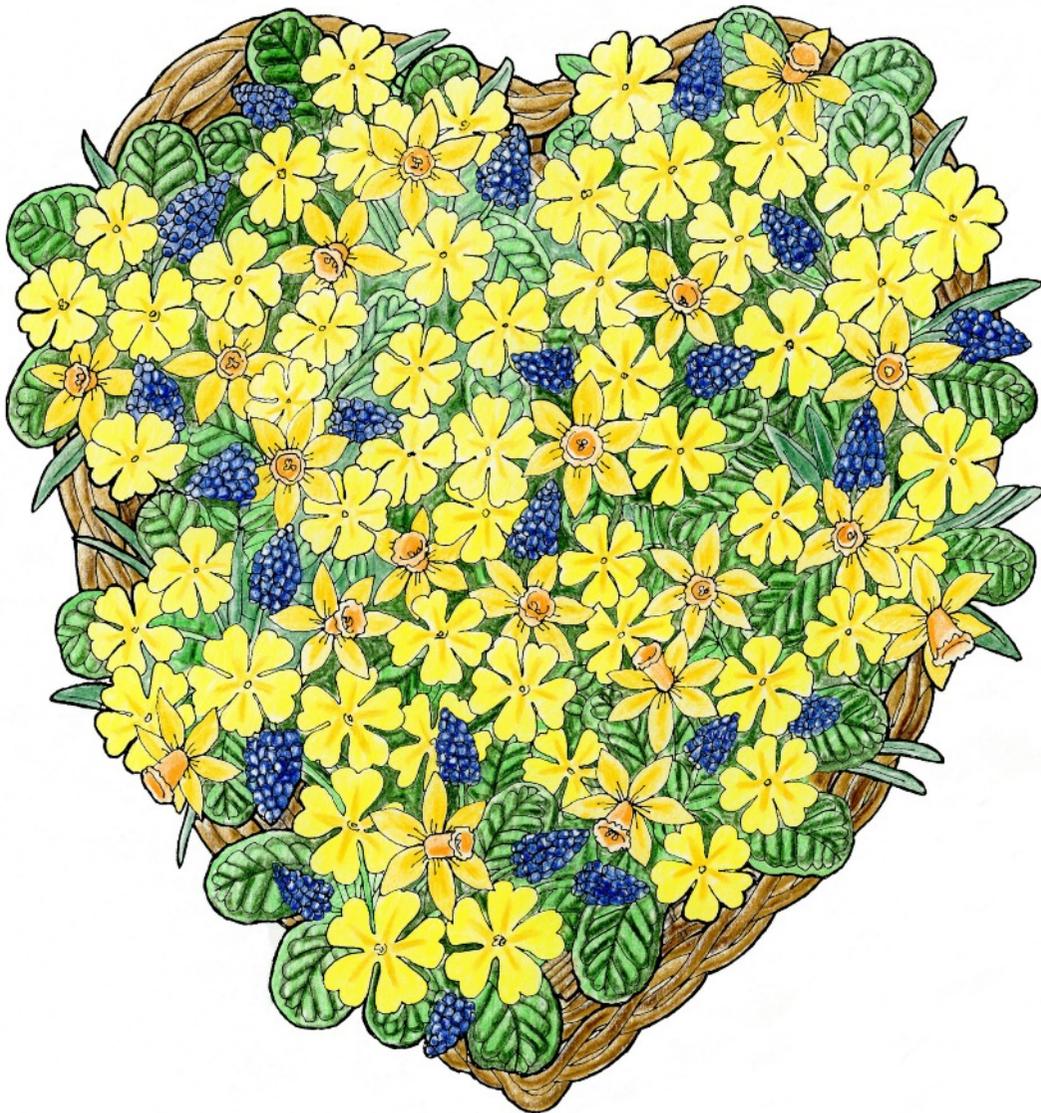


Shirley Parish Magazine

March 2026



KNOWING CHRIST
MAKING HIM KNOWN



SHIRLEY PARISH GUIDE (see also inside the back cover)

CLERGY & READERS

Vicar - in vacancy

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Tel: 0121 744 6315

Reverend Dr. Theresa Jones

email: theresaj1@btinternet.com

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Gill Gough

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Tel: 0121 603 2636

Sarah Penfold

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Tel: 0121 681 1525

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

Telephone: 0121 745 8896

Email: office@shirleyparishb90.co.uk

Parish Website: <https://www.shirleyparishb90.co.uk>

Social Media: [facebook.com/@AdventureinFaithB90](https://www.facebook.com/@AdventureinFaithB90)

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

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



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.

