

SHIRLEY PARISH

OUR PARISH PRAYER



KNOWING CHRIST
MAKING HIM KNOWN

Give to us your people, living God,
A renewed faith and a bold vision
that we may proclaim
the Good News of your Son
with faith that your kingdom will come,
with hope for our community
and with love for Him
who died and rose again
to save us, Jesus Christ our Risen Lord
Amen

FUN & WORSHIP FOR ALL AGES ...

Sunday 15th July



Teddy Bears Picnic

4pm at

St John's Church

Thursday 19th July



3.30pm at

Widney Junior

School

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Thank you

THOUGHTS FROM THE VICARAGE

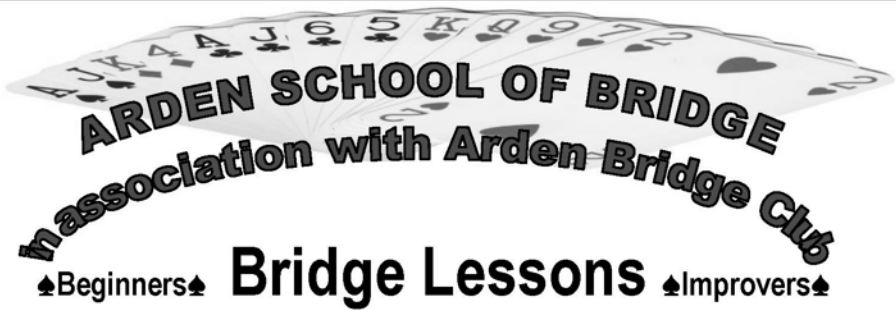


I recently received a lesson in where trust might lead me. Someone has got hold of my telephone number and they insist on calling me about a 'problem' with my Internet connection. It starts off very plausibly with an offer to help, albeit with a problem of which I was unaware. We all like to be helped and, if you're anything like me, am inclined to lack confidence when it comes to computers and the Internet. So, I listened to what seemed a simple solution which involved little more than handing over my password and my bank details. What could possibly go wrong? Well, of course, plenty could have gone wrong. So, I politely but firmly declined their offer of help and put down the 'phone. I then blocked the Nottingham number and thought no more of it. Until another call from a different number, and another, and another, all offering the same help with what is clearly a non-existent problem. You won't be surprised to hear that the politeness of my response has become strained - though it remains intact (for now!).

In a world where fraudulent offers of help abound, where the very concept of truth seems to be questioned at every turn, it is tempting to try and withdraw from it all and, like Candide, vow only to tend the garden in future. So what does a Christian do about it? Well, many people find gardening



therapeutic, though I confess I am not among them: I find them dangerous places - remember what happened in the Garden of Eden? The serious point is that we are called to be savvy about what goes on, people of peace but not doormats, while always seeking to see the best in others. So, for example, when it came to the wedding of the now Duke and Duchess of Sussex, I put aside questions like why not Duke and Duchess of West Midlands? or how much did it all cost? or why was my invitation lost in the post? and entered into the glamour of the moment - and salved my conscience by being thrilled by THAT sermon which was a wonderful example of Christianity at work - erupting into the poshest of posh weddings, with all the trappings of Establishment Anglicanism to sock it to them with the good news of saving, transforming love. Go Bishop Michael! I just hope that next time I have an opportunity to preach to up to a billion people, I manage to do so with the same energy, conviction and humour.



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HAPPY SUMMERTIME!

It seems rather strange to be writing for the summer magazine when it's still clearly springtime. But we have seen glimpses of good weather in short bursts and then torrential rain and cold temperatures again. So, what are you looking forward to this summer? Sunshine and warmth; just the thought of the warm sun penetrating on aching muscles seems like bliss to me. Perhaps you might think of Wimbledon, strawberries and cream, holidays or days out by the sea, lazy days in the garden admiring the myriad colours of the summer blooms, picnics and walks in the park, the warmer lighter evenings, barbecues and fresh green salads picked from your own garden – delicious as are newly made melt in the mouth scones with jam and cream, and don't forget ice creams and ice lollies, today available in every flavour imaginable.



It has been proven that the sun does bring a feel-good factor. Everyone seems in a happier mood, people smile and speak to one another, either as they pass in the street or over the garden fence. Do you remember your first paddle in the sea? Were you excited or perhaps a little apprehensive as the sea sucked the sand from under your feet? I remember hours of carefree days where we would be outside all day long only returning home when hunger overtook us. Yes, I am really looking forward to summer.

