

News & Views From St Mary's Church Ecclesfield



KING CHARLES III & QUEEN CAMILLA



Church Magazine May 2023

stmarysecclesfield.org.uk

Price 60p

First Words

The big event in May is the coronation of King Charles. Because the late Queen had such a long reign, for most of us this will be the first coronation that we will be able to see.

Monday 1st May is a Bank Holiday.

On **Wednesday 3rd May at 11am** there will be a **funeral** held in Church, and another held on **Thursday 4th May at 1pm**.

On the afternoon of **Thursday 4th May** we will be **decorating the Church** for the celebration of the Coronation.

On **Sunday 7th May** we will be celebrating the **Coronation** with a special service at 10am followed by refreshments. There will be **Baptisms on this Sunday at 12 noon**.

Monday 8th May is an extra **Bank Holiday**.

On **Saturday 13th May at 9am** there will be our monthly **Prayer Breakfast** in Church.

On **Sunday 14th May** we have our **All-Age Celebration at 10am** and at **6.30pm** we welcome back the Steel City Choristers for **Choral Evensong**.

On **Monday 15th May at 11am** there will be a **funeral** in Church, and in the evening, at **7pm** **Baptism Preparation**.

Thursday 18th May is Ascension Day - Communion at 9.30am.

On **Friday 26th May at 2pm** there is a **Wedding** in Church.

God bless,
Tim

Do good, be blessed

When we do good, even when others are doing wrong – God will bless us. That does not mean God will always bless us in material ways, although at times this is the case. But God will always bless you spiritually for your faithfulness.

