

News & Views From St Mary's Church Ecclesfield



Church Magazine May 2019

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First words

May is quite an eventful month this year. As well as several weddings taking place on Saturdays in May we have quite a variety of events in Church, but the month begins with a day of rest on **Monday 6th May** with a **Bank Holiday** - let's pray for good weather!

On **Thursday 9th May at 5.30pm** we welcome Ecclesfield Beavers into St Mary's as part of their Faith Badge.

On **Saturday 11th May at 9am** we hold our monthly **Prayer Breakfast** - all are welcome to join us as we listen to God's word and pray for our Church and Parish, our City and world.

May's **PCC Meeting** moves to **Monday 13th May at 7.30pm** because of the Bank Holiday. This will be the first meeting of the newly elected Church Council.

On **Wednesday 15th May** the Vicar and wardens will attend the **Archdeacon's Visitation** at **Rotherham Minster**. All PCC Members and Sidespeople are invited as is any member of the Church.

On **Sunday 26th May** we have our monthly **Youth Fellowship at 5pm** in Church. Any young person of Secondary School age is welcome to join us. This is followed at **6.30pm** by our **Prayer and Praise** service.

On **Wednesday 29th May at 7.30pm** we begin an 8 week look at St Paul's letter to the Philippians. We will be following the **Discipleship Explored**. Paul, in his letter looks at what it means to be a Christian. The lessons that Paul taught in the first century AD are still relevant to all who want to follow Jesus today. All are welcome, especially those who have done an Alpha Course. For more information see Tim.

Finally, on **Thursday 30th May at 7.30pm**, we will be hosting the S35 Partnership **Ascension Day Eucharist**.

God Bless
Tim

Front Cover – Bluebells in Woolley Wood - Every Spring it is an absolute carpet of blue and the scent, along with the scent of wild garlic along the side of the road is amazing – just take a walk or sit a while.

Back Cover – EIB Poster

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Thought for the Month

I hope that you are still celebrating Easter and the resurrection of Jesus, even if, like me, your Easter Eggs have long since disappeared! Easter is not just a Day. In the Church calendar it is a 50-day celebration which only ends at Pentecost (which this year falls on Sunday 9th June) when we celebrate the presence of the Holy Spirit in Christ's Church.

But Easter is more than simply a season in the Church's calendar. As Christians, Easter is our life and our worldview.

St Augustine said famously of the Church of Jesus Christ that, "We are an Easter People and Alleluia is our song." We are truly an Easter People. The resurrection of Jesus is our hope and it is the foundation of the Church. Paul put it like this: "If Christ has not been raised ... then your faith is in vain" (1 Corinthians 15:14). It isn't just that if Christ did not rise again our faith would be different, there would be no Christian faith at all.

The first Christians' lives were shaped by their faith in the resurrection of Jesus. They lived as people who belonged to God's kingdom and not to the kingdoms of the world. They had no fear of death, they believed that it is a defeated enemy. Most of all they lived as people who knew that love is the greatest power in creation. They served their neighbours, cared for the sick and comforted the bereaved. Other people noticed that these Christians lived differently. It was because they lived as an Easter people that the first Christians made such an impact on their world. Others were attracted to what they saw in their Christian neighbours.

Easter is not only the foundation of Christian life; it is the lens through which Christians look at life and the world. At the heart of our faith is the Cross and the Empty Tomb, Good Friday and Easter.

We see so much pain and sorrow in our world. In just the few days around Easter this year we saw the terrorist attacks on Churches and hotels in Sri Lanka; innocent men, women and children, eating breakfast on holiday or going to Church to celebrate Easter were attacked for no reason at all. In the same few days we saw reports of natural disaster hitting Africa and a shooting in a synagogue.

Evil is real, pain and suffering are not merely intellectual problems - they destroy lives and families and communities.

Christians do not pretend that all is well with God's world because we know that it often isn't. Nor do we suggest that we have the answer to the questions raised by suffering and evil. But Christians have always responded with an Easter Faith. This means firstly we do what we can to bring practical relief to those who suffer. And secondly, we live as a people of hope.

The Cross tells us that God is not absent but is at the heart of the suffering of His creation; that God is with those who are broken by the world and its ills.

The Resurrection tells us that the God who raised Jesus from death will bring restoration to His creation. In God's kingdom there will be healing and there will be perfect justice. Every tear will be wiped away and every broken heart will be mended. This is the hope and the promise of Easter. As Christians we are shaped by Easter.

May God bless you in this Easter season.

Tim

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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.

Still Life with Strawberries, Gooseberries and Asparagus: Adriaen Coorte

The 6th Sunday of Easter is traditionally Rogation Sunday, when we give thanks for the fruits of the earth and pray for all who work on the land. Rural churches often celebrate nature's cycle from seeds sown to crops harvested with Plough Sunday, Rogationtide, Lammas and Harvest.

Jesus in His teaching pointed out the miracle of that cycle in the seed – sown in the soil, but springing up to new life; a small beginning that becomes a great plant; a single seed that is multiplied.



This month of May marks two seasons in that growth: the harvesting of asparagus and the gathering of strawberries.

