

# Shirley Parish Magazine



November 2020

# SHIRLEY PARISH GUIDE

CLERGY

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## Reverend Theresa Jones

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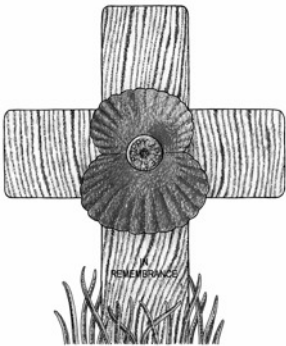
Telephone: 0121 745 8896

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

Social Media: [twitter.com/@ParishB90](https://twitter.com/ParishB90)  
[facebook.com/@AdventureinFaithB90](https://facebook.com/@AdventureinFaithB90)

## OUR PARISH PRAYERS



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

## OUR CURRENT WORSHIP PATTERN

### At St James Church

Sunday at 11am - Short Service of Communion\* **(9.30am on 8th November)**

Wednesday at 10.30am - Short Service of Communion\*

Wednesday 11am to 4pm - Church open for private prayer

Saturday 10am to 4pm - Church open for private prayer

**\*Numbers are currently limited to 25 so please book your place by telephoning the Parish Office**

### At home (times suggested however whenever is convenient for you is fine)

Sunday at 9.30am - Morning Worship on YouTube and on the phone

Sunday at 10.15am - Virtual Coffee via Zoom

Sunday at 7pm (first Sunday of the month) - Reflective Worship on YouTube and on the phone

Thursday at 7pm - Midweek Reflection on YouTube and on the phone

Saturday at 9am - Parish Prayers via Zoom

Third Saturday of the month - Messy Church

The number to dial to listen on the phone is 0121 270 9089

Church of England 'Daily Hope' number - 0800 804 8044 (free)

***Please check the weekly pewslip, emails and the website  
for any changes to the above***



## ANNOUNCEMENT - GOOD NEWS AT LAST

### SHIRLEY PARISH



The Parish Wardens are pleased to announce the appointment of Reverend Paul Day to the post of Vicar of Shirley Parish, subject to the completion of the legal formalities.

Let us give thanks to you O God for sending Paul Day to our Parish and rejoice in his appointment as Vicar of Shirley Parish.

## OUR MIDWEEK REFLECTIONS

| Date                      | Theme     | Parables                        | Bible passages  |
|---------------------------|-----------|---------------------------------|---|
| Thursday<br>5th November  | End times | Rich Fool                       | Luke 12:16-21   |
| Thursday<br>12th November | End times | Ten virgins<br>Faithful servant | Matthew 25:1-13<br>Matthew 24:42-51<br>Mark 13:34-37<br>Luke 12:35-48 |
| Thursday<br>19th November | Other     | Workers in the<br>vineyard      | Matthew 20:1-16   |
| Thursday<br>26th November | Other     | Rich Man and<br>Lazarus         | Luke 16:19-31   |



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PAINTER

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## THE FRIENDS OF ST JAMES 100 CLUB

**Congratulations to the October winners**

£50 - Margaret Kew

£25 - Phil Kew

## THE BATTLE OF THE ATLANTIC - CONVOY 43

I watched the ships plough through the sea  
 The sky was dark and low  
 My ship would do nigh 30 knots  
 God why were they so slow?

Some were big some were small  
 All made their way across  
 My ship was there to escort them  
 Pray God without a loss.

The darkness came the sea rolled on  
 A flash lit up the sky  
 The time has come for men to fight  
 A time for men to die.

I felt my ship begin to turn  
 Towards the hidden foe  
 My heart was pounding in my breast  
 The sky was now aglow.