If you have committed your life to God, let your life reflect His love for those around you. “Let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven.” (Matthew 5:16). By your daily actions and your daily words to friends, colleagues and family, you can be a witness to those you meet every day, and God will honour your witness for Him.

~~~~~

Front Cover – The Coronation  
Back Cover – EIB Poster

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# Countdown To The Coronation Of His Majesty the King and Her Majesty the Queen Consort

**On Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> May the Coronation will take place.** - It is based on a solemn religious ceremony which has remained largely unchanged for more than 1000 years. For the past 900 years, the ceremony has taken place at Westminster Abbey, and is conducted by the Archbishop of Canterbury.

King Charles III will be crowned, and then in a similar, but simpler ceremony at the same service, the Queen Consort will also be crowned.

**From 6<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> May Coronation Big Lunches** will be held up and down the UK, and also across the Commonwealth.

**On Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> May a Coronation Concert** will be held at Windsor Castle, with iconic locations across the UK lit up using projections, lasers, drone displays and illuminations.

**On Monday 8<sup>th</sup> May** there is a special Bank Holiday, giving everyone the opportunity to join in with their communities and good causes through Big Help Out activities.

(More details at: <https://thebighelpout.org.uk>)

## Did you know 10 Facts about King Charles III?

1. He was born at 9.14pm on 14<sup>th</sup> November 1948, to Princess Elizabeth and Prince Philip, at Buckingham Palace in London.
2. He has been heir-apparent to the throne since he was three years old.
3. He is the first monarch in British history to have earned a university degree. From 1967 to 1970 he studied history at Cambridge University.
4. He can speak Welsh. He spent two months learning the language in 1969, as he prepared to become the Prince of Wales. He still speaks it today.
5. He is a qualified pilot and diver. While serving in the military in the 1970s, he trained as a jet and helicopter pilot and became a confident diver.
6. He is a keen watercolour painter, a published author, and a music lover, who played the cello at Cambridge. He has done some TV: making a guest appearance on Coronation Street, and presenting the BBC weather forecast.
7. As Prince of Wales, he founded nearly 20 charities. Together, they raise £140million each year for good causes. He is passionate about the environment, speaking out against plastic pollution as early as 1970. He has planted many trees during royal engagements.
8. Aged 73, King Charles III is the oldest monarch ever to be crowned in British history. He became King on 8<sup>th</sup> September 2022, after the death of his mother, the Queen, in Balmoral.
9. As head of the Commonwealth, King Charles III is monarch of each of the 14 Commonwealth realms: Antigua & Barbuda, Australia, Bahamas, Belize, Canada, Grenada, Jamaica, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Saint Kitts & Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent & the Grenadines, the Solomon Islands, and Tuvalu. As King, he's also the only person in the UK who can travel abroad in the Commonwealth without a passport and drive without a licence.
10. King Charles III has two children, Princes William and Harry, and five grandchildren. Prince William is next in line to become King and was named the Prince of Wales in 2022.

## 24th May: The hymns of John & Charles Wesley

The Church calendar celebrates the lives of John and Charles Wesley. John's great gift to the Christian cause was the little matter of founding the world-wide movement known as Methodism. His brother Charles had an equally profound impact through his hymns. He wrote over 6,000, most of which aren't sung nowadays, but among the ones we do still sing are all-time favourites – 'Love divine, all loves excelling', 'O for a thousand tongues to sing'. 'Jesu lover of my soul', 'Hark the herald angels sing' – and scores more.

40 years ago, almost everybody knew quite a lot of hymns, but sadly that's no longer true. Traditional hymns aren't usually sung at school assemblies, not even in church schools, and while the audience for 'Songs of Praise' on BBC TV is substantial, most of those watching are older people.

Nowadays, with only about five per cent of the population going to church, there is inevitably a lack of familiarity with hymns of any kind. Christmas carols are an exception, as is 'Jerusalem' and 'Amazing Grace', because they are frequently heard outside church.

Singing hymns is a wonderful experience at its best – just ask a Welsh rugby crowd singing 'Bread of heaven'! It seems a pity to lose it.

It's not a bad idea to take ten minutes and think about what your favourite hymn is – ancient or modern doesn't matter. Then try singing it in the bath or under the shower – a very purifying experience!

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# St. Mary's - Ecclesfield

## Choral Evensong

Sunday 14th May at 6.30pm

Evensong will be sung by the



Please note: this service will be recorded by TV cameras as part of a documentary about the history and tradition of Evensong. Come and be part of the congregation and help make an occasion of this!



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# God in The Arts

*Editor: Michael Burgess continues his look at great works of Christian art. The painting is in the public domain, and may be downloaded from Wikimedia Commons by searching 'The Madonna of the Meadow'. The painting hangs in the National Gallery in London.*

## **'The Madonna of the Meadow' by Giovanni Bellini**

Each year as we look at Creation we see the cycle of the seasons. The earth comes alive in spring, blossoms and bears fruit in summer, gives up its goodness and glory in autumn, and seems to die in the sleep of cold winter. Each of those seasons has its moods and feelings, which we find mirrored in the turn of human life.

The joy of spring and summer go hand in hand with the sadness and resignation of autumn and winter in all that life brings us. When we look at our Lady in the Gospels, and this month of May is Mary's month, we see that mixture of joy and sadness.



In the Annunciation and at Christmas we share in the wonder and happiness of motherhood and new birth. A Son is born, but that birth brings anxiety and strain. Those strange words of Simeon in the Temple, losing the child in Jerusalem, watching her son grow, only to be rejected and crucified – these experiences brought Mary heartache and sorrow. But her maternal love sustains her through it all, and Mary is with the disciples at the glorious moment of Pentecost.