Registered Charity number 1131912

OUR SERVICES IN MARCH

Date	Time	Service	Venue
Sunday 1st	10.30am 3.30pm	Parish Communion Reflective Worship	St James Church St James Church
Thursday 5th	10.30am	Holy Communion	St James Church
Sunday 8th	8am 9am 10.30am	Holy Communion Holy Communion Morning Worship	St James Church St John's Church St James Church
Thursday 12th	10.30am	Holy Communion	St James Church
Sunday 15th Mothering Sunday	10.30am	Parish Communion	St James Church
Thursday 19th	10.30am	Holy Communion	St James Church
Saturday 21st	10am	Messy Church	St James Church
Sunday 22nd	8am 9am 10.30am	Holy Communion Morning Worship Worship 4 Everyone	St James Church St John's Church St James Church
Thursday 26th	10.30am	Holy Communion	St James Church
Sunday 29th Palm Sunday	10.30am	Parish Communion	St James Church

See page 17 for our Holy Week and Easter services

KID'S CHURCH



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

Copies of the sermons preached at our services can be found on our website -
<https://www.shirleyparishb90.co.uk/download-a-sermon>

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

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

OUR PRAYER FOR THE TIME OF VACANCY

Heavenly Father,
thank you that we are held together as a community in your love.
Let us be ready to share the good news of Jesus with those around us.

Strengthen us as we patiently wait as a parish,
remembering that your Son is the Good Shepherd
who will guide us along our future path.

May we gently encourage one another,
be quick to listen
and humbly reach out to support those in need.

With everlasting hope,
we trust in you alone to provide in this new season.

In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

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<https://www.shirleyparishb90.co.uk/future-ministry-in-shirley-parish>



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REFLECTIVE WORSHIP AT CANDLEMAS - FEBRUARY 2026

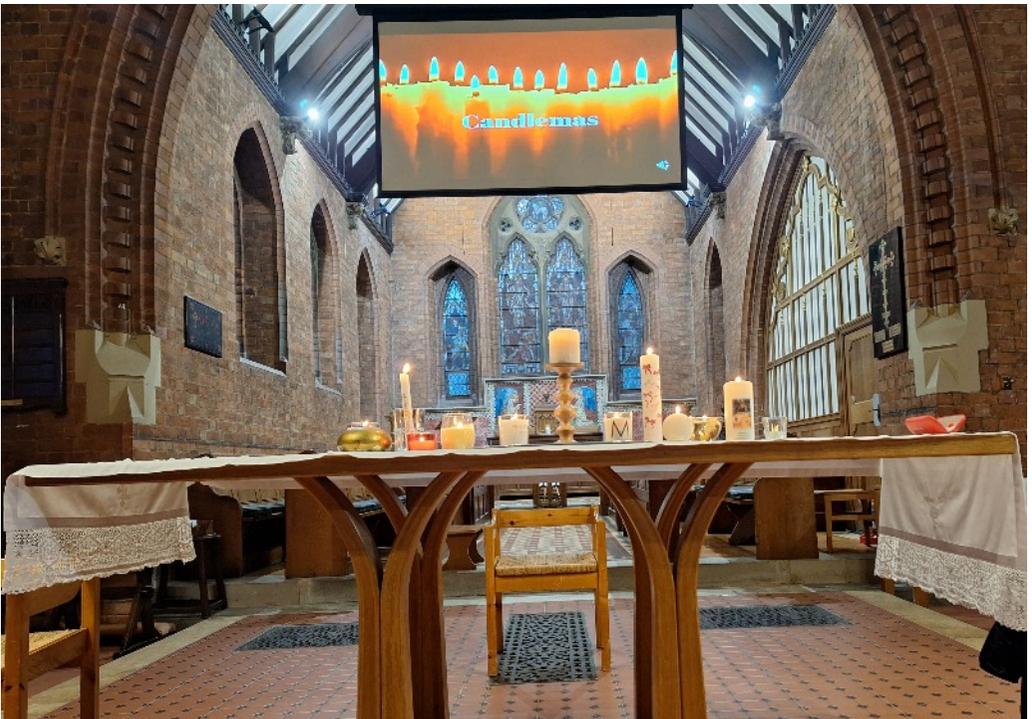
We had all brought a candle from home. There they were, arranged on the altar.

Richard lit them and that emphasised how different they were. All shapes and sizes, some were quite 'churchy', others more homely, different colours. One seemed to be at a bit of an angle as if viewing the world differently.

They represented us, not just because we had brought them, but because despite the difference in how they looked once lit they all shared the same light.

Towards the end Lynn blessed all the candles, and we took them home, taking their light with us.

Sarah Penfold



DO YOU RECEIVE OUR WEEKLY EMAIL?

If not - please let Emily in the Parish Office have your email address so that she can add you to the mailing list. Thank you!

OUR WELCOME CAFE

So we have started a new year with our Welcome Cafe and it is so nice to see so many of you have continued to come and support us plus some new faces.

Hazel Oak children will be returning to us very soon and it is on their behalf that I thank you all for making them welcome and supporting these students as they get ready to move onto college.

As from January we have suggested a donation of £2 per person for either coffee or tea with cake. The donation box can be found on the cake counter. We would appreciate it if you could come with the right money as it can be really difficult to find change.