The one thing that is different these days is that we are more health conscious. Experts tell us we don't drink enough water. Too much fizz, too much sugar and too much caffeine they say. God gives us this life-giving water that we take for granted and we should perhaps appreciate its qualities and properties more often. God uses water for the symbol of baptism for washing away our sins. We use water for washing, cleaning, bathing, cooking and drinking. It really is a marvellous thing. They say 80% of our bodies are made up of water, so it's very important to not get dehydrated. We tend to nourish our skin in the summer to stop us getting sun burn and to prevent dry skin. Many people have what they call a summer glow on the outside. What we need to do is to nourish our insides as well. Drink plenty of water, there's no calories to worry about; our water in the Midlands comes from fresh Welsh springs. We have the best tasting water around.

HAPPY SUMMERTIME! continued

So that is how we should look after our bodies in the summer. But how do we look after ourselves spiritually? People go on holidays, lots of activities cease in the summer, we skip church for one reason or another, our prayer life is put to one side as we enjoy and relax with our families. Yet this should be the time when we spend more time with God. Just look around you and think of all the things already mentioned above and give God thanks. God is good. We have time to relax, time to reflect, time to re-energise our lives and ourselves. Yes, it is important to be with our families but remember we are part of God's family too, children of God whatever age we may be, and I am sure He wants to be included in our summer activities, to share our enjoyment and rejoice and be joyful with us.

So, I'm sending best wishes for a warm, happy, long summertime to you all.

Here's a few things that we are doing over the summer months at Christ the King Church: -

An afternoon service to give thanks for our pets. Children and adults are invited to bring along their pets to Widney Junior School at 3pm on **Sunday 1st July**. The school is aware of our plans and if weather is good it may be held outside so there may be less mopping up to do. All are welcome of course.



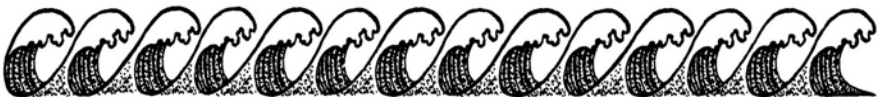
Saturday July 14th from 3pm to 5pm Paul and Kate Day are hosting a cream tea for the Parish. Again, all are welcome.



Looking forward to September we hope to have another skittles evening with supper - so look out for dates and times.

Happy Holidays!

Gill Gough - Reader



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THY KINGDOM COME 2018

This year, for the first time, Shirley Parish and other churches within Shirley Churches Together joined up to hold a series of events in response to the Archbishops' Call to Prayer between Ascension Day and Pentecost.

I caught up with some of the people who took part in the Prayer Walk from Christ the King to St James on Thursday 17th May or the Prayer afternoon at St John's the following Saturday, to find out what happened ...



“So, what did you attend and why?”

“I attended the Prayer afternoon because it sounded different. I had no idea what to expect, but it sounded intriguing.”

“I went to the Prayer afternoon as I was very encouraged by Shirley Churches Together's support for this initiative this year and wanted to attend as many of the events as I could. As well as using the Thy Kingdom Come booklet and receiving the daily emails, I followed it on Twitter and the number of events and activities that were happening around the country (and further afield) was very exciting.”

“I attended the prayer walk as I fully believe in the power of prayer and hoped that others seeing us pray would wonder why we were praying and who/what for.”

“I attended the prayer walk because with its echo of pilgrimage, i.e. journeying with a conscious acceptance of the Lord's presence, it seemed to me to be a timely act of witness.”

What were you expecting?

“I wasn't quite sure what to expect at the prayer stations at St John's, especially as it was a 'drop in' event. I certainly didn't want to go crashing into someone else's quiet time! I was at the church in the morning arranging flowers and had no idea that it would look so different when I returned in the afternoon!”

“The prayer walk was exactly what I thought it would be except I thought a few more people might have walked with us even if it was for a shorter journey.”

“I was expecting to be with brothers and sisters who would share the commitment while expressing it differently, a fruitful and enjoyable conversation.”

... continued over the page

THY KINGDOM COME 2018 *continued*

What actually happened?

“Stations were set up round St John’s telling the true story of a family in Haiti who lost everything in a hurricane, with an activity for each station.”

“When I went into St John’s there were eleven prayer stations set up, and I visited each one in turn, gradually learning more about the work of Christian Aid, the developing world and the effects of climate change by reading the stories and participating in the suggested activities.”

“We started off with a prayer outside Widney Junior school, which is home to Christ the King Church, and after we had set off we stopped at various points along the way to pray for relevant areas like Cranmore Infant school, the Industrial Estate, the local shops in Cranmore Boulevard, and then for the people in the surrounding area of Swallows Meadow and the people of Phoenix House and the Nursing home. Next, we emerged onto the Stratford Road where we prayed for the retail park, Our Lady of the Wayside Catholic Church, Sainsburys and Union Road Surgery, and finally into St James to pray again for the Shirley area where we work, rest and play. We came away with book marks made up of maps of Shirley and the surrounding roads for us to pray for.”