This range of moods in creation and in the life of Mary is caught up in the painting, 'The Madonna of the Meadow' by Giovanni Bellini. He came from a family of Renaissance painters, and this work was created around 1500. It now hangs in the National Gallery in London. The background is full of the details of the world of nature and everyday life. We see some cows grazing and others resting. A farmer tends the livestock on one side of the painting, while a herdsman relaxes on the other. Mary in the centre is part of that creation with the blue of her robe like the sky above, while the russet shades beneath that blue mirror the earth on which she rests.

As we look more closely, we can see some disturbing signs of 'nature red in tooth and claw.' There is a bird to our left – perhaps a crane or egret – that is fighting with a snake. Above, on the top of a tall, thin, leafless tree there is another bird as black as death. We look at the babe sleeping in His mother's arms and sense His vulnerability for all her protective love. Some 30 years later Mary will cradle her Son in that same pose as His body is taken down from the cross: that heart-rending moment we know as the Pietà.

The Venetian landscape is like a peaceful May afternoon where spring is dissolving into high summer amid those contented signs of a clear sky and cows grazing. The serpent and the raven tell us that struggle and death can easily invade that scene. But they somehow pale into insignificance as we ponder that luminous affirmation of new life in the mother and child that dominate the canvas. They proclaim life; they proclaim life after death. The babe sleeping in Mary's arms will wake and grow through the seasons of life. Too soon we know His body will hang on a barren tree like the one where that bird of death perches. But that cycle of birth and spring leading to death and winter will be transformed as His risen body will walk into another landscape – the garden of Easter where the leaves never wither and the sky never darkens, for in that resurrection joy, all is life and light and life eternal.

# St James the Least of All

*Editor: The Revd Dr Gary Bowness continues his tongue-in-cheek letters from 'Uncle Eustace'...*

## **Beware those modern choruses**

The Rectory  
St. James the Least

My dear Nephew Darren.

I am afraid we shall have to agree to disagree on yet another topic – although I suspect the list of items that we agree to agree on would be considerably shorter. I like to think my appreciation of hymns resembles a connoisseur of fine wines savouring a grand cru claret, yours seems to resemble a Russian female tractor driver who is a Hero of the Nation.

We at St James the Least are more than happy with Hymns Ancient & Modern – the original 1861 edition, naturally - the later editions display a dangerous tendency towards modernism. Sadly, St. Paul was not able to sing Onward, Christian soldiers, but I am sure he regretted the fact that it had yet to be written. The hymns our grandparents pretended to sing when they were in church are quite good enough for the ones we pretend to sing when we sit in the same pews.

At least when we come to the last verse, we know that we can then sit down, mission accomplished. The last time I attended your church, just as I saw the last words and therefore the finishing line of one of your choruses coming into sight, we were told it would be splendid to sing the thing another three times. At least it gave me another analogy to use when I next preached on eternity in hell.

And your method of singing would plunge our congregation into an existential crisis. What do they do with their hands when they don't have books to hold and are obliged to look at a screen? To be deprived of being able to hold a book in church is like a smoker who is trying to give up being unable to grasp a cigarette when in the pub.

The ladies do not know whether to clasp their handbags, which then makes it look as if they suspect the rest of the congregation of theft, or to hold some flowers, which looks a little too matrimonial. The men experiment with putting hands in pockets, which they then realise looks scruffy, so they try to hold on to the pew in front, which is inevitably too low, so they have to adopt some form of half crouch, which makes them look as if they have recently had hernia operations.

Your choral tradition – if I can flatter it with such a description – also seems to require half an hour before the Service spent singing for our congregation, that time is more usefully spent discussing Government incompetence, livestock prices and why Miss Threlfall always wears a red felt hat with her tangerine coat.

Should we ever have a joint Service, I can't imagine how we'll all get through the first hymn together.

Your loving uncle,  
Eustace



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## Thought for the Month

On Saturday 6th May, like most of the country, I will be watching the coronation of King Charles. Like most people in the UK this will be the first coronation that I will be able to see.

As a Church we pray for King Charles every week, and I pray for him every day at Morning or Evening Prayer. I imagine many of those who are part of the Church family at St Mary's, and those who read the magazine are also praying for our new king. But what are we praying for?

King Charles, like the late Queen, will be the head of the Church of England and will have the title 'Defender of the Faith.'

My first prayer is for King Charles - that he will know the presence of the Holy Spirit to guide him as he represents this nation - not just the Christians in the nation, but people of all faiths and people who have no belief in God but who follow secular or humanist faiths.

My second, and most urgent prayer, is for Great Britain. In the past ten years we have become a very divided nation, and the divisions seem to be growing and deepening. We do not seem to be able to disagree with one another in a healthy way. Social media make the divisions worse.

My prayer and my hope for Great Britain this year is that we will begin to heal, begin to see those who are different from us, those with whom we disagree as neighbours and not as enemies. I pray that this work of healing might begin at the coronation.

I have no interest in the personal lives of members of the Royal Family at all. But I am happy to live in a democracy which is also a constitutional monarchy, because a not-partisan head of state can represent all of the people of Britain in a way that a political appointee could not.

A king can represent the different groups and communities of a nation. A president as head of state, elected by the population would be a political figure and would emphasise our divisions rather than our differences. Differences make us stronger and are something to celebrate; divisions make us a weaker and more fragile land.

So, in the weeks leading up to May 6th, I will continue to pray for King Charles and for the nation and its peoples that he will represent.

God bless the king!



