

Christ the King
St James the Great
St John the Divine

March
2024

Shirley Parish Magazine



SHIRLEY PARISH GUIDE (see also inside the back cover)

CLERGY

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facebook.com/@AdventureinFaithB90

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/@shirleyparish5736>

Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4904334906>



CHURCH HOUSE (opposite St James Church), Church Road, Shirley B90 2AX

ST JAMES THE GREAT CHURCH, Church Road, Shirley B90 2AX

CHRIST THE KING CHURCH, Widney Junior School, Clifton Crescent, Solihull B91 3LQ

ST JOHN THE DIVINE CHURCH, Tilehouse Lane, Tidbury Green, Shirley B90 1PW

**FOR ANY ENQUIRIES ABOUT THIS MAGAZINE PLEASE CONTACT
THE PARISH OFFICE OR THE EDITOR -**

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Deadline for information and articles for next month's magazine: 12th of the month

Whilst every care is taken to ensure that the contents of the magazine are correct, the Parish cannot be responsible for any errors that may occur in the editorial or advertisements, nor for the actions of the advertisers.

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BITS & BOBS!



As part of our commitment to Ecochurch, we have a green box, where people can share small, surplus items such as envelopes, sewing notions, seeds, gadgets, fixings rather than let them go to waste.

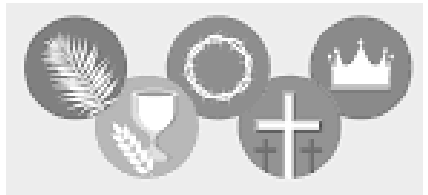
It seems a good idea to bring the box to St James Church on the first Sunday of the month when the whole parish is gathered. The idea is to help yourself to anything that you can use and bring your unwanted bits and bobs for others so reducing waste.

Kate Crocker

THE EASTER JOURNEY 2024

During the week commencing **Monday 11th March** local school children will be visiting St James Church to learn more about the Easter story.

Please pray for all those involved and note that, for safeguarding reasons, access to the Church will be restricted at times.



A DATE FOR NEXT YEAR'S DIARY!



On May 23rd 1925 St John's Church was dedicated by the Archdeacon of Aston so we'll be celebrating its 100th birthday in May 2025!



**This year's World Day of Prayer Service is being held at
The Bridge (B90 3AG) - 10.30am on Friday 1st March**

All are welcome

THE FRIENDS OF ST JAMES 100 CLUB

Congratulations to the February winners

£50 ~ David Cox £25 ~ Gordon Bragg

PRAYERS OF LOVE AND FAITH

Those of you with good memories will recall that last March I wrote a piece for this magazine about the “Living in Love and Faith” process - the Church of England’s discussion process regarding questions of identity, sexuality, relationships and marriage that has been ongoing for the last couple of years.

Up until very recently the situation has been that Church of England clergy have not been permitted to marry same sex couples, nor to conduct services of blessings for same sex relationships.

The Bishops have now issued some prayers to ask for God’s blessing on people who are in long term stable same sex relationships. These prayers may only be used in the context of regular public worship - currently there is no provision for a “stand alone” service of blessing which might, in some ways, resemble a marriage service.

The guidance issued by the Bishops is that use of these prayers of blessing be at the discretion of the Vicar, though there is a recommendation that the PCC (Church Council) be consulted. Our PCC discussed this at our meeting in January and are happy that such prayers be offered in the churches of Shirley Parish. I am more than happy to use the prayers, as are my colleagues Richard Haynes and Wendy Martin.

The Bishops have suggested that Parishes consider a policy for offering such prayers, and our Mission, Ministry and Pastoral Committee have since looked at this. It was their recommendation that we offer these prayers to anyone subject to the approval of the Vicar. The context of the prayers will be in a regular act of worship, so one of the matters I will take into account in reaching a decision would be how well the couple are known to us.

I am delighted that we can offer this welcome to those in same sex relationships and look forward to the day when we can offer more. However, I recognise that there may be some in Shirley Parish who hold alternative views and I would be more than happy to have conversations with you should you wish.

Meanwhile I look forward to offering these prayers of blessing.

Reverend Paul Day



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PLASTIC WASTE

Just over a century ago we started to make plastic; it revolutionised medicine with life-saving equipment, led to the space race, greatly reduced the weight of cars and aircraft, which saved fuel and pollution, and saved lives with helmets, incubators and equipment for clean drinking water. It also led to our throw away culture where things such as plastic bags and food wrappers have a useful life of minutes, or a few hours, yet may stay in the environment for hundreds of years.