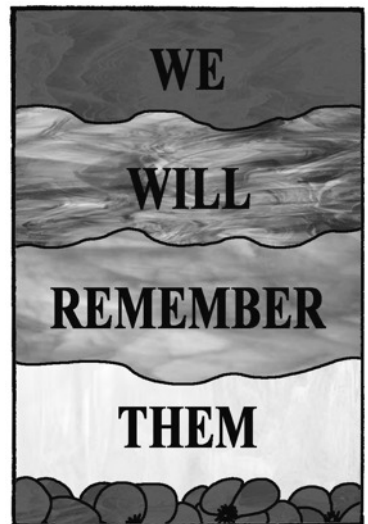
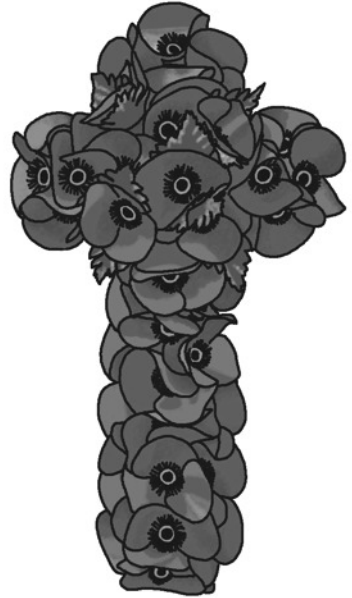
I raced along the heaving deck  
 Wet with the rushing foam  
 Please God let me live through this night  
 Please God let me get home.

The dawn came up I looked around  
 The gapes were all closed up  
 Gun crew sat around and smoked  
 Hands warm around the cup.

I looked back far across the sea  
 it all looked just the same  
 Those men who died so brave last night  
 Could not have died in vain.

The ships rolled on we left them there  
 So deep, so cold - but fate  
 My ship sailed on to Liverpool  
 My Harry 88.

*By Harry C Wragg*



## REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY 2020

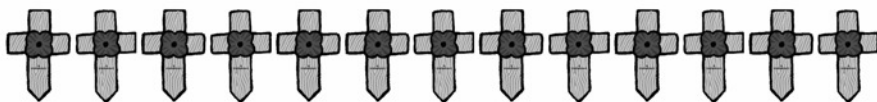
With all the Covid related restrictions it is clear that there cannot be a Remembrance Parade in Shirley this year. Indeed, any gathering of people – apart from a very small gathering – is ruled out.

I have had numerous conversations with the Shirley Branch of the British Legion over the past couple of months and we have decided that this year we will pre-record a service of Remembrance and make it available on YouTube on Sunday 8th November. We will include it as part of our online service that morning and as part of the service on the telephone line. There will be no Act of Remembrance at the war memorial that Sunday.

We have also decided that the Eucharist in St James that morning will be at 9.30am. This is to enable everyone who comes to get home in time for the 11am Act of Remembrance, and to discourage large numbers of people from gathering in church.

As with so many things this year, we are trying to do the best that we can in difficult circumstances.

*Reverend Paul Day*



## ANNUAL MEMORIAL SERVICE

As in previous years there will be a memorial service at which we remember those who have died in the past year. Last year this took place in early December, and we are planning a similar time this year as memories of loved ones can be particularly poignant as Christmas approaches. The exact date is still to be decided.

We would normally invite people along to church, but this year things will, of course, be different because of restrictions in numbers allowed to gather. We are working with Thomas Bragg & Sons (as we did last year) and will record a service on YouTube which will allow those watching and participating to remember their loved ones and light a candle for them.



Information will be sent out to all those families for whom we have taken funerals in the past year. It will also be publicised in the pewslip and other Parish communications.

*Reverend Paul Day*

## YES, BUT ...

Two words which to the visionary might come as a negative put down, but which to many of us might sound an air of realism.

The other day I was reading a well-known preacher's thoughts on the passage in Genesis where God speaks to Abram (as he still was known). He tells him that he would be the ancestor of a multitude of nations; that from then on he would be known as Abraham – which means father of many; that God would establish an everlasting covenant with him and his descendants.

But the situation was not ideal for such a promise. Abraham was getting on in years – he was nearly 100. His wife Sarah was also old and was barren. She could not conceive. The word from God was not new; God had made a similar promise previously, and Abraham had taken matters into his own hands and had a child through Sarah's slave girl.

It was if God was saying to Abraham "Can you imagine ...".

And Abraham's response was something like. "Yes, but ... I am old. Yes, but ... she cannot conceive. Yes, but ... we have been through all this before".

And the preacher went on to say that it wasn't as if God was saying "Can you achieve this? Can you make it happen?" All God was saying was "Can you imagine this. This thing that I will do?". Abraham was being asked to join in with God, not to take the lead on it.