# Mothers Union April 5th

**This month we welcomed Rev. Sam Ellmore, our curate at St Mary's.**

He shared with us his life faith journey, beginning with his early years in Wales, where he was born. With his family, he attended the little village church, where he also attended Sunday School. During the services, he would carry the acolyte candle and large bible around the church, and as a small boy he was confirmed there. He enjoyed the musical worship, which was later to become a major part of his ministry. 'Shine Jesus Shine' was a favourite, which we all sang together.

Moving on a few years, he lived in Manchester, whilst studying at Sheffield University. During this time, he felt God was reaching out to him via a friend, and recognised a gap in his life. He then decided to move to Sheffield and found St. John's Park church, where he was warmly welcomed. He soon joined their worship group. As well as playing and singing within the group, he took on some leadership roles within the church.

It was at this time, he met Maria, who was a youth group leader in another church. By now, Sam felt God was calling him into Ministry and this was confirmed by other people. Then began a rigorous discernment process which took 10 years altogether!

Sam then played and sang for us 'Your love never fails'.

Having got married and with 2 young children, he took on many different jobs. This gave him an understanding of people from different walks of life. He had also began writing and recording worship songs, which are very dear to his heart, one being- 'We will praise you', which he also played and sang for us.

We really enjoyed Sam's talk and getting to know him a little bit more. We are very fortunate to have him here as our curate to Tim, our vicar, and look forward to the next few years ahead. So, thank you Sam.

***EH***

Our next meeting is on Wednesday 3rd May, in the Gatty Hall.  
Our next speaker will be talking about their work, called 'Visiting Angels'.  
All are welcome.



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# From the Registers

## Baptisms

Sunday 2nd April                      Ollie Charles Michael Gervis  
Sunday 2nd April                      Riverlyn Ward-Fish

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

## Marriages

Saturday 1st April                      Daniel Cooper & Lucy Firth  
Friday 14th April                      Thomas Fidler & Tracey Phelps  
Friday 28th April                      Ashley Gore & Leah Malcolm

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

## Funerals

Wednesday 19th April                      Janet Susan Sharpe  
Monday 24th April                      Margaret Stringer

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

# The Spiritual Disciplines: Prayer

## Canon Paul Hardingham

An important spiritual discipline is *prayer*, where we can both listen and talk to God. However, it's not always easy, and as Pentecost tells us, we have the Holy Spirit to help us to pray.

*'In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans. And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for God's people in accordance with the will of God.'* (Romans 8: 26,27)

### *The Spirit helps us in our weakness*

We often don't know how to pray for a person or situation. The Holy Spirit is alongside to help: *'He bears the burden with us'*. He enables us to connect with God and assures us that He loves to hear our prayers: *'And by Him we cry, 'Abba, Father.'* (Romans 8:15).

### *The Spirit helps us in our ignorance*

When we don't know what to ask in prayer, the Spirit prays for us with a perfect understanding of God's will. The Spirit pleads on our behalf in *'wordless groans'*, which go beyond mere words. We are never alone when we pray, since the Spirit takes our words and brings them to the Father.

### *The Spirit helps us in our requests*

The Spirit intercedes for us according to the will of God. He translates the prayers we can't articulate or the requests we get wrong, so that they come to God in accordance with His will. In prayer we attune ourselves to the Spirit with our words or groans. Reading the Bible alongside our prayer is helpful, so that we can pray in agreement with God's Word.

When we pray, let's confidently ask: *'Come Holy Spirit.'*

# 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.

## Can Science Prove God Exists?

To risk sounding like a smart aleck seven-year-old, technically speaking you can only prove things mathematically. If you need to know that one plus one equals two, don't go to a chemistry lab. The natural sciences only deal with things that can be observed and measured. Science has been so successful that it's tempting to get carried away, valuing science above any other kind of knowledge, but there are other ways of knowing that are equally important. For example, art conveys ideas, experiences or emotions that provoke us to think or do something in response.

In fact, to find answers to any of the really important questions about meaning and purpose that affect us throughout our lives, we always have to go beyond science. Some scientific data might help define the question, for example a farmer facing a drought would probably like to know some details about the current weather patterns and the availability of seeds for more hardy crops before she can start asking "What is the point of trying to grow anything at all?" But in the end, she is asking a deeper question – and so are the rest of us when we go through any significant experience in life.

So rather than asking "Can science prove God exists?", what about: "Are the findings of science compatible with the existence of a purposeful Creator?" For many scientists today, the answer to the second question is yes. They have investigated the Bible's descriptions of the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, and found that they make sense. They have discovered that they can interact with God – especially in prayer – and that this faith has changed their lives.

Professor Christine Done, an Astrophysicist at Durham University, writes, "for me the more we know about the vast, yet intricate and beautiful Universe we live in, the bigger and more awe-inspiring is the God who made it all." (Thinking About: The Big Bang, <https://www.cis.org.uk/resources/thinking/> )

Some go even further, making statements like this: "the way the universe exhibits an ordered structure, which is open to science to investigate, points to a mind behind it." (Revd Dr Rodney Holder, Astrophysicist, in Longing, Waiting, Believing (BRF, 2014)

The question "Can Science Prove God Exists?" turns out to be a category error – trying to use science to answer a non-scientific question. On the other hand, many scientists think there is enough evidence from a wide range of sources to warrant belief in God.



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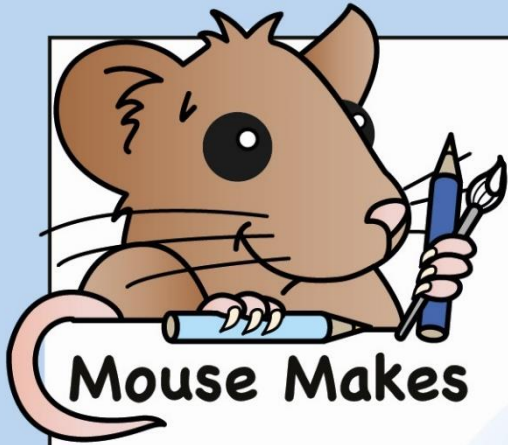
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# Mouse Makes

Forty days after His resurrection Jesus appeared to the Apostles one last time. He told them that the Holy Spirit would come, then He blessed them and ascended into heaven.

What did Jesus say that the Holy Spirit would give the Apostles?



**READ**  
Acts 1 4-17