Every year eight million tons of plastic waste escapes into the sea, the equivalent of putting five bin bags full of waste on every foot of coastline in the world. This plastic breaks down into small particles called microplastics which have spread throughout the world, having been found on Mount Everest and the deepest parts of the ocean. They have been found in drinking water systems and in the air that we breathe.

How can we address this problem in order to minimise its effects on the planet and the future of our grandchildren? We can shop at supermarkets that are changing their packaging in order to use less plastic; we can stop buying water in plastic bottles and use our own containers; we can buy loose fruit and vegetables; we can email our councillors - all of whom are members of the Green Party; we can email our MP who is a member of the Conservative Party; we can separate out waste carefully when we throw plastic into our recycling bins.



We must do the best we can for the future of our grandchildren.

Chris Terry

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HOW TO LISTEN TO A SERMON ...

How many sermons have I heard in my life? Lots.

And how many times has someone given me some idea of how to listen to a sermon?

To be honest - up until a couple of weeks ago, never!

So when I came across some advice, it seemed like it would be good to share it with anyone else who week by week listens to someone preaching. Here's a summary....

Immediately before the sermon

- Pray for the preacher as they speak, and yourself as you listen.

During the sermon

- Keep the readings to hand so you can refer to them if necessary.
- Expect to hear from God. Recognise that God has something to say to *you*. Be open to what he might say.
- Focus on how it links in with *your* experience and circumstances. Don't think about how good the message is for 'someone else'.
- Don't worry if you miss something – keep listening and 'pick up the thread' again whenever you can.
- Don't try to remember everything. Work out one point to take away with you – different people will take different points away and that's fine.

After the sermon

- Turn 'your' point into a prayer and a commitment – what does God want me to do?
- Share and discuss the sermon with someone else. Discuss the sermon – not the preacher!
- Maybe talk to the preacher about the sermon. Don't be afraid to ask questions or share your own thoughts.
- Put what you have heard into action!

And if you have other hints or tips, please share them with me!

Kate Day

Based on 'How to listen to a sermon' from "Common Worship Today" by Mark Earey and Gilly Myers

HAVE YOU SEEN THE DOVES IN ST JAMES CHURCH?

If you've been in St James Church recently, you've probably seen this stunning flock of doves catching the light as they flutter above the dais. As they catch your eye, I wonder what thoughts they inspire in you?

They were made at January Messy Church, when we were thinking about baptism. The bible story of Jesus' baptism tells how the Holy Spirit descended on Jesus in the form of a dove, so on one level, the doves might remind us of our own baptism, and so be signs of our own "journey" with him.



Maybe the fact that they are symbols of the Holy Spirit is important to you. Maybe they remind you of the presence and power of the Spirit of God, who with us every moment of every day, assuring us of God's love as we celebrate the highs, and faithfully navigate the lows, of everyday existence.

Maybe the idea of the Holy Spirit 'brooding' – bringing new things to birth - at the heart of the church building, the heart of our worship, the heart of our church community, and in the heart of Shirley, inspires and challenges you. How is God calling each of us to play our part in his work in the world?

Or maybe you want to give thanks for Messy Church. For the families who come each month; for the wonderful Messy Church team who bring their own gifts of creativity, welcome, hospitality, encouragement and cutting out to bring all the ideas to fruition; for the fun, friendship, toast, music and laughter – and the sheer joy of 30-40 children celebrating God's love as they sing and dance along to the songs; and for the fabulous folk who scene-shift, tidy, wash up, and vac afterwards. The Body of Christ truly in action!

Or maybe the doves inspire some other thoughts entirely? If you feel able, please share them with one of the ministry team, or drop a note to Gill Hanton, the magazine editor, and let us know if we can share them more widely.

And if you haven't seen them yet – then please pop in and take a look!

Kate Day



FRIENDS TOGETHER - QUIETLY

As we walked home from the quiet day in February we speculated as to what might have put people off attending: could it be they were worried about bring quiet, or that they would be expected to know everything, or just that they could not spare a whole day? If your reason was either of the first two, please be assured. We were never quiet for more than thirty minutes. Neither of us know everything.

None of us who were there on the day would profess to know everything but we enjoyed exploring our images of Christ, our understanding of the Holy Spirit, forgiveness and the fruits of the spirit. And we all enjoyed having a bit of space and some calm.

The day finished with communion, and we left thinking about how the fruits of the spirit relate to the whole congregation and not just individuals. On Sunday we agreed that the day is best described as 'friends together – quietly'.

Next time there is a parish quiet day please think about joining us. It is not scary, and the opportunity for some time out is valuable. Our thanks to Wendy M for organising and running the day.

