



October
2026

Shirley Parish Magazine

God commanded the earth to sprout all kinds of vegetation - seed-bearing plants and fruit-bearing trees, and it was so. . . and God saw that it was good.

Gen 1:11-12

SHIRLEY PARISH GUIDE (see also inside the back cover)**Reverend Richard Haynes**email: curate@shirleyparishb90.co.uk

Tel: 07972 530161

Reverend Dr. Theresa Jonesemail: theresaj1@btinternet.com

Tel: 0121 272 3366

Gill Goughemail: g.gough@hotmail.co.uk

Tel: 0121 603 2636

Sarah Penfoldemail: penfold633@gmail.com

Tel: 0121 681 1525

Denise Smithemail: deesmith1181@hotmail.com

Tel: 07815 193892

Parish Administration Manager - Emily Ellis**Parish Office, Church House, Church Road, Shirley, B90 2AX**

Opening hours: Monday to Friday, 9.30am to 12.30pm

Telephone: 0121 745 8896

Email: office@shirleyparishb90.co.ukParish Website: <https://www.shirleyparishb90.co.uk>Social Media: <https://www.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****ST JOHN THE DIVINE CHURCH, 176 Tilehouse Lane, Tidbury Green, Shirley B90 1PW**

*St James Church is open from 10am to 4pm from Monday to Saturday
for private prayer and reflection*

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

Gill Hanton - Telephone : 07973 942145**Email : shirleyparishmagazine@gmail.com*****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.

OUR SERVICES IN OCTOBER

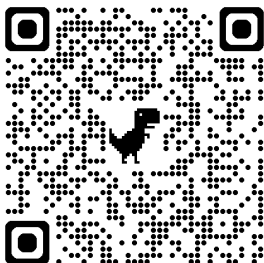
Date	Time	Service	Venue
Thursday 1st	10.30am	Holy Communion	St James Church
Sunday 4th	10.30am	Parish Communion	St James Church
	3.30pm	Reflective Worship	St James Church
Thursday 8th	10.30am	Holy Communion	St James Church
Sunday 11th	8am	Holy Communion	St James Church
	9am	Holy Communion	St John's Church
	10.30am	Morning Worship	St James Church
Thursday 15th	10.30am	Holy Communion	St James Church
	6.30pm	Wave of Light Service	St James Church
Saturday 17th	10am	Messy Church	St James Church
Sunday 18th	10.30am	Parish Communion	St James Church
Thursday 22nd	10.30am	Holy Communion	St James Church
Sunday 25th	8am	Holy Communion	St James Church
	9am	Morning Worship	St John's Church
	10.30am	Worship 4 Everyone	St James Church
Thursday 29th	10.30am	Holy Communion	St James Church

10.30am Sunday Services at St James Church are live-streamed on YouTube -
<https://www.youtube.com/@shirleyparish5736>

KID'S CHURCH

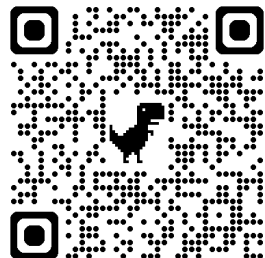


**WORSHIP AND ACTIVITIES FOR CHILDREN -
 DURING THE 10.30AM SUNDAY SERVICE AT ST
 JAMES CHURCH - ALL WELCOME!**



**PLEASE CHECK FOR ANY CHANGES TO OUR
 SERVICES AND ACTIVITIES ON THE WEEKLY
 NOTICE SHEET OR ON THE WEEKLY EMAIL**

*(if you are not receiving the email please
 let Emily in the Parish Office know)*



LOOKING AHEAD TO MY LICENSING AS VICAR

As many of you will hopefully already know, my licensing service as Vicar of Shirley will take place at St James Church on **Wednesday 4th November** at 7pm.

The service will be led by Bishop Michael, the Bishop of Birmingham. Invitations will be sent to clergy and representatives from across the deanery, as well as to local community leaders and other guests. Most importantly, however, this is a service for the whole parish, and everyone from our congregations across Shirley is invited to attend.

A licensing service marks the beginning of a new *ministry*. Whilst I will be the same Richard who has served here as Curate, the role of Vicar is different from that of Curate and carries additional legal, pastoral, leadership and oversight responsibilities.

In the Church of England, the licensing of a priest is the formal and public way in which the Bishop authorises that ministry and entrusts the care of the parish to them.

In one sense, nothing changes. I shall still be the same person, still seeking to serve God and this parish to the best of my ability. Yet in another sense, a great deal changes, as I take on the responsibilities of incumbent ministry and the stewardship of parish life. The licensing service provides an opportunity for us all to acknowledge that transition, to pray together, and to celebrate what God is doing amongst us.

In preparation for this new ministry, the Diocese requires clergy moving into incumbency to take a period of time away from parish duties for practical and spiritual preparation. My final Sunday before this period will therefore be Sunday 4th October. Although I will remain in the parish briefly afterwards to complete a few commitments and administrative tasks, I will then be unavailable until my return for the licensing service on 4th November. There is one exception to this arrangement, namely a wedding that I had committed to conduct some time ago.

Planning for the licensing service itself is already under way, with the Churchwardens and me working closely with the Diocese to finalise the details. As befits Shirley tradition, there will of course be refreshments afterwards, including a generous supply of delicious cake! As Ruth and I prepare for this next chapter in our lives and ministry, we would be grateful for your prayers. Please pray not only for us, but also for the parish during this time of transition. I would particularly encourage everyone to continue doing what Shirley does so well: supporting one another, working together in fellowship, and praying faithfully for those entrusted with leadership.