Find the answers in the word search

\_\_\_\_\_ to be Jesus' witnesses.  
Acts 1:8

What did Jesus from the Apostles?

a \_\_\_\_\_  
Acts 1:9

Who appeared to the Apostles?

Two \_\_\_\_\_ and what were they dressed in? \_\_\_\_\_  
Acts 1:10

Where was Jesus taken up to? \_\_\_\_\_  
Luke 24:51

Where did the Apostles return to?

\_\_\_\_\_ Acts 1:12

Where is Jesus seated?

At the \_\_\_\_\_ of God.  
Mark 16:19

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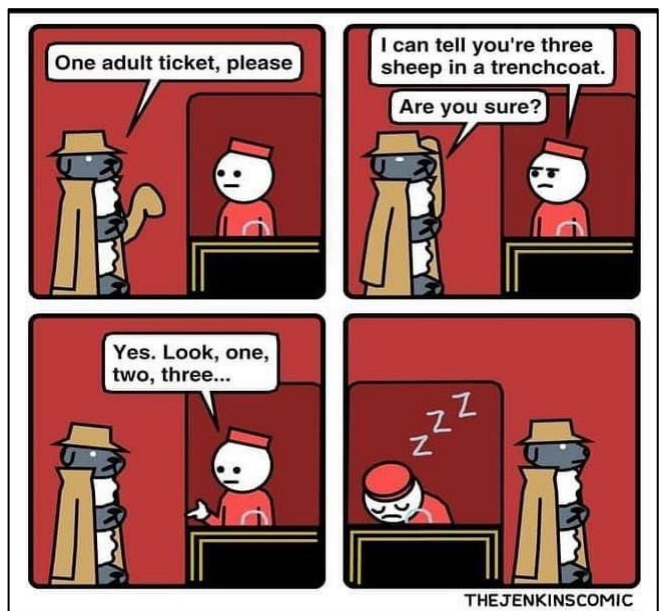
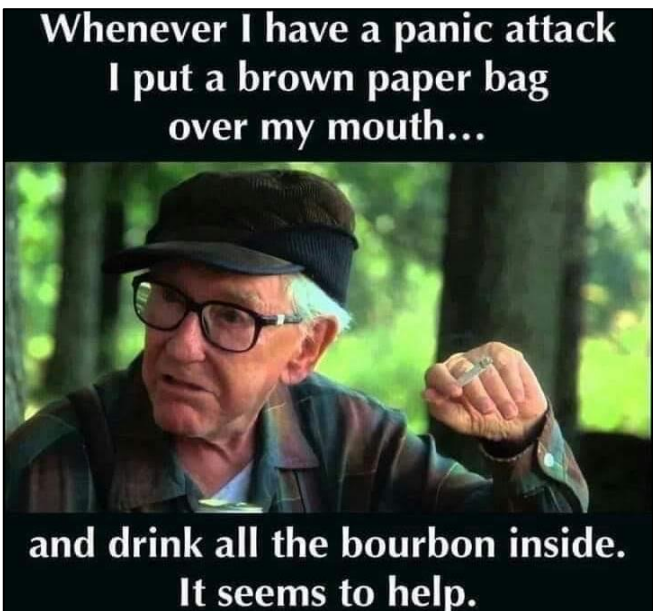


# Editor's Humour

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

On Age...

- 1 I had my patience tested. I'm [negative](#).
- 2 To me, "[drink](#) responsibly" means don't spill it.
- 3 It's the start of a brand-new day, and I'm off like a herd of [turtles](#).
- 4 I remember being able to get up without making [sound effects](#).
- 5 When I say, "The other day," I could be referring to any time between [Yesterday](#) and 25 years ago.
- 6 When you ask me what I am doing today, and I say "nothing," it does not mean I am free. It means I am doing [nothing](#).
- 7 Don't bother [walking](#) a mile in my shoes. That would be boring. Spend 30 seconds in my head. That'll really freak you right out.
- 8 Sometimes, someone unexpected comes into your life out of nowhere, makes your heart race, and changes you forever. We call those people [policemen](#).
- 9 When one door closes and another door opens, you are probably in [prison](#).



# Prayer for the Month

## The Jesus Prayer.

***Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God;  
have mercy on me a sinner.***

I was introduced to what most people call “The Jesus Prayer” while I was a student at university in Newcastle - I was about 20 years old, so I have been praying this prayer from the Orthodox tradition for over 35 years! I was introduced to it by a Greek Orthodox monk named Fr Simeon Lash who gave occasional lectures in New Testament.

The theologian Isabelle Hamley says that this prayer is “something like the spiritual equivalent of an earworm: you pray it a few times and it starts burrowing into your soul.” The prayer was developed by the desert fathers and mothers of the Third and Fourth Centuries and has become central to the spiritual practices of the Orthodox Churches.

The prayer is said slowly and rhythmically, again and again, and it stays with you. You find yourself praying it throughout the day. One writer calls it an uncomfortable prayer because it confronts the one who prays it with God and with self.

The prayer begins counter-culturally with the word “Lord.” Jesus is our Lord - a term that we struggle with today because of the many, many ways in which it has been abused to control or oppress others. But Jesus is Lord, we recognise His authority for our lives and for our journey with God. In a world which tells us that we have to find our own way, make our own decisions, to call another Lord is a radical idea!

The prayer asks our Lord, not to understand us, not to accept our excuses, but to have mercy - it is a prayer for forgiveness. The cry for mercy is also the prayer of those who are hurting and suffering, calling to God to hear them and to see their plight.

Most of all, this prayer is a Jesus centred prayer. As we pray it we are aware that the One we call “Lord,” the One we ask for mercy, is the One who reveals the love of God to the creation: by word and teaching, by miracles of healing and above all by death and resurrection.

Above all the Jesus Prayer is a prayer of trust. trust that God will know how to answer the cry of our hearts when all we can say is, “Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God; have mercy on me a sinner.” Amen.



Christogram with the Jesus Prayer in Romanian:

Doamne Iisuse Hristoase, Fiul lui Dumnezeu,  
miluiește-mă pe mine păcătosul

"Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me, the sinner"

## Worshipping online looks set to carry on

We still enjoy 'going to church' online. In fact, recent viewing figures for the CofE's national online services reveal that they continue to receive about 150,000 views a week. Overall, in 2022, they attracted more than eight million views. It was in March this year that the C of E marked three years since the start of the online services, which were begun during the Covid lockdown. By the end of that first year, it was found that clips and content from the services across the country had been seen 40 million times on social-media channels.

The current figure of 150,000 a week is thought to be conservative. As a Church House spokesman in London said: "Our analysis in May 2022 showed that 20 per cent of viewers watched with at least one other person, so this would have meant at least another 30,000 views." The C of E online service on New Year's Day gained 800,000 views alone.

And weekly production of services continues. Services are broadcast on social-media channels every Sunday, via YouTube and Instagram. They cover all the C of E traditions, and include estates churches, military chaplaincies, rural parishes, multiple church benefices, big county town churches, and cathedrals.

As one vicar said, "Worship online has made such an enormous difference... now we live-stream absolutely everything, and I'm really passionate about that."

Since the beginning of the year St Mary's Thursday and Sunday Services have been downloaded or viewed 5,259 times. We don't know how many people watched or where they live in the world.

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## 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

# Whitley Hall Cricket Club



The start of the season brought the return of a familiar British weather scenario, pitches unfit due to rain! Following the exceptional summer of 2022, April 2023 has been very wet and this has resulted in the first games for 1st, 2nd and 3rd XI on both 15th and 22nd April being cancelled apart from the 2nd XI fixture at Sheffield United which will be played on Coronation Bank Holiday 8th May. Otherwise, the club remains prepared for the season and our overseas guest Montcin is here and raring to go with his bat and we wish him a happy and successful stay with us. [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Montcin\\_Hodge](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Montcin_Hodge)

A reminder that Whitley is involved again in the ECB junior formats for boys and girls of All-Stars for ages up to 7 and Dynamos from ages 8-11, a cricket sports week in the summer holidays and various other junior initiatives – if you are interested, please contact us.

Spectators are welcome to use all the facilities in the pavilion where drinks and snacks are available.

## Senior Fixtures at Baxter Field, Cinder Hill Lane (12 noon start)

|                        |                    |   |                                 |
|------------------------|--------------------|---|---------------------------------|
| 29 <sup>th</sup> April | 1 <sup>st</sup> XI | v | Hallam 1 <sup>st</sup> XI       |