They are two signs of the fruitfulness of nature depicted in this beautiful, intimate painting that was given to the National Gallery two years ago by the Dutch collector, Willem van Dedem. It was painted in 1703 by Adriaen Coorte. We know little about him apart from the fact that he lived in Holland and has left us a garland of canvases, all displaying what has been called 'a wondrous tenderness.'

This painting is an ordinary, unpretentious scene. There is no moral lesson here, no symbolism: simply a depiction of the beauty of creation in miniature. The bowl of strawberries and the bunch of asparagus lie on a stone ledge with some gooseberries and a plum. Each a gift of nature to enjoy and share, and to find there a token of God, the giver of all good things.

'For everything there is a season,' and in this month of May with Adriaen Coorte, we give thanks for this bounty of the earth and we pray for farmers and agricultural workers. But more than that – as the hymn tells us, 'we thank thee then, O Father, for all things bright and good.'

St James the Least of All

On the tribulations that await a curate in his first parish...

The Rectory
St. James the Least

My dear Nephew Darren.

So, your bishop is dropping hints that you should begin to consider a move to having your own parish – ‘not forever in green pastures’ comes to mind. Do not be too hasty to leave; remember that a curate can do no wrong, but a vicar can do no right. That means that as soon as you get your own parish, you will be held accountable not only for everything that goes on inside the church, but also for the goal average of the local football team and the state of the economy. And if it rains for your first Summer Fete, you will be told reproachfully that this never used to happen when ‘the former vicar was here’.

As you begin to ponder this momentous decision, allow me to give you a few pieces of advice. It will be assumed in the parish that every new incumbent is bound to be worse than his predecessor. The greatest compliment I ever received when leaving a parish came from an elderly parishioner: “I’ve known six Rectors of this parish; you weren’t the worst.”

Naturally the church you go to will have asked for a married man between 30 and 35 with a wife who will not have her own job but who wants to devote her entire life working for the parish - and it will be a definite advantage if she is a brilliant organist, professional caterer and fully computer literate. They will expect you to have two children, one of whom should be of primary school age, so he can attend the local Church school, where you will naturally wish to be chairman of governors and coach of the football team.

They will want you to have exceptional talents for attracting young people - but for young people who enjoy the sorts of Services that the present congregation prefer - and you should have the ability to stop a baby crying during Mattins with the briefest of glances. They will want you to bring ‘a breath of fresh air’ into parish life without changing anything. They will hope you will shun holidays, preach short sermons and be able to run a tight jumble sale.

Your CV is a little thin. If you could acquire a wife and family within the next six months, become an expert flower arranger and qualify as a football referee, chartered accountant and trained electrician and plumber, it would prove very helpful.

If in addition, you learned how to service photocopiers, had a mini-bus available for church outings, were an heir to a family firm producing a single malt whisky and could provide reliable horse racing tips, your choice of parishes would be endless.

On the other hand, my advice would be to stop attending all meetings where you know the bishop may be present; out of sight, out of mind. Have your phone disconnected, your letterbox sealed and only appear in public wearing dark glasses and a false beard. Keep your head down, lay low, hold on to the charmed life of being a curate for as long as possible. Life will never be better.

Your loving uncle,
Eustace

Mothers' Union

One of Anglican Communion's greatest gifts to worldwide Church – Archbishop Welby

The Archbishop of Canterbury has praised the “unique and extraordinary” work of the Mothers' Union, as he commissioned the international Anglican mission agency's new Worldwide President, Sheran Harper, during a service in London's Southwark Cathedral. Sheran Harper from Guyana, the former Provincial President of the Mothers' Union in the Province of the West Indies, is the first Worldwide President to be elected from outside the United Kingdom.

Archbishop Justin congratulated Sheran “for the trust the members have bestowed on you” and also expressed his thanks to outgoing Worldwide President Lynne Tembey for her service.

“There is only one Mothers' Union”, he said. “It is unique. It is the world's oldest and largest women's movement. It is a gift of God to Anglicans and is one of the Anglican Communion's greatest gifts to the worldwide church.”

He described its four million members as “a powerful force of hope in every aspect of the life of the worldwide Church and indeed of society” and praised its role in bringing hope and reconciliation.

“You are one of God's great works throughout the Anglican Communion”, he said. “We delight and rejoice in what you do. You share love and hope; you give support and strength.” He urged the new Worldwide President to make the Mothers' Union better known.

More than 600 people from around the world attended last night's service in Southwark Cathedral. The congregation included the High Commissioner of Guyana to the UK, Fredrick Hamley Case, and a representative from the High Commission of Rwanda in London.

“I feel overjoyed and humbled by the outpouring of love and support I have received”, Sheran Harper said. “I am so very grateful to everyone who travelled from far and wide for this special day in the history of Mothers' Union. Thank you everyone who came and those who were unable to but were lifting me up in their prayers.

“I especially thank Archbishop Justin for his encouraging words. We are indeed a unique and extraordinary gift from God. Mothers' Union is at a very important point in history when our Trustee Board now reflects the truly global nature of the movement. Our recent global conversations, with emerging themes are setting the tone for the future of our work which will be even stronger in meeting the needs of the communities we serve in a life-changing way.”

