News & Views From St Mary's Church Ecclesfield



Church Magazine August 2021

stmarysecclesfield.org.uk



First Words

The relaxing of Covid restrictions has begun, it is very tentative, and everyone is aware of the infection rates and the spread of new variants. Nevertheless, it is good to be able to do more things and to have a little more normality after almost 18months!

In Church we are asking people to sanitise their hands on entering and leaving the building, and to wear masks especially when moving around Church.

On **Tuesday 3rd August** we are planning to re-open the Church **Coffee Shop** every **Tuesday and Friday from 10am to 12 noon.** it will be so good to be able to sit and talk to one another over coffee and cake again! If you are able to help, please speak to Ann Hackett.

We are back to our usual pattern of services at St Mary's with **Midweek Eucharist every Thursday at 9.30am**, **Parish Eucharist** at **10am every Sunday** (once a month Service of the Word), and **Evening Worship** every **Sunday at 6.30pm**.

The funeral of our former organist and Choir-master Don Knott will be held in Church on Monday 9th August at 1pm.

Also on **Monday 9th August at 7pm** there is a meeting of the **Fabric Committee** in Church followed by a **Wedding Rehearsal at 8pm**.

On Tuesday 10th August at 5pm there will be a Wedding Rehearsal in Church.

On **Sunday 15th August at the 10am** Eucharist we will be celebrating our Patronal Festival.

There is a Wedding on Saturday 14th August at 1pm, and another on Friday 20th August at 2pm.

Items for the September PCC Meeting should be with Tim by Monday 23rd August please!

Finally on Wednesday 25th August there will be a Wedding Blessing in Church at 12.15pm.

Bellringers, Choir and Music Group can meet in Church to practise once again!

God bless, Tim.

Clicking on images and links in the online magazine may tell you more... Front Cover – Gladioli – birth flower for August Back Cover – Pic-Nic Sunday 18th July 2021

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Prayer for the Month

"Here I am, the servant of the Lord. Let it be with me according to your word."

On Sunday August the 15th the Church celebrates Mary, the mother of Christ. Mary is, of course, our patron saint, and we will make 15th August a special celebration this year.

Mary is a very controversial saint in the history of the church. There are some Christians who venerate her almost as much as they do Jesus, while others ignore her.

But Mary is an important figure in the gospels. She can be seen as the first disciple of Jesus and she stayed with Jesus at the foot of the Cross. Mary not only witnessed the resurrection, she was also with the disciples in the Upper Room at Pentecost when the Holy Spirit fell upon the Church.

The simple prayer that Mary spoke when Gabriel called her and told her that she was to be the mother of the saviour is a model prayer for everyone who follows Jesus:

"Here I am, the servant of the Lord. Let it be with me according to your word."

When Mary was called by God to be the mother of Christ she was still a young woman - only in her teens. She was a member of a defeated nation whose land had been annexed by the Roman Empire. As a woman she was very much a second-class citizen with no power and few rights.

As an unmarried mother she would be under suspicion of grave sin and, if Joseph had not stood by her, she could have been stoned to death. Saying "Yes" to God was costly for Mary! At the very least it cost her her reputation and good name.

As I read Mary's very simple and short prayer, it strikes me that it is the opposite of what we are told and encouraged to believe today. We are always told that if we only believe in ourselves we can achieve anything.

While it is true that lack of confidence and self-belief can hold us back in life, it is simply not true that we can achieve anything that we want - talent and ability and other factors can stop us from fulfilling our dreams. I know this because I would love to be a great singer and the simple fact is that no amount of self-belief will ever make me able to hold a tune, or even keep time!

Mary trusted not in herself but in God: "Let it be with me according to your word." She trusted that God could work in and through her to bring salvation to our world. She said "Yes" to God, but it is God at work in and through her that Mary trusts.

Mary is for me a model of discipleship and hers is a model prayer for every Christian.

We follow Christ and we serve the Father - God does not exist to answer our prayers or grant our wishes. But if we trust God and act on that trust, as Mary did, God can do more through us and in us that we ever thought possible.

Mary's is a simple prayer, it is very easy to commit to memory, and if we do that we can meditate on it as we go about our daily lives, asking how we can let God work in and through us today, in this place among these people. If we do this it will become more than a prayer, it will become a way of living.

God bless, Tim.

Editor – The Dormination of the Virgin Mary on August 15 is an important Greek Orthodox holiday dating back to Byzantine times that is celebrated with a procession featuring an icon of the Virgin Mary. Most Byzantine churches celebrate the holiday, but the most important ceremony takes place on the island of <u>Tinos</u> at a monastery built near to where an 80 year old nun had a vision of the Virgin Mary.

Every year thousands of pilgrims come from all over Greece for a festival that lasts the entire month of August. The pilgrims receive a blessing in return for a solemn promise or offering. On the 15th the town is deluged with people attending the procession and religious services. In the side streets street fairs are held. Some devout people crawl on hands and knees from the port to the church of <u>Our Lady of Tinos</u> to obtain a blessing you can read more here <u>Link</u>

Interestingly Tinos is the next island down from Andros where we holiday when we can, and we have made several visits to the island, and it is still packed with pilgrims even in September.



God and The Arts

Editor: The Rev Michael Burgess continues his series on God in the Arts with 'Jacob's Dream' by Ribera. It now hangs in the Museo del Prado, Madrid, Spain. You can see a copy of the painting at: http://www.spanisharts.com/history/barroco/imagenes/ribera/ribera_suenojacobo.html

'The Lord is in this place'

In the 3rd century a Chinese philosopher, Chang Tsu, had a very vivid dream. He dreamed he was a butterfly, happily flying here and there. When he awoke, he thought to himself, 'Did Chang Tsu dream that he was a butterfly, or did the butterfly dream that it was Chang Tsu?' Dreams are often like that: crucial experiences which cause us to ponder and wonder about their meaning. The prophet Joel suggested that it was old men who dream dreams, while young people see visions. But dreams invade and colour our sleeping hours, whatever age we are.



In the Bible dreams are vital events. Think of Joseph in the Old Testament dreaming of his superiority among his brothers, the dreams of the cup bearer and baker at Pharoah's court, Daniel interpreting Nebuchadnezzar's dreams, and Joseph's dreams in the Gospels that were so crucial for the safety of the Holy Family. This month in our paintings we focus on 'Jacob's Dream' by Ribera.