| 6 <sup>th</sup> May    | 2 <sup>nd</sup> XI | v | Rockingham 1 <sup>st</sup> XI   |
| 13 <sup>th</sup> May   | 1 <sup>st</sup> XI | v | Elsecar 1 <sup>st</sup> XI      |
| 20 <sup>th</sup> May   | 2 <sup>nd</sup> XI | v | Wakefield 2 <sup>nd</sup> XI    |
| 27 <sup>th</sup> May   | 2 <sup>nd</sup> XI | v | Oughtibridge 1 <sup>st</sup> XI |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> June   | 1 <sup>st</sup> XI | v | Barnsley 1 <sup>st</sup> XI     |

Contact: Joe Webster, Secretary: 07969 014592

Email: [whitleyhall@ycspl.co.uk](mailto:whitleyhall@ycspl.co.uk)

*Andrew Robinson*

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# The Gardening Year – May

## Herbs – continued

**Parsley**, position and soil, Parsley needs rich moist soil and likes a damp or semi shaded position. This makes it ideal for plots that do not get full sun and means Parsley can be planted in the dappled shade of other crops. Parsley must be kept moist otherwise it will die Quickly, the leaves turn brown and wither. Water it regally but lightly and pick off leaves as you need them new leaves will grow back. Parsley does not tend to suffer from pest and deceases.

**Varieties**, Moss Curled is a popular variety that can be grown on a sunny windowsill. French has flat leaves and is reputed to have better flavour than curled.

**Chives**, Chives are a very useful crop to grow, not just to eat but because they can ward off pest from other plants. Chives are one of the most commonly used herbs and have a mild onion flavour. The attractive purple chive flowers can be eaten too, why not serve as a salad garnish.

**Growing from seed**, chives can be grown in pots indoors on a sunny windowsill or outdoors in pots or window boxes during May. Sow the seed a quarter inch deep and keep seedling's densely growing for a cut and come again crop, Chives are a simple crop for both novice gardeners and children to take care of.

**Soil**, chives like rich well drained soil in full sun and grow well in pots.

**Care**, Chives must be watered in dry weather. cut back the plants regularly to prevent the purple flowers growing, once these grow the chives become woody and not so tender to eat. having said that, if your growing chives outdoors, bees and butterflies love the flowers, so why not grow a few pots let some flower and keep others for yourself? Harvest when the leaves are small and tender, if you leave two inches of the leaves in the soil it will grow again. Leaves are ready for eating around twelve weeks after sowing.

**Pest and Diseases**, chives do not tend to suffer from pest and diseases, in fact they can help deter pests from other crops.

**Varieties**, Garlic Chives, have a mild garlic flavour can be used to warn off aphids, mites and carrot fly from other crops.

**Colin Williams**

PS – Did you spot last month's not quite deliberate mistake? Month should have been April

## Eat the Seasons – May

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

**Fruit** - Bananas (Windward), Kiwi Fruit, Rhubarb

**Herbs** - Basil, Chives, Dill, Sorrel

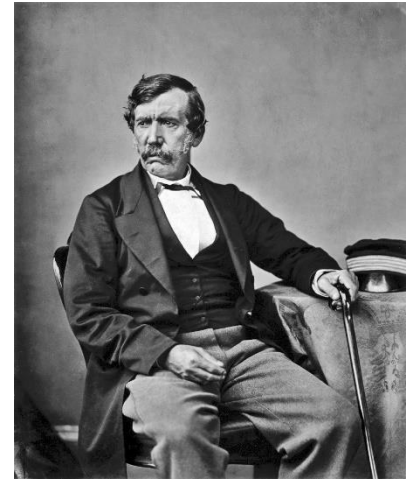
**Meat** - Lamb, Wood Pigeon

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

Visit - [www.eattheseasons.co.uk](http://www.eattheseasons.co.uk)

# Remembering David Livingstone - Missionary and Explorer

It was 150 years ago, on 1st May 1873, that David Livingstone, the Scottish missionary and explorer, died. He was best known for his search for the sources of the Nile, and for going missing (and being found by the American journalist Henry Morton Stanley) in the wilds of Africa.



Livingstone was born in Blantyre, near Glasgow, and died of malaria and dysentery in what is now Chipundu, Zambia. He was the first European to cross the African continent from west to east and to discover the Zambesi River, the Victoria Falls and many major lakes.

His mother and father were both strict Christians, and the family was poor: he was one of seven children brought up on the top floor of a tenement. But he felt called to be a medical missionary in China; so he spent two years studying to become a doctor and was accepted by the London Missionary Society.

But the political situation in China prevented his going there, and a meeting with Robert Moffat, a well-known Scottish missionary in southern Africa, persuaded Livingstone that he should go to Africa instead. He arrived in Cape Town in 1841.

He felt that Christianity, commerce and civilisation were destined to open up Africa, and he was strongly against slavery, often clashing with the Boers and Portuguese because of their treatment of the Africans.

He was awarded a gold medal and money by the British Royal Geographical Society for the first European sighting of Lake Ngami, now a birdlife conservation area in Botswana. He also found fame through the publication in 1857 of his *Missionary Travels and Researches in South Africa*, which sold more than 70,000 copies, bringing a vastly improved lifestyle for his wife Mary (Moffat's talented daughter), who had put up with his repeated absences.

## Crossword Puzzle - Solution is here

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| S | T | O | P | █ | C | A | L | L | U | P | O | N |
| T | █ | R | █ | C | █ | B | █ | L | █ | U | █ | O |
| R | E | G | U | L | A | R | █ | O | C | T | E | T |
| A | █ | A | █ | E | █ | A | █ | Y | █ | E | █ | E |
| I | N | N | E | R | █ | H | U | D | S | O | N | █ |
| G | █ | █ | █ | █ | I | A | █ | █ | █ | L | █ | I |
| H | O | L | Y | C | O | M | M | U | N | I | O | N |
| T | █ | A | █ | █ | █ | S | █ | S | █ | █ | █ | N |
| █ | M | Y | S | E | L | F | █ | S | E | E | T | O |
| B | █ | D | █ | N | █ | A | █ | H | █ | N | █ | C |
| A | B | O | U | T | █ | I | T | E | R | A | T | E |
| L | █ | W | █ | E | █ | T | █ | R | █ | C | █ | N |
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# ERIC EYRE

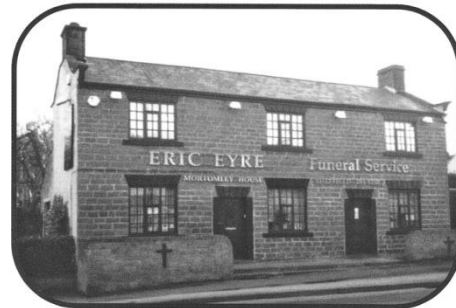
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# It is time to eat Spinach

The distinctive, slightly bitter/metallic flavour of spinach makes it something of a 'love it or hate it' food. If you're in the 'love it' camp, try one of our suggested recipes and prepare to love it even more. Spinach is available year-round, but the freshest, tenderest spinach is most easily obtainable in the spring. It is thought that spinach was first cultivated in southwest Asia. Trade routes through the Middle East took it to North Africa, from where it was introduced to Europe by the Moors by the twelfth century. A cookbook belonging to King Richard II demonstrates that spinach was grown in England in the fourteenth century.

Spinach (*Spinacia oleracea*) is a flowering plant belonging to the family *Amaranthaceae*. Spinach has a high water content and so reduces to around a quarter of its size when cooked. Buy lots. Keeps in a plastic bag in the fridge for three to four days. Spinach can be steamed in the water clinging to the leaves after washing. Give them 5 to 10 minutes in a large saucepan on a moderate heat. Sautéing and microwaving are also good cooking methods. Raw spinach is excellent in salads and, like watercress, has a natural affinity with bacon. Spinach also pairs beautifully with smoked haddock and with cheese, especially feta-style.