It's like it was with Jesus. He went about saying things like "Can you imagine a blind person seeing? Can you imagine a banquet for everyone? Can you imagine a prodigal being welcomed back home? Can you imagine God's all-embracing undeserved love?" And those around him came up with a long list of "Yes, but's".

What is God asking us to imagine today? And what are our "yes, but" responses?

"Can you imagine ... a fairer, more just society?"

"Can you imagine ... actions being motivated by love, not greed?"

"Can you imagine ... a post-Covid world?"

Or maybe even "Can you imagine ... the churches in Shirley growing and thriving?"

What is our response going to be?

An all too pragmatic "Yes, but...."

Or a faithful and trusting "Yes, and ...."

## NEWS FROM PETER & KATE LAW-JONES

Even though it has only been a few months, it seems a long time since I retired from ministry in the parish and left Shirley to move to the Lancashire coast – and what a few months it has been! For Kate and me, it has been lovely to settle into our new home, though the challenges of moving from a six bedroom vicarage to a two and a half bedroom semi-detached house have focused our minds considerably on the things we value most and what has had to be discarded. The dogs don't seem to have decided yet whether they prefer the cosiness of their new home or the space they enjoyed at the vicarage, and there is no doubt at all that they miss the vicarage garden.

One of the highlights of the move has been the arrival of a new caravan. It is much smaller than our previous one, so small, in fact, that even I can't stand upright in it! However, we love it and thankfully have been able to try it out. I mention this because thanks to your generosity we have been able to equip it brilliantly with what we hope and believe is a dog proof windbreak that will enable us to relax even more when we are out and about. We were delighted when a letter arrived from Paul with a cheque after a collection to which so many of you contributed. We can't thank you enough for your generosity in this as in so many other ways. Of all the happy memories of our all too brief time in Shirley, those of warmth, friendship and shared commitment to knowing Christ and making him known are the ones we treasure most and I am delighted that whenever we are away with our caravan, we will be reminded of you all and of a fulfilling and joyful six and a half years sharing the journey of faith with you all.

It is clear now that the Covid-19 pandemic is going to be with us for a good while. I know that Paul and the rest of the team have worked hard to find ways of keeping everyone in touch and worshipping together. This has meant that Kate and I haven't been able to thank you and say goodbye in person yet, but we remain hopeful that before too long we will be able to join you all once again, so that we can thank God together for the all the good things we have shared and pray in hope for the future of a truly wonderful parish.

Yours as ever in Christ, *Peter & Kate*



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

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For details about the school contact the PA to the Principal - Mrs G Sutton

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**FOR SALE****Desktop 2021 Calendar (A5 size)**

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on my daily walks

**£5 each or three for £10**

Profits from sales will be donated to the  
Parish



GILL'S LOCKDOWN WALKS ~ CALENDAR 2021

Photos from calendar will be donated to charity from

Gill Hanton (contact details on page 34)

**Living with COVID-19 will be hard for everyone this winter. The Prime Minister has asked us all to observe the Rule of Six. There are lessons and challenges that Christians can draw from this number to help us live well in these times.**

**> SIX MONTHS IS THE NEW HORIZON**

*Focus on Easter and lean back into the great themes of the church year.*

**> SIX DAYS TO WORK AND A SABBATH TO REST**

*Reclaim the gift of one day each week for rest and re-creation.*

**> SIX PEOPLE TO JOURNEY WITH**

*Rediscover church as small groups of people supporting one another.*

**> SIX WAYS TO BE SALT AND LIGHT**

*Identify the people and community organisations you can support.*

**> SIX PERCENT TO YOUR CHURCH**

*If your income is stable, increase your giving to sustain the local church.*

**> SIX PEOPLE TO PRAY FOR**

*Pray for people you know to discover the riches of our faith.*

**"...neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord."**

Romans 8.37-39

## MESSY CHURCH AT HOME

Like so many other parts of Parish life, Messy Church has not been able to meet since before lockdown. But we haven't stopped; merely sidestepped and moved on-line.

As before we have produced a number of activities related to the theme of the day. There has been the added challenge of finding things that only use materials likely to be in families' homes, and of things which can be explained without actually being shown.

Not everything has gone smoothly. I failed to appreciate that families with several children would need several empty cereal boxes for one of the activities. Just because I flatten and keep ours doesn't mean that other people do!