What was good/bad about it?

“The prayer stations gave a clearer factual insight into what the victims of natural disasters have to endure, and how they cope; how people rally round to help one another and how faith gives them strength.”

“The experience at St John’s was very good - as well as providing a time of prayer and reflection it provided lots of food for thought for future actions and possible lifestyle changes.”

“It was good that it was a warm clear evening for the prayer walk and everyone was invited to pray. I could see people looking at us, but it was not clear what we were doing, which was my only negative thought about the evening.”

What did you get out of it?

“Admiration for the courage of the people in adversity. Sadness and anger that most are still struggling and have no money. How very lucky we are.”

“It was a beautiful, warm, sunny afternoon which enhanced the feeling of peace and tranquillity around St John's church and grounds. It was lovely to have a time of fellowship outside with the other attendees after completing the prayer stations.”

THY KINGDOM COME 2018 continued

"It was a real pleasure for me to pray for the people in the Cranmore area where I was born and grew up with most of my school friends still living and working around here too."

Would you do it again?

"Yes"

"I would most certainly do it again"

"Yes, I would do it again"

"Definitely!"

What would you say to someone who asked if it was a good thing to do?

"Yes, the prayer afternoon was a good thing to do."

"It was a good thing to do - I wouldn't have considered much of the material had it not been set out for me in such an informative and creative way."

"I would say that its always nice to get out and share my faith in a practical way that makes people stop, look and wonder what we were doing."

And anything else you would like to say!

"I hope that next year more people will put the events in their diaries and have the courage to take part - it really isn't scary or threatening and you will benefit from it as will the people that you pray for!"

With thanks to all who took part, especially those who contributed their thoughts to this article. If you'd like to find out more about the Prayer Walk, please speak to Denise Smith, whilst Gill Hanton would be happy to chat to anyone who wants to hear more about the prayer stations at St John's.

Kate Day

Our grateful thanks go to Paul and Kate Day for all the preparation work that they did for these events. This is the prayer which thousands of people across the world prayed during Thy Kingdom Come and which was at the heart of every event -

Almighty God, your ascended Son has sent us into the world to preach the good news of your kingdom:

inspire us with your Spirit and fill our hearts with the fire of your love,

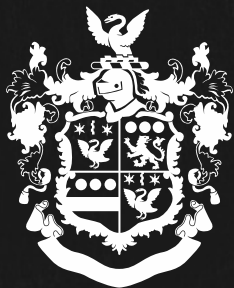
that all who hear your Word may be drawn to you,

through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

Editor

Tree Surgeon



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PRAYER ENVOYS

On Pentecost Sunday, I had the great pleasure of sharing worship with our Methodist 'cousins', as a prayer envoy. This involves speaking briefly about our parish life and mission, then receiving the prayerful support of the congregation. A Methodist envoy came to St James's that day and our other churches had similar exchanges.



I was struck again by how similar our liturgies are and how much we hold in common. The communion service followed a familiar pattern and thoughtful images and impressions of the Holy Spirit on a large screen focused reflection during the address. The hymns were a joy, although not all familiar. The welcome was warm and affirming and I think we are very fortunate to have such loving and committed Christian neighbours.

I volunteered for this, as I quite often do, without knowing exactly what I was supposed to do. It was a great experience, first the exercise of trying to portray our community and mission then being blessed with their good wishes and prayers in a joyful Pentecost service.

Kate Crocker – Parish Warden

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Congratulations to the June winners

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FOODBANK UPDATE

Recently we were honoured to represent you all at the AGM of the Narthex which, as you may remember, is the umbrella organisation for the Food Bank, Clothing Bank and so many other activities ranging from the Girls' Social Club, Senior Citizens Luncheon Club, Men's Drop in Centre, One Stop Advice Shop and many more. There are now 250 Volunteers helping, whether sorting donated clothing, teaching football or packing up food parcels etc.: Nigel Brookhouse, the Chief Executive, estimates that even at the minimum wage their hours have a commercial value of over a quarter of a million pounds this year.



These days David and I concentrate on helping the Food Bank, collecting donations from local churches and shops and delivering to the new warehouse in Tyseley where we make up the bags for the clients who call there and at the other satellite banks (Yardley Wood, Hall Green, Balsall Heath, St. John's Sparkhill) and the Q.E.