**Nutrition:** Spinach is well known for its nutritional qualities. Although it does contain high levels of iron and calcium, the presence of oxalic acid binds these minerals in a form that cannot be absorbed by the body. But spinach IS very good for you. Vitamins A and C are present in significant amounts, as are several antioxidants and folic acid.

## Spanakopita – Greek Spinach and Cheese Pie serves 4-6

### Ingredients

- 750 grams fresh spinach (prewashed is easier)
- 20 grams fresh mint
- 15 grams fresh dill
- 1 bunch spring onions
- 200 grams feta cheese
- 3 eggs
- 250 grams filo pastry
- olive oil
- Greek yoghurt (full fat)



### Method

1. Set the Oven to: 180°C
2. Microwave or steam spinach until it is limp (≈3 minutes per bag). Allow to drain in a colander and when cooled press out as much water as possible. Chop the spinach and put into a large mixing bowl.
3. Chop up the mint, dill and spring onions and add it to the spinach. Crumble up the feta cheese and add it. Crack the eggs into the mixture and stir everything together with a spoon until just combined.
4. Brush a 9"x13" (preferably glass) pan with olive oil. Layer half the packet of filo pastry in the pan, brushing each layer lightly with olive oil.
5. Spread out the spinach mixture evenly. Layer the rest of the filo pastry on top, again brushing each layer with olive oil.
6. Roll up the edges tightly and brush the top lightly with olive oil.
7. Bake in the oven for about 35-45 minutes until the top is golden brown. Cool for 10-15 minutes before cutting into serving-sized pieces. Serve with yogurt.

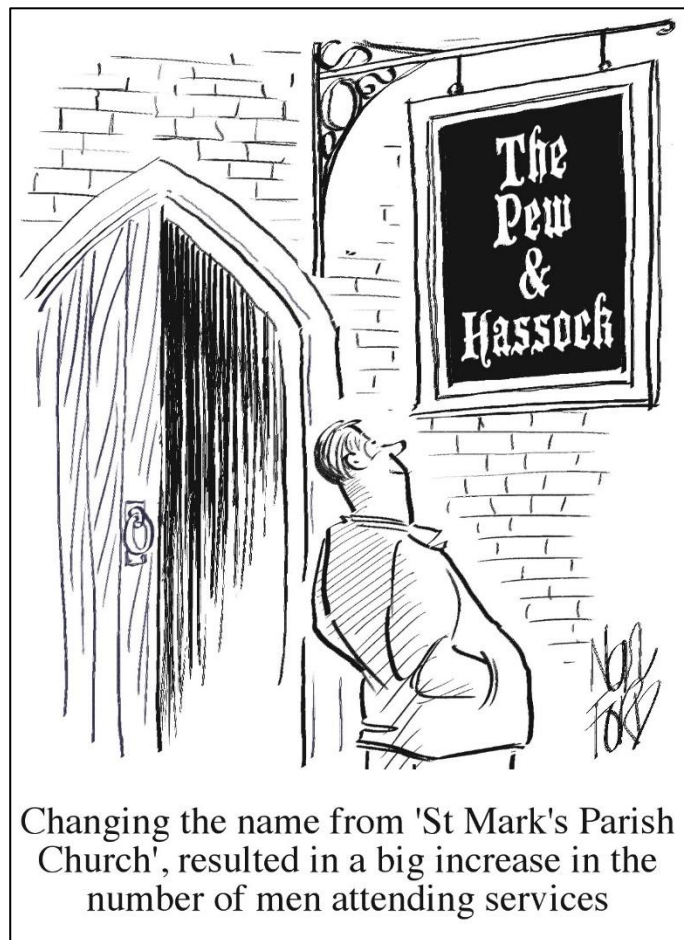
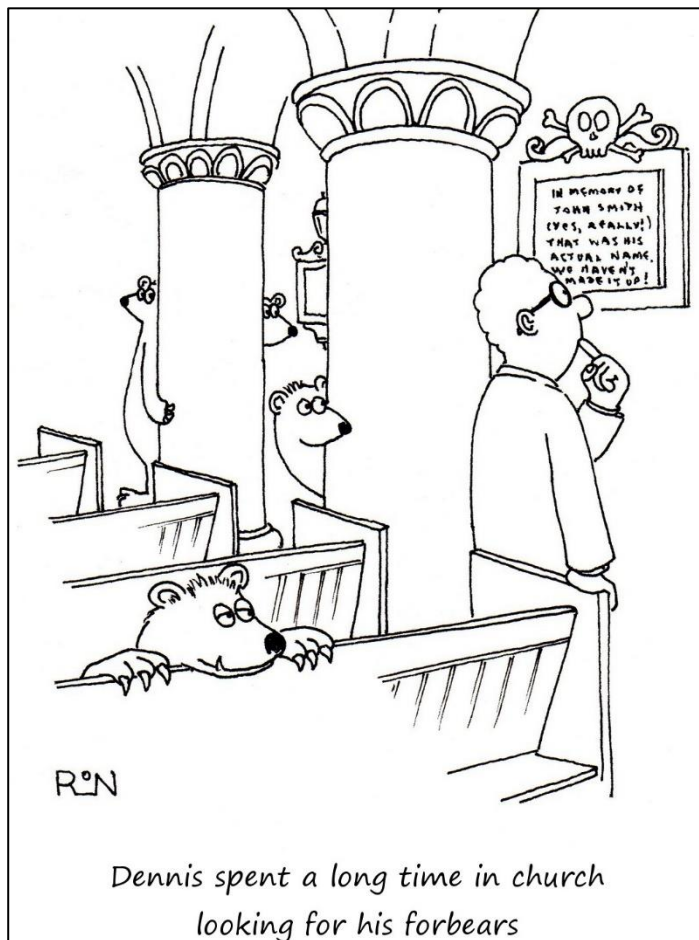
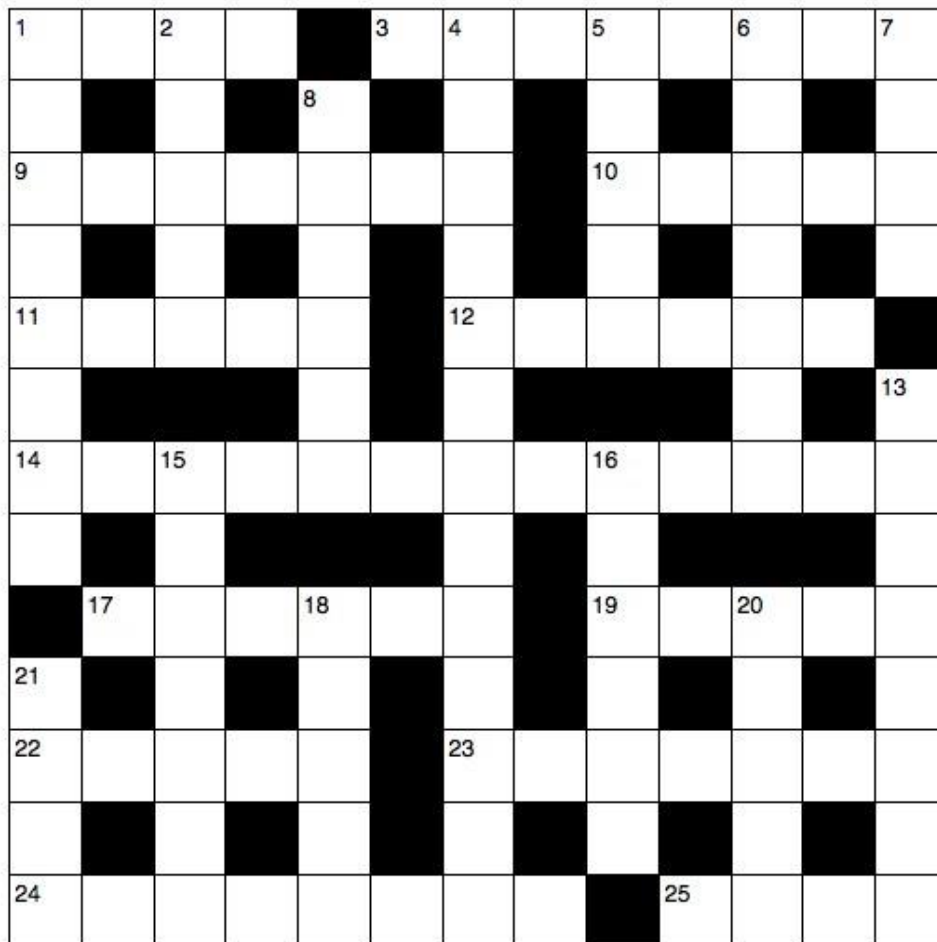
# Crossword Puzzle

## Clues Across

- 1 'Therefore let us — passing judgment on one another' (Romans 14:13) (4)
- 3 'I — — these persons here present' (Marriage service) (4,4)
- 9 According to a prearranged timetable (Numbers 28:3) (7)
- 10 Group of eight (5)
- 11 The cell into which the Philippian jailer put Paul and Silas (Acts 16:24) (5)
- 12 — Taylor, pioneer missionary to China (6)
- 14 Otherwise known as the Eucharist, Breaking of Bread, the Lord's Table (4,9)
- 17 'So that after I have preached to others, I — will not be disqualified for the prize' (1 Corinthians 9:27) (6)
- 19 Attend to (3,2)
- 22 Approximately (Acts 4:4) (5)
- 23 Tea rite (anag.) (7)
- 24 Rule of sovereign (8)
- 25 Test (anag.) (4)

## Clues Down

- 1 The name of the street where Judas lived in Damascus and where Saul of Tarsus stayed (Acts 9:11) (8)
- 2 'The playing of the merry — , sweet singing in the choir' (5)
- 4 'We have been saying that — — was credited to him as righteous' (Romans 4:9) (8,5)
- 5 Dr Martyn — Jones, famous for his ministry at Westminster Chapel (5)
- 6 Port at which Paul landed on his way to Rome (Acts 28:13) (7)
- 7 Observe (Ruth 3:4) (4)
- 8 Minister of religion (6)
- 13 'I am — of this man's blood. It is your responsibility' (Matthew 27:24) (8)
- 15 'Greater love has no one than this, that he — — his life for his friends' (John 15:13) (3,4)
- 16 Archbishop who calculated that the world began in 4004BC (6)
- 18 'No one can — the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit' (John 3:5) (5)
- 20 Establish by law (5)
- 21 Product of Gilead noted for its healing properties (Jeremiah 46:11) (4)



# Chapelton & District Probus Club



We welcomed a new presenter at our April meeting, sports reporter Nick Johnson with his “Tales from the Press Box”. He gave an extremely interesting talk about his career in sports reporting, mainly on radio but currently giving 15 to 20 second updates from football grounds on SKY Sports. He has also reported on golf and snooker, including the World Championship from Sheffield Crucible. His talk illustrated some unusual fixes he had got into and also some of the sports greats he had been fortunate to meet. 30 members were at the meeting and 20 enjoyed a good lunch at Wortley Hall afterwards.

On the 18th April, 15 went on a trip around Sheffield Forgemasters, which with the company now part of the MOD, was one of the last for ‘ordinary’ visitors. We saw the amazing steel melting process where a huge ingot of nearly 300 tonnes was in production, made up of 3 complete ladles of molten steel from the arc furnace.

In May, we welcome back Paul Adey who will speak on “Energy”, a topic which is probably high on the agenda of most families at the moment. Our next events will be a visit to Abbeydale Industrial Hamlet in May, a family day in Grenoside in June and a visit to Wentworth Woodhouse in September; family members and visitors are all most welcome. Our Spring Lunch at Wortley Hall is on 18th May and again, family members and guests are welcome.

The club is focussed on providing a place for retired and semi-retired men to meet in a convivial atmosphere. We welcome new members and if you are interested, why not come along as a guest to see what happens? Please make contact with the Secretary, Trevor Winslow (see below).

**Upcoming meetings at 10:00 in Grenoside Community Centre** (followed by optional lunch at Wortley Hall)

10th May – Paul Adey “The Story of Energy”

14th June – John Hope – “If at First You Don’t Succeed”

12th July – Alan Hancock – “Bobby in Bosnia”

Contact details: E-Mail [chapeltown.probus@gmail.com](mailto:chapeltown.probus@gmail.com),

Website <https://chapeltown-probus.org.uk/> .

**Andrew Robinson**

## Life abundant

Two students from a theological training college decided to spend part of their holiday in the countryside doing outreach. They stopped at an old farm house and proceeded up the path through a group of screaming children and a washing line heavy with wet clothes.

When they got near the door, the woman of the house stopped scrubbing the steps, brushed her hair and perspiration from her brow, and asked them what they wanted. “We’d like to tell you how you can live forever,” they answered.

The exhausted woman hesitated for a moment, and then replied, “Thank you, but I don’t think I could stand it!”

# Prayers and Poems Page

## Coronation Prayer 2023 - By Daphne Kitching

Almighty God,  
On the occasion of the crowning of King Charles 111, we, the people, pray for him.

We thank you for him and for the calling on his life and we recognise the weight of responsibility that puts upon him. We know that he will need your help, Lord. We know that he will face many challenges, as did his mother, Queen Elizabeth.

We ask, that, as he is anointed with oil, you will anoint him with your Holy Spirit, so that he will know in his heart, as his mother knew, that Jesus is alive and able to help him fulfil his unique vocation.

We pray that in all the days he serves as King, he will be aware that first and foremost he serves you, the King of Kings and Lord of Lords. May his reign be one of wisdom, vision and integrity, inspired by your Kingdom values.