Referring to the readings from Romans, Archbishop Justin spoke about the simplicity of the New Testament and how, once called by God, He “takes us by the hand and takes us on the greatest adventure that there is, the adventure of Christian discipleship”, he said. “That adventure has taken Mothers' Union from Mary Sumner in the countryside of England to a worldwide organisation on which people can depend.”

Continues on page 20

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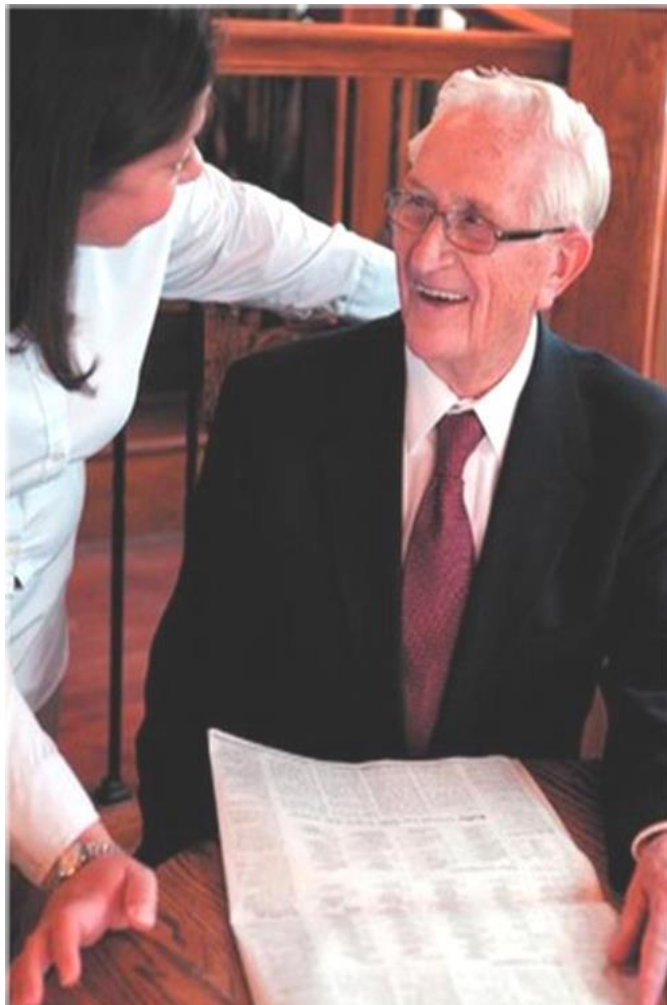
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Will You Remember Them – Nigeria

“I Cannot Describe All the Good Things God Has Done for Me”.

Esther in Nigeria

Esther (20) from Nigeria, loves her daughter Rebecca very much, but her journey to love her baby wasn't easy.

Esther became pregnant when she was being held in captivity by Boko Haram as a teenager. She managed to escape - but when she returned home, her community was not as welcoming as she hoped they would be. They mocked me because I was pregnant, I cried many tears. I felt so lonely. What broke my heart even more was they refused to call my daughter Rebecca. They referred to her as Boko. Esther wasn't sure how she would ever be able to love Rebecca

But thanks to your prayers and support, Esther was able to attend a Trauma Care Workshop run by partners of Open Doors. “Before I came for this programme if you called my daughter “Boko Haram baby” I would fight, she says. I know now that God loves me so much. Esther's journey towards healing is a story of redemption and a reminder of the powerful love of a mother. And, the all-encompassing, unconditional love has for each of us.

Please Pray for Esther and Rebecca, that they would continue to experience God's healing and his love.

JD

Mothers' Union - National & Local Subscriptions

Members of the committee have expressed concern over the amount of the annual National subscriptions. These have gone up year on year and this January 2019 was £20.00. This money goes to support the work of the Mothers' Union in this country and abroad. We here at Ecclesfield also pay an additional amount of £10.00 annually, which funds the rent for our use of the Gatty Hall, refreshments and any expenses incurred by our invited speakers, plus any local administration costs.

Starting in June 2019 the committee would like to offer members the opportunity of paying both these subs at a rate of £5.00 a month. We appreciate that on limited incomes/pensions these monies can be a worry for some.

If you would like to take up this offer please speak to Stephanie Hartshorne our Branch Leader or Jennifer Armeson the Treasurer in total confidence.

Thank you
Mothers' Union Committee

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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

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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

The Collect for Purity:

*Almighty God,
unto whom all hearts be open,
all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hid:
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love thee,
and worthily magnify thy holy Name;
through Christ our Lord.
Amen.*

This well-known Anglican prayer, found in both the Prayer Book of 1662 and in modern Anglican prayer books, such as Common Worship. It is based on an ancient Latin prayer used at the celebration of the Eucharist.

An early English translation appears in the 14th century book on contemplative prayer *The Cloud of Unknowing*. The Reformer and Archbishop of Canterbury Thomas Cranmer translated it for the Book of Common Prayer.

I have always found that it is a prayer that helps me to enter into worship. It prepares my heart and my mind to enter consciously into God's presence. It reminds me that God knows me as no one else, even myself, know me. Nothing is hidden from God.