Jusepe de Ribera was a Spanish artist, whose most productive years were spent in Naples, where he died in 1652. This painting from 1639 is based on Genesis 28. After depriving his brother Esau of his birthright, Jacob is sent to Laban. At Bethel he rested and in his sleep received the vision of God's angels on the ladder to heaven with God's reassuring words of promise and blessing. When he awoke, Jacob set up an altar at Bethel, which he declared was the house of God and the gate of heaven.

To baroque artists, this scene in Genesis was seen as a prefiguration of the coming of Jesus, and in John's Gospel Jesus Himself told Nathanael that he would see the angels ascending and descending upon the Son of Man. For Ribera the subject of Jacob's dream is treated with great tenderness as Jacob sleeps beneath the luminous expanse of sky, which occupies a major part of the canvas. Not for him the depiction of winged messengers; no, the light of heaven falls down upon the sleeping figure, casting shadows on the ground. The angels, ethereal and insubstantial, are contained in the glory of light. The tree at the other side looks like a fallen cross, and Jacob almost like a sleeping disciple in Gethsemane. But here, he is in deep repose as his face is lit up with the golden glow of the heavenly messengers.

For Jacob, the dream is the golden assurance of God's blessing. As his saga continues in Genesis, he marries Laban's daughters, wrestles with the divine stranger, is given the name Israel, and his 12 sons become the ancestors of the 12 tribes of God's people. So, the blessing of the dream is worked out in his life and the life of Israel.

Dreams can come to give visions of the way life should be. Like Jacob, or perhaps like Martin Luther King and his prophetic words in 1963. In this month of August many of us will go on holiday to enjoy rest and recreation. As we end the days with sleep, we pray that like the Psalmist we will lie down in perfect peace and safety and know the refreshment Jacob found at Bethel: a repose which will restore our souls and bodies to bring life and vision wherever we may be.

St James the Least of All

Press one for vicar, two for curate....12 for prayer....

The Rectory St. James the Least

My dear Nephew Darren.

Now you have got your new telephone system in the parish, I shall not be calling you again. I refuse to wait for ten minutes every time I ring to have to listen to the cycle of 'press 1 for the vicar, 2 for the curate, 3 for the secretary', until we end with '12 for requests for prayer.' I was tempted to leave a message on 12 to ask that the wretched machine would break down, but then realised I would have to call a second time to leave a message on 13 for making a confession.

And if I have to listen one more time to someone playing 'Thine be the glory' on one finger on an electric organ while I am 'on hold' I will have him excommunicated. At least you have the grace not to ask me not to hang up, as my call is important to you. I would even warm to your system if a voice occasionally said that they couldn't care less whether I hung up or not, as my call was utterly irrelevant to them.

Those poor people who have to wait to reach 7 for leaving messages regarding marriages might as well leave a second message on 8 for baptisms, and save on a large phone bill in months to come. As for 9 for funerals, entire families could be born, marry and die before they reach that one. And may I suggest that your car parking attendant who stuck a note on my windscreen telling me not to park there again is given the number 666.

My own answerphone tells people firmly that the machine does not accept incoming messages, and that I only answer personally on Thursdays between 10am and 12 noon, provided nothing better has turned up. Alternatively, they could write me a letter which may (or may not) be answered, at my convenience.

As for the few who have got hold of my mobile number, my response is to say that I am just about to enter a tunnel and then to switch it off. Callers from other parts of the country now believe that the parish of St James the Least is honeycombed by mile-long tunnels, making communication all but impossible.

You can now be assured that your new system means you will be contactable at any moment, wherever you happen to be. But don't call me to complain and expect to receive sympathy; I shall be just about to enter a tunnel.

Your loving uncle, Eustace

Help needed in the church garden

If you can, mow, weed, strim, sweep, pickup sticks, rake leaves or drive a sit on mower, we need you. If you can spare just one or two hours a week it would be a great help. Not only will the church look good, but you might even feel your spiritual and physical well-being improve and in our small way help the environment. We come to the churchyard every Tuesday and Friday afternoon (weather permitting) followed by a drinks and biscuits, sometimes even a cake.

Any help most welcome. Thank you. Pat Wood

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Thought for the Month

I was in an online seminar on prayer and spirituality recently. One of the participants previously worked in post-war reconstruction. He worked alongside the United Nations in places like Kosovo and Rwanda. He was speaking about life after the end of the Covid 19 pandemic, and he said that one of the lessons he had learned from post-war reconstruction is that you cannot build things back as they were before.

Although I personally do not like the phrase "The new normal" it is a reminder that things have changed because of the pandemic. I am not the same person that I was two years ago, and neither are you. Things have changed in society and in the Church.

I have noticed how tired we all are, how we all seem to be more that 18 months older! Will we have the energy that we once had for the mission and ministry of the Church. Some people will have lost the habit of meeting together for worship, there may be some who have connected with St Mary's through the internet services who will begin to attend in person.

I believe that we have all seen just how precious community is, the ability to meet together. I hope that we have seen the value of people whose work before the pandemic we thought to be of little worth - we have discovered how much we need care workers and cleaners, shop workers and lorry drivers; we have also learned once again what a great national treasure the NHS is - something not to be taken for granted.

One lesson that the Church has learned is the value of every Christian having confidence in their faith and relationship with God, so that, if cut off from the Church, they can sustain a deep and life-giving relationship with Christ.

As I begin to look forward to the complete end of this pandemic I will be thinking about how we can rebuild a resilient community of mutual care and care for neighbour - how can we renew our Pastoral teams? I will be exploring how we can pray with and for one another, both in the formal context of Church services and every day - Prayer Ministry will be a priority. I will also be thinking about how we can grow together in a deep and confident relationship with God, through prayer and scripture: how can I help people to become more confident in reading the Bible for themselves and in prayer.

And then there is the privilege of sharing in the lives of our neighbours at important times in their lives. How can we help people who come for Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals to meet with God in their joy and sorrow?

We will re-build a different society and a different Church as a result of the past two years of pandemic. If we are to meet the challenge of 'the new normal' we will need to be a community rooted in prayer, supporting one another, and responding together to God's call.

We are the people that God has called to be faithful to Christ in this time and place. Can we respond to Christ's call?

The great Anglican prayer, the Collect for purity, comes to my mind as I think about life after Covid:

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

For we are called in these days as we are in every time and place to love and glorify the Father by our lives and words and thoughts and prayers.

