. Trouble began when the proconsul Optimus ordered them to sacrifice in the name of the emperor.

Carpus refused, saying: "I am a Christian and because of my faith and the name of the Lord Jesus Christ I cannot become one of you." He was hung up and tortured by iron claws.

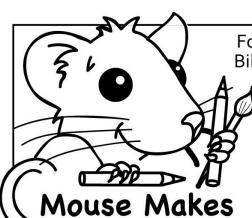
Papylus was a wealthy citizen, but he had also led many people to faith in Christ. As he suffered the same fate as Carpus, he said: "I feel no pain because I have someone to comfort me; one whom you do not see suffers within me." Both men were then burnt alive.

Finally, it was his sister's turn. She too refused to sacrifice to demons. "If I am worthy," went on, "I desire to follow the footsteps of my teachers." On being urged to have pity on her children, she replied: "My children have God, who watches over them; but I will not obey your commands." As she was consigned to the flames, she cried out three times: "Lord Jesus Christ, help me because I am enduring this for you." She died soon after.

Terrible deaths, but also, triumphant ones. These three Christians loved Jesus so much that the only thing they could NOT bear was to deny Him. Sadly, the persecution goes on today, in countries where Jesus Christ is still bitterly hated. Pray for the Christians who live in these countries, that they too may have courage and endurance – to the end.

Note: - *Editor:* Pergamon or Pergamum, was a rich and powerful ancient Greek city in Aeolis. It is located 26 kilometres from the modern coastline of the Aegean Sea on a promontory on the north side of the river Caicus (modern-day Bakırçay) and northwest of the modern city of Bergama in Turkey. Currently, known for its cotton, gold, and fine carpets, its wealth of ancient ruins continues to attract considerable tourist interest today, although its famous Temple has been moved to the Pergamon Museum, in Berlin, Germany.

Pergamon was the northernmost of the seven churches of Asia cited in the New Testament Book of Revelation.



Follow the **Easter story** using the Bible references, then look for the words in the puzzle.

Into Jerusalem

read Matthew 21:1-11 CONKEY • ROAD • COATS
BRANCHES • PALMS
KING • HOSANNA



Last
Supper
read
Matthew 26:17-30
TWELVE DISCIPLES
PASSOVER
ROOM • BREAD
WINE • SON • MAN
BODY • BLOOD

The

Betrayal and Death

CUP • MEAL

read Matthew 26:36-27:56

GETHSEMANE
PRAY • BETRAY
KISS • ARREST
MESSIAH • CHRIST
SON • ACCUSED
CRUCIFY • JESUS
CROWN • THORNS
ROBE • TREE
NAILS • CROSS
DARKNESS
QUAKE • DEATH

LOTS • DICE

BRANCHESSET LORDONKEYH SKME Т SSCUPAS S KJEANOSWI NNOQUBACH LWROADMANBLOODU LCKSCROS SDAS OOYCRUC FYAEM N S КН RESTYESTONE LMACKUQABODYDN LWOYGOTUVIMSEA A R O O M O A E Q B U R S KDARKNE S S PEAC E NP GOODNEWS SOU S $\mathsf{E} \mathsf{A}$ ST RA

Burial and Resurrection

read Matthew 27:57-28:20

TOMB • STONE • LINEN • BODY • BURY • THREE DAYS
MORNING • MARY • ANGEL • HEAVEN • LORD • GOD
RAISED • JOY • GO TELL • GOOD NEWS • PEACE • SPIRIT
SAVIOUR • PRAISE • EASTER • I AM WITH YOU ALWAYS