Hospital (for patients being discharged who have no immediate access to food). We try to cater for all medical diets and cultural requirements. Currently one and a half tons of food is being given out each week using up a tremendous number of strong plastic bags. The management of the donations is difficult; rotating food so that stock can be used in date order requires constant supervision and much physical effort. Donations tend to come in floods and famines! Lately it has been challenging - to say the least! - trying to find all the items on a printed list to fill the bags for the clients. If there's no tinned fruit will double rice pudding make up for it? If there's no dried milk, can the client cope with carrying the extra weight of three extra litres of liquid milk? If there's no fruit juice where can the Vitamin C come from? If the only packets of teabags are 160 or 240 and we're not allowed to split them can the client carry the extra size, and anyway can we spare that number for just one person - shouldn't we reserve them for the large families? Baked beans are another matter altogether. I would love to have a notice over the Food Bank which says, 'No Man can live by Baked Beans alone'!! I'm sure they multiply in the night when the lights go off!

The appeal this month, as you may have guessed, is **for tinned fruit, UHT fruit juice and strong plastic bags.**



FOODBANK UPDATE *continued*

The need for **toiletries** is constant too; people are just so pleased to have the basics of soap and toothpaste – supermarket brands are fine, quantity is more important than quality.

Thank you all for your continued support,
Elizabeth Paice



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Thursday 17th May 2018

Ray Sturdy - Vesta Tilley - A Victorian Light

Illustrated with slides, this was an interesting and informative talk. Ray told us Vesta Tilley's life story. This well-known music hall star started her career as a small child and worked as an entertainer for most of her life. She achieved fame here and in America and became wealthy. However, she never forgot her humble beginnings in Worcester and supported her family all her life.

Wednesday 6th June 2018

Afternoon Tea

A very well attended and successful afternoon tea was held in Church House. Members, visitors and friends were treated to a sumptuous feast and everyone enjoyed this social occasion.

Sue Guy



Mobile: 07783 966 749

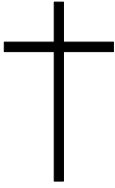
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SHIRLEY PARISH CALENDAR 2019



Please send photos of our churches and our parish events for inclusion in a calendar for next year by email to gill.hanton@btinternet.com by the end of July 2018



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ST JAMES'S CHURCHYARD

Our history has gifted us with a large and beautiful churchyard. Maintaining it is a huge task, which is becoming more difficult as our volunteers become fewer and older. A huge amount of time and sheer hard work is put in week after week in mowing, strimming and tidying but grass grows rapidly in summer and sometimes outstrips the capacity of the team to keep up. We are immensely grateful to the stalwart band of churchyard carers.

The PCC is looking urgently at options for managing this important part of our heritage. Meanwhile, if anyone can help with this important work or has ideas for us to consider, please contact Kate Crocker on 0121 258 2956



OUR PARISH DIARY FOR JULY 2018

- 1st The Fifth Sunday after Trinity**
 9am: St John's and CTK Joint Service at St John's Church
 3pm: Pet Service at Christ the King Church
 7pm: Reflective Evening Worship at St John's Church
- 2nd 10.30am: Portershill Drive Holy Communion
 3rd THOMAS THE APOSTLE
 11am: Pegasus Court Holy Communion
 12noon: Ploughman's Lunch at Church House
- 4th 2pm: MU - 'Divine Beauty' – Jane McArdle, Birmingham Cathedral
 7pm: Holy Communion and Guild of St Raphael at St James Church
 7.30pm: Christ the King Management Committee Meeting
- 7th 7.30pm: Chanterelle Ladies Choir - 'Summer Concert' at
 St James Church
- 8th The Sixth Sunday after Trinity**
 11.30am: The Friends of St James Walking Club
 (meet in the Car Park near St James Church)
- 9th 11.15am: Elizabeth House Holy Communion
 11th 10.30am: Coffee Morning and Book Swap at St John's Church
 10.45am: Swallows Meadow Holy Communion
 11am: Greenhill Way Holy Communion
 7.30pm: St John's Management Committee Meeting
- 12th-14th 7.30pm: Union Theatre at St James Church (see page 20)
 14th 3pm: Afternoon Tea at 18 Widney Lane
- 15th The Seventh Sunday after Trinity**
 4 o'clock Login at St John's Church – Teddy Bears Picnic
- 17th 10.30am: Mason House Holy Communion
 12noon: Ploughman's Lunch at Church House
 7.30pm: St James Management Committee Meeting
- 18th 10.30am: Share the Bible and a Prayer at St John's Church
 19th 3.30pm: Messy Church at Widney Junior School – 'Wonderfully Made'
 7.30pm: MU – 'Our Japanese Adventure' – Christine & Jim Beeston

OUR PARISH DIARY FOR JULY 2018 *continued*

22nd MARY MAGDALENE

25th JAMES THE APOSTLE

4pm: Contemplative Prayer at St James Church

29th **The Ninth Sunday after Trinity**

10am: Parish Communion at St James Church followed by lunch

31st 12noon: Ploughman's Lunch at Church House

(Please check the weekly pew slips for any changes and additions)

JAMES THE APOSTLE - 25th JULY

James and his brother John were sons of Zebedee and fishermen from Galilee - the 'sons of thunder', as the gospel writers describe their impetuous characters and fiery tempers.