But one advantage has been that on-line it doesn't matter if one activity takes longer than others, and quizzes that are unsuitable for toddlers can still be enjoyed by older children.

After a few months we started holding Zoom 'tea and toast' to coincide with what would have been celebration time. Paul has played our celebration video from YouTube and the children have shown us what they have made. It has been good to catch up with some of our Messy families.

For Harvest Sam and his family gave us all the things they had made (except his cornflake cakes) and together with our prototypes we made a Harvest decoration for the Harvest service.



## MESSY CHURCH AT HOME *continued*

All our activities have been put on the Shirley Parish website\* and the celebration videos are on YouTube† and are available any time and any place with Internet. They may be designed with children in mind but why not have a go yourselves or share with your grandchildren?

*Sarah Penfold - Messy Church Team*

\*<https://www.shirleyparishb90.co.uk/messy-church-at-home>

†<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCpcB9321NJzEHS1K9LU-kAg>



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## Virtual Coffee on Zoom



**Wednesday 11th November at 10.30am**

*Including two minutes silence at 11am and sharing of wartime memories or stories about your family heroes*

## FEELING LONELY OR ISOLATED? TRY THESE ...

**Pray.** Light a candle, if safe, and pray for hope, faith and strength to keep loving and caring for each other during this time of struggle.

**Talk about how you feel.** This may be difficult if you are self-isolating, but do use the telephone, internet, and social media. If you need to contact a counsellor this can be arranged by your GP, or via local agencies, or privately. The Samaritans are there 24 hours a day, every day, and it's free to call them on 116 123.

**Focus on the things that you can change, not on the things you can't.**

**Look after yourself - physically, emotionally, spiritually.** Plan in things that you enjoy at regular intervals during the day – a TV programme, a phone call, a book, a favourite dish, a game.

**Look after others. Even if only in small ways, but do what you can:** a smile, a kind word, writing a letter or an email.

There are some daily reflections at <https://www.churchofengland.org/faith-action/mental-health-resources/supporting-good-mental-health>

## HAVE YOU ZOOMED YET?

Meetings, Parish Prayers, Coffee Mornings, Sunday Coffee, Quizzes, Fetes and Fayres ... are all continuing during the pandemic but virtually via Zoom while we cannot meet in person. Sign up at <https://zoom.us> (it's free!) or download the App onto your mobile phone or tablet.



At the time of the event click on the link in the weekly emails and join in with your church family and friends.

Do let us know if you need some help with this!



## THE SOLDIER'S PRAYER

I asked God for strength, that I might achieve,  
 I was made weak, that I might learn humbly to obey.  
 I asked for health, that I might do greater things,  
 I was given infirmity, that I might do better things.  
 I asked for riches, that I might be happy,  
 I was given poverty, that I might be wise.  
 I asked for power, that I might have the praise of men,  
 I was given weakness, that I might feel the need of God.  
 I asked for all things, that I might enjoy life,  
 I was given life, that I might enjoy all things.  
 I got nothing that I asked for –  
 But everything that I had hoped for,  
 Almost despite myself, my unspoken prayers were answered.  
 I am among all men most richly blessed.

*Soldier in American Civil War*

## POPPY APPEAL 2020

Look out for the Poppy Appeal again this year, but not so much via street collections. Instead, the Royal British Legion will focus on contactless donations, as a safer way forward during the pandemic.

One such method will be ‘point of sale donations’. This means that when you shop at your supermarket and reach the till or online, you may be invited to round up your total to the nearest pound to help the Poppy Appeal.



A spokesman for the Royal British Legion said: “The Poppy Appeal 2020 is very much still going ahead”, but that “the safety and well being of our volunteers, staff and members is paramount”.

This means that collectors who fall into the vulnerable category have been advised “not to take part in activity on behalf of the Poppy Appeal that would expose them to any additional risks while coronavirus is still present”.

And yet the need is still huge: “Members of the Armed Forces Community are suffering significant hardship as a result of the Covid-19 outbreak and we at the Royal British Legion will do everything we possibly can to support them.”

Visit - <https://www.britishlegion.org.uk/get-involved/poppy-appeal>

## SHIRLEY PARISH BOOK CLUB - CHILDHOOD MEMORIES

*In my experience when people once begin to read, they go on. They begin because they think they ought to and they go on because they must.*

This is a quotation from *A City of Bells* by Elizabeth Goudge, the first in the trilogy that contains one of our last Book Club reads, *The Dean's Watch*. Given the much longer than usual list for September into October, we thought a brief pause to think about why we started reading might be appropriate.