Myra and Sarah

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CARING FOR THOSE IN NEED

ADAVU: six new clients were allocated to Liisa and her team just after the start of 2024. Every single one of their clients is a result of trafficking, whether from abroad or within the UK. Trafficking can (and does) happen anywhere; it doesn't have to be across borders, it may be even in the same town or street. It is when people are brought to, or moved around, a country or place and forced to work or do other things they don't want to.



Traffickers use violence, threats, grooming or false promises of well-paid jobs and a better life to trick their victims into working for them. This is known as Modern Slavery. Examples would include forced/sham marriages, sexual exploitation, domestic servitude, forced labour, or forced criminality (such as benefit fraud or moving drugs across county lines).

Men, women and children of all ages are victims of trafficking. Fears of the police, being imprisoned, being deported are very real and deter victims (who by this time have had their passports/identity papers/self-esteem taken from them) from escaping. It takes great courage to run.

They need tremendous support, both psychological and practical, to begin their new lives. And this where ADAVU comes in; and you, who regularly come up trumps with toiletries, layettes, etc.

THANK YOU FOR CARING, and please keep looking in the weekly pew slip for requests.

FOOD BANK: you may remember that last month I told you about The Pantry? This is quite a different scheme from the Trussell Food Banks which this parish continues to support. The Pantry is a scheme whereby folks pay a small amount (say £5?) and may choose several items from assorted boxes to their own taste and needs. The Springfield Trust will organise the one in Sparkhill - in a different part of St John's church, and on a different day, from the Food Bank which we support. Their foods, both fresh and frozen, will be sourced quite differently ... and staffed by different volunteers. It is hoped to start this in mid-February - we will watch this effort at encouraging independence with great interest and report back to you.



"Our" Food Bank is busier than ever. We have also started offering basic household items to folks who have been moved to the area suddenly and have nothing - your recent donations of plates, bowls, saucepans etc. have been so very gratefully received. Thank you on their behalf.

We are also offering books and small toys to Small Beings who come with their parents – some lovely smiles!

GrowBaby: (at St Michael's Church, Redstone Farm Road) is open without referrals or appointments on Tuesday mornings in term time. They offer clothing and equipment from maternity to five years old. Current requests are mentioned in the pew slips.

Thank you for reading this long spiel, hope you found some of it interesting.

Elizabeth Paice



Is it time to think about your garden?

Shirley Gardening Society meet in Church House on the second Monday of most months for a talk starting at 7.45pm

Membership is £15 and visitors are welcome for £5.

We follow interesting talks with free refreshments and time to socialise.

Our Season continues on

March 11th with "What Have We Got That's New for You?"
and **April 8th** with "Perennials for Shaded Areas"

For further information please call 0121 705 4530

NORDIC (OR NOT) WALKING IS BACK!

Please put these dates in your diary (the third Monday of the month) -

18th March 2024

15th April 2024

20th May 2024

17th June 2024

15th July 2024

19th August 2024

14th September 2024

21st October 2024

18th November 2024

16th December 2024

Look out for details in the weekly notice sheet or contact Jan Gardner for more information (077903 77210)

All welcome!



Mothers' UNION

Our branch AGM was held in Church House on Wednesday 7th February. Reverend Paul Day opened the meeting, welcomed all, and commenced with prayers. The minutes of last year's AGM, held on the 2nd February 2023, were read out by Mary Appleby and accepted as a true record of the meeting. The branch report covering last year was given by Liz Yates, followed by the Treasurer's report. Susan Knight went through the Statement of Accounts with explanations where necessary. Donations to the following have been made by the branch:-

AFIA	£400.00
B'ham Fund	£150.00
Overseas	£150.00
Prisoners Children's Gifts	£30.00

£190.00 collection from Janet Butts funeral was donated to AFIA (Away From It All) in memory of Janet from family and friends.

It was proposed and seconded that the accounts for 2023 be adopted and all present were in favour.

The committee was voted en bloc for the forthcoming year and remains unchanged. There were no offers from the floor to join.

The MU Theme for 2022-2024 is **Transformation – Now**

Following the formal business, refreshments were served.

We look forward to welcoming Jo Roberts Hill to our next meeting on **Wednesday 6th March** at 2pm in Church House who will be speaking on 'Finn's Story'.

Sunday 10th March – Mothering Sunday - the service at St James Church will focus on the work of the Mothers' Union with a display in Church.

All our meetings are held in Church House at 2pm on the first Wednesday in the month except for the August meeting.

Visitors are most welcome to any of our meetings.

Susan Knight

THE POD PROJECT - UPDATE

Our project to install a toilet and cupboard kitchenette in the south transept of St James Church is progressing steadily.