From acknowledging that I am known by God the prayer passes to a request: that God, by the cleansing fire of the Holy Spirit, will refine me, make me acceptable to God so that I may be able to truly and worthily enter into worship.

God, as addressed in this prayer, is distinct, is different. God is holy and we who seek to enter into worship are not. But although God is different, He is not distant. We dare to turn to God and to come before God because He is the One revealed by Jesus - our Father who loves us, not because we deserve God's love, but because God is love and God loves us.

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

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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 - May 2019

May 2019	Time	Item
Wednesday 1 st May	2.00pm	Funeral in Church
Thursday 2 nd May	2.00pm	Wedding Rehearsal
Saturday 4 th May	12.00pm	Wedding
Tuesday 7 th May	10.00am	Beginners Photography Course
Tuesday 7 th May	12.30pm	Sound Engineers Visit
Thursday 9 th May	5.30pm	Ecclesfield Beaver Group to visit
Saturday 11 th May	9.00am	Prayer Breakfast
Monday 13 th May	7.30pm	PCC meeting
Tuesday 14 th May	10.00am	Beginners Photography Course
Tuesday 14 th May	7.30pm	Ascension Day Service
Saturday 18 th May	9.00am	Ecclesfield in Bloom Coffee Morning
Monday 20 th May	7.30pm	Fabric Team Meeting
Saturday 25 th May	1.00pm	Wedding
Tuesday 28 th May	10.00am	Beginners Photography Course
Wednesday 29 th May	7.30pm	Discipleship Explored Course
Friday 31 st May	10.00am	Deanery Meeting

From the Registers

Baptisms

7 th April	George Buxton
7 th April	Isabelle Louise Clayton
7 th April	Violet May Gilberthorpe
7 th April	Ayla Paris Cowley

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

Weddings

31 st March	Paul Anthony Smith and Chloe Knight
6 th April	Sonny Risley and Bianca Jade Hopkinson
13 th April	David Craig Greenfield and Nicola Joy Grace

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

Funerals

8 th April	Sheila Davenport	87
29 th April	Clare Fish	87
1 st May	Lee Outlaw	44

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

Flower Rota May 2019

5 th May	N. Priest and J. Rodber	19 th May	A. Briddock and I. Proctor
12 th May	Vacant	26 th May	J. Adam and G. Loxley

God in the Sciences

Love Me to the Moon?

Do you know the story of little nutbrown hare? His father cared for him so much that the only thing big enough to describe his love was the enormous distance between the Earth and the Moon - and back again. It's a wonderful story, but it pales into insignificance compared to the love that the Creator of the entire universe has for each one of us.

When Paul wrote to the Ephesians, he said that he prayed they would be able "to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge". So what sort of scale could you use to capture the size of a love like that?

I have heard professional astronomers say it is impossible to keep the enormous scales of our universe in mind all the time and keep functioning normally. But every now and again it is worth trying to wrap our heads around these distances, and feel a sense of awe at our smallness compared to the vast distances of space.

One way to connect more personally with astronomical scales is to consider the total amount of DNA in our bodies. This long thin chemical carries all the instructions needed for building and maintaining each cell – every tiny building block – in your body. A human cell contains two metres of DNA, coiled up very tightly. If it were possible to take this long thin molecule out of every cell, unroll it, and line up every piece end to end, how far would it reach?

The average adult has about 3 trillion (3,000,000,000,000) DNA-containing cells in his or her body. Multiplied by two metres, that makes around 6 billion kilometres of DNA, which is immense compared to the distance to the moon. The sun is around 150 million kilometres from earth, so our DNA could take us there and back many times. Pluto is, on average, around 6 billion kilometres away from Earth, so with our string of DNA we could take a one-way trip to the very edge of the solar system.

God is the Creator of the vast spaces of the universe, but when Jesus described how God cares for us He said that 'even the very hairs on your head are numbered'. You could also say that He knows every molecule of DNA in your body. Jesus' death on the cross showed that His love for each one of us is more unbreakable than the love of a parent for a child. So what might He say in today's language - I love you to Pluto and back?

Editor: 'God in the Sciences'. It is written by Dr Ruth Banciewicz, who is based at The Faraday Institute for Science and Religion in Cambridge, and writes on the positive relationship between Science and Christian faith.

Recipe of the Month - Crab and Asparagus Risotto

May is the peak season for fresh Filey Crabs and British Asparagus and a risotto makes a filling and flavoursome dish. You can use ready prepared Dressed Crab, frozen crab meat or a fresh cooked whole crab from your local fishmonger. Freshly cooked crab will need prepping and there are lots of good videos available on-line that show you 'how-to-do-it' – See: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7MPC6gz-wGo>

Traditionally the Italians don't put cheese in (or on) their fish risottos, however crab and cheese do go very well together. If you don't like the strong flavour of brown crab meat use canned white crab meat instead.