God bless you,

Tim.

Grenoside Singers – Hope Springs Eternal!

Having edged slowly through the Government's roadmap for moving towards some sort of normality it seems that we may at last be able to sing together again in the nottoo-distant future. Members have not met since early March 2020 but



have kept in contact with each other via weekly Zoom meetings. As a cautious start back to the new normal, social evenings were arranged for the last two Mondays in July and they have been very well attended. Following the usual August break, and subject to government safety rules, rehearsals are planned to start once again from Monday 6th September at 7.30pm. It will be quite thrilling to begin to experience the joy of singing in a group again which is an experience we have missed so much over the past eighteen months. It will no doubt be a very emotional occasion when it happens.

After such a long break, this would be an ideal time to join the choir as we will all be almost starting from the beginning. We sing a wide range of music including classical, show music and pop music. If you would like to join the Grenoside Singers, or just come along to a rehearsal to see if it is something you would enjoy, please feel free to contact us (contact details at the back of this edition of this magazine) – or just turn up on 6th September at St. Mark's Church Hall. You will receive a very warm welcome and hopefully decide to become a member of our choir.

Judith Gill

From the Registers

Baptisms:

Funerals

Sunday	11th July	Freddie Anton Lee
Sunday	25th July	Noah Hanson & Teddy Hanson
Sunday	25th July	Edward John Frost

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

Marriages Saturday	17th July	Jamie Richards & Laura Reader
Thursday	22nd July	David Simcock & Hannah Day
Saturday	24th July	Christopher Meggitt & Katrina Armitage
Saturday	24th July	Kristian James Stephenson & Carley Leanne Straw
Friday	30th July	Daniel Johnson & Leanne Rodgers

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

Monday	5th July	Jean Corbett 91	
Monday	12th July	Pauline Shipman	75
Thursday	15th July	Roy Nutbrown	
Thursday	29th July	John Simester	77

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

Miscellaneous observations on life as a Christian....

One day we stand to lose everything - except those qualities that have eternal value. - *David Watson*

The weaker we feel, the harder we lean on God. And the harder we lean, the stronger we grow. *- Joni Eareckson Tada*

Never make the blunder of trying to forecast the way God is going to answer your prayer. - Oswald Chambers

In commanding us to glorify Him, God is inviting us to enjoy Him. - C S Lewis

We may pray most when we say least, and we may pray least when we say most. - *Augustine*

God has nothing to say to the self-righteous. - D L Moody

For every act of kindness and compassion done by any man for his fellow Christian is done by Christ working in him. - *Julian of Norwich*

It used to irritate a friend of mine that when he went to confession, he never got the chance to tell the priest the good things he had done. - *Monica Furlong*

A rumour is about as hard to unspread as butter. - Anon

God in the Sciences

This series is written by Dr Ruth M Bancewicz, who is Church Engagement Director at The Faraday Institute for Science and Religion in Cambridge. Ruth writes on the positive relationship between Science and Christian faith.

Physicist and Priest: John Polkinghorne (1930-2021)

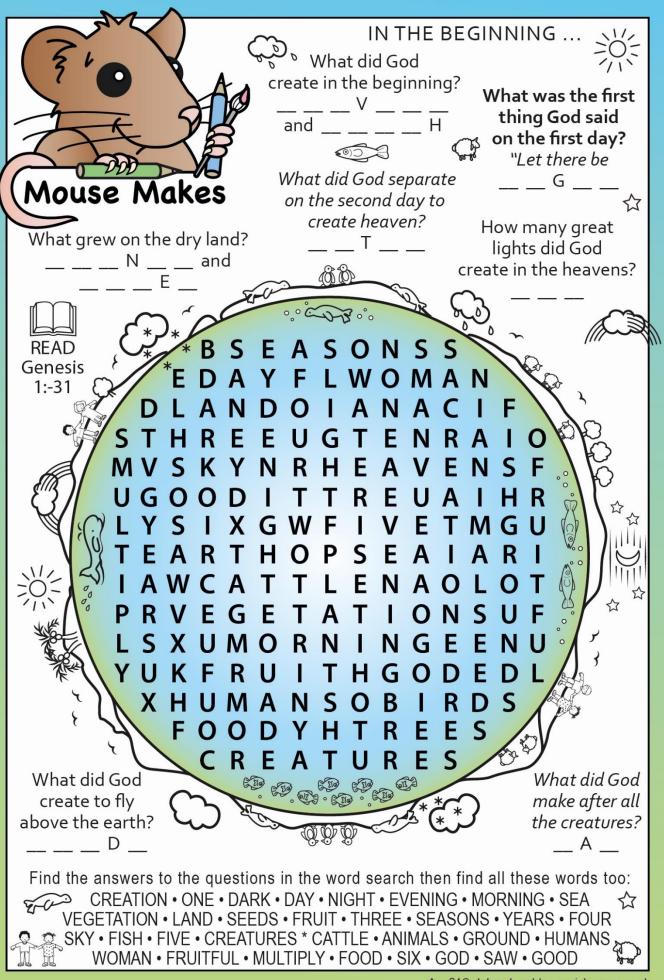
At the age of 48 the Cambridge Professor John Polkinghorne decided he'd done his bit for physics and that it was time for a different sort of adventure. Resigning his academic position, he trained for ordination in the Church of England. In an interview 40 years later he said, "It's one thing to go to church on Sundays but to give up a professorship and train for something else – that was a bit more than a gesture ... I think a lot of people realised I was a religious person but they didn't expect me take it quite that to seriously...People were saying to me, 'Oh John what are you up to?' They mostly weren't thinking so much about my becoming a clergyman but just the fact that I was a Christian." (From Test of Faith, Paternoster, 2009)



John saw his work in science as a Christian vocation, and felt a responsibility to use his talents in that area. Once ordained he found himself thoroughly engaged in the conversation about science and religion. One of his main messages was that *"I'm not a vegetarian butcher.* There is a cousinly relationship between thinking about theology and thinking about science."

When asked for a Bible passage to appear at the end of his 2009 interview John chose Colossians 1:15–20: 'He is the image of the invisible God, the first-born over all creation. For by him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things were created by him and for him. He is before all things, and in him all things hold together. And he is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning and the first-born from among the dead, so that in everything he might have the supremacy. For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross.'