We have a Faculty (permission from the Diocese), permission under Buildings Regulation and an engineer is planning the drain connection with Severn Trent. All we need is the funds!

The Parish has made a magnificent fundraising effort, raising £14800 with donations, a variety of events and activities and we have yet to receive Gift Aid on some of this, which will boost the kitty.

We are very grateful to the Grimmitt Trust, a charity based in King's Heath, for an early donation which got us started. We have had a pledge from the Beatrice Laing Trust and very generous donations from the Edward Cadbury Trust and the Solihull MBC CIL Fund. (CIL stands for Community Infrastructure Levy and is a charge on building projects which creates funds for local improvement schemes).

Other grant applications are being considered and a generous donation from the Friends of St James at their recent meeting means that we now have over 50% of the project costs. This allows us to apply to the National Churches Trust, a major grant-giver for projects such as ours.

We can be cautiously optimistic about being able to start the project in late summer/early autumn and I am very grateful to the contractors, who are holding their quotes until August.

This is a very big undertaking and your support with fundraising, encouragement and especially prayer is greatly appreciated.

Kate Crocker

Visit <https://www.shirleyparishb90.co.uk/the-pod-project> to find out more or to donate



SHIRLEY PARISH BOOK CLUB

'Before the Coffee Gets Cold' - Toshikazu Kawaguchi



One of our members recommended this novel and then at our meeting it transpired, weirdly, that two of our members' grandchildren (and a sister) also urged their relatives to read it!

It's about a cafe in Tokyo where customers have the chance to travel in time - but there are rules. You cannot change the present through your visit. You must meet with someone who has also visited the cafe. You must return to the cafe before your coffee gets cold. Access to the past is via a particular seat in the cafe which is for most of the time occupied by a woman in a white dress. She is a ghost who leaves her seat, and the book she is reading, only once a day. To visit the toilet!

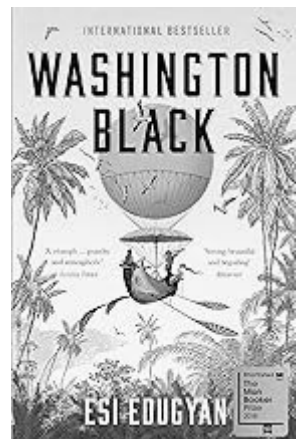
In this, the first of four novels, there are four journeys into the past. Everyone in our Book Club was swept along by the various encounters - and everyone realised that even though no one could change the past, each of them comes to understand, rather than alter, what had happened to them and those they love in earlier days.

Members of the group were mostly happy with what they read - despite the difficulty of coming to terms with all the Japanese names. Some liked it so much they have gone on to read other novels in the series. The most perceptive point made to explain some of the reservations was that the author is a playwright and this story first appeared as a play. Clearly, he leaves some character development to actors and to the reader.

The next Book Club read is called '**Washington Black**' by **Esi Edugyan** recommended by one of the Sunday papers as a best read for 2024 and shortlisted for the Booker Prize a couple of years ago. Some of us are already into it and finding it 'a rattling good read'.

Our next meeting is on **Monday 18th March, 2pm, Church House**. Be there. As Toshikazu Kawaguchi might say, you cannot change the world through reading, but you can come to understand it better.

Ray Speakman



OUR SUNDAY LUNCH CLUB

I am very proud to be part of the volunteer team that has been providing Sunday Lunches for over a year now. Our mission statement is “To provide companionship and a quality home cooked meal in a safe environment for people within the Parish on a Sunday, that would benefit from this service.” Payment of the three-course meal, including soft drinks, tea or coffee and mints is left to the discretion of the diners. However, we are self-funding so rely on contributions and a few donations to maintain the service. I am pleased to say that from comments received, we mostly achieve this, due to the dedication, hard work and love of the team involved.

As with all services/processes though, change is inevitable and good to keep things current and fresh. We pride ourselves on listening to comments, both good and not so good as to how we can improve. The old adage “You can’t please all of the people all of the time” is very true, though sometimes I think I can’t please any of the people any of the time (?!), so there often has to be a compromise. However, first and foremost we are doing this in Christ’s service so that drives our actions.

Therefore, taking into account all of the above we will be making the following changes for 2024:

- We are re-branding the service as ‘Sunday Lunch/Afternoon Tea - Pay as you Feel’
- Sunday Lunch will be provided alternative months on the third Sunday of the month
- Afternoon Tea with an activity (such as Bingo, Quiz) will be provided alternative months on the third Sunday of the month
- Slight reduction in the Sunday Lunch choices (Vegetarian, gluten free and diabetics will still be catered for)
- Sign up sheet will also include the dessert option (to cut down on waste and cost)
- Number of places limited to thirty (so as not to overload the facilities)

Please do contact me if you have any queries.