And once again I just offer you all my gratitude for the support you have given to me and to Ruth these last few years, and your encouragement in accepting us, welcoming us and through the way you have responded to me as your Curate, gave me the discernment I needed to know that God was asking me to commit the next part of my administrative in this wonderful parish.

The transition from Curate to Vicar within the same parish is not entirely uncommon in the Church of England, but neither is it something that happens every day. It is therefore a joy and a privilege to be able to continue the ministry we have already begun together, while stepping into this new chapter of parish life.

Therefore, I would once again like to express my heartfelt thanks to all of you for the support, encouragement and friendship that you have shown to both Ruth and me over these past few years. From the moment we arrived, you welcomed us warmly and made us feel part of the Shirley family. Your encouragement, your willingness to work alongside me, and the trust you have placed in me as your Curate have all played an important part in my discernment. Through your faith, generosity and partnership in the Gospel, I came to recognise that God was calling me to commit the next chapter of my ministry to this wonderful parish. For that, I will always be deeply grateful. The future is something we step into together, and I look forward to all that God has in store for us in the years ahead.

Rev'd Richard Haynes



HARWOOD & ENGLISH DECORATORS



*** 25 years experience ***

*** Interior & Exterior ***



*** Fully Insured * Free quotes * Insurance work ***

Telephone:

07976 952435

0121 744 6628



07801 631822

0121 744 0421



Email: steven_harwood@icloud.com



At our September meeting we welcomed Reverend Richard Alford, Waterways Chaplain for the last thirteen years covering a wide area on the Stratford-upon-Avon and Grand Union canals. (The Chaplaincy is not part of the Canals & River Trust.)



Richard is a retired ordained United Reformed Minister and moved to the Midlands from Rochester. During his time in Rochester, he introduced Christian evening patrols around the town's night spots, and their primary job was to help those who had drunk too much.

Richard explained that the Waterways Chaplaincy roles are simply to help boaters, regardless of faith and beliefs, in any way that they can whether it be practical help or just befriending them. Over the years he has helped boaters obtain benefits to pay for their license, obtained grants, or equipment for their boat like cookers etc, helped boaters get permanent moorings, in fact whatever needs to be done they try to do it. Richard has also supported families and conducted the funerals.

During lockdown chaplains supported boaters by getting food and medicines.

It was a very enjoyable and informative insight into the life of a Waterway's Chaplain – thank you Richard.

Our next meeting will be on **Wednesday 7th October** – “An Afternoon of Fun”

All our meetings are held in Church House at 2pm and visitors are always welcome.

There will be no meeting in November due to the Licensing Service in the evening for the Reverend Richard Haynes.

Susan Knight

MOBILE HAIRDRESSER

Fully qualified LADIES AND GENTLEMENS Hairdresser

Available for appointments in the comfort of your own home

Please telephone Claire on 07931 751 451

NEW HEATING AT ST JAMES'S SHIRLEY : NINE MONTHS ON

Last November, we replaced our obsolete gas boilers with chandeliers and electric wall heaters. It was a very different heating strategy - heating the people, not the building and learning to use it proved a steep learning curve! The winter was generally mild but with two bitterly cold spells and an unusually cold Spring.

Overall, there is much to celebrate.

We replaced the gas boilers before they finally failed and greatly reduced our carbon footprint, with no fossil fuel now used in our buildings.

We did this on a very tight budget, with generous help from the Church of England Demonstrator Project, two parishioners and the Friends of St James.

Evaluation questionnaires revealed high satisfaction with the appearance of the chandeliers and the quality of the lighting. The view on thermal comfort was more mixed, reflecting how we all feel warmth and cold differently. While most people were satisfied, a significant minority were not warm enough, especially in mid-winter.

The running costs to July 2026 demonstrated a saving of just under 2K on 2025 energy bills, predicting an annual benefit of £3K

There are tweaks and improvements which we can make. Some are quick-wins, others would build on the installation when funding allows.

Reduction of draughts, longer warm-up on cold days, having a warmer zone at the front of the nave, offering knee blankets in cold weather, and using heated cushions and vests for people in cold spots are all strategies which can be implemented immediately.

More warmth could be generated by increasing the power of the heating units, but for this to be possible, we would need either to upgrade the electricity supply to the church or invest in a storage battery, charged off peak and delivering electricity at switch-on to avoid a sudden load on the fuses. It might even be possible to add solar panels at some point, with further reduction of running costs. The journey continues!

A more detailed account will be posted on the Parish website or contact Kate Crocker (kate_crocker@hotmail.com)

PODIATRIST / CHIROPODIST

Surgery and Home Visits

JONATHAN LEESE D.Pod.M., M.Ch.S

HCPC REGISTERED

Tel: 0121 733 1292

193 Creynolds Lane, Shirley B90 4ES

OUR THANKS FOR A LOVELY SERVICE

I thought I would miss the service for the Home Communion Community held on the 9th September because I was in hospital just before but fortunately I came home in time to attend. I am constantly grateful for the kind people who give up their time and petrol to collect us. Richard is the one who collects me and brings me home and I am so grateful for his service.

The theme of the service was a follow on from the new 'Creation in Christ' festival which is going to be held annually. The service was most interesting, I hope we have the same follow on next year as it was really lovely.

Richard tells me that there are more people being baptised and that did my heart good when I heard that because it means our Christian family is growing stronger; I am sure when anyone reads this they will feel the same as me.