John's explanation for his choice speaks volumes to anyone interested in the science-faith dialogue. *"I value this passage because it speaks of the cosmic significance of Christ, the One in whom all things hold together and who redeems all things (notice, not just all people) by the blood of his cross. Here meet my deepest religious beliefs and my strongest scientific concerns."*



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Five things we've learnt about Truth in the pandemic

Editor: By the Reverne Peter Crumpler, a Church of England priest in St Albans, Herts, and a former communications director for the C of E.

I'm involved in a project rooted in the Church of England's St Albans diocese, north of London. We bring together people from a range of backgrounds and faiths to address the question 'Where is Truth now?' A vital issue for us from recent months has been 'How has truth fared during the pandemic? Here are five key points.

Truth can save your life.

Knowing the truth about the Covid-19 virus and vaccines gave vital protection during the pandemic. The advice of scientists, health professionals and researchers has been widely sought out and debated. But we've also seen a rise in conspiracy theories, anti-vaccination campaigns and growing confusion as people challenge the extent of the pandemic, and whether Covid-19 is really a threat. Social media algorithms stand accused of spreading misinformation faster than reliable facts and corrections.

Truth comes from trust.

Knowing who to trust is one of the fastest growing challenges facing anyone wanting to know more about the pandemic and its causes. While faith in doctors and scientists is generally good, trust in politicians has remained low, and scepticism and confusion are growing.

Truth can be found on your doorstep – but not always.

Local information has become more important, especially during lockdowns. But with local newspapers and radio in decline, neighbourhood social media networks have been taking their place, spreading information – not all of it verifiable and sometimes incorrect. Often, it's fear that drives our response to the stories we read. We eagerly consume stories highlighting a new 'threat' from Covid or scapegoating people not keeping to the lockdown rules. We respond emotionally, 'with our gut' – rather than our brain or intellect.

Truth has to be valued and protected.

Reliable, trusted journalism has been at a premium. ITV News journalist Julie Etchingham defended the role of the media during Covid-19. The news presenter, a practising Roman Catholic, explained: "Many in our front-line services and the wider public are demanding answers. We are there on their behalf." In December 2020, Yorkshire Post editor James Mitchinson, published his response to a reader who believed social media posts over his newspaper's reports. The open letter, headlined 'Do not believe a stranger on social media who disappears into the night' sets out the contrast between verified public interest journalism and disinformation posted online.

Truth can be complicated – and that's ok.

Throughout the pandemic, politicians have spoken about 'following the science.' This, they have said, has guided their decision making. Yet scientists can have a range of views, based on similar research findings. It's in the discussion and debate that scientific truth arises. People accept that the 'scientific evidence' is not always straightforward. We know that truth can be complicated, from our own daily lives. So politicians who level with their electors about the complexity of the decisions are often received with more credibility. In continuing to ask the question "Where is Truth Now?" our modest project is helping to keep the conversation going – and encouraging others to do the same.

Editor's Lockdown Humour

don't forget to click on the pictures and links to learn more!

Son, "Dad I'm considering a career in <u>Organised Crime</u>" – Father, "Government or Private Sector?"

<u>Northern Soul</u> - 1st DJ, "How many <u>Motown</u> Groups can you name?" – 2nd DJ, "Two, maybe three – four tops"

Whatever you do always give 100%, unless you are donating blood...

Summer heat - 33Deg C: in Spain feels like 33^o C, in France it feels like 33^o C, in Greece it feels like 33^o C, in England it feels like <u>Satan</u> is pouring molten <u>lava</u> into your pores..

There is no such thing as a grouchy old person. The truth is, once you get old, you stop being polite and start being honest.

<u>Gobbledygook</u> - The term gobbledygook was coined by <u>Maury Maverick</u>, a former congressman from Texas and former mayor of San Antonio.

Struggling to understand the hype around Jeff Bezos and Richard Branson going to space when <u>a guy from Wigan</u> (and his dog) <u>reached the Moon</u> in a homemade rocket in 1989? A Grand Day Out

Children's Kitchen Terms:

BOIL: The point a parent reaches upon hearing "Yuck" before a food is even tasted. <u>CASSEROLE</u>: Combination of favourite foods that go uneaten because they are mixed together.

DESSERT: The reason for eating a meal.

EVAPORATE: Magic trick performed by children when it comes time to clear the table. FRUIT: Something that is never to be confused with dessert.

REFRIGERATOR: A very expensive and inefficient room air conditioner when not being used as an art gallery.

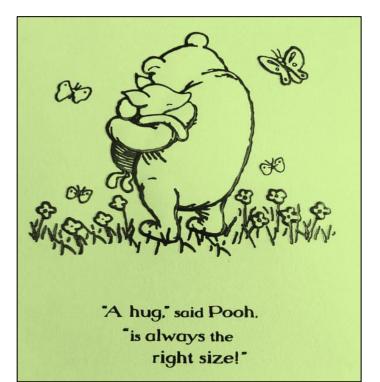
TABLE LEG: Percussion instrument.



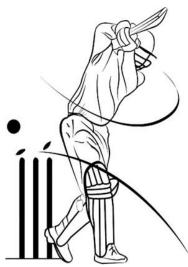
Frank Edward Wilson 1940 – 2012

Song writer, record producer and minister

He wrote <u>Do I Love You (Indeed I Do)</u> the most sought-after Motown and Northern Soul record of all time.



Whitley Hall Cricket Club



July has been an extremely challenging month for the 1st XI with 3 defeats in the Premier League to Doncaster, Tickhill and Barnsley plus a defeat in the quarter-final of the Viking Cup at home to Driffield. For the game on 24th July, Sheffield Collegiate visited Baxter Field and Whitley chose to bat, achieving a score of 220 for 4 after 50 overs. As the fielding side, Whitley made a brilliant start with Collegiate down to 23 for 4 but the Collegiate midfield dug in with veteran cricketer Richard Kettleborough, now an elite umpire, making 41 runs. The game ended with Collegiate overhauling the Whitley total with 2 balls remaining. The 1st XI is in 9th position out of 12 in the Premier League with some work to do in the remaining 6 matches to ensure their position in the Premier League is secure.

The 2nd XI continues to have a mixed season and heads into August in mid-table in League 1 with the third team continuing an amazing season at the top of the League 7 table.