If there is anyone who would like to join the team you would be most welcome. We have a lot of fun, laughs, a few disasters and great friendship. You do not need to be able to cook, as there are a number of other tasks that you could help with, and it doesn’t need to be every month either. Just have a chat with me.

Jan Dalton (07969 326531)

THE FRIENDS OF ST JAMES

COFFEE MORNING

with home-made cakes, books,
raffle and bric-a-brac



Saturday 2nd March - 10.30am until 12noon - in Church House



Come and join us for

COFFEE & HOT CROSS BUNS

Monday 11th March 2024

10.30AM at

ST JOHN'S CHURCH



All will be welcome

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10.00 am – 11.30 am

Welcome Café

Pop in for a cuppa or stay
longer for a chat.

We are looking forward to
seeing you!

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OUR SERVICES IN MARCH

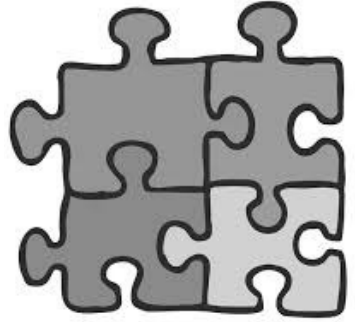
Date	Time	Service	Venue
Friday 1st	10.30am	World Day of Prayer	The Bridge B90 3AG
Sunday 3rd	10.30am 3.30pm	Parish Communion Reflective Worship	St James Church St James Church
Thursday 7th	10.30am	Holy Communion	St James Church
Sunday 10th Mothering Sunday	8am 9am 10.30am 10.30am	Holy Communion Holy Communion Morning Worship Holy Communion	St James Church St John's Church St James Church Christ the King Church
Thursday 14th	10.30am	Holy Communion	St James Church
Saturday 16th	10am	Messy Church	St James Church
Sunday 17th	9am 10.30am 10.30am	Morning Worship Holy Communion Morning Worship	St John's Church St James Church Christ the King Church
Thursday 21st	10.30am	Holy Communion	Church House
Sunday 24th Palm Sunday	8am 9am 10.30am 10.30am	Holy Communion Holy Communion Worship 4 Everyone Holy Communion	St James Church St John's Church St James Church Christ the King Church
Monday 25th	7.30pm	Compline	St James Church
Tuesday 26th	7.30pm	Stations of the Cross	St James Church
Wednesday 27th	7.30pm	Reflective Worship	St James Church
Thursday 28th Maundy Thursday	7.30pm	Holy Communion <i>(no morning service)</i>	St James Church
Friday 29th Good Friday	10.30am 1pm 7.30pm	SCT Walk of Witness At the Cross Taizé Service	Our Lady of the Wayside B90 4AY St James Church Christ the King Church
Sunday 31st Easter Sunday	6.30am 8am 9am 10.30am 10.30am 3.30pm	Sunrise Service Holy Communion Holy Communion Holy Communion Holy Communion Forest Church	St John's Garden St James Church St John's Church St James Church Christ the King Church St John's Garden

**PLEASE CHECK FOR ANY CHANGES ON THE WEEKLY NOTICE SHEET, SOCIAL MEDIA
OR ON OUR WEBSITE <https://www.shirleyparishb90.co.uk>**

THE FRIENDS OF ST JAMES



BOOK & JIGSAW SALE



**Saturday 23rd March - 10.30am
until 12 noon in Church House**

(There will also be Coffee & Cakes)



SOME MORE DATES FOR YOUR DIARY ...



Sunday 7th July - Sunday Lunch

Saturday 5th October - Coffee Morning
with books, bric-a-brac and cakes

Saturday 23rd November - Christmas by
Candlelight



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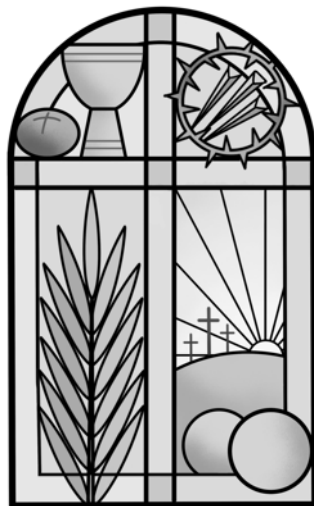
LOOKING FOR THE RESURRECTION

An old couple are driving down the motorway when the wife gets a call from their daughter. *'Mum, there's a car driving the wrong way down the motorway!'* The wife warns her husband that there is a lunatic on the motorway. Her husband, clutching the wheel in terror, replies: *'One lunatic? There are dozens of them, all headed straight for us!'* What we see is determined by our perspective on life.