Cooking time about 45 minutes - Serves 4

Ingredients

- 1 Medium size mild / sweet onion, diced
- 1 tablespoon Olive Oil
- 300g Risotto Rice (Arborio Rice)
- 200g of Brown and White Crab Meat
- 175ml Dry White Wine
- 1l Fish stock using stock cubes (kept hot)
- 40g Salted Butter
- 1 small bunch Asparagus, blanched, trimmed and cut into 1" pieces
- 2 tablespoons grated Parmesan
- Salt and White Pepper to season
- Small bunch green herbs - Parsley, Coriander, Chives or Dill
- Large Lemon

Method

1. Blanch the asparagus in boiling water for two minutes then drain and refresh in cold water - dice into 1cm (1/2 inch) pieces and set aside.
2. Heat the Olive Oil in a large pan (frying pan or skillet) over a medium heat.
3. Add the Onion and sweat (sauté) for about three minutes, until soft.
4. Add the Rice and stir to coat each grain with oil (add more oil if needed)
5. Add the White Wine to the pot and stir to cook out the alcohol until all the wine has been absorbed - about two to three minutes.
6. Add the Brown Crabmeat and a ladle of Fish Stock and stir to incorporate.
7. Once the stock has been absorbed, add the remaining hot Fish Stock - a ladle at a time - stirring after each addition and not adding any more until the previous addition has been completely absorbed. It will take about 35 minutes to complete this stage but don't skip it! It will ensure your risotto is creamy.
8. After all the stock has been absorbed into the risotto, turn off the heat.
9. Add the White Crab Meat to the risotto, along with the butter, grated Parmesan cheese and the diced Asparagus.
10. Season with salt and pepper to taste.

Serve with a large piece of lemon and a green salad

The Gardening Year – May 2019

Crab Apples – Although grown mainly as ornamental trees, many species of wild apples and their cultivated varieties are valuable for making preserves and wine. They need little pruning and so are less trouble to grow than dessert and cooking apples. Some crabs are too large to warrant space in small gardens but many are grown on dwarfing stock and one of these planted in a lawn will provide blossom in late spring and colourful fruits in September for making into jellies, pickles and wine.

Planning the Crop – crab apples will grow in any fertile well drained soil. A dressing of rotten manure or compost will help the trees to get started but no feeding is needed subsequently. Choose a variety on the most suitable stock to suit the site. Crab Apples can be grown as standards which have a large spread so check the size of varieties offered by the nursery. Crab Apples are generally self-fertile so only one tree need be grown to provide fruit. Even a dwarf tree will yield about 20lb when established.

Varieties – The following have medium sized or large fruits which are borne in profusion and are suitable for making jelly or wine. Dartmouth – a broad tree; crimson fruits; flowers late in May. John Downie - Drooping Habit - orange/scarlet conical fruits; flowers late May. The finest variety for making Jelly. Red Sentinel - medium sized tree Red Fruits flowers early May. Veitch's Scarlet - oval scarlet fruits; deep pink blossom in May. Plant bare rooted trees in Autumn or Winter, but pot grown trees can be planted any time of year. Keep the soil well-watered if the weather is dry following planting.

Vegetables – be ready to cover potatoes if frost is forecast. Sow main crop carrots, if not already done. Sow runner beans from Mid-May plant the bean with the eyes facing down in the soil. Set out plants of late summer Cauliflowers, Brussel Sprouts and cabbages. Prepare sites for cucumbers and out-door tomatoes. Towards the end of the month sow sweet corn seed. Sow the seed 1.1/2 in. deep in groups of three at intervals of 18.in, later removing two plants from each station to leave the strongest.

Colin Williams

Eat the Seasons - Seasonal food for May

Vegetables - Asparagus, Broccoli, Carrots, Jersey Royal New Potatoes, Lettuce & Salad Leaves, New Potatoes, Peas, Radishes, Rocket, Samphire, Spinach, Spring Onions, Watercress, Wild Nettle

Fruit - Bananas (Windward), Kiwi Fruit, Rhubarb

Herbs - Basil, Chervil, Chives, Coriander, Dill, Oregano, Mint, Nasturtium, Parsley (Curly), Rosemary, Sage, Sorrel, Tarragon

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 - Cod, Coley, Crab, Haddock, Langoustine, Plaice, Prawns, Salmon, Sardines, Sea Trout, Shrimp, Whelks, Whitebait

Visit - www.eattheseasons.co.uk

Whitley Hall Cricket Club



The season has started and the 1st XI achieved a notable win on 27th April. On a day of wind and rain, Aston Hall achieved a strong score of 196 in 40 overs but Whitley won with a score of 197 with 4 wickets remaining. The previous week at Treeton, the 1st team was unable to beat a score of 258-2 and were all out for 199. The second XI lost the first game against Elsecar and the match on 27th April was cancelled due to rain. The 3rd XI has lost both matches played so far and look forward to success in May.

Home Games at Cinder Hill Lane

4th May	2nd XI	v	Thorncliffe 1st XI
11th May	1st XI	v	Aston Hall 1st XI
18th May	2nd XI	v	Upper Haugh 1st XI
25th May	2nd XI	v	Warmsworth 1st XI
Mon 27th May	1st XI	v	Elsecar 1st XI
1st June	1st XI	v	Tickhill 1st XI

Matches start at 12.30pm

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MU

One of Anglican Communion's greatest gifts to worldwide Church – Archbishop Welby

He spoke of the challenges that many Mothers' Union members face in their work of supporting the communities in which they live and serve, "in many places you will have to bear the cross of other people's suffering. Whether it's in Burundi, the DRC, Guyana, South Sudan, Nigeria or in towns and cities and slums, whether it is domestic violence, whether it is loneliness, whether it is spiritual emptiness, the Mothers' Union is there bringing hope and a future", he said. "So, make yourselves known."