All are welcome to matches and are invited to use our facilities - safety procedures aginst COVID are still being advised

Fixtures at Baxter Field, Cinder Hill Lane, 12 noon

31 st July	2 nd XI	V	South Kirby 1 st XI
7 th August	2 nd XI	V	Shiregreen 1 st XI
14 th August	1 st XI	V	Treeton 1 st XI
21 st August	2 nd XI	V	Wakefield 2 nd XI
28 th August	1 st XI	V	Wickersley 1 st XI
4 th September	2 nd XI	V	Rotherham 1 st XI
11 th September	2 nd XI	V	Sheffield United 1 st XI

Secretary: Joe Webster: <u>whitleyhall@ycspl.co.uk</u> Website: <u>www.Whitleyhall.play-cricket.com</u>

Andrew Robinson

EPPiC Theatre

We are delighted to say that the regular Saturday coffee mornings can begin again in the upstairs lounge at the <u>EPPiC Theatre</u>, Ecclesfield S35 9TP

Come and join us on Saturday 24th July 10am to 12noon and be sure of a very warm welcome!!

Val Baggett

Saint of the month - 14th August - Maximilian Kolbe

Christian witness amidst 20th century suffering - Some people's lives seem to epitomise the suffering of millions, but also to shine with a Christian response to it. One such person was Maximilian Kolbe, 1894 - 1941, a Franciscan priest of Poland, and publisher extraordinary.

Maximilian was born at Zdunska Wola, near Lodz, where his parents, devout Christians, worked in a cottage weaving industry. Like thousands of others at the time, the family and their village were ground into poverty by Russian exploitation. In 1910 Maximilian entered the Franciscan Order and studied at Rome. After his ordination in 1919, Maximilian returned to Poland, where he was sent to teach church history in a seminary. But a new factor had entered his life: he was diagnosed with tuberculosis.

Living in post-war Poland was difficult enough, but with tuberculosis as well? Most people would have quietly withered away. Not Maximilian Kolbe. Instead, the tuberculosis gave Maximilian a sense of urgency - a sense of the transitory nature of life. He knew his time was slipping away. Instead of teaching history, he determined to do something to help the Christians living in Poland now, in the tatters of Europe after the First World War. And so, he founded a magazine for Christian readers in Cracow, who badly needed effective apologetics to help them hold to their faith in a chaotic world.

Soon, the obsolete printing presses (which were operated by Maximilian's fellow priests and lay brothers) were working overtime - the magazine's circulation had leapt to 45,000. Then the printing presses were moved to a town near Warsaw, Niepokalanow, where Maximilian now founded a Franciscan community which combined prayer with cheerfulness and poverty with modern technology: daily as well as weekly newspapers were soon produced. The community grew and grew, until by the late 1930s it numbered 762 friars.

Then in 1939 the Germans invaded Poland. Maximilian sent most of his friars home, to protect them from what was to come. He turned the monastery into a refugee camp for 3,000 Poles and 1,500 Jews. And the presses continued: taking a patriotic, independent line, critical of the Third Reich.

Kolbe was arrested by the Gestapo along with four friars. They were taken to Auschwitz in May 1941. Their names were exchanged for tattooed numbers; and they were sent to brutal forced labour.

But Maximilian Kolbe continued his priestly ministry. He heard confessions in unlikely places, and smuggled in bread and wine for the Eucharist. His sympathy and compassion for those even more unfortunate than himself was outstanding.

Then came the final scene in his hard life. At the end of July, 1941, several men escaped from his bunker at the camp. The Gestapo, in revenge, came to select several more men from the same bunker who were to be starved to death. A man, Francis Gajowniczek, was chosen. As he cried in despair, Kolbe stepped forward.

"I am a Catholic priest. I wish to die for that man. I am old; he has a wife and children." The officer in charge shrugged his shoulders - and obliged. So Maximilian went to the death chamber of Cell 18, and set about preparing the others to die with dignity by prayers, psalms, and the example of Christ's Passion. Two weeks later only four were left alive: Maximilian alone was fully conscious. He was injected with phenol and died on 14 August, aged 47.

He was beatified by Paul VI in 1971. In 1982 he was canonised by Pope John Paul II, formerly Archbishop of Cracow, the diocese which contains Auschwitz. Present at the ceremony that day was Francis Gajowniczek, the man whose life Maximilian Kolbe had Saved

The Blessed Virgin Mary

'Shall we not love thee, Mother dear?'

The Church responds with a resounding 'Yes' to that question, as we celebrate the Blessed Virgin Mary on 15th August. (Usually her feast day is on the 16th.) An ancient name for this day is the transition of Mary – her crossing over to eternal life – or the assumption of Mary. But her story begins in the Gospels, in Nazareth and Bethlehem.

At the Annunciation, Gabriel announces the good news to Mary. She becomes a mother and embarks on a journey that takes her to the temple in Jerusalem, a wedding feast at Cana, the Cross of Calvary, and the upper room of Pentecost. Through Christian history her story has spoken to people in every age and culture and land.



As we look at her life now, there are two qualities that stand out. The first is thanksgiving. Mary came from a people that realised the importance of thanking God, and her response to the good news is to raise her heart in the words of the Magnificat. 'My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord and my spirit exults in God my saviour.'

The second quality is trust. Rowan Williams has written that despite the years of controversy about the place of our Lady, we still need to hold out our hands to her for guidance and succour. "For at the very least she is the first person to put her trust in God who is shown in Jesus." Through all that happened to her – the amazing news of Gabriel, no room at the inn, the worry over wine at the wedding – Mary ponders and trusts. To the servants at Cana, she says, "Do whatever Jesus tells you. It will be all right. You will see."

Thanksgiving and trust: easy enough to see in our Lady, but perhaps more difficult to own for ourselves. Yet Mary assures us that with God all things are possible. Holding on to that faith, we can journey with her Son through life and death to eternal life.



The Gardening Year – August 2021

Window Boxes - if you are limited to very small containers, such as window boxes, you won't be able to grow a row of large cabbages. but you can succeed fully grown lettuce and some herbs.

Most people waste half the salad they buy because it goes off before they can eat it all, so don't underestimate the power of being self-sufficient in salad leaves. Shop bought herbs often die soon after you get them home. you will have much more success with home grown, so these make ideal plants for window boxes.