In the Nicene Creed we say: *'We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come.'* In the gospel accounts of the Resurrection, there is a lot of looking and seeing. Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James and Salome went early to the tomb. They saw the stone rolled aside and inside the tomb a young man dressed in white said to them: *'Don't be alarmed. You are looking for Jesus the Nazarene, who was crucified. He has risen! He is not here. See the place where they laid Him...He is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see Him'* (Mark 16: 6,7).

Like the women we would probably have been left *'trembling and bewildered'* by what we saw that morning. Had the body been taken? Was the young man an angel or deceiver? Was Jesus raised to life again, or was this an elaborate hoax?

Easter gives us a choice. We can approach life looking for disappointment, fear and despair. Or we can look for resurrection and find not just an empty tomb, but encounter the living Christ. He continues to meet us in our daily lives bringing new hope, forgiveness of sin, healing and wholeness and the assurance of His presence through the darkest of times. God invites us to see our lives differently and look for Christ's resurrection life at work in our lives and the people around us.



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SINGING IN ST DAVID'S CATHEDRAL

Visiting St. David's Cathedral in November 2022, my family and I enjoyed listening to a local choir rehearsing for a concert. I clearly remember enjoying the beautiful music and thinking what an experience it must be to sing in such a glorious place.

Fast forward just a few weeks and I was amazed to be offered just that chance.

I sing with a local choir called 'Pop Voices' and was the first to sign the list to support some charities in West Wales by singing at the cathedral along with the Tenby Male Choir.

Our choir of over 100 singers from Solihull and some from Pembrokeshire gathered together on February 9th and 10th to sing a varied programme including songs such as Bridge Over Troubled Water, The Chain and Africa by Toto. We finished the concert with both choirs singing Calon Lan (in Welsh).

The following day in Saundersfoot, we repeated the performance (with added Tom Jones numbers) raising funds for a Welsh National Opera initiative promoting singing with dementia sufferers and their carers.

It was a truly amazing experience and one I shall always remember.

Linda Alford





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THIS MONTH'S CROSSWORD

Across

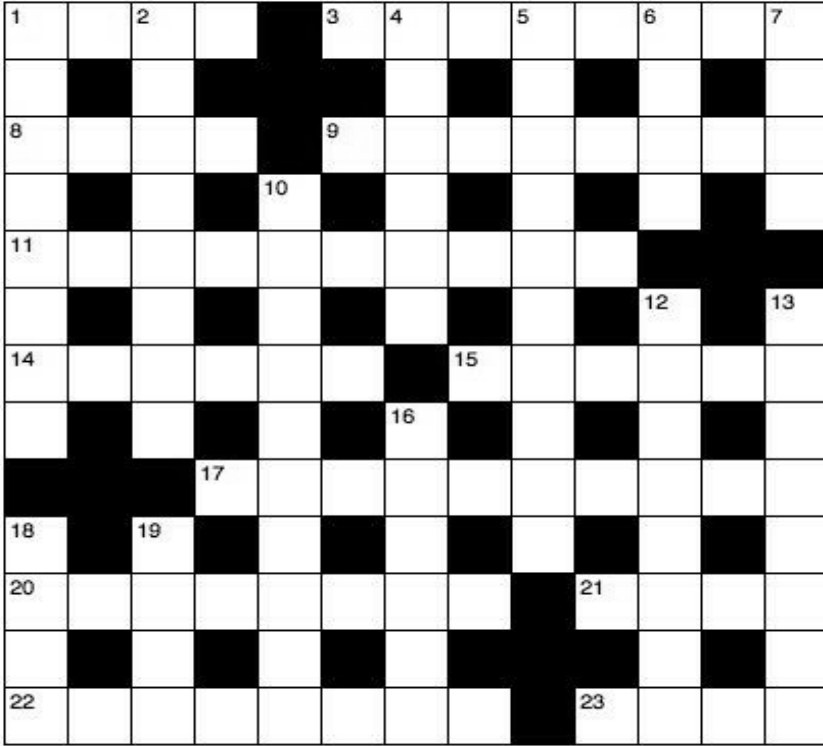
- 1 Made from the fruit of the vine, symbol of the blood of Christ (4)
- 3 'You are to set an ambush behind the city. Don't go very far from it. All of you be on — — ' (Joshua 8:4) (3,5)
- 8 Seep (4)
- 9 Celebrated by Jesus on the night of his betrayal (Luke 22:15) (8)
- 11 One of the supposed sites of Christ's burial place in Jerusalem (6,4)
- 14 'A city on a hill — be hidden' (Matthew 5:14) (6)
- 15 He inherited Elijah's mantle (2 Kings 2:12–13) (6)
- 17 Where Jesus prayed 'Not as I will, but as you will' (Matthew 26:36, 39) (10)
- 20 'Only in his home town and in his — — is a prophet without honour' (Matthew 13:57) (3,5)
- 21 Sail (anag.) (4)
- 22 How Jesus was punished before his crucifixion (Matthew 27:26) (8)
- 23 Eye sore (4)