I look forward to seeing familiar faces in Church when I am taken for our services and especially my friend Margaret, unfortunately my new friend Pam was not well enough to go so I will say a prayer for her.

Mary Hayes



Shirley Plastering Services

**Fully qualified, experienced
female plasterer**

From Full Rooms to Small Repairs

PAINTING ALSO AVAILABLE

**For your FREE
No obligation quote, Contact**

**Steff 07729 528507
Shirley.plastering@gmail.com**



"Clean friendly service"

AN ENQUIRY FROM AUSTRALIA

Dear Editor

I am researching Joseph Griffin and Frederick Griffin who shared a surname and had links to both Solihull and Shirley.

Quite different paths brought them to very early Geelong which, then a remote frontier outpost of the British Empire in the district of Port Phillip, New South Wales. Geelong is now the second city of Victoria an hour southwest of Melbourne.

Frederick Griffin was a son of Reverend John Griffin, who was Curate at St James's, Shirley, and headmaster of Solihull school circa 1813-1842. Frederick arrived in Geelong in 1842, became a squatter and amassed much wealth.

By contrast Joseph Griffin was a convict who was transported to Van Diemen's Land (Tasmania), but he established a hotel in Geelong in 1840 and also did well.

I am hoping there are readers of your Parish Magazine who have knowledge of one or both gentlemen.

Kind regards

Roger Southern

Roger Southern Research, 34 Verner Street, South Geelong VIC 3220, Australia

Mob: 0487 769 586

Email: rogersouthern99@gmail.com

Blog: rogersouthernresearch.wordpress.com



The Roof Repair Co.

<https://www.roofingandgutteringservices.co.uk>



From A Minor Repair To A New Roof

- ✓ NEW ROOFS
- ✓ NEW FLAT ROOF SYSTEMS
- ✓ RIDGE TILES REPOINTED & REBEDDED
- ✓ GUTTERING - UPVC CLADDING
- ✓ NO MONEY UP FRONT
- ✓ TOP QUALITY MATERIALS
- ✓ SENIOR CITIZENS DISCOUNTS



Guttering
Repaired &
Cleaned Out
from £25

Repairs
from as
little as
£35

FREE QUOTATION Without Obligation

FOR IMMEDIATE EMERGENCY RESPONSE

0121 604 2104 / 07956 228 842

SAVING WATER

In April last year we (two adults in the house) decided to run an experiment based on water usage which, with our current climate problems, seemed really relevant.

Imagine all the purified water (purified for drinking) that we flush down our toilets every day, averaging three to six litres per flush, depending on cistern size. So, the experiment started with a view to saving precious water and if the bill decreased all the better!

We have a water meter at our property, and our bill had been a steady amount each month. The first thing that we did was buy three water butts to collect rainwater off the shed roof via guttering (250 litres) and two butts collecting rainwater off the utility roof also via guttering (2 x 100 litres).

At first we used buckets from the water butts to flush the toilet bowl but then we started using 5 litre plastic containers as they emptied (bulk washing up liquid containers, patio cleaner containers etc.). It sounds labour intensive, but it just takes a few minutes per day to fill the containers and have them handy but out of sight in the garage or bathroom area. Also, if one of us has a bath instead of a shower, then we use that water to flush the upstairs toilet.

We have run the experiment for 12 months and when the annual water bill arrived we were amazed. Our cubic litre usage had decreased by 40% and the monthly bill had decreased by 80%!

Councils in the south of the UK are already experimenting with rainwater tanks on roofs, fitted to flush toilets. Why can't new build houses have rainwater tanks integrated into their roof design to flush toilets with 'grey water'?

No doubt we will soon be moaning about the return of the rain but we may have droughts every year now so we need to prepare.

Pam Owen on behalf of the Parish Eco Group

THIS MONTH'S ECO TIP



When leather shoes start to look 'tired' buy a small pot of leather paint.

They will look like new again

THE FRIENDS OF ST JAMES 100 CLUB

Congratulations to the September winners

£50 ~ Susan Knight £25 ~ Pauline Daniels

LITTLE NICK AND THE ECO SERVICE

‘There’s no point in me going. I can’t save the planet on my own!’. Sarah wanted me to go to the Eco Sunday service at St James, but what was the point. ‘Well for a start its **eco** not **ego**. Its not all about you. And why are you grumpy? It’s usually me that does that’.

So, in order to have a quiet life I went.

It was a bit different. Instead of just two people taking the service there was a group of them – although I did notice that only Sarah and Dee sat out the front, the others ‘hid’ in the transept. Sarah actually explained at the beginning that if you were watching online you might think you had pressed the wrong button, but you hadn’t, so stay with us.

The first hymn wasn’t a hymn at all, not for singing, we heard music and saw pictures of some of the effects of climate change. Later we did get to sing it – All Things Bright and Beautiful, but to some new words all about climate change.

Ray explained to us about what humans are doing to the planet and instead of a sermon (hooray!!) people from the Eco group told us about what they are doing to help the planet. Not big gestures like planting a forest or selling the car. Little things like buying milk in glass bottles or cartons, having a water butt to water the garden, and buying things grown locally when possible.

We had each been given some ideas of things we could do and I noticed that people were chatting about them over coffee afterwards. And everyone was saying how much they liked the new words for All Things Bright and Beautiful.

In the end I had to thank Sarah for taking me (that did hurt a bit) because I had learnt some things I didn’t know. Also, I am pleased to boast that we already have our milk in glass bottles – but sometimes forget to put out the empties!