So here are a few thoughts and memories from Book Club members:

'There is only one book that stands out for me from childhood, and it provokes a tear when I think of it, *The Wind in the Willows* by Kenneth Graham.

I was six or seven and in bed with measles. A family friend bought me the book for Christmas and my father read me a chapter every night as soon as he came home from work. I lay in bed, curtains drawn (no light on eyes in those days - measles) so it was always a long day. It was wartime so the book had a plain green linen cover with a small pen and ink drawing at the start of each chapter but how it let one's imagination run riot. Timid Mole, friendly Ratty, pompous Toad, grandfatherly Badger, the stoats & weasels, characters who have stayed with me ever since.

Looking back I realise how words form pictures in your mind, every picture different from every other picture and the whole experience giving one a love of words and books.'

*(Pat Green)*

'My childhood books: initially *Just William*, followed by *Biggles* and *Gimlet* and then *The Saint*. These three families of books took me from childhood to early teenage years'

*(Andrew Guy)*

'I managed to re-read *What Katy Did* over the weekend - it was a much shorter read as an adult than I remember it was in my childhood. I think there must also have been a TV series on around the same time as I have quite visual memories of the pivotal point when the swing she is on breaks leading to her long sickness which seems to change her character to the virtuous heroine from the unthinking tomboy. I can see how it appealed to me a child, a family of six, close in age, children living a fairly idyllic life in a small American town, all playing together with a good deal of freedom to run around the countryside. A real escape from the industrial North East of England and my fairly solitary, though happy, childhood as my siblings were a lot older than me. And a child heroine who comes good in the end, how could it fail? On reading it again I realise that all the moral lessons throughout the book must have gone over my head, it was just a good story.'

*(Ursula Ison)*

## SHIRLEY PARISH BOOK CLUB - CHILDHOOD MEMORIES

'Ever since we read, at Book Club, *The Willows in Winter* by William Horwood just over two years ago I have been meaning to read *The Wind in the Willows* by Kenneth Graham again so I found it out in my family's store of old books and off I went.

There was so much I had forgotten after 70+ years. I liked rediscovering why Toad disguised himself in washer woman's clothes and the final storming of Toad Hall by the four friends.

I remembered 'I'll learn 'em or I'll teach 'em' and the song 'The world has had great heroes etc' but not much else.

An enjoyable read; thanks to the Book Club for making me get round to reading it again.'

(Mary Hobbs)

*The Little White Horse* by Elizabeth Goudge is a wonderful timeless classic set in Victorian times. Reading it again gives you time off from being an adult. First published in 1946 . I was twelve years old and completely swept away by its beautiful descriptive prose. The plot, the characters, and the life lessons. Strongly recommended for imaginative people who love a romantic story. (P.S. I have it on good authority that the film does not (could not) live up to the wonderful book.)'

(Jill Abbey)

'My best reads as a child were any Enid Blyton "Famous Five" or "Secret Seven" books. The various books have echoes of the "Friends" soap serial without being polluted by American bad taste! '

(Meryl Davis)

'When I think about my early reading now, I realise that so much of it was about escape – reading *Treasure Island* in my bedroom to avoid a house full of visiting relatives, getting lost in *War of the Worlds* during a long illness (I've forgotten what the illness was but not the book) - and getting the cane in front of the whole class for reading *The Thirty Nine Steps* under my desk during a Maths lesson. I was 11 and it was 11+ practice. All these books helped me escape when I was in the last year at Junior School, and all sorts of books have been doing the same ever since.'

(Ray Speakman)



... continued over the page

## SHIRLEY PARISH BOOK CLUB - CHILDHOOD MEMORIES

*'Puck of Pook's Hill* by Rudyard Kipling. I first heard a radio adaptation of this with music from Pater Warlock's Capriole Suite and actually read the book later. What I remember is the message that history is not all about important people but about ordinary people doing what they usually do. When I re-read it, I feared that it would feel imperialistic and narrow minded. It didn't but rather it was about different groups of people living with each other. Some of the poetry is a bit clunky but then there is the lovely *Smugglers' Song*. '

(Sarah Penfold)

'The book that really got me interested in reading when I was a very small child was *Noddy goes to Toyland*. I loved all the Noddy books by Enid Blyton, which my mum read to me over and over. I loved the stories and the wonderful illustrations.