During the service, Archbishop Justin also commissioned the Mothers' Union's new global Trustee Board, whose members are elected to represent Mothers' Union regions.

Sheran Harper was born in the UK and grew up in Guyana where she studied at the University of the West Indies School of Physical Therapy. She undertook her Clinical Practice at Guy's Hospital in London and then worked with the Ministry of Health in Guyana where she opened and managed new physiotherapy departments in hospitals throughout the country and lectured on the Rehabilitation Therapists Programme.

She stopped working in this area 17 years ago to focus on her calling of serving Mothers' Union. She has served as a volunteer at all levels from parish, diocese and province. Until recently, she was the Worldwide Parenting Trainer where she rolled out Mothers' Union Parenting programmes in 23 countries across the globe. Her expertise is often called upon and she has been a spokesperson in her region for Mothers' Union on various inter-faith, and international panels and forums.

Crossword Puzzle - Solution is here

B	A	B	Y		S	T	I	M	U	L	A	S	
E		E			R		U		I		E		
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ERIC EYRE

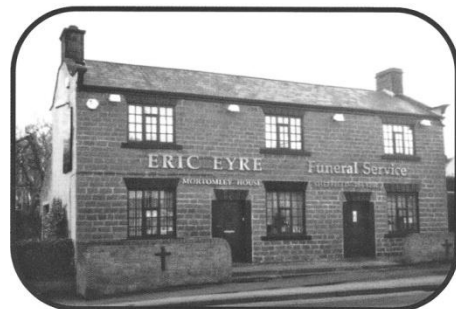
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Funeral Plans



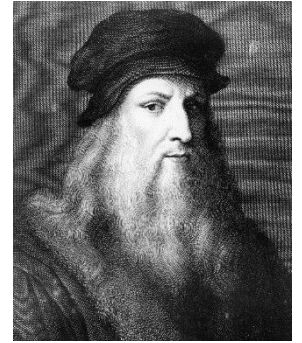
British Institute of Funeral Directors Eric Eyre National President
1989 - 1990



In praise of Leonardo da Vinci - 1451-1519

Editor: Leonardo da Vinci is arguably the most famous Christian artist of all time, and so as we reach the 500th anniversary of his death, Michael Burgess looks back on his achievements.

Back in the 1960s, C P Snow's lecture on the two cultures dominated the academic world: science and art faced each other in the arena of knowledge like two mighty opposites. But journey back to Italy in the 15th century and you find no such division. The two worlds of science and the humanities were interwoven, inspiring each other to create works of beauty and wonder, and witnessed by the brilliance and gifts of Leonardo da Vinci.



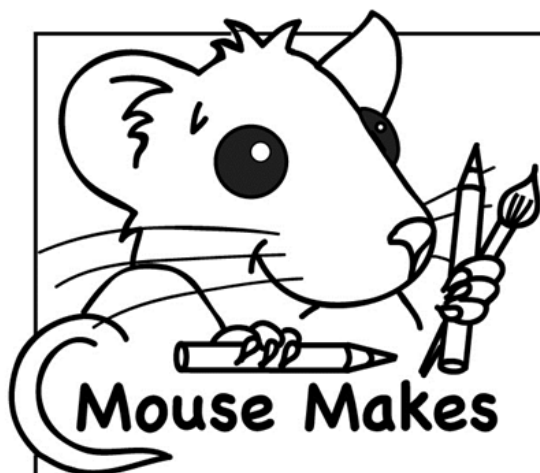
Leonardo da Vinci

Here was an artist who painted *The Last Supper* (shown below) and *Mona Lisa*. But also a scientist who in 7,000 pages of notebooks devised war engines, water mills, spinning machines, and even helicopters. He was the first to depict accurately the human embryo. Walter Isaacson in his biography wrote that da Vinci showed how 'the ability to make connections across disciplines is a key to innovation, imagination and genius.'



Leonardo came from an insignificant background: he was the illegitimate son of a lawyer and a peasant girl in Tuscany. His father paid for his training, and so he entered the workshop of Verrocchio, excelling as both an artist and a fine mechanical scientist. Exploring the play of shadows and darkness, he created *The Virgin of the Rocks*; analysing light, he created the chiaroscuro of the *Mona Lisa*; and penning a treatise on movement, he created the battle frenzy of Anghiari. Commissioned to cast a bronze horse as a monument to the Duke of Milan, he became so engrossed by investigating the muscles and tendons of horses and even by how to keep stables clean, that he forgot about the original work.

On his deathbed in the monastery of Amboise in May 1519, he said that he had two regrets: that he was never able to fly and that he never finished that horse. But what he did create endures 500 years later as a testimony to the way in which science and art can together create beauty, and beauty can lead us both to the beauty of the soul and the beauty of God.



You may have read the Bible story of Daniel in the **lions'** den, but have you ever read the whole book of Daniel? Take your time and read a little each day and find out about the **vegetables**, the **statue**, the **gold idol**, the **furnace**, the **tree**, the **writing** on the wall, the **lions**, the **four animals**, the **ram** and the **goat**, and the **man**.