Nicodemus Penfold - Parish Raconteur



Tudor Grange Primary Academy St James *Nurture, Learn, Achieve*

Principal - Mrs G Duxbury

For details about the school contact the PA to the Principal - Mrs M McDaid

Tudor Grange Primary Academy St James, Halifax Road, Shirley, Solihull B90 2BT
Phone: 0121 744 7897 office@stjames.tgacademy.org.uk www.stjames.tgacademy.org.uk

HOME-BASED PHYSIOTHERAPY

Professional Care in the Comfort of Your Home

A well established female physiotherapist with **over 19 years of clinical experience**, providing personalised physiotherapy services to restore movement, reduce pain, and optimise function.

SPECIALIST HOME PHYSIOTHERAPY SERVICE

- Arthritic Joint Pain
- Back and Neck Pain
- Post Surgery Recovery
- Fractures
- Mobility Problems
- Falls
- Chronic Pain
- Neurological Rehabilitation
- Post Accident Therapy
- Sports Injury Rehabilitation

A BESPOKE APPROACH

Each session is tailored to your body, your goals, and your lifestyle, delivering focused one-to-one care.

Solihull & surrounding areas

Private appointments available



07342 678797



homebasedphysio.services@gmail.com



Enquire today to begin your recovery journey

FEEL BETTER. MOVE BETTER. LIVE BETTER.



ENHANCE PROPERTY

**Your local specialists in
property improvements**

Call James on

07538 548833

or email

jftrade@icloud.com

Joinery & carpentry * Renovation
Kitchens & bedrooms * Media Walls
Stud work * Doors * Skirting boards
General property services interior & exterior
Garden / landscape services * plastering
Composite doors supplied & fitted

BIBLE EXPRESSIONS

I listened a few weeks ago to a programme on Radio 4 about William Tyndale who made an English translation of the New Testament and part of the Old Testament between 1525 and 1535. This was a dangerous thing to do at that time because it was deemed to be heretical. The main concern by the authorities seems to have been that the translation could have contained inaccuracies which might put the souls of readers in peril.

Tyndale fled to Germany to continue with his work, but he was betrayed and was killed. Interestingly, many of the expressions coined by Tyndale appeared in later authorised bible translations and so came into common everyday use. These included 'the salt of the earth', 'a law unto themselves', 'the powers that be', 'my brother's keeper', 'the spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak', 'eat drink and be merry' and 'fight the good fight'. One of his expressions that is less commonly used however is 'stiff-necked'. The first time it is used in the Bible is Exodus 32:9 in a conversation between God and Moses following the golden calf incident, God said that the people are 'stiff-necked' and that He intended to destroy them. However, Moses pleaded with God not to do so and God relented.

Many centuries later, the apostles were being persecuted because they were persuading large numbers of people to become Christians. In Acts 7, the Sanhedrin members seized the apostle Stephen and asked him to explain himself. After giving a history of the Israelites, in Acts 7:51 Stephen accuses them of being stiff-necked just like their ancestors. He added that they had resisted the Holy Spirit, had killed the prophets who had predicted the coming of the Righteous One whom they betrayed and murdered. After some further disparaging comments, the Sanhedrin members were furious, and they took Stephen away and stoned him to death. This is the last time the expression appears in the bible.

So, what does the expression 'stiff-necked' mean?

Religious meaning: Stubbornness, resistance to divine authority, and unwillingness to change or submit.

General meaning: Relates to a person who is stubborn, obstinate or unwilling to change their opinion or position indicating an inflexible mindset.

In biblical times, many religious leaders were evidently thoroughly stiff-necked although God seems to have known that Paul, who became an apostle, would change. In television interviews, politicians often give the impression that they are stiff-necked, but very often they are simply sticking to the party line. Today, Christian principles should always be as important in public and private lives.

David Paice

**Guttering Repaired
& Cleaned
from £25**

GUTTERING SERVICES



**0121 604 2104
07956 228 842**

<https://www.roofingandgutteringservices.co.uk>

- ✓ GUTTERING
- ✓ NO MONEY UP FRONT
- ✓ TOP QUALITY MATERIALS
- ✓ SENIOR CITIZENS DISCOUNTS

STEPHEN & PHILIP PAINTER

**FUNERAL DIRECTORS
INDEPENDENT & FAMILY-OWNED**



The only funeral homes still owned by
The Painter Family. Providing a dignified & personal
service across Birmingham & Solihull

HALL GREEN OFFICE

192 ROBIN HOOD LANE
HALL GREEN
BIRMINGHAM B28 0LG

TEL: 0121 777 4300

ACOCKS GREEN OFFICE

213 YARDLEY ROAD
ACOCKS GREEN
BIRMINGHAM B27 6LZ

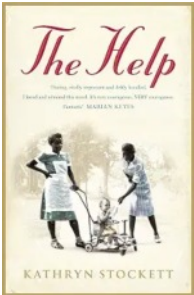
TEL: 0121 707 1172

WWW.STEPHENANDPHILIPPAINTER.COM

SHIRLEY PARISH BOOK CLUB

Our challenge this time was to read a 'Sherlock Holmes' story either a short story or a longer novel. Many of our group had never read Conan Doyle. Stories read were The Speckled Band, The Hound of the Baskervilles, A Study in Scarlet, A Scandal in Bohemia, The Five Orange Pips, The Man with the Twisted Lip, The Adventures of the Blue Carbuncle, The Adventure of the Engineers Thumb.