We hope to do some charity events this year again which will include a raffle, so prizes for these events are very much appreciated. We have not yet had chance to sit down and plan, but watch out in the cafe for the notices of the dates and events.

It is really lovely to see how you all look out for each other and the chatter that goes on amongst you all.

If ever you need prayers said for anyone please see us and we will arrange it with you.

We say a big 'thank you' to all who volunteer to serve tea, coffee and cakes, washing up and generally keeping the flow of cafe going. Also a very big 'thank you' to all our cake makers - where would we be without your lovely home made cakes?!

Love from Dee and Sarah

Open every Tuesday in Church House



10am until 11.30am



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THE FRIENDS OF ST JAMES 100 CLUB

Congratulations to the February winners

£50 ~ Margaret Priddey £25 ~ Margaret Kew

SHIRLEY PARISH HELPING HANDS WHATSAPP GROUP

Our buildings and land take a lot of looking after and at present this is done by a small number of (mainly) older parishioners. It would be good to have a group of people willing to help when something crops up, like snow clearing, stewarding for special events, Christmas tree trimming and taking down, moving furniture, sprucing up the church for festivals, etc. etc.

If you are happy to be asked to lend us a hand on occasions, please send your phone number and a message to Kate Crocker (07562 664163), and she will add you to our 'helping hands' WhatsApp group.

Details of any super-powers you may have, like plumbing, fixing/DIY, sewing/mending, tech, electrics, light bulb changing, fundraising etc. etc., would also be helpful.

This is a parish-wide group. St John's needs a hand at times as well as St James's! Many hands.....



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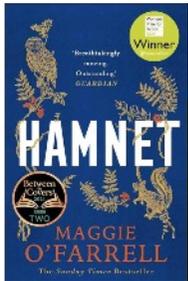
SHIRLEY PARISH BOOK CLUB

The Familiars – Stacey Halls

This book provoked a very interesting discussion, the theme was based on the Pendle witch trials and centered around a lady in the 17th Century who was having difficulty carrying a pregnancy full term, so asked a 'wise woman' to help her. This wise woman was using herbs and homeopathic remedies to help. As a result, she was incarcerated as a witch. Our discussion led to Arthur Miller's play The Crucible, based on McCarthyism in America, and all the similar waves of accusations that occur throughout politics and the world.

American Dirt – Jeanine Cummins

Everyone who read this thought it was a very well written book about a mother and son trying to escape the drug cartels in Mexico, by crossing the border to the US in a very dangerous way. The imagery is very vivid and it was an exhilarating read, although very emotional.

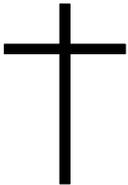


Both of these books talk about topics that, although they are set many miles away from us or at a different time, are very relevant today; misogyny and migration.

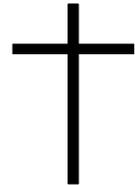
Our next read is Hamnet by Maggie O'Farrell. We'll be meeting in Church House on **Monday 30th March at 2pm** to discuss it - all welcome!

Belinda Piasecki

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Mothers' UNION

Our Branch AGM was held in Church House on Wednesday 4th February. Reverend Richard Haynes opened the meeting, welcomed all, and commenced with prayers. The minutes of last year's AGM held on 5th February 2025 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 circulated Statement of Accounts with explanations where necessary. Donations to the following have been made by the branch:-

AFIA £338.00

B'ham Fund £150.00

Overseas £138.00

Prisoners Children's Gifts £30.00

It was proposed and seconded that the accounts for 2025 be adopted and all present, were in favour. Thanks were expressed to Paul Smith for inspecting the accounts.

The current committee were voted en bloc for the forthcoming year with Pauline Pedersen joining them. Following the formal business, refreshments were served.

The triennial theme for 2025-2027 is: JOIN US and JOIN IN! MU is changing lives. This year, we will celebrate 150 years since Mothers' Union was founded in the small parish church of Old Alresford, Hampshire by Mary Sumner, a vicar's wife with a bold vision. An anniversary service will be held on 25th July in Birmingham Cathedral.

We are hosting the next Diocesan Members meeting on Saturday 25th April in Church House starting at 9.30am with refreshments. The Guest Speaker will be Paul Morris from Coventry Mothers' Union talking about their work to support the homeless.

At our next monthly meeting at 2pm on Wednesday 4th March in Church House, we look forward to welcoming a speaker from Sparkhill Food Bank who will be giving us an update on the current situation - all welcome.

Susan Knight

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LITTLE NICK AT 'THE RITZ'

'Are you sure? Really sure? There is Tea at the Ritz again?'. I was quizzing Sarah, but it had been so long since the last one that I found it hard to believe. 'Yes,' she said, 'Really and truly, there will be tea'. I started believing when I heard that she would not include it in the Sunday notices until after we had our tickets. Yes, they were there, on the mantelpiece.

Because it was Valentine's Day Church House was decorated with red hearts, and each place had red heart shaped chocolates. We found some seats and I looked longingly at the sandwiches.