W A L L O M I S H A E L A W
D S T A T U E T R E E O L U
A H A Z A R I A H W D R L P
N P N K D R E A M G O D I R
I E I D O L D A R I U S O A
E N W R I T I N G K F D N Y
L A B C Y F U R N A C E S E
A Z M H A N A N I A H N E R
N E B U C H A D N E Z Z E R
G R E S C U E
E T R U S T
L K I N G



Ashpenaz changed Daniel and his friends names. Look up **Daniel 1:7** to see what he changed them to.

Can you find these words from the book of Daniel in the wordsearch?
KING • NEBUCHADNEZZER • DANIEL • DARIUS • ASHPENAZ
HANANIAH • MISHAEL • AZARIAH • DREAM • STATUE
IDOL • FURNACE • TREE • WRITING • WALL • LAW • LIONS
DEN • PRAYER • LORD • GOD • TRUST • RESCUE • ANGEL

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Crossword Puzzle

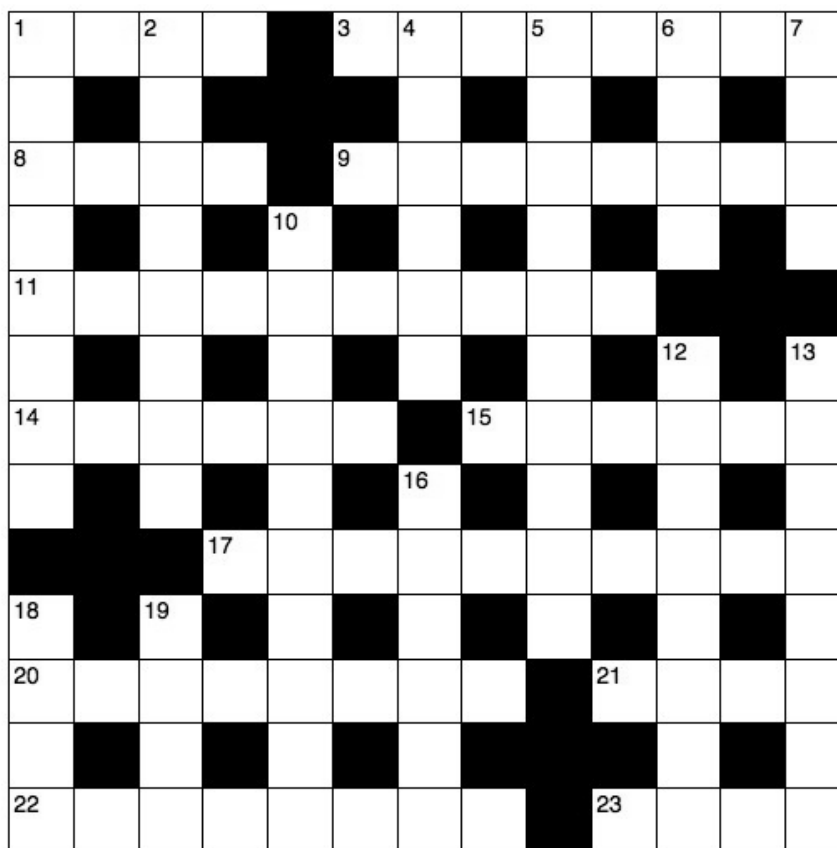
Clues Across

- 1** Infant (Luke 2:12) (4)
- 3** Luis must (anag.) (8)
- 8** What Jesus called the devil (John 8:44) (4)
- 9** ‘My God, my God, why have you — me?’ (Matthew 27:46) (8)
- 11** Anglican form of church government (10)
- 14** ‘Those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like — ’ (Isaiah 40:31) (6)
- 15** Ministers of religion (6)
- 17** Make stronger (1 Thessalonians 3:13) (10)
- 20** Devoutness (1 Timothy 2:2) (8)
- 21** The father of Jesse (Ruth 4:22) (4)
- 22** Pool where Jesus healed a man who had been an invalid for 38 years (John 5:2) (8)
- 23** ‘[Jesus] said to them, “ — here and keep watch”’ (Mark 14:34) (4)

Clues Down

- 1** Follower of Christ (Acts 16:1) (8)
- 2** One of the punishments endured by Paul (2 Corinthians 6:5) (8)
- 4** Soldiers (Exodus 14:9) (6)
- 5** Scholarly study of melody, harmony and rhythm (10)
- 6** ‘I am God, and there is none — me’ (Isaiah 46:9) (4)
- 7** ‘And how can they preach unless they are — ?’ (Romans 10:15) (4)
- 10** Favourable reception (1 Timothy 1:15) (10)
- 12** Hip orbit (anag.) (8)
- 13** End of life (Isaiah 22:14) (5,3)
- 16** ‘About midnight the sailors — they were approaching land’ (Acts 27:27) (6)
- 18** He married Jezebel (1 Kings 16:30–31) (4)
- 19** ‘According to your great compassion — out my transgressions’ (Psalm 51:1) (4)

Solution is on Page 20



Ecclesfield Guide May Queen



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Prayers and Poems Page

A prayer at Ascension

To complete your seamless robe, and so to complete our faith, you ascended through the air into the heavens, before the very eyes of the apostles. In this way you showed that you are Lord of all, and are the fulfilment of all Creation. Thus, from that moment every human and every living creature should bow at your name. And, in the eyes of faith, we can see that all creation proclaims your greatness.