Years later, when we went to my parents' house, I would read the same Noddy books that I had as a child, to my children who loved them too.

When the sad time came for me to clear my Mum's house, the books, much sellotaped and mended, were still on the bookshelf!

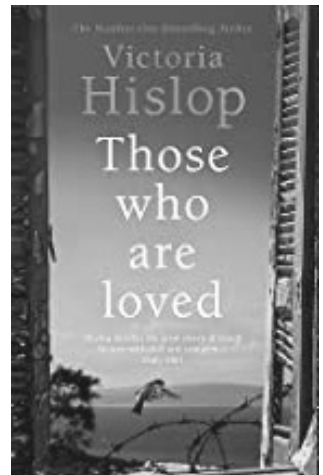
Over the years the Noddy books and Enid Blyton have been much criticised and the books we see now have been rewritten in parts, but Noddy is still popular with many children and his adventures certainly started me off as an enthusiastic reader!

(Sue Harries)

'I can't really remember when or why I started reading. I can see in my mind's eye the *Milly, Molly, Mandy* books, *Heidi*, *Treasure Island* and *The Wind in the Willows*. I can't remember what came before them but only know that since those early books I haven't stopped reading. It's like a novel I read recently – *Life after Life* by Kate Atkinson – where life repeats itself over and over. In my life, its books, over and over, '

Perhaps these memories will stir your own recollections of your first encounters with stories.

The next Book Club book, for October into November, will be: ***Those Who Are Loved*** by **Victoria Hislop**.





## WE WILL REMEMBER – EIGHTY YEARS ON

This year we've been remembering the Battle of Britain, described by Winston Churchill in August 1940 as *'one of the decisive battles of the war... never in the field of human conflict was so much owed by so many to so few.'* It was a dramatic turning point in the history of the Second World War. The occasions for Remembrance this month will provide us times of gratitude for what was achieved in the darkest moments of war.

However, this year we are very aware of our own struggles with the worldwide Covid-19 pandemic. We face an unseen enemy, but the effects on our lives and society are almost as devastating as world war.

Remembering is not just about focusing on past events. It is also about making present past events, as we give thanks for all that took place. The Battle of Britain was fought by the Few and won in the skies over the Channel. In our battle with the virus, we can call to mind the victory of Jesus: *'Remember Jesus Christ, raised from the dead, descended from David.'* (2 Timothy 2:8). Jesus secured the victory of death by His cross and resurrection, so that we don't need to fear death, but trust in His loving purposes for our lives.

Currently we can't see clearly what the future holds for us; it may be very different from what we might expect. However, we can pray for God's will to be done and that we will play our part, just as each of those airmen did so many years ago.

*'They shall grow not old as we that are left grow old: Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn. At the going down of the sun and in the morning we will remember them.'*



### Counselling and Psychotherapy Services

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[www.serenitypsychbirm.co.uk](http://www.serenitypsychbirm.co.uk)



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## OUR 2020 CHRISTMAS GIFT TREE

As I wrote in the last Parish Magazine, we are unable to have a gift tree in the way that we have in previous years. But the need for that extra something at Christmas is as great as it ever was even if complicated by the need for social distancing, quarantining and the cancellation of Christmas parties.

Below is a list of gifts that we would like to receive. We are asking you to select and buy a gift (or gifts) then wrap it, attach a removable label saying what is inside and where relevant what size it is. If possible, let me know by e-mail ([sarahpenfold@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:sarahpenfold@blueyonder.co.uk)) what you have bought so that I can keep some track of what is happening.

On **Saturday 14th November** between 10am and noon we will accept the gifts at Church House and arrange for quarantine and distribution. I'm sorry that we cannot provide an alternative to this but it would be unworkable. If people are unable to shop but want to make a gift then please make a cash donation through the Parish Office and we will arrange to shop for you.

- Small jars of coffee
- Large bars of chocolate
- Boxes of biscuits
- Women's pants (in packs) sizes 8, 10, 12
- Boy's pants -ages 3-8
- Girl's pants – ages 3-8