I stretched out a tentative paw only to find it firmly removed from the table. 'Not yet,' Sarah hissed, 'Wendy hasn't said grace yet'. But when? My tummy was rumbling and my mouth watering. Then just when I thought I could wait no longer Wendy stood up ...



Those sandwiches!! Salmon and cream cheese, tuna, egg, chicken. I was well pleased and just kept on eating. Who knew what would make a small whitish kitten happy? Someone did. Then the sandwich plates were taken away and replaced with cake stands. Cakes, and my favourite – scones with jam and cream. The cream was in little pots, and I had to have my face wiped after I had licked a pot (or two) clean. And then home-made cake!! Heaven.

By the time the raffle was being drawn I was very full and a bit sleepy. Sarah nudged me to point out that there were winners on every table, but I wasn't interested. I had not been allowed to buy any tickets. However, when it was time to clap for the piano players, the cake and sandwich makers and everyone else who had helped my paws were working enthusiastically.

So, thank you from me and please St John's people can we not wait so long for our next visit to 'The Ritz'.

Nicodemus Penfold - Parish Raconteur (retired)

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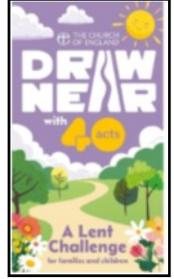
LENT 2026 IN SHIRLEY PARISH



Our Lent Conversations and Sunday sermons during Lent this year will be based on the Church of England booklets - 'Draw Near'

As we travel from Lent to Holy Week and onto Easter, may this season help us draw near to God and discover again the life God longs to share with us.

All are welcome - it's not too late to join in



Theme	Lent Conversations in Church House
Sharing in Worship	Wednesday 25th February at 7.30pm Thursday 26th February at 2pm
Sharing in Prayer	Wednesday 4th March at 7.30pm Thursday 5th March at 2pm
Sharing in the Scriptures	Wednesday 11th March at 7.30pm Thursday 12th March at 2pm
Sharing in Communion	Wednesday 18th March at 7.30pm Thursday 19th March at 2pm
Sharing in Service	Wednesday 25th March at 7.30pm Thursday 26th March at 2pm

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THIS MONTH'S ECO TIP ...



You can sanitise a washing up cloth in the microwave avoiding harsh chemicals. It **MUST** be moist to avoid risk of catching fire.

1-2 minutes on full power should be enough - once it is merrily steaming it is clean.

MARCH, MARY AND MOTHERING

March is a month full of transition. The days stretch a little longer, the first signs of spring appear, and the Church reflects on two occasions that sit alongside one another: Mothering Sunday and the Feast of the Annunciation.

At first glance they seem separate occasions: one a familiar family celebration (and highly commercialised), the other a major moment in the Christian story, and although the Annunciation is treated by the Church as a principal feast – a major day in the calendar (alongside Christmas Day and Easter Day), it often goes un-commemorated. However, there is a thread that weaves them together: the courage to say yes to love, and the God who meets us in the everyday and ordinary.

On 25th March, the Church keeps the Feast of the Annunciation, remembering the moment when the angel Gabriel came to Mary with astonishing news: that she would bear God’s Son. Mary wasn’t powerful, or prepared, or expecting anything extraordinary. She was simply open. Her response, “Let it be to me according to your word,” is one of the most courageous acts of trust in the Bible. Through her willingness, God’s became flesh.

In fact, the Annunciation is the moment the Incarnation begins: the moment God chooses to enter the world through the body, courage and agreement of a young woman. Without the Annunciation, there is no Christmas, no Easter, no Gospel and no Church. In a very real sense, Mary becomes the first “mother” of the Christian faith.

Mothering Sunday itself has deep roots. Long before flowers and cards, it was the day people returned to their “mother church” — the place where faith was nurtured and community was found. Over time it also became a day to honour those who have mothered us in all sorts of ways: parents, grandparents, carers, friends, and the people who have helped shape us with love and patience.

Combined, these two days remind us that God often works through very human acts of care, courage and a mothering nurture. Mary’s yes changed the world. The quiet yes’s we say, to love, to serve, to forgive, to do new things, shape the world around us too. As we move through Lent and into spring, and as we think about Mothering Sunday, let us also think about the Annunciation, and may we find the courage to say yes to the things that bring new and good life to world around us.

Reverend Richard Haynes



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Email ~ sandraboyle61@hotmail.com



LIVING IN LOVE & FAITH

Where are we now?

Many of you will have seen recent news from the Church of England about Living in Love and Faith (LLF), the long process of listening, learning, and discerning how we respond to questions of identity, sexuality, relationships, and marriage. In February, the House of Bishops released a letter sharing where the process has reached as it approaches its conclusion.

For some, these conversations have felt hopeful. For others, they have been painful or confusing. For many, they have raised deep questions about Scripture, tradition and how we live together as a Church. What the Bishops' letter makes clear is that the Church is still seeking a way forward that holds together both truth and grace, conviction and compassion.