James stands out on three accounts: he was one of the three disciples who witnessed the Transfiguration of Christ. Jesus took him, along with Peter and John, to 'watch' with him in the garden of Gethsemane. Finally, he went on to be the first apostle to die for the Christian faith, when in AD 44 King Herod Agrippa put him to the sword in Jerusalem at Passover time.

In the centuries following his death, James became associated with the evangelising of Spain, and as a powerful defender of Christianity against the Moors. The heyday of the cult of Santiago de Compostela was from the 12th to the 15th century, and the pilgrimage to Compostela became one of the most important of medieval Christendom. This in time transformed the iconography of James, and his emblems became the pilgrim's hat and the scallop-shell of Compostela. Over 400 English churches have been dedicated to James.

SEPTEMBER 2018 PARISH MAGAZINE

DEADLINE FOR INFORMATION & ARTICLES - Sunday 12th August

PUBLICATION DATE - Saturday 25th August

OUR PARISH DIARY FOR AUGUST

- 1st 7pm: Holy Communion and Guild of St Raphael at St James Church
- 5th The Tenth Sunday after Trinity**
 10.30am: St John's and CTK Joint Service at Christ the King Church
 7pm: Reflective Evening Worship at St John's Church
- 6th THE TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD
 10.30am: Portershill Drive Holy Communion
- 7th 11am: Pegasus Court Holy Communion
- 8th 10.30am: Coffee Morning at St John's Church including sharing of holiday souvenirs and memories
 10.45am: Swallows Meadow Holy Communion
 4pm: Standing Committee Meeting
- 12th The Eleventh Sunday after Trinity**
 11.30am: The Friends of St James Walking Club
 (meet in the Car Park near St James Church)
- 13th 11.15am: Elizabeth House Holy Communion
 12.05pm: MU – Cathedral Prayers
- 14th 12noon: Ploughman's Lunch at Church House
 7.30pm: Pastoral Committee Meeting
- 15th THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY
 10.30am: Share the Bible and a Prayer at St John's Church
- 19th The Twelfth Sunday after Trinity**
 4pm: Log In at St James Church and Church House
- 21st 10.30am: Mason House Holy Communion
- 22nd 10.45am: Swallows Meadow Holy Communion
 7.30pm: Operations Committee Meeting
- 24th BARTHOLOMEW THE APOSTLE
- 26th The Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity**
- 28th 12noon: Ploughman's Lunch at Church House
- 29th 4pm: Contemplative Prayer at St James Church

(Please check the weekly pew slips for any changes and additions)

DIARY OF A MOMENTOUS YEAR : JULY 1918

It is called '*World War 1*' and certainly no previous conflict had spread its ugly fingers so widely. Of course, we tend to think of the Western Front. Our default image of the War is of men in trenches, of mud and blood and soldiers with drawn bayonets going 'over the top'. In fact, the War was being fought on many Fronts: the Eastern Front (Germany/Russia, about to end with the new Russian regime); the Ottoman Front, in the Middle East; the Italian Front (Italy and France against the 'Central Powers'). Then there was the Ocean Front (U-boats against Allied shipping), the only one where the Germans were winning.



THE GREAT WAR
1914 - 1918

Not surprisingly, in view of all that, the War became one of resources, human, military and economic; and by 1918 the Allies had a great advantage. Hard-pressed armies were being continuously refreshed by the arrival of well-trained and committed troops from many quarters, notably Canada, Australia and New Zealand, and decisively the United States. These soldiers, and many from other countries in the British Empire, were now being equipped with newly designed, modern equipment. At last the Allies outnumbered the Germans in tanks and aircraft – and the new planes were faster, better equipped and armed.

All of this was, of course, evident to the German High Command, and persuaded them to launch in July 1918 what one historian, Gary Sheffield, has described as perhaps the defining battle of the War, the second Battle of the Marne. It was a desperate attempt to inflict a heavy defeat on the Allies – not in the vain hope of winning the War, but of getting a better bargaining position in the peace negotiations that everyone expected. Launched on July 15th, it succeeded in driving the Allies back across the Marne. But they had been prepared for it, and three days later launched a massive counter-attack. Two French divisions captured 15,000 men and 500 tanks in a single morning, and then went on to drive the Germans back across the Marne. From now on the Allies knew they could win the War, and the Germans finally accepted that they could not.