Everyone thought the story they read was good, and enlightening. Sherlock Holmes being arrogant sometimes but generally very clever. Red herrings abound and some of the language is dated as you would expect for this era of writing. It was interesting to note that Holmes was very forensically aware, using plaster of paris to identify footprints and also using fingerprints which at the time was very scientifically advanced. There seems to be a theme of compassion towards the murderers in some of these stories.



It seems that most of our group doesn't want to read any more of Sherlock Holmes adventures!

Our next book is **The Help** by **Kathryn Stockett**, we'll be meeting again on **Monday 19th October** at 2pm, will be lovely to see you there.

Belinda Piasecki



Glazing and Locks

- Misted/broken double glazing replaced
- All double glazing repairs
- Over 25 years experience
- City & guilds qualified
- Police and Age Concern registered
- Full locksmith service
- Key cutting
- Windows, door realigned

Contact Jason on 07789761412

Decorating Plus ... (Odd Jobs)

B90 and nearby

Call Stewart on 07802 566 441

Email - DecoratingPlus@hotmail.co.uk

WHAT'S ON

Tuesday mornings in Church House - 10am until 11.30am

Suggested donation
£2

WELCOME CAFE

Tea or Coffee, cake and lots of chat



*We look forward to
seeing you*



Please note that the Cafe will not be open on Tuesday 6th October as our volunteers will be away on holiday



SHIRLEY PARISH



Come and join us for a

COFFEE MORNING

on Monday 12th October at 10.30am

at St John's Church, 176 Tilehouse Lane, Tidbury Green, Shirley B90 1PW



WHAT'S ON

Award
winning care
homes

Blossomfield Grange care home, Solihull

Scams awareness

Thursday 15th October, 2pm - 3pm

Listen to Bill Cowley, from Home Instead, who will discuss how to prevent scams and fraud.

Dementia friends

Tuesday 3rd November, 12 noon - 1pm

In our free session hear from a speaker from Alzheimer's Society explain how to live well with dementia and become a dementia friend.

To attend please call 01217 561 543 or email jo.hopkins@careuk.com

Inspected and rated

Good

Care Quality Standard

Trusted to care

care UK 

You are invited to a

COFFEE MORNING

raising funds for the local MND Support Group

on Saturday 31st October 2026 : 10am - 12.30pm

MND 
Association

at Shirley Methodist Church
257 Stratford Road
Shirley
B90 3AL



THE BATTLE WITHIN – A REFLECTION ON JAMES

CHAPTERS 3 & 4 by Katherine Smith

James has been telling us to take care that the things we do and the words we speak reflect our faith in God and our Lord Jesus Christ. Now he turns his attention to the thoughts and feelings within us that lead to harmful speech and behaviour.

He knows that as long as we cling onto jealousy, envy, greed and anger we will be at their mercy and they will drag us towards disputes and conflicts.

But if we find it difficult to control our words and actions, how much more difficult will it be to control the harmful feelings and thoughts that seem to creep up on us before we have a chance to withstand them?

James recognizes that we do often have a battle going on within us between “wisdom from above” and “earthly, unspiritual, devilish” wisdom. The way James describes the “fruits” of “wisdom from above” gives us a picture of how a life lived according to that wisdom will look. It will be gentle, merciful, peace-loving and will carry great integrity – very different from the lives of conflict, violence and dissatisfaction which spring from “unspiritual” wisdom.

James also recognizes that in our own strength we cannot withstand the “devilish” wisdom. We need to place ourselves in God’s hands and when do turn towards God we will find that he is already at our side, walking with us along the way with love and mercy, for which we give him thanks.

A prayer ... Lord Jesus, you faced inner turmoil and temptation in the wilderness and in Gethsemane and overcame them in order to do your Father’s will. By your Holy Spirit strengthen us in our struggles, guide us with your loving wisdom and bless us with your presence along the way. Amen

Thank you to Margaret Foresheew for sharing

JOIN US FOR COMPLINE

Every Monday evening we meet on Zoom at 8pm for a service of Compline.

Compline is the final ancient service of the day in the Anglican daily prayer tradition, designed as a quiet time of reflection and spiritual peace before sleep.

The service lasts for half an hour and is in four parts -

Preparation: An opening invocation for a quiet night, followed by a brief, honest confession of sin.

The Word of God: The reading of selected Psalms and a short scriptural passage.

Prayers: Praying for our Parish and people and situations on our hearts and minds.

Conclusion: A final blessing asking for protection through the dark hours of the night.

The link to join the Zoom meeting is on our weekly email.

COZY TOES

Bev Hughes DipCFhp

Mobile Foot Health Practitioner

**07764 636468 or
0121 451 3586**



**OFFERING A FRIENDLY,
RELIABLE, PROFESSIONAL
SERVICE AT AFFORDABLE PRICE**

Over 65 £20.00 per session

Under 65 £25.00 per session

TREATMENT INCLUDES:-

- ✓ FREE CONSULTATION
- ✓ TOENAILS CUT &
- ✓ THICKNESS REDUCED
- ✓ CALLOUSES REMOVED
- ✓ CORNS & VERRUCAS TREATED
- ✓ DIABETIC FOOTCARE

Steve Tremayne Carpentry & Joinery



Garage conversions

Property repairs and alterations

Storage solutions

High standard of work and attention to detail

Friendly and efficient service

Call: 07906 233 288 or Email: kaaladst@hotmail.com



"Wait a moment, dear, this isn't a tourists'-
attraction ratings guide, it's a Health
and Safety warning!"

PSALM 23 FOR THE WORKPLACE

The Lord is my real boss and I shall not want.