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Crossword Puzzle

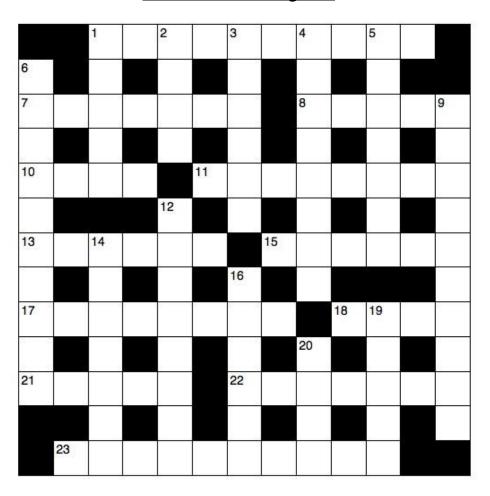
Clues Across

- 1 'You are a chosen people, a royal —' (1 Peter 2:9) (10)
- **7** Exact copy (Joshua 22:28) (7)
- 8 Jesus' first words to Jairus's daughter, 'My child, ——' (Luke 8:54) (3,2)
- 10 Idol made by the Israelites while Moses was on Mount Sinai (Exodus 32:4) (4)
- 11 Role allotted to Joseph in Egypt (Genesis 42:6) (8)
- 13 'Lord, when did we hungry and feed you?' (Matthew 25:37) (3,3)
- **15** 'Though seeing, they do —; though hearing, they do not hear or understand' (Matthew 13:13) (3,3)
- **17** Happening (1 Kings 21:1) (8)
- **18** 'Whatever was to my profit I now consider loss for the of Christ' (Philippians 3:7) (4)
- **21** National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children (1,1,1,1,1)
- **22** Stamp on (Amos 2:7) (7)
- 23 Liable to rot (1 Corinthians 15:42) (10)

Clues Down

- **1** Of the pope (5)
- 2 'The earth is the Lord's, and everything ——' (Psalm 24:1) (2,2)
- **3** Hebrew word for the kind of peace that Jesus promised (6)
- 4 Member of a 16th-century Protestant reform movement in France (8)
- **5** Sing out (anag.) (7)
- 6 Ceremonial column of people on the move (1 Samuel 10:5) (10)
- **9** One of the things love always does (1 Corinthians 13:7) (10)
- 12 Esther's cousin who foiled a plot to assassinate King Xerxes (Esther 2:7, 22) (8)
- **14** See cape (anag.) (7)
- **16** 'No one can them out of my hand' (John 10:28) (6)
- 19 Often mistakenly identified as the fruit that led to the first sin (Joel 1:12) (5)
- 20 'He was led like a to the slaughter' (Isaiah 53:7) (4)

Solution is on Page 20



Humour

Exercise

With summer coming, I had to face the fact that my body was totally out of shape. So I joined a fitness club and signed up for the aerobics class. I got to the club, and there I bent, twisted, gyrated, jumped up and down, and perspired for an hour. But by the time I got my clothes off and my sweats on, the class was over.

Christian upbringing

After the baptism of his baby brother in church, Jason sobbed all the way home in the back seat of the car. His father asked him three times what was wrong. Finally, the boy replied, "That preacher said he wants us brought up in a Christian home, but I want to stay with you and Mum."

The Lord's Prayer

I had been teaching my three-year-old daughter, Caitlin, the Lord's Prayer for several evenings at bedtime. She would repeat after me the lines from the prayer. Finally, she decided to go solo. I listened with pride as she carefully enunciated each word, right up to the end of the prayer: "Lead us not into temptation," she prayed, "but deliver us from E-mail."

Prayers and Poems Page

Easter prayer of thanks

Gracious, loving Father,

Thank you for the wonderful reality of Jesus' resurrection on that first Easter Day.

Thank you that, because Jesus is alive, life has meaning and purpose.

When we don't understand why some things happen, when life is difficult, when we are struggling through pain and loss, help us to know your risen presence and love in our lives.

Help us to choose to trust you.

Help us always to be thankful for your amazing Easter gift of life and hope.

In Jesus name,

Amen

By Daphne Kitching

(Acrostic poem where the first letter of each line spells the word EASTER)

EASTER

Even though the darkness raged And all was still, the sun had gone Still they shouted their abuse Taunting Him – 'you're not God's Son!

Elijah hasn't rescued you, Renounce your claim, you're just like me, Everyone can see you hang Arms outstretched, nailed to a tree'.

So it seemed that all was lost, Their hopes their dreams forever gone – Eternity had other plans Resurrection Day was soon to dawn.

By Megan Carter

Waiting in the darkness for the light to come

Arise!
Lift up your head,
lift up your eyes.
Do you not see?
I don't yet hold the prize
but as hope's dawning tints the darkened skies
and I press on,
Eventually
I will take hold of that for which He took hold of
me.