Hanging baskets maybe you don't have outdoor ledges or a balcony, but you have a south facing wall. In this case hanging baskets or a wall planter is for you. Even though they are small and require vigilant watering some crops can thrive if well looked after. There are special varieties of tumbling cherry tomatoes that grow well in hanging baskets. Strawberries, edible plants such as nasturtium and even some herbs can be a success. with planting and care you can grow an entire meal in a hanging basket.

Space for your plants some plants such as a squash, like to spread themselves sideways, whereas beans can grow very tall. All of this needs to be considered when deciding what to grow. Do you have room to; let plants spread, or do you need more compact crops such as carrots? If you are growing on a roof top or balcony will high winds, be a problem to tall crops? The last thing you want is your crop being damaged by a strong gust of wind. If you don't have enough room for your plants to spread, they will not reach their full potential.

Space for you, don't forget that you need space too. Although it's tempting to fill the plot with all sorts of containers and crops, you need room to move around safely and easily, if it's difficult to get around your containers to tend to your plants, the chances are you will have some casualties to deal with. Allow room around your containers for you to water, tend, and harvest. this would make it easier and more pleasurable.

Colin Williams

Eat the Seasons – August

Vegetables - Artichoke, Aubergine, Beetroot, Broad Beans, Broccoli, Carrots, Chillies, Courgettes, Cucumber, Fennel, French Beans, Garlic, Kohlrabi, Lettuce & Salad Leaves, Mangetout, Marrow, Onions, Pak Choi, Peas, Peppers, Potatoes (Maincrop), Radishes, Rocket, Runner Beans, Spring Onions, Sweetcorn, Tomatoes, Turnips, Watercress, Wild Mushrooms

Fruit - Apricots, Bilberries, Blueberries, Cherries, Damsons, Figs, Greengages, Loganberries, Melons, Nectarines, Peaches, Plums, Raspberries, Redcurrants, Strawberries

Herbs - Basil, Chives, Coriander, Oregano, Mint, Parsley (Curly), Parsley (Flat-Leafed), Rosemary, Sage, Sorrel, Tarragon, Thyme

Meat – Beef, Lamb, Rabbit, Venison, Wood Pigeon

Fish – Cod, Coley, Crab, Dab, Dover Sole, Grey Mullet, Haddock, Halibut, Herring, Langoustine, Lemon Sole, Mackerel, Monkfish, Pilchard, Plaice, Pollack, Prawns, Red Mullet, Salmon, Sardines, Scallops (Queen), Sea Bass (Wild), Sea Bream, Sea Trout, Shrimp, Squid, Whelks

Visit - www.eattheseasons.co.uk

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The scammers will come after you

Do you have a new phone and new number? Be prepared: it is likely that scammers will still be texting you within just two weeks.

A Which? survey has found that of new numbers that have not been shared with anyone, still half of them receive at least one scam text message within the first two weeks.

Scammers do it by using computers to generate numbers. They then send messages out in bulk, using 'Sim farms' – devices that operate several cards at a time.

The most frequently received scam message for all of us in recent months has been a text message claiming to be from <u>Royal Mail</u>, usually requesting small amounts of money for a parcel to be delivered. 70 per cent of us have received that fake delivery text over the past five months.

Want a coffee?

Drinking three cups of coffee a day is good for you. A recent study has found that it can cut your chance of dying from chronic liver disease by up to half.

On average, coffee drinkers seem to have a 21 per cent reduced risk of developing chronic liver disease, and a 49 per cent reduced risk of death from the condition. Researchers found that the optimum intake for health is three or four cups a day.

The results apply to all kinds of coffee, whether instant, ground, or decaf versions, although the instant is slightly less effective. This may be due to the lower levels in instant coffee of the liver-protecting chemicals <u>Kahweol</u> and <u>Cafestol</u>.

The study at the universities of Southampton and Edinburgh studied almost half a million Britons for a decade, to assess the link between coffee intake and health. The findings were published in the journal BMC Public Health.

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Crossword Puzzle - Solution is here

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It is time to eat Rabbit

Wild rabbit meat, which is leaner and tastier than the farmed variety, has a fabulous subtle, gamey flavour (very different from richly flavoured hare). It is available throughout the year but you're more likely to find the best sized rabbits from July to December. Regional dishes reflect the fact that rabbit is very versatile and works well with those flavours often used in chicken dishes, such as mustard and cream (France), tomato and herbs (Italy), and chilli (South



America). The rabbit is native to North Africa and Spain. The Romans began importing rabbits to Italy in around the third century BC. From the fifteenth century on it was common practice for sailors and explorers to release breeding rabbits on islands to provide a supply of fresh meat. The rabbit is now found throughout Europe, South America and Australasia. In the first half of the twentieth century the rabbit population exploded. Myxomatosis, introduced as a form of pest control in Australia in 1951, and later in Europe, killed more than 95% of rabbit populations.

Today rabbit meat is not very popular in Britain, perhaps in part because of its association with food shortages during WWII. It is appreciated much more elsewhere in Europe and appears regularly on the dinner table in Italy, France, Belgium, Spain, and Cyprus. Malta and Crete compete for highest rabbit consumption per head of population.

The rabbit is a member of the family Leporidae, which includes the hare. Rabbits are gregarious and nocturnal animals that feed on grasses and herbaceous plants but will also eat bark when grass is not available. Rabbits are highly efficient at converting plant proteins into animal proteins, their conversion rate is double that of cattle, for example.

Unlike much of Europe, rabbit is rarely seen in UK supermarkets, but is available from many butchers and food markets. It is also available by mail order from a number of suppliers, select rabbits by size; they should be large enough to yield a decent amount of meat, but not too large. Wild rabbits much larger than 1kg are prone to be tough. Younger, smaller animals will be more tender and better suited to quick cook methods such as roasting or barbecuing. Larger, older rabbits will have more flavour but may be less tender and so better suited to slower cooking.

Fresh rabbit will keep in the fridge for several days (or longer if vacuum packed). Freezing is not recommended as this can make the meat too dry. To joint a rabbit: cut the hind quarters away from the body and separate the legs. Halve the leg joints. Cut the body (saddle) horizontally through the backbone into two or three portions, stopping at the rib cage. Cut lengthways through the breastbone and divide the ribcage section in half. As rabbit meat is very lean, care should be taken to prevent it from drying out during cooking. Marinading or barding (covering in a fat or wrapping in bacon) can help moisten the flesh during roasting or barbecuing.

https://www.greatbritishchefs.com/how-to-cook/how-to-cook-rabbit

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Spread the word, and happy shopping!