He gives me peace, when chaos is all around me.

He gently reminds me to pray before I speak and to do all things without murmuring and complaining.

He reminds me that He is my Source and not my job.

He restores my sanity every day and guides my decisions that I might honour Him in everything I do.

Even though I face absurd amounts of emails, system crashes, unrealistic deadlines, budget cutbacks, gossiping co-workers, discriminating supervisors, and an aging body that doesn't cooperate every morning, I will not stop - for He is with me!

His presence, His peace, and His power will see me through.

He raises me up, even when they fail to promote me.

He claims me as His own, even when the company threatens to let me go.

His faithfulness and love are better than any bonus cheque.

His retirement plan beats every 401K there is.

When it's all said and done, I'll be working for Him a whole lot longer and for that, I bless His Name.



WAVE OF LIGHT SERVICE

As part of Baby Loss Awareness Week a special 'Wave of Light' service will be held in St James Church on **Thursday 15th October at 6.30pm**

It will be a short reflective service with time to remember those that we have lost.

Candles will be lit for 7pm to join the global Wave of Light.

<https://babyloss-awareness.org/wave-of-light>

#WaveOfLight #baby loss awareness week





Swallows

meadow court

**We have a whole
lot of fun at
Swallows Meadow**

If you are looking for top
quality nursing care in a
not-for-profit environment
please take a look at our
website

solihullcare.co.uk

or call us on

0121 746 6000



0121 7466000 | SMNHreception@solihullcare.co.uk



WORDSEARCH

To St Luke, whose feast-day is 18th October, we owe a beautifully written gospel as well as the Book of Acts.

He was a Greek physician and faithful travelling companion to St Paul. Under house arrest near the end of his life Paul noted, 'only Luke is with me'.

Luke's gospel focuses on the compassion of Christ, and offers us moving parables, such as the Good Samaritan and Prodigal Son. Women figure more prominently in Luke's gospel than in any other: look out for the extended story of the Virgin Birth, and stories of Mary, Elizabeth, and the woman who was a sinner.

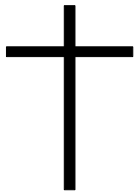
His gospel also features more poor people, more lepers, more 'sinners', who are all shown to be 'inside' the love of Christ.

In Acts, Luke skilfully links sacred and profane history, as subsequent archaeology has shown. He tells of how the early Christians moved away from Jerusalem into the pagan world, and especially on to Rome.

ACTS
CHRISTIANS
COMPASSION
DAY
EARLY
FAITHFUL
FEAST
GOOD
GOSPEL
GREEK
JERUSALEM
LEPERS
LUKE
PAGAN
PARABLES
PAUL
PHYSICIAN
POOR
PRODIGAL
ROME
SAMARITAN
SINNERS
SON
TRAVELLING
WOMEN
WRITTEN

Answers are on page 24

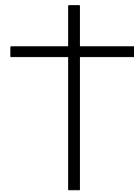




Monumental Masons

BANNOCKS OF SOLIHULL

Five generations of quality manufacturing
and service from a family business.



All aspects of Monumental Masonry

PERSONAL ATTENTION ~ ADVISORY SERVICE
LARGE DISPLAY

117 Streetsbrook Road, Solihull B90 3PF
(Opposite Robin Hood Cemetery)

Tel: 0121 744 1727
www.bannocksmemorials.co.uk

WORDSEARCH ANSWERS



WE BELIEVE IN
GOD
THE FATHER
ALMIGHTY
CREATOR

OF HEAVEN AND EARTH
WE BELIEVE IN JESUS CHRIST
HIS ONLY SON OUR LORD

WE BELIEVE
IN THE
HOLY
SPIRIT



Doctor Led Home Care in your area



Expert home care with a friendly face & a helping hand



Home care is about so much more than personal care — it's about companionship, reassurance, and having trusted support when you need it most.

At Heritage Healthcare Birmingham South, we understand that maintaining independence at home means supporting every aspect of daily life. From household and domestic assistance to companionship and social support, our caring team is here to help people live comfortably, confidently, and on their own terms.