The Bishops acknowledge that we are not all of one mind. They also affirm that LGBTQ+ people are loved by God, valued in the Church, and should never be treated as a problem to be solved. At the same time, they recognise that Christians hold different theological convictions, and that any future path must make space for those differences without forcing anyone to act against conscience.

In their letter, the Bishops speak of wanting to “walk together” even when we do not all agree: a phrase that echoes the heart of Christian community. The early Church did not grow because everyone thought the same, but because they learned to love one another across differences, trusting that Christ holds us together.

As a parish, our calling is the same: to be a place where people can belong before they believe, where questions are welcomed, and where every person knows they are made in the image of God. Whatever the national Church decides in the months ahead, our task remains unchanged: to love God, to love our neighbour, and to reflect Christ's compassion to all in all we do.

Please continue to pray for the Bishops, for General Synod working groups and most importantly, for all who are affected personally by these discussions and all who feel excluded.

If anyone wants to have a conversation about this, please feel free to contact me.

Reverend Richard Haynes

WHAT'S ON!

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER - A SERVICE FOR EVERYONE

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women from
Nigeria*



*Friday
6th March
at 10.30am*

Contact Gill Gough for
more information

at Shirley Methodist Church B90 3AL

The Friends of St James

COFFEE MORNING WITH CAKES, BOOKS, BRIC-A-BRAC AND A RAFFLE

Saturday 7th March
10.30am in Church House



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COFFEE MORNING

10.30am

Monday
9th March



St John's Church, 176 Tilehouse Lane,
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During the week commencing **Monday 16th March**
local school children will be coming to
St James Church for this year's **Easter Journey**.
Please pray for all those involved and note that, for
safeguarding reasons, the church will not be
accessible at times.

The Friends of St James

GRAND BOOK SALE

Come and stock up on your spring and summer reading and help to raise funds for the upkeep and maintenance of our buildings ...



Saturday 28th March

10.30am in Church House

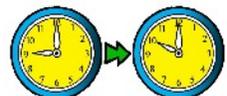


OUR HOLY WEEK & EASTER SERVICES

Date	Time	Service	Venue
Monday 30th March	7.30pm	Compline	St James Church
Tuesday 31st March	7.30pm	Stations of the Cross	St James Church
Wednesday 1st April	2pm	Holy Communion	St James Church
	7.30pm	Reflective Worship	St James Church
Thursday 2nd April <i>Maundy Thursday</i>	7.30pm	<i>No morning service</i> Holy Communion	St James Church
Friday 3rd April <i>Good Friday</i>	10.30am	Walk of Witness	Our Lady of the Wayside Church
	7.30pm	Taizé Service	St James Church
Saturday 4th April <i>Easter Saturday</i>	7.30pm	Easter Vigil	St John's garden
Sunday 5th April <i>Easter Sunday</i>	10.30am	Parish Communion	St James Church



Don't forget ...
the clocks go forward one hour to British Summer Time on
Sunday 29th March



'MARY' by Robert Lane

Mary you were chosen, blessed above all other
 you would become for the Christ, His mother.
 When you held Him as a babe, what did you think?
 When he laughed, or started walking, did your heart sink?
 Growing up as a boy, everyday what was on your mind?
 A normal Jewish boy He was, but God treasure He had inside,
 a lovely devoted mother you pondered all in your heart,
 as He got older soon His ministry would start.
 I think you knew He was here for a reason,
 and God's work He would do, what the season,
 you will hear about His fame spread.
 If you had newspapers, this is what the headlines said,
 'Crowds go crazy over new prophet in Galilee'
 wonders He'd do, a man born blind, now could see,
 and yet you always knew things as His mother,
 in His eyes you were always there, wasn't any other,
 He was obedient, warm, perfect son,
 He loved you much, your heart He won.

How your heart must have broke, see Him die,
 maybe you had questions, wondering why?
 As He hangs there, in such a way,
 as much as its torture for you, you stay,
 Mary those hands that delivered, saved and brought hope,
 hands that touched lives, helped people to cope,
 hands that were a lifeline to everyone, yes all,
 He went to everyone who would call,
 now Mary you see them nailed to a cross,
 He's your son its personal, its your loss,
 as you look at Him, His life flashes across your mind
 support, safety love in you, He'd always find,
 when He was small and fell and cut his knee,
 you'd hear Him crying, you open your arms so you could see,
 now He's a man in his thirties, hanging on a tree,
 you don't know Mary He's dying for you and for me.

You were a very special person Mary, we all know, and His beloved,
 devoted mother, you clearly love Him so,
 but you always knew He came, for God's task,
 and obedient to God and you He'd do whatever He was asked.