Chapeltown & District Probus Club



The PROBUS Club is still meeting every month on the 2nd Wednesday with the Zoom system. We are planning to have our first face to face meeting in Grenoside Community Centre on 8th September when we have a really important presentation planned with police fraud specialist Andy Foster and a colleague on the fight against fraud, especially on the phone and the internet and what we can do to avoid fraud. The safety rules at the Community Centre in

Grenoside remain cautious in spite of rule relaxation and there will be a one way system, sanitisers, spacing of chairs and masks still recommended.

We had all loooked forward to returning to our after-meeting lunches at Whitley Hall. However, we were very disappointed to hear from Whitley Hall that, after over 15 years, they are now so busy that they are no longer able to accommodate us and have asked us to find an alternative venue. We will be going to the Acorn at Burncross on 8th September and probably to Wortley Hall for the rest of 2021.

We welcomed local historian David Templeman in July with more information about the history of local areas of Sheffield. In August we have our own Fred Dewhurst with the novel approach that Sheffield took to the provision of social housing around 1900, hopefully our final Zoom meeting. In October we welcome back Andrew Raftery, retired consultant surgeon, on the story of human organ transplants.

The annual membership fee is still reduced to £15 for this year only so there will never be a better time to join. If you are interested or would like to join a meeting as a guest, please make contact with the Secretary, Trevor Winslow (see below).

Upcoming meetings:-

11th August – Fred Dewhurst "The History of Sheffield Social Housing before WW1"
8th September – Andy Foster "Fraud, Cybercrime and Fake Phone Calls"
13th October – Andrew Raftery "The History of Organ Transplantation"

Our Secretary is Trevor Winslow – contact <u>chapeltown.probus@gmail.com</u> or the website <u>https://chapeltown-probus.org.uk/</u>

Andrew Robinson

Crossword Puzzle

Clues Across

- **1** Of Moses (6)
- 4 'You have been weighed on the and found wanting' (Daniel 5:27) (6)
- 7 Where Jesus performed the first of his miraculous signs (John 2:11) (4)
- 8 Roman emperor who ordered all the Jews to leave Rome (Acts 18:2) (8)

9 Member of a conservative Jewish party in the Sanhedrin which believed there was no resurrection

(Acts 23:8) (8)

- **13** South London Mission (1,1,1)
- 16 Sure of one's own ability (2 Corinthians 11:17) (4-9)

17 'At this the man's face fell. He went away — , because he had great wealth' (Mark 10:22) (3)

- 19 Airs used (anag.) (8)
- 24 'The Lord is my , I shall not be in want' (Psalm 23:1) (8)
- 25 'He has sent me to up the broken-hearted' (Isaiah 61:1) (4)
- 26 At or towards the rear of a ship (6)
- 27 Cross-carrying evangelist and world traveller, Blessitt (6)

Clues Down

- 1 Ridicule (Luke 18:32) (4)
- 2 Encased in strapped-on light shoes (Song of Songs 7:1) (9)
- 3 Cambridge Inter-Collegiate Christian Union (1,1,1,1,1)
- 4 'Father, give me my of your estate' (Luke 15:12) (5)
- **5** Assistant (4)
- 6 On a par (John 5:18) (5)
- 10 Credo (anag.) (5)
- 11 Beaten with a rod (5)

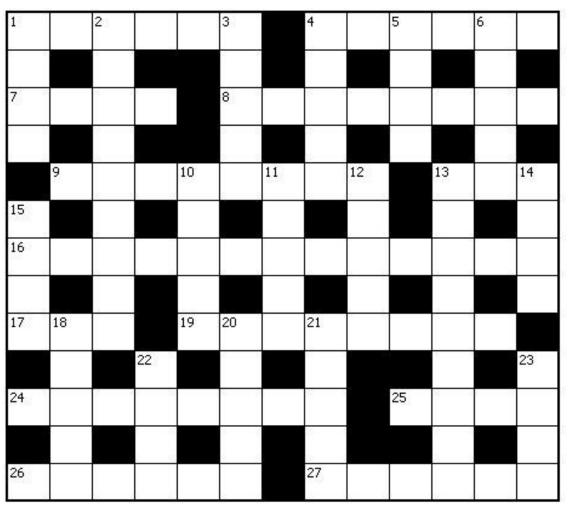
12 The fourth of Job's 'comforters', who deferred making his contribution because of his junior status

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(Job 32:6) (5)
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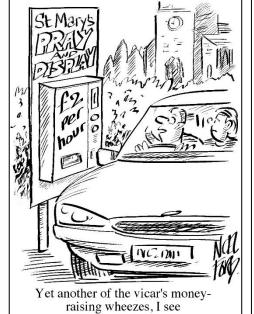
13 Chosen as a temple attendant, he was described by Ezra as 'a capable man' (Ezra 8:18) (9)

14 'Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where — and rust destroy' (Matthew 6:19) (4)

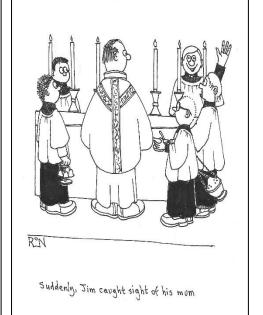
- 15 Employs (4)
- 18 Associated with penitence for sins, along with sackcloth (Matthew 11:21) (5)
- 20 Association of South-East Asian Nations (1,1,1,1,1)
- 21 Sub-continent to which Baptist missionary pioneer William Carey devoted his life (5)
- 22 Recess at east end of a church (4)
- 23 One of the nine sons of Beriah (1 Chronicles 8:15) (4)











Prayers and Poems Page

Prayer for the new day

Dear Father - In this strangest of summers, with its traffic-light travel restrictions and on-going concerns about Covid 19, help us to remember that You never change. Your light is constant. Your love continues. Your presence is assured, whether we stay at home, or travel within the UK, or further afield. There are no restrictions on Your Holy Spirit.

Thank You, Lord, for the gift of each new day, wherever we may be. Thank You that by Your grace, we share all our days with You, secure in all circumstances, when we put our trust in Your precious son, Jesus Christ. In His name we pray. Amen.