OUR SINGING WORKSHOP

Over thirty singers came together at St James Church on 12th May for a very enjoyable and fruitful singing workshop.

Encouraged by Kate Law-Jones, we were soon singing familiar tunes in harmony with very little effort and our confidence blossomed. We then sang well known songs from the shows ... Oklahoma, My Fair Lady, The King and I, all very relaxing and uplifting.

We learned about posture and breathing and although it was fun, Kate and Kevin Gill expected us to give our best.

We then graduated to learning new music - also including harmony - as Kevin taught us two Rutter anthems - and members of the group sung one of these at a wedding in June.



The time flew by and we finished the session with refreshments and fellowship. Everyone expressed a wish to have another workshop and we are looking at dates in September. Watch the pewslip for further news maybe we will have forty singers next time!

Kate Crocker – Parish Warden

'THE PHANTOM OF SAIGON AND HIS THOROUGHLY MODERN DREAMCOAT OF HORRORS'

From *Guys and Dolls* and *Les Miserables* to *The Lion King* and *Legally Blonde*, enjoy some of the best music from the musicals performed by Union Theatre at St James Church - Tickets are £11 - or you can buy 5 for £50.

The performances are on **Thursday 12th, Friday 13th and Saturday 14th July** at 7.30pm, Saturday also has a matinee at 2.30pm. Interval refreshments will be served in Church House.

How to book:

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Email : uniontheatresolihull@yahoo.co.uk



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*...I don't care what your Sat-Nav's telling you - I'm telling you
you are definitely **not** on the M6, nine miles south of Derby!!*

REMEMBRANCE 100

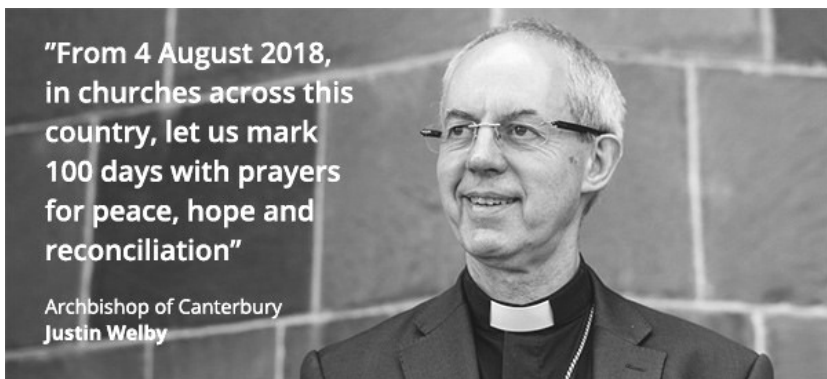


On Sunday, 4th August 1918, the fourth anniversary of the declaration of war, King George V and Queen Mary joined members of the House of Commons and the House of Lords for a special service at the Church of Saint Margaret, Westminster. The King had asked that 4th August 1918 should be observed as a National Day of Prayer. One hundred days later the war ended.

On 4th August 2018 churches across the country, across the spectrum of denominations, will start 100 days of prayer, peace and reconciliation. This is being called Remembrance 100 and will run until Armistice Day in November.

Every day there will be prayers and actions for peace. You can sign up to take part and spend just a few minutes of your day, adding your prayers to those of tens of thousands more.

To help you pray through the 100 days and to consider what it means to be a peacemaker, HOPE has compiled a 144-page anthology of prayers and stories called *100 Days of Peace and Hope* written by Christians across the denominations, living and working in different contexts and countries.



You can find out more by visiting www.remembrance100.co.uk
or www.hopetogether.co.uk

ACROSS

- 1 Proverbs describes her as being 'of noble character' (Proverbs 31:10) (4)
- 3 'Shall we go up again — — against the Benjamites, our brothers?' (Judges 20:23) (2,6)
- 8 A descendant of Shem (Genesis 10:28) (4)
- 9 'Anyone who does not carry his cross and follow me cannot be my — ' (Luke 14:27) (8)
- 11 Resentment (Ephesians 4:31) (10)
- 14 In Cain (anag.) (6)
- 15 'Such knowledge is too wonderful for me, too lofty for me to — ' (Psalm 139:6) (6)
- 17 Intense (1 Thessalonians 4:5) (10)
- 20 Third Order of the Roman Catholic Church (8)
- 21 'At midnight the cry rang out, "Here's the bridegroom! Come out to — him"' (Matthew 25:6) (4)
- 22 'My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in — ' (2 Corinthians 12:9) (8)
- 23 'As the — pants for streams of water, so my soul pants for you, O God' (Psalm 42:1) (4)