Down

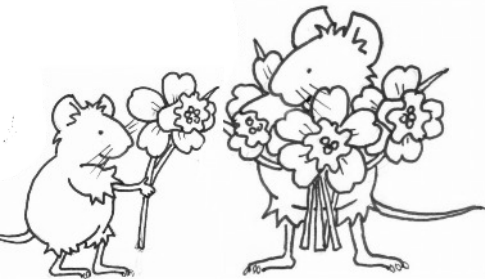
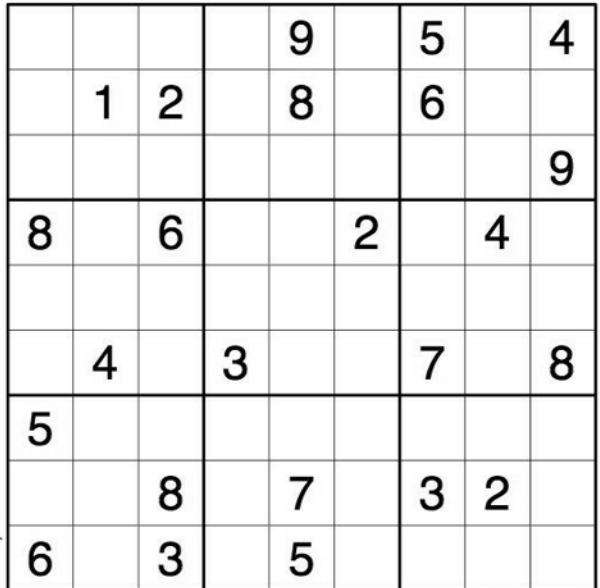
- 1 Can't grow (anag.) (5,3)
- 2 A servant girl to Peter, 'You also were with that — , Jesus' (Mark 14:67) (8)
- 4 Well-being (Proverbs 3:8) (6)
- 5 Pentecostal denomination, — of God (10)
- 6 One of the 'obvious' acts of the sinful nature (Galatians 5:19, 21) (4)
- 7 'I preached that they should repent and — to God' (Acts 26:20) (4)
- 10 ' — — , the world will not see me any more, but you will see me' (John 14:19) (6,4)
- 12 He betrayed Jesus: Judas — (Luke 6:16) (8)
- 13 Jesus to Peter: ' — — of my sheep' (John 21:16) (4,4)
- 16 The centurion said, 'Surely this man was — — of God' (Mark 15:39) (3,3)
- 18 Baked bread (Mark 8:14) (4)
- 19 'Blessing and honour, glory and power, be — Him' (Handel's Messiah) (4)



THIS MONTH'S CROSSWORD & SUDOKU



Answers are on page 27

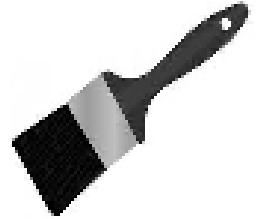


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MAUNDY THURSDAY (28th March) WORDSEARCH

On Maundy Thursday we recall the final command that Jesus gave to His disciples before His death. After the Last Supper, He rose and washed His disciples' feet. This was astonishing for a 'teacher' to do, but He had a firm purpose in mind: "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another." His disciples were to love through service, not domination, of one another.

In Latin, the opening phrase of this sentence is 'mandatum novum do vobis'. The word 'mundy' is thus a corruption of the Latin 'mandatum' (or command). The 'washing of the feet' ceremony was an important part of the medieval church's liturgy, symbolising the humility of the clergy, in obedience to the example of Christ.