By Daphne Kitching

The Water of Life	Midsummer
'O taste and see that the LORD is good' Psalm 34:8	Scorching summer sun His solstice arch a-blazing The earth dries and thirsts.
She came to the well around midday, To avoid all the gossip she came alone, She met a Man there who told her all things Five husbands she had and one not her own.	We pant, and, sweating Beneath the sun we're lazing It's too hot to work!
He asked for a drink, and they started to talk, A Samaritan woman there with a Jew	By Nigel Beeton
Breaking all barriers to meet her need He told her how she could be made new.	The 'someone' may find life
The water of life that He would give Would mean that she never would thirst again This transforming draught He offers to all Once tasted you never will be the same. At Cana He turned the water to wine A miracle no-one but He could do Just as the water was wondrously changed If you drink from this Fount it can happen to you. By Megan Carter	Is just not worth living For the problems they have At home, work, or play - But the friendship you take Through the kind act of giving Your time, a few talents, May brighten their day. No job is too small Or too menial to offer For God to pick up As the means of His grace, And through your endeavour To serve without favour He'll come down to earth And you'll look on His face.
	By Sam Doubtfire

Peace, perfect peace

Dear Jesus

When we pray for Your help and blessing, we remember the words, "be still in the presence of the Lord'. Fill us with the peace of mind and serenity which only You can give, and restore us once again. May we remain safe and content, knowing Your peace will continue to dwell in us.

Prayer Walk 21 and OIKOS

Hope for Every Home, part of HOPE Together, has recently launched OIKOS, a new prayer walking app, as part of Prayer Walk 21. You can find the app free in your app store under OIKOS Outreach.

Hope says that: "During Covid and lockdown God has taken His church out of the building, reconnected people with their local communities and mobilised us through our daily walk. Now the invitation is to turn the daily walk into a prayer walk. Over the next year the Prayer Walk 21 challenge is to pray for the people in every street, every road, and every lane in the UK."

The OIKOS app is simple to use. To pin a prayer, use your finger to move the map to where you want to pray and tap the screen. You can also pin a 'share' when you have shared faith through a caring action, an invitation, or a conversation for example.

Praying for the people in every street, every road, every lane in the UK is huge but it starts with each of us stepping outside our front doors and praying as part of our day to day lives. There are resources available on the Hope for Every Home website to support you at www.hopeforeveryhome.org.

So, as part of Prayer Walk 21, download the OIKOS app. Pray as you walk your local streets and get your friends involved too!

'On Holiday with Jesus'

August is the month when schools are off and many of us go on holiday. This year will be very different, with many opting for a 'staycation'! The good news is that Jesus offers us a true rest:

'Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.' (Matthew 11: 28-29). Are you feeling tired or burdened and in need of a holiday? Jesus invites you to spend it with Him!

The Invitation: Our holiday destination is Jesus Himself: 'Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened.' We can come just as we are, with all the burdens and sadness we carry from the last 18 months. Jesus doesn't offer a 'quick fix' to deal with our issues; He simply offers Himself!

The Promise: Jesus promises us the gift of refreshing, sustaining and everlasting rest. When we go on holiday, we usually look forward to doing very little and yet this is not the kind of rest Jesus offers. His rest involves taking up His yoke and learning from Him! A yoke was the wooden collar that ran across the shoulders of a pair of oxen to enable them to work the fields. Jesus says: 'My yokes fit well. They do not rub your neck and shoulders. Come to Me and get yoked to Me. Make an act of loyal obedience and trust in Me. And you will find a deep peace and satisfaction that you could never find anywhere else. I have come for you!'

What's so amazing about this holiday is that you can get rest by simply staying at home!

Contact Numbers for Local Groups 282

Ecclesfield Rainbows

Gatty Hall Tuesday 5.00 pm to 6.15 pm Leader - Debbie Tel: 0786 047 1793

Ecclesfield Brownies

Gatty Hall Monday 5.30 pm to 6.45 pm Leader - Mrs J Hutchinson Tel: 0798 344 2742

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 246 1095

Friends of Ecclesfield Library

Run by the community for the community. Volunteer helpers always needed. Tel: 0114 246 3651 email: <u>ecclesfieldlib@gmail.com</u>

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 - 5.45 - 7.00 pm Shane Porteous shane@ecclesfieldscouts.org.uk

Ecclesfield Scouts

Scout Hut (off Yew Lane) Thursday 7:15 pm to 9:00 pm Leader - Bryony Hemming 25thecclesfieldscouts@gmail.com

The Grenoside Singers

Practice Monday in St Mark's Church Hall at 7:30 pm Secretary: Judith Gill Tel: 0782 411 2584 www.grenosidesingers.co.uk

Whitley Hall Cricket Club

Matches every Saturday and some Sundays and weekdays. Please make contact if you wish to play or learn. Secretary: Joe Webster: <u>whitleyhall@ycspl.co.uk</u> Website:

www.whitleyhall.play-cricket.com

Chapeltown and District PROBUS Club

Meets every 2nd Wednesday in the month in Grenoside Community Centre All retired and semi-retired gentlemen welcome Contact the Secretary: Trevor Winslow <u>chapeltown.probus@gmail.com</u> We are now on Zoom see www.chapeltown-probus.org.uk

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

	Useful Contacts				
<u>Vicar</u> E-mail: tim.gill@sheffield.ar	Revd Tim Gill nglican.org	257 0002			
<u>Churchwardens:</u>	Ann Hackett Jo Hawksworth Vacancy Vacancy	246 7159 246 2852			
<u>Readers:</u>					
Pastoral Workers:					
<u>Church Office:</u> Tuesday 9:00 am to 1.00 p Thursday 9.00 am to 12.00		245 0106			
Church Choir Practice in Church Currently Suspended					
Music Group Practice in ChurchThursday 7:30 pm - Contact: Andrea Whittaker246 0746					
Mother's Union in Gatty Hall1st Wednesday of month 1:00 pmContact:Stephanie Hartshorne245 9435					
Ecclesfield Ladies Group in Gatty Hall Thursday 7.30 pm - Contact: Anne Rostron 245 5492					
Bell Ringers meet in Chure Tuesday 7:30 pm Contact:	•	286 2766			
Gatty Hall Bookings,Contact us on:0780 307 8223					
Baptisms: Contact – Pat C	257 7191				
Weddings: Contact:Revd Tim Gill257 0					
" Or email: <i>tim.gill</i> @sheffield.anglican.org					
Office e-mail office.stmarys.ecclesfield@googlemail.com Magazine e-mail stmarys.magazine.ecclesfield@gmail.com					
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