DOWN

- 1 Nickname of popular First World War chaplain, the Revd G.A. Studdert Kennedy, — Willie (8)
- 2 Occasion of religious joy (Lamentations 2:22) (5,3)
- 4 'We three kings of — are' (6)
- 5 Allegation or charge (Jude 9) (10)
- 6 Kind (1 Chronicles 12:33) (4)
- 7 'Open your — and look at the fields!' (John 4:35) (4)
- 10 Also known as the Feast of Lights (John 10:22) (10)
- 12 Area that saw the healing of two demon-possessed men and a herd of pigs stampeding to their deaths (Matthew 8:28) (8)
- 13 Forebear (James 2:21) (8)
- 16 Name given to the first two books of the Apocrypha (6)
- 18 Esau sold his birthright for this (Genesis 25:34) (4)
- 19 Rear (anag.) (4)



WORDSEARCH - MARY MAGDALENE

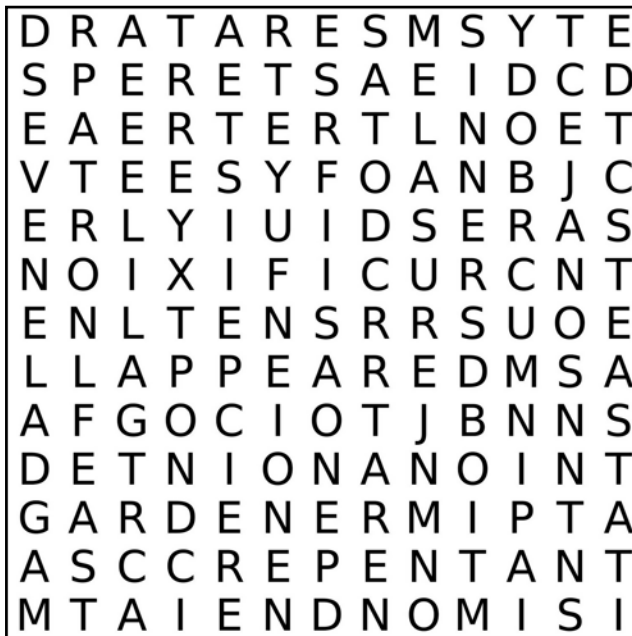
It is easy to understand the popularity of Mary Magdalene over the centuries: she is the patron saint of repentant sinners, and so represents all of us. We honour her on the **22nd of July**.

Jesus drove seven demons from Mary, who came from near Tiberius in Galilee. Mary is thought to have been the woman who anointed Christ's feet in the house of Simon (Luke Chapter 7: verse 37). She certainly followed Jesus to the bitter end – from Galilee to Jerusalem. Mary was present during the crucifixion, standing heart-broken at the foot of the cross. Her love for Jesus did not end there, for she went to the tomb to anoint his body on the Sunday morning.

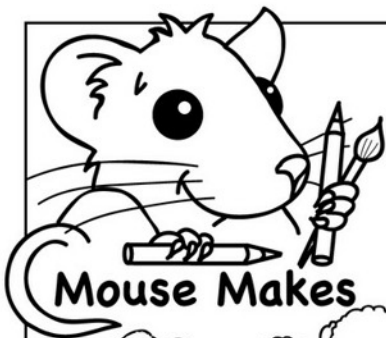
Such faithful, humble devotion was richly repaid: she was the first person to whom the Risen Lord appeared on Easter Sunday morning. She thought He was the gardener at first.

Mary Magdalene's feast has been kept in the West since the 8th century. England has 187 ancient churches dedicated to her, as well as a College in both Oxford and Cambridge.

ANOINT
ANOINT
APPEARED
BODY
CRUCIFIXION
DEMONS
EASTER
FEAST
FEET
GALILEE
GARDENER
JERUSALEM
MAGDALENE
MARY
PATRON
REPENTANT
SAINT
SEVEN
SIMON
SINNERS
TIBERIUS
TOMB



Answers are on page 29



LOST AND FOUND

Jesus told three stories to help us to understand God's love and forgiveness.

The first is about a missing sheep that the shepherd did not give up looking for.

The second is about a lost coin that the owner kept searching for until it was found.

The third is about a young man who returned home after he realised he had made a mistake by wanting to go his own way.

Read the 'Lost and Found' parables in **Luke 15**



Can you find the lost COIN, the lost SHEEP and the lost SON in the word search? Can you find these other words from the Lost and Found parables too?

- HEAR • JESUS • HUNDRED • LOST • LOOK • FOUND
- REJOICE • SINNER • REPENT • TEN • ONE • LAMP • SWEEP • SEARCH
- FATHER • JOURNEY • SPENT • HUNGRY • PIGS • BACK • HOME • RAN
- ROBE • RING • CALF • EAT • CELEBRATE • DEAD • ALIVE

The Lost Coin

Read Luke 15: 1-8



Can you find the lost coin?