By Helen Brocklehurst

Editor: Nigel Beeton writes: "One of the fun parts of Easter Sunday which is a characteristic of many churches is a hunt around the church and churchyard for those little cream eggs which so tickle the palates of the young (and the not-so-young)"

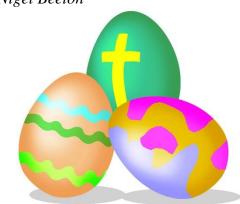
The Easter Egg Hunt

We seek them here, we seek them there, We seek those cream eggs everywhere! Within the church, within the ground Those hidden eggs which must be found!

The pulpit steps? The hymn book stand? The lectern we've already scanned Behind that pew? I'll need a torch! Perhaps one's hidden in the porch!

Aha! At last! I'm happy now! No more I search! No furrowed brow! I found my egg which tastes so good Within the Vicar's vestment hood!

By Nigel Beeton



The Churchyard - Issue 4 - First Published December 1961

A famed tapestry of an Ecclesfield grave stone recording the death of a child hung for a number of years in the window of a second-hand furniture shop in Sheffield. It was a pathetic sight; undoubtedly it was a fine piece of work, probably done by a loving mother who years later had died and her home had been sold. No one would buy the tapestry. The death of a child is always distressing but what a terrible story our old grave stones tell. Of the stones copied to date, there are three recording seven deaths in infancy, three with six, fourteen with five, nineteen with four, and twenty-four with three. One with six deaths in infancy also records one child aged 16 and another aged 19. Many more were buried but their parents were too poor to pay for a stone. Modern medical care and improved standards of living have made much of this misery a thing of the past. Indeed we should 'count our blessings one by one'.

In general the ages at death suggest that childhood was most precarious under the age of five and again between 12 and 18, that many mothers died in childbirth, many men died in their fifties, but after that a large number lived to a good age between 70 & 90.

It is unfortunate that the stones seldom record the trade or profession of the people. Some that are given are:— John Kirk of Cowley died 30th December, 1778; Thomas Smith of Cowley died 21st March, 1791 and George Abdy died 1810, all tanners; Joseph Hague of Chapeltown died 27th October, 1772 and George Smith of Hill Top died 2nd June, 1838 who were nail chapmen; Matthew Eaden, died 15th January, 1774 was a woodman; William Yeule, died April 1717 was a wheelwright of the Wheel House; John Tyler died 17th May, 1667 was the hammer maker at Wadsley Forge; Frances Croft who died aged 83 on 10th May, 1883 was the stud groom caring for the race horses at the Paddocks near Sheffield Lane Top. All of these are trades which are no longer practiced in the Parish.

Many of the Walker family of Rotherham, the owners of the iron works at Masboro are buried here. The family was one of the most prominent and prosperous in the Rotherham Parish. The founded of the iron works was Samuel Walker born at Hill Top, Grenoside in 1716. He was poor and an orphan at the age of 12 but in spite of this he studied and became the local schoolmaster. He also had an aptitude for making things; he made many sundials, to such an extent that his genius prompted Sir Watts Horton of Barnes Hall to say 'Sam Walker will one day ride in his carriage'. This was to be, for in 1749 he moved to Masboro to start the Iron works which brought prosperity to him and his family for many years.

F. S. Hague

Contact Numbers for Local Groups 222

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 10 am to 12 noon Tel: Robert 0114 2461095

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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

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If you would like your local group advertised, please contact:

Mrs P Blackburn © 0114 246 8453

Useful Contacts R Revd Tim Gill 257 0002 Vicar E-mail: tim.gill@sheffield.anglican.org **Churchwardens:** Ann Hackett 246 7159 Sue Harland 245 0006 Andrew Robinson 246 3646 Michael Waldron 246 3091 Pat Clarke 257 7191 Readers: 245 2392 Stephanie Dale **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 us on: 0780 307 8223 Baptisms: Contact – Pat Clarke 257 7191 257 0002 Weddings: Contact: Revd Tim Gill Or email: tim.gill@sheffield.anglican.org office.stmarys.ecclesfield@googlemail.com Office e-mail Magazine e-mail magazine.stmarys.ecclesfield@googlemail.com



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