Mary I don't think it's good, what you saw,
 the nails hammered through His wrists, you fell and can't take much more,
 you heard Him shout, the pain in His face,
 you being there, you can't take the pace,
 every moment of His suffering you felt it too,
 instead of Him being beaten, you wish it was you,
 but this is far bigger than you Mary, it's divine,
 'Jesus King of the Jews' you read the sign.
 The body taken down, His life no more,
 I think when He left, you always knew the score,
 the lifeless body lays close to your chest,
 you'd feel the sword, now you don't feel so blest,
 you held Him as a baby, He's all that really mattered,
 now you hold Him, your heart is torn and completely shattered.

You always knew He had something divine,
 and each time you'd see Him, you'd think He's mine,
 even hearing the news, giving birth to a boy,
 it could only be the Lord God, you were filled with joy,
 I still cannot believe, why God chose me,
 with all the others the ones He could see,
 yet a lowly handmaiden of the Lord,
 who's heart would be pierced with a sword.

The time He had to leave you, His ministry to begin,
 to seek the lost children of Israel to win,
 you know you only had Him for a time, he belonged to Jehovah,
 when you saw Him die, you knew it wasn't over.
 The child inside you would become a man,
 He alone knew what to do, He had God's plan,
 He was just part of His plan, He'd do the rest,
 when He died you lay Him on your chest,
 even during His ministry, He'd come back and see you,
 you'd spend the time together, eating, reading scriptures He knew,
 He was more than a prophet, His life was set,
 the religious leaders, He would upset,
 you were very blessed, Jesus we believe in, you saw,
 He was your son, you knew Him well, even built your door,
 you could see the power He had, now what we read,
 we as His sheep are the ones He would feed.

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The 2026 Real Easter Egg will not be available in any supermarkets, but the full range can be ordered at www.realeasteregg.co.uk or by calling 01925 877004.



EARTH HOUR 2026 ... A TIME TO TURN OFF YOUR LIGHTS

The Earth Hour 2026 takes place on Saturday 28th March, when at 8.30pm in their local time millions of people worldwide will turn off their non-essential lights for one hour.

Organised by the World Wildlife Fund (WWF), the 20th anniversary of this global initiative will aim to raise awareness of the earth's climate crisis, and to encourage environmental action through sustainable, actionable lifestyle changes.

The first Earth Hour was held in Sydney, Australia, on 31st March 2007, and has since become a global movement. The 2025/26 theme 'Giving an Hour for Earth' is encouraging people to adapt sustainable habits in their daily lives.

And while our lights are off for an hour, Earth Hour will encourage us to spend the time in nature, or stargazing, or engaging in environmental, educational, or sustainable activities.



More information can be found at: <https://www.earthhour.org>

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REFLECTING ON PSALM 63

If you had to describe our society in a single word, the most appropriate one would be *pressure*. We live with pressure in every aspect of life, from our school, work or family life, to the big issues facing our world.

King David knew what it meant to live under pressure. His son, Absalom, led a rebellion against him, resulting in David fleeing for his life into the wilderness of Judah. It was there that he wrote Psalm 63. The psalm demonstrates the priorities a person of God under pressure.

God my desire: *'You, God, are my God, earnestly I seek you; I thirst for you, my whole being longs for you, in a dry and parched land where there is no water.'* (v1). David's physical thirst was an expression of his deeper thirst to know God. Even though separated from the worship of the sanctuary, he chose to seek God. When God seems distant or silent in our lives, we too can choose to seek him; this can be a vital path of growth in our relationship with him.

God my delight: *'Because your love is better than life, my lips will glorify you.'* (3). David's delight in God is expressed in praise, as he recognises God's love for him. What gives us delight in our lives? Does it come from the things of this world or from God himself?

God my defence: *'I cling to you; your right hand upholds me.'* (8). David is surrounded by enemies, but confident in God's defence and purpose for him.

God uses our troubles and disappointments to fulfil his will, as he develops our character and trust in his purposes.



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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
AS
ASTONISHING
CEREMONY
COMMAND
DEATH
DISCIPLES
DOMINATION
FEET
FINAL
HUMILITY
JESUS
LAST
LATIN
LOVED
MAUNDY
MEDIIEVAL
MUST
OBEDIENCE
ONE
PURPOSE
SERVICE
SUPPER
TEACHER
THURSDAY
WASHED
YOU



Answers are
on page 24



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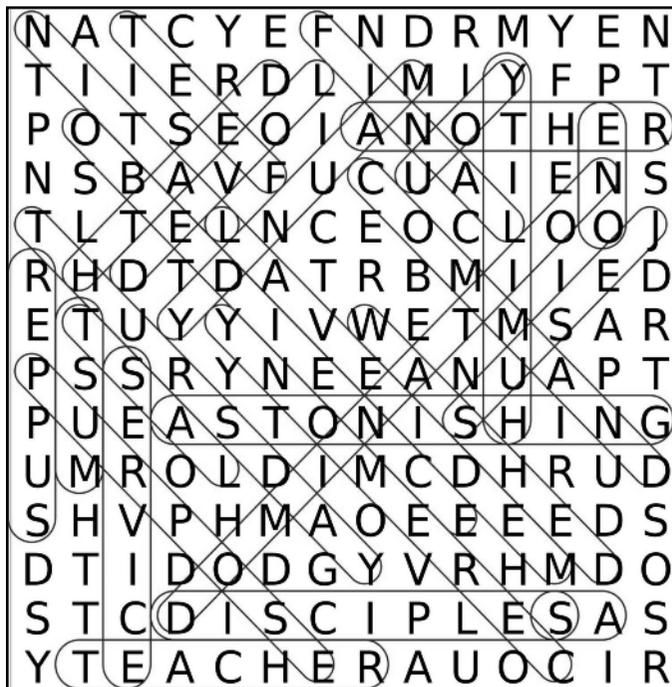
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WORDSEARCH ANSWERS