ANOTHER

DOMINATION

LOVED

SERVICE

AS

FEET

MAUNDY

SUPPER

ASTONISHING

FINAL

MEDIEVAL

TEACHER

CEREMONY

HUMILITY

MUST

THURSDAY

COMMAND

JESUS

OBEDIENCE

WASHED

DEATH

LAST

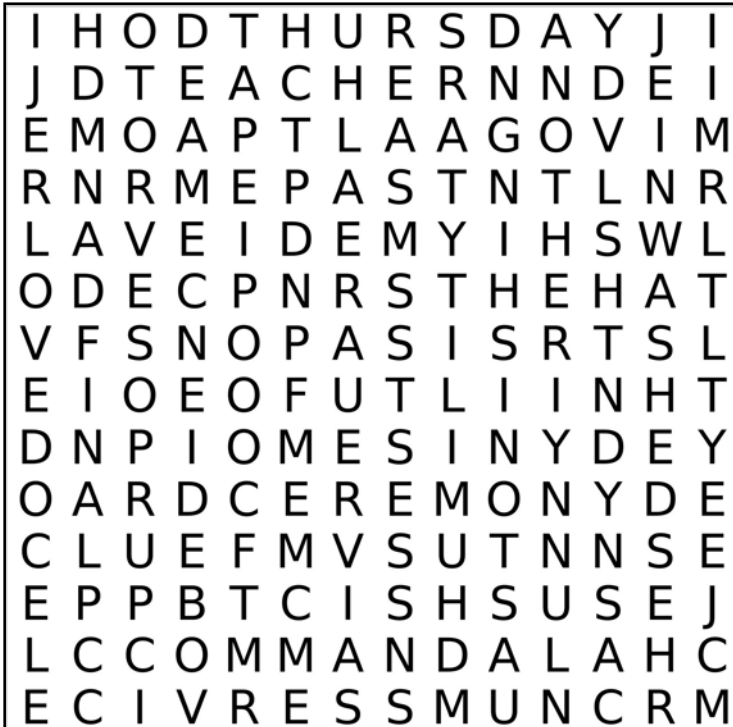
ONE

YOU

DISCIPLES

LATIN

PURPOSE



Answers are on page 27



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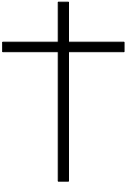
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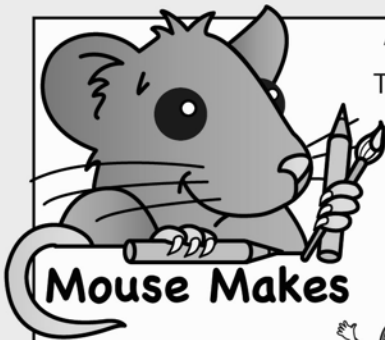


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Mouse Makes

"I am the **resurrection** and the life.
The one who believes in me will live
even though they die."

John 1:25



READ the Bible
passages to find
the answers to the
crossword clues

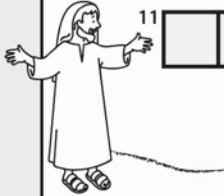
Matthew 21:1-11

- Which city did Jesus ride into?
- What did he ride on?
- What did the crowd shout?
- What did clothes did they put down?
- What did they cut down to spread on the road?



Matthew 26:17-29

- What feast did Jesus celebrate?
- Who did he celebrate it with?
- What did Jesus break to eat?



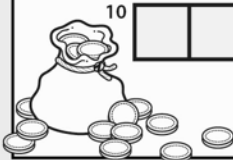
Matthew 26:36-75

- What did Jesus go to do at Gethsemane?
- Who denied Jesus?



Matthew 26:14-16

- Who betrayed Jesus?
- How many silver pieces was he paid?



Matthew 28:1-10

- Who descended from heaven?
- What had happened to Jesus?
- Mary was full of fear and ...?



PARISH REGISTERS - JANUARY 2024

Baptisms

- 14th Leon Tsang
- 28th Xavier Kesterton-Hall
Elsie D'Albert

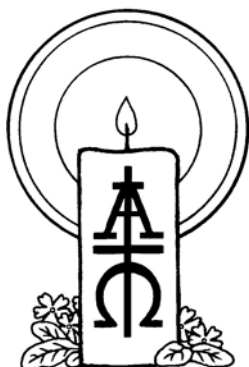


Funerals

- 3rd Douglas Gordon Summers
- 19th Philip John Radford
- 22nd Michael Boulton



PRAY WITH US



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

God of Mission, who alone brings growth to your Church,
send your Holy Spirit to give vision to our planning,
wisdom to our actions, and power to our witness.
Help our church to grow in numbers, in spiritual commitment to you,
and in service to our local community.
Through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
Amen

SHIRLEY PARISH GUIDE *continued*

READERS

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email: gill.hanton@btinternet.com**Deputy Wardens - St James the Great Church**Kate Crocker John Richards
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Tel: 07815 193892**Deputy Warden - St John the Divine Church**Linda Alford
Tel: 0121 430 4785**SAFEGUARDING**Sue Harries
Tel: 07977 012753 or 0121 745 8896 (c/o Parish Office)

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We must all look after one another.



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