Live Life on Your Terms

Get In Touch Today and Find Out More

Call us: 0121 812 8810

Email us: care@birminghamsouth.heritagehealthcare.co.uk

Visit: www.heritagehealthcare.co.uk

CROSSWORD & SUDOKU

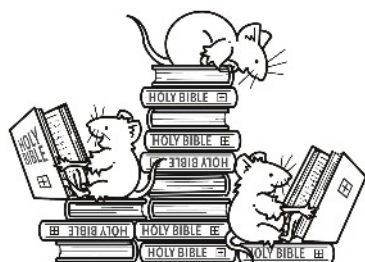
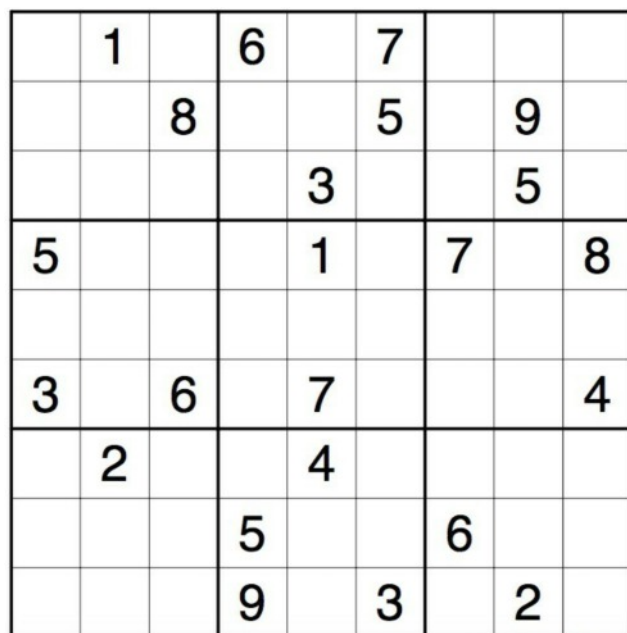
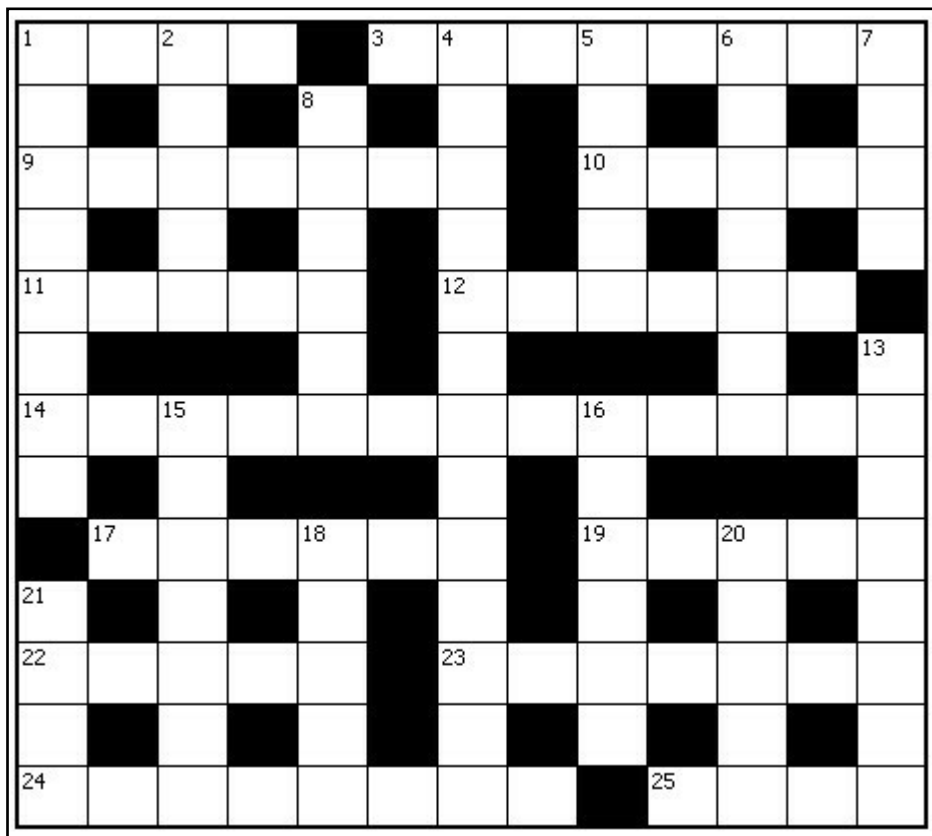
Across

- 1 'Those who were standing near Paul said, "You — to insult God's high priest?"'
(Acts 23:4) (4)
- 3 They were assigned to guard the tree of life (Genesis 3:24) (8)
- 9 'Elkanah son of Jeroham, the son of Elihu, the — of — , the son of Zuph, an Ephraimite'
(1 Samuel 1:1) (3,4)
- 10 Surrender (Joshua 24:23) (5)
- 11 Where American livestock can be reared (5)
- 12 Listen (anag.) (6)
- 14 Alternative name for Kiriath Jearim (2 Samuel 6:2) (6,2,5)
- 17 He founded Westminster Abbey, — the Confessor (6)
- 19 Hebrew word for the place of the dead (5)
- 22 Allies of Persia in the fifth century BC (Esther 1:3) (5)
- 23 Where John Wesley was forced to preach a lot (4,3)
- 24 Rebellion against God; abandonment of religious belief (8)
- 25 Note (anag.) (4)

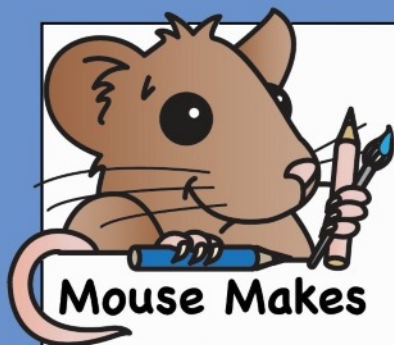
Down

- 1 Give an account of (Mark 4:30) (8)
- 2 'I — — the path of your commands, for you have set my heart free'
(Psalm 119:32) (3,2)
- 4 'He took the ephod, the other — — and the carved image' (Judges 18:20) (9,4)
- 5 'You are a chosen people, a — priesthood' (1 Peter 2:9) (5)
- 6 The meek, the merciful and the mourners are all this (Matthew 5:4–5, 7) (7)
- 7 Musical Instrument Digital Interface (1,1,1,1)
- 8 He was the son of Nun (Deuteronomy 34:9) (6)
- 13 'Let the little — come to me' (Matthew 19:14) (8)
- 15 'About three thousand were — — their number that day' (Acts 2:41) (5,2)
- 16 In John's vision, the wall of the new Jerusalem was made of this (Revelation 21:18) (6)
- 18 'Our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly — a Saviour from there, the Lord Jesus Christ' (Philippians 3:20) (5)
- 20 'Glorify the Lord with me: let us — his name together' (Psalm 34:3) (5)
- 21 Young Men's Christian Association (1,1,1,1)





Answers are on page 29



The **Bible** is a collection of books, written by many different people who were helped and inspired by God. The **Bible** includes books of history, law, poetry and songs, wisdom, testimony, letters and prophecy.