A prayer of Bernard of Clairvaux (1090 – 1153). He was the main inspiration of the Cistercian Order of Monks.

May Day Prayer

Might of the Triune our shield in distress,
The paschal Christ's might with his peace to bless,
Spirit's might, Healer of salvation's state,
The gracious King's might, precious Father great.

Bless us ourselves, the children that we own,
Our generations bless that shall be sown,
Bless the sire who gave unto us our name,
And bless her, O God, from whose womb we came.

The cross of Christ be our shield down today,
The cross of Christ our shield up on our way,
The cross of Christ round be our shield and stay,
Taking at our hands the blessing of May,
At our hands blessing of the Beltane Day.

An ancient Celtic prayer from Benbecula

The Inexperienced Gardener

A vicar, from Islington way,
Permitted his rose to decay.
His wife, with more vigour
Bought a hose with a trigger
And said to her spouse, "let us spray!"

By Nigel Beeton

Editor: Nigel Beeton pays tribute to church magazine editors.

Duty Done (For this month)

Sitting there, on Sunday morning,
Congregations in their pews
Read their magazines, informing
Them of all the latest news.

All save one who sits there smiling –
She knows that journal very well
Having spent a month compiling –
She knows what those pages tell!

She it was who, deadlines facing
Got those varied items in
Phoning, asking, pleading, chasing
Each a battle she must win!

Though she earns no princely wages
Though she gladly gives her time
Efficiently she fills those pages
Choosing pictures, prose, and rhyme.

So she sits, her rest deserving
For this month her duty's done
Maybe she's just strength conserving –
Soon she starts another one!

By Nigel Beeton

The Churchyard - Issue 5 - First Published January 1962

Outside the Church, under the East window is the grave of the Revd. Thomas Wright, Vicar of Evvlesfield, who died on 5th February, 1690, aged 80. From his induction to the living on 22nd December, 1638 to his death he witnessed the greatest changes in the mode of worship and the appearance of the Church that have ever occurred over a short span of years. Five years after his induction he was ejected in 1643, but though the law of Westminster-had to be obeyed, he went with dignity, preaching a farewell sermon with an appropriate text, 'He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed; shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him'.

During the next few years worship must have been very different, for the use of the Book of Common Prayer was forbidden until the Restoration of Charles II in 1660. Perhaps the greatest loss to our Church was the destruction of the beautiful stained glass windows, then over 150 years old, which had been described by Dodworth in 1628 as some of the finest he had seen in a parish church. Fortunately they are described in detail in the Dodworth manuscripts. At that time the altar was removed, and any raised ground in the chancel for the altar was levelled to, the general floor level. The communion table must have been moved considerably as it was required that the communicants should sit about it. Another strange requirement was that the burial of the dead was to be done without any prayers or religious ceremony.

The first Vicar after Vicar Wright's ejection was Immanuel Knutton who was buried in the chancel on 28th November, 1655. He was followed by Rowland Hancock though at what date is not clear. Hallamshire states that he was inducted in 1651 or 1652, but other records say that Mr. Knutton was still the Vicar at his death. Vicar Hancock remained until 1660 when, at the Restoration, he in turn was ejected. The confusion of these times is shown from the fact that he was appointed in April, 1661 by the Church Burgesses of Sheffield to be 'assistant Minister of their Parish Church. True to his convictions of non-conformity he was forced to resign from that office in the following year. As he continued to preach he was sent to prison at York Castle in 1668, and later after a long, painful illness died in 1685.

Vicar Wright's prediction of his farewell sermon prior to his ejection came true and he was reinstated at the Restoration. He enjoyed thirty years in office before his death, during which time he must have had a happy relationship with the people of Ecclesfield, for in his will he left money to the Parish. What a pity that three Vicars, all sincere in their own ways, and obviously liked by the people, should have been pawns in the political game of that time.

F. S. Hague

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

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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)
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Leader - Bryony Hemming
Tel. 07983 719155
Group Scout Leader
John Otter Tel. 0114 246 1752

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Ann Hackett	246 7159
Sue Harland	245 0006

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Andrew Robinson 246 3646

Michael Waldron 246 3091

Pat Clarke	257 7191
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Stephanie Dale 245 2392

Pat Wood	246 5086
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Tuesday 9:00 am to 1.00 pm

Thursday 9.00 am to 12.00 pm 245 0106

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

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

1st Wednesday of month 1:00 pm

Contact: Stephanie Hartshorne 245 9435

Thursday 7.30 pm - Contact: Anne Rostron 245 5492

Tuesday 7:30 pm Contact: Phil Hirst 286 2766

Contact us on: 0780 307 8223

Baptisms: Contact – Pat Clarke 257 7191

Weddings: Contact: Revd Tim Gill 257 0002

“ Or email: tim.gill@sheffield.anglican.org

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