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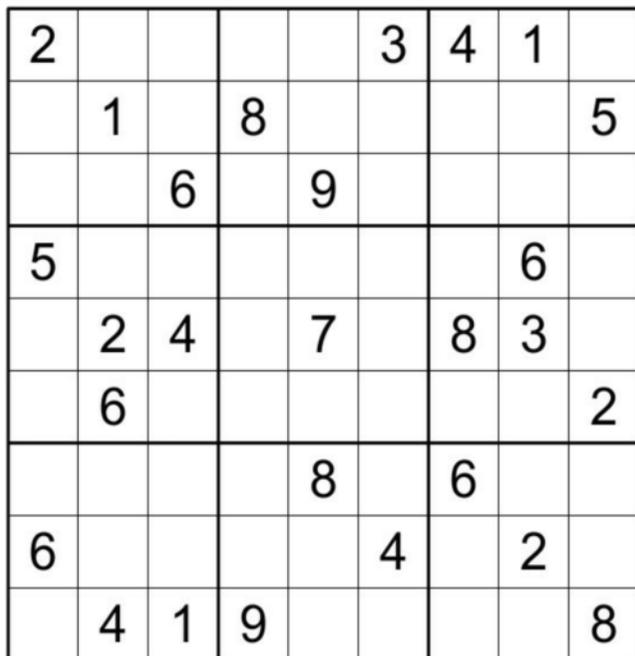
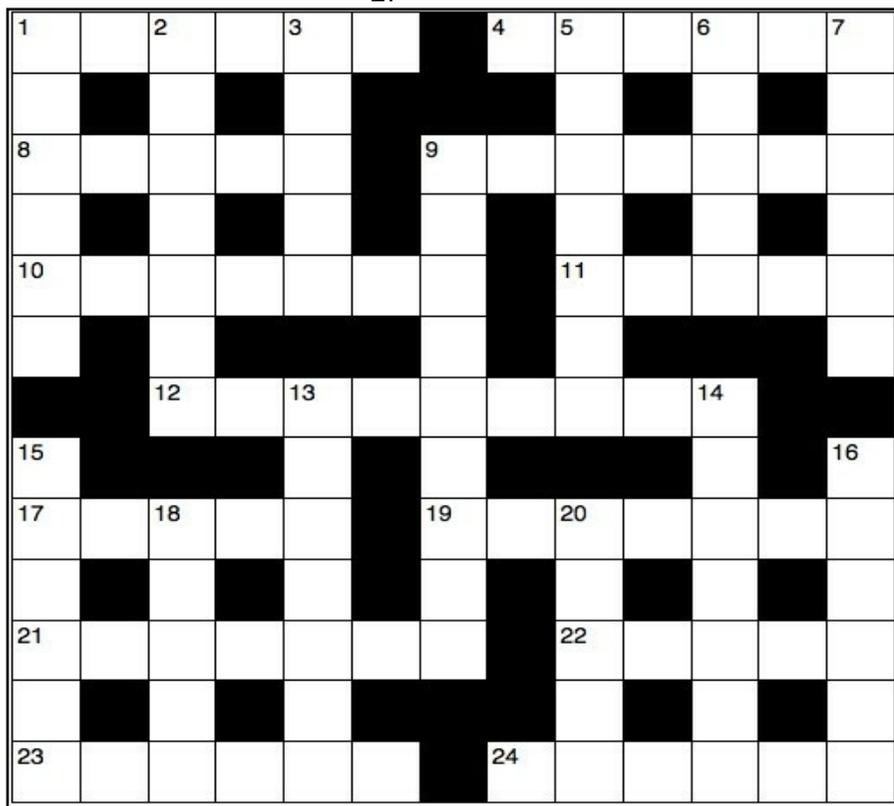
THIS MONTH'S CROSSWORD & SUDOKU