The **Bible** encourages us, corrects us and teaches us about God and how we can be friends with Him.



2. Which book of the Bible has the shortest title?

1. How many books are there in the New Testament?

3. The Word of God is sharper than a two edged

Hebrews 4:12



B I B L E S U N D A Y

4. He was an Old Testament prophet that has a book named after him.

5. The first book of the Bible.

6. God's word is like?

A _____
and a _____
Psalm 119:105



8. The last book in the Bible.

9. The Old Testament book of poetry and songs.

11. The last book in the Old Testament.

10. Who wrote the third book of the New Testament?

7. What are the first four books of the New Testament known as?

12. Which book tells the story of the spread of Christianity?

13. The Bible is also known as the

14. A book of the Bible named after a woman



of God.
Hebrews 4:12



PUZZLE ANSWERS

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

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



BILL BOYCE DECORATORS

We have been a family run business since 1982 and we pride ourselves on the quality of our work.

We carry out private work but also carry out work in offices, schools, restaurants and shop premises.

Visit <https://billboycedecorators.co.uk> to find out more

Telephone ~ 0121 744 0040
or 07976 810680 (Bill)
or 07966 275134 (Dan)

89 Union Road
 Shirley, Solihull
 B90 3BY

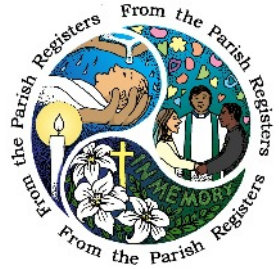


Email ~ sandraboyce61@hotmail.com

PARISH REGISTERS - AUGUST

Baptisms

16th	Oliver Davies
16th	Sarah Betteley
29th	Isla Leith-Mulley
29th	Mabel Leith-Mulley
30th	Lottie Warr
30th	Bobby Merricks
30th	Isla Merricks



Wedding

1st	Clare Bennett & Jonathon Richards
-----	-----------------------------------

Funeral

21st	Dorothy Millward
------	------------------

MOBILE HAIRDRESSER - DAWN



Ladies & Gentlemens ~
fully qualified & insured ~ over 30 years
experience ~ reduced prices for OAPs

Telephone: 0121 744 0421 or 07761 473524

SHIRLEY PARISH GUIDE *continued*

CHURCH WARDENS

Parish Wardens

Linda Pitt Tel: 0121 744 6777
email: lindaalisonpitt@gmail.com

Gill Hanton Tel: 07973 942145
email: gill.hanton@btinternet.com

Deputy Warden - St James the Great Church

Kate Crocker email: kate_crocker@hotmail.com
Tel: 07562 664163

Deputy Warden - St John the Divine Church

Linda Alford email: lindaalfor@hotmail.com
Tel: 0121 430 4785

SAFEGUARDING

Sue Harries
Tel: 07977 012753 or 0121 745 8896 (c/o Parish Office)

Thomas Bragg & Sons Funeral Directors

**We create every
funeral individually,
just for you.**

- 24-hour service
- Bereavement advice
- Transparent pricing
- Home visits
- Private chapels of rest
- Floral tributes
- Memorial masonry
- Prepaid funeral plans

Thomas Bragg & Sons Funeral Directors are here to support and guide you. We offer a friendly, professional service to families.

**Call us for immediate support, advice
or a home visit. We are here to help 24
hours a day.**

www.thomasbragg.co.uk

Shirley

0121 744 1428

562 Stratford Road, B90 4AY

Knowle

01564 773 610

1682 High Street, B93 0LY

 **Funeral Partners**



***As you all know we are a parish that takes safeguarding very seriously.
Everyone who comes to our churches deserves to feel included and
very importantly, safe.***

***If anything is concerning you, please talk to Sue Harries, Safeguarding Co-ordinator.
We must all look after one another.***



Bastock & Bruce Ltd

F U N E R A L D I R E C T O R S

*If Knowle is difficult to get to,
we will happily visit you at
home or you can meet Bruce
at any of the Bastock family
funeral homes.*

A partnership between C. Bastock Ltd and Bruce Bragg

Bruce is now the only remaining member of the Bragg family still in the industry following the sale of the Bragg family business in Shirley. This partnership brings a family business to Knowle with generations of experience ensuring the truly personal service you would expect from an independent business.

Knowle Funeral Home

Brisker Court, 1685, High Street, Knowle. B93 0LN

01564 33 5577 (24 hour)

Serving all surrounding areas



www.bastockandbruce.co.uk



C Bastock Ltd

F U N E R A L D I R E C T O R S

Independent Family Owned Funeral Directors since 1856

Shirley Funeral Home

100, Stratford Road
Shirley. B90 3BH
0121 726 2626

Solihull Funeral Home

67-71 Warwick Road,
Solihull. B92 7HP
0121 706 4040

Yardley Funeral Home

112 Church Road,
Yardley. B26 8UX
0121 784 3230



Whether you have a traditional, contemporary or eco funeral in mind our family are here to help you. Our dedicated team will guide you through the choices and decisions to ensure a unique and befitting funeral.

Specialist provider of Pre-Paid Funeral Plans
Peace of mind with secure affordable options

Free, no obligation help and advice.

www.cbastock.co.uk