Can you also see the lost sheep?

There is a mouse hiding in the picture too, can you find him?

What else can you see in the picture?

PUZZLE ANSWERS

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

D	R	A	T	A	R	E	S	M	S	Y	T	E
S	P	E	R	E	T	S	A	E	I	D	C	D
E	A	E	R	T	E	R	T	L	N	O	E	T
V	T	E	E	S	Y	P	O	A	N	B	J	C
E	R	L	Y	I	U	I	D	S	E	R	A	S
N	O	I	X	I	F	I	C	U	R	C	N	T
E	N	L	T	E	N	S	R	R	S	U	O	E
L	L	A	P	P	E	A	R	E	D	M	S	A
A	F	G	O	C	I	O	T	U	B	N	N	S
D	E	T	N	I	O	N	A	N	O	I	N	T
G	A	R	D	E	N	E	R	M	I	P	T	A
A	S	C	C	R	E	P	E	N	T	A	N	T
M	T	A	I	E	N	D	N	O	M	I	S	I

4	2	5	1	8	7	6	9	3
9	3	1	4	2	6	5	7	8
8	6	7	5	3	9	4	1	2
5	9	2	6	7	1	8	3	4
1	7	4	8	5	3	2	6	9
3	8	6	9	4	2	1	5	7
2	5	9	7	6	8	3	4	1
7	4	8	3	1	5	9	2	6
6	1	3	2	9	4	7	8	5



STOP! HEDGEHOG!

Hedgehog 'warning signs' are going up on our roads, at animal casualty black spots. The aim is to stop the drastic decline of their population - around 100,000 of them are killed on our roads every year, and it is feared that this level of mortality is unsustainable.



The People's Trust for Endangered Species reports that hedgehog populations fell by a third between 2004 and 2017. Sadly, hedgehogs do not flee danger, but instead curl up into a tight ball – not much defence against a speeding car.

PUSH - Pray Until Something Happens!

Are you pushing against something at the moment? And are you pushing against it in prayer? When difficulties arise that we don't know how to handle it can be tempting to stick our head in the sand like an ostrich and hope that it goes away. But Philippians chapter 4 verse 6 tells us to pray about everything, and to give thanks, and the peace of God will guard our heart and mind.



When something is weighing heavily on us about a situation, it can really drag us down and we lose perspective on it, lose hope and lose the belief that God is in everything and in control. Satan knows exactly what buttons to press in us, partly because he has a limited repertoire and partly because if it worked last time the chances are it will work again this time!

So, we really do have to battle in prayer. And that battle may go on for far longer than we anticipated. We thought it would only be a short season, but here we are months (even years) later, still battling. Well, don't give up! Don't let the enemy grind you down! Keep fighting, keep praying, keep hoping and keep focused on God who is sovereign in all things. We'll get there in the end!

PAUSE FOR THOUGHT - TRUST

'To wait open-endedly is an enormously radical attitude toward life.

So is to trust that something will happen to us that is far beyond our imaginings.

So, too, is giving up control over our future and letting God define our life, trusting that God moulds us according to God's love and not according to our fear.

The spiritual life is a life in which we wait, actively present to the moment, trusting that new things will happen to us, new things that are far beyond our own imagination, fantasy, or prediction. That, indeed, is a very radical stance toward life in a world preoccupied with control.'

PARISH REGISTERS

ST JAMES' BAPTISMS

MAY	6th	Mason David Walker
	6th	Curtis Jeffrey Pettet
	20th	Jessica Elizabeth Rex
	27th	Freddie Malcolm Francis Wilson

PARISH FUNERALS

MAY	3rd	Margaret Welch	81
	3rd	Claude Jenks	101
	9th	Jean Colley	84
	14th	Betty Long	73
	15th	James Harris	91
	16th	Betty Giles	79
	17th	Lois Bodell	75
	23rd	Anne Gillett	81
	28th	Dorothy Crammond	93

NEW HUB FOR THE WATERWAYS CHAPLAINCY



Do you like messing around in boats? On canals? Then look out for volunteers from the waterways chaplaincy this summer.

The canal and river chaplaincy has opened a regional 'hub' for the South Yorkshire, Lincolnshire, and Southwell and Nottingham regions. Based on the Chesterfield canal, the new hub will help with the waterways chaplaincy's work of offering pastoral support to people involved with life on canals and rivers around the UK.

There is a network of volunteers who work with the chaplaincy. More details are available from the deputy national chaplain, Deborah Nouwen - email: deborah.nouwen@workplacematters.org.uk or on <http://www.waterwayschaplaincy.org.uk/>

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