Across

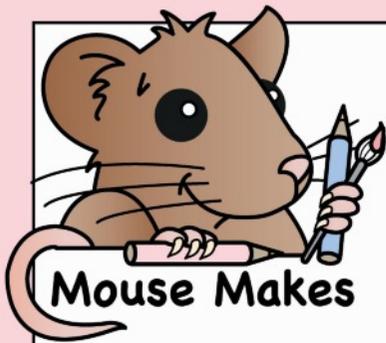
- 1 Arouse (Song of Songs 2:7) (6)
- 4 Extinguish (Isaiah 1:31) (6)
- 8 "“They — — ,” you will say, “but I’m not hurt!”” (Proverbs 23:35) (3,2)
- 9 Unhappiness (Nehemiah 2:2) (7)
- 10 Jewish (7)
- 11 Dirge (anag.) (5) ¹
- 12 ‘A truthful witness gives honest — , but a false witness tells lies’ (Proverbs 12:17) (9)
- 17 Paul quoted from the second one in his address in the synagogue at Pisidian Antioch (Acts 13:33) (5)
- 19 ‘Do not use your freedom to — the sinful nature’ (Galatians 5:13) (7)
- 21 ‘As you can see, he has done nothing to — death’ (Luke 23:15) (7)
- 22 Name applied by Isaiah to Jerusalem (Isaiah 29:1) (5)
- 23 ‘All the people — — one man, saying, “None of us will go home”’ (Judges 20:8) (4,2)
- 24 Lazarus, who was carried by angels to Abraham’s side when he died, was one (Luke 16:20) (6)

Down

- 1 Appalled (Job 26:11) (6)
- 2 ‘In an — to escape from the ship, the sailors let the lifeboat down into the sea’ (Acts 27:30) (7)
- 3 Expel (Acts 18:16) (5)
- 5 ‘But I have a baptism to — , and how distressed I am until it is completed!’ (Luke 12:50) (7)
- 6 ‘Of the increase of his government and peace there will be — — ’ (Isaiah 9:7) (2,3)
- 7 Hurry (Psalm 119:60) (6)
- 9 ‘For I desire mercy, not — , and acknowledgement of God rather than burnt offerings’ (Hosea 6:6) (9)
- 13 One of its towns was Sychar, where Jesus met a woman at Jacob’s well (John 4:5) (7)
- 14 Shouting (Acts 7:57) (7)
- 15 Arachnid (Isaiah 59:5) (6)
- 16 One of Paul’s first converts in Philippi was Lydia, a — in purple cloth (Acts 16:14) (6)
- 18 Donkeys (5)
- 20 Raked (anag.) (5)



Answers are on page 29

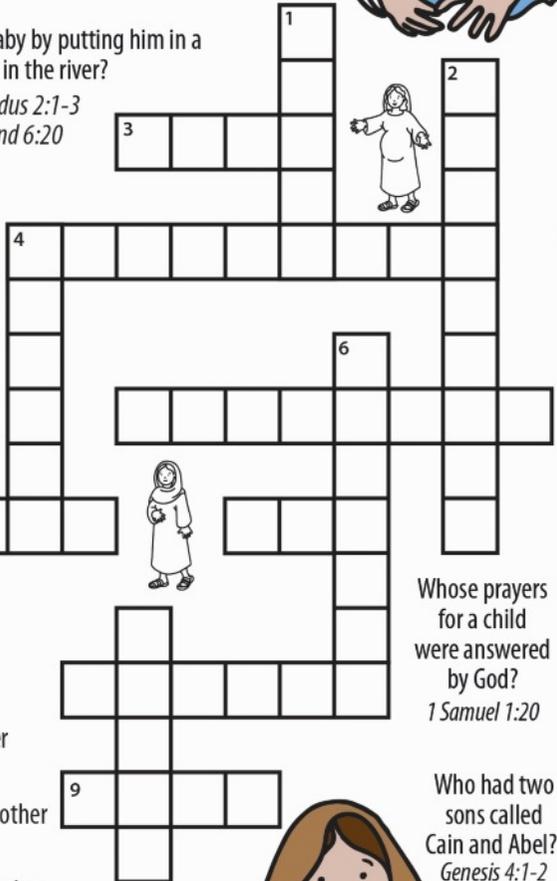


The Bible has many stories of mothers who had great faith in God. With their love, care, encouragement and prayers their children grew up to be great people of God.



Who saved her baby by putting him in a basket in the river?

Exodus 2:1-3 and 6:20



Who was 90 years old when she had her son Isaac?
Genesis 17:19



Whose prayers for a child were answered by God?
1 Samuel 1:20

Who had two sons called Cain and Abel?
Genesis 4:1-2

Across

- 3. **Obed's** mother
Matthew 1:5
- 4. **John's** mother
Luke 1:57-60
- 7. **Reuben's** mother
Genesis 29:32
- 8. **Joseph's** mother
Genesis 30:22-24
- 9. **Jesus'** mother
Acts 1:14

Down

- 1. **Boaz's** mother
Matthew 1:5
- 2. **Solomon's** mother
1 Kings 1:11
- 4. **Timothy's** mother
2 Timothy 1:5
- 5. **Ishmael's** mother
Genesis 16:15
- 6. **Jacob and Esau's** mother
Genesis 25:21-26



PUZZLE ANSWERS

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

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



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