May your name be honoured and glorified throughout this land, Lord, as we pray,  
**God save the King!**

---

### Blind Bartimaeus - By Megan Carter

Blind Bartimaeus begged by the roadside  
As Jesus of Nazareth passed on His way,  
'Son of David, have mercy' he cried  
For he knew this was a special day.

'Be quiet!'- the crowd tried to shout him down  
But louder and louder came his cries,  
'What do you want?' the Master asked  
'Rabbi' he said 'open my eyes'.

'What do we want?' the Master would ask,  
For already He knows our fears and our cares,  
If like Bartimaeus we call out in faith  
We too will see Him answering prayers.

### Acts 2 - by Tim Lenton

Too early for wine  
but not for fire

Outside, our neighbours speak  
a different language:  
they cannot hear us

It takes fire to translate,  
to make things clear

It is never too early  
for tongues of fire

---

## Pentecost Prayer

How much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him... (Luke 11:13b)

Heavenly Father,

In these troubled times we need your help, just like those first disciples did when Jesus came back to you after his resurrection. They must have wanted him to stay with them. They must have felt puzzled and bereft – and wondered how to go on.

But you, Lord, knew a better way. You sent them a helper, the Holy Spirit to fill them with your life. We thank you so much that the same Spirit will be our helper too, if we are willing to ask you for him. We will be able to face each day, each challenge, with your Spirit living in us to guide and empower us, to enable us to carry on even when we don't understand.

So, we pray, come Holy Spirit, fill us, encourage us to carry on sharing your love and life and truth, in the name of Jesus.

**Amen.**

*By Daphne Kitching*

# Contact Details for Local Groups

## **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 - Emma Addy  
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: [ecclesfieldlib@gmail.com](mailto:ecclesfieldlib@gmail.com)

## **Ecclesfield Cubs**

Scout Hut (off Yew Lane)  
Wednesday 4:45 pm to 6:15 pm  
2<sup>nd</sup> Pack 6:30 pm to 8:0 pm  
Leader - Mrs A Hancock  
Tel: 0114 245 2780

## **Ecclesfield Beavers**

Scout Hut (off Yew Lane)  
Monday 6:00 pm to 7:15 pm  
Leader - Mrs J Steel  
0114 246 0218  
Thursday - 5:45 - 7:00 pm  
Shane Porteous  
[shane@ecclesfieldscouts.org.uk](mailto:shane@ecclesfieldscouts.org.uk)

## **Ecclesfield Scouts**

Scout Hut (off Yew Lane)  
Thursday 7:15 pm to 9:00 pm  
Leader - Bryony Hemming  
[25theecclesfieldscouts@gmail.com](mailto:25theecclesfieldscouts@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](http://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:  
[whitleyhall@ycspl.co.uk](mailto:whitleyhall@ycspl.co.uk)  
Website:  
[www.whitleyhall.play-cricket.com](http://www.whitleyhall.play-cricket.com)

## **Chapelton and District PROBUS Club**

Meets every 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday in the month  
in Grenoside Community Centre  
All retired and semi-retired gentlemen welcome  
Contact the Secretary: Trevor Winslow  
[chapelton.probus@gmail.com](mailto:chapelton.probus@gmail.com)  
We are now on face to face see  
[www.chapelton-probus.org.uk](http://www.chapelton-probus.org.uk)

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

# Useful Contacts



|                                                                                  |                                                                                     |                                  |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <b>Vicar:</b><br>Revd. Tim Gill                                                  | <b>E-mail:</b><br>ttingill@aol.com                                                  | <b>Phone:</b><br>257 0002        |
| <b>Assistant Curate:</b><br>Revd. Sam Ellmore                                    | revsamellmore@outlook.com                                                           | 0747 9985 199                    |
| <b>Churchwardens:</b><br>Ann Hackett<br>Jo Hawksworth<br>Michael Waldron         |                                                                                     | 246 7159<br>246 2852<br>246 3091 |
| <b>Readers:</b>                                                                  |                                                                                     |                                  |
| <b>Pastoral Workers:</b>                                                         |                                                                                     |                                  |
| <b>Church Office</b><br>Tuesday 9:00am to 1:00 pm<br>Thursday 9:00am to 12:00 pm |                                                                                     | 245 0106                         |
| <b>Website</b>                                                                   | <a href="https://stmarysecclesfield.org.uk/">https://stmarysecclesfield.org.uk/</a> |                                  |
| <b>Groups:</b>                                                                   | <b>Times and Days:</b>                                                              | <b>Phone:</b>                    |
| <b>Choir Practice in Church</b><br>Contact: Lynda Pearce                         | 7 pm on Friday Practice in Church                                                   | 246 3935                         |
| <b>Music Group</b><br>Contact: Andrea Whittaker                                  | 7:30 pm Thursday Practice in Church                                                 | 246 0746                         |
| <b>Mother's Union in Gatty Hall</b><br>Contact: Maureen Lambert                  | 1 pm 1st Wednesday of the month                                                     | 246 9690                         |
| <b>Ecclesfield Ladies Group</b><br>Contact: Anne Rostron                         | 2.00pm Thursday in Gatty Hall                                                       | 245 5492                         |
| <b>Bell Ringers</b><br>Contact: Phil Hirst                                       | 7:30 pm Tuesday in Church Belfry                                                    | 286 2766                         |
| <b>Gatty Hall Bookings</b>                                                       |                                                                                     | 0780 307 8223                    |
| <b>For Baptisms or Weddings Enquiries please contact the Vicar</b>               |                                                                                     |                                  |
| <b>Magazine e-mail:</b>                                                          | stmarys.magazine.ecclesfield@gmail.com                                              |                                  |



# Ecclesfield

# In Bloom

Are Holding A

## Coffee Morning and Plant Sale

At St. Mary's Church, Ecclesfield

on

**Saturday 20th May 2023 - 10am to 12 noon**

Coffee or Tea, Cakes,  
Plants, Cards and Raffle



**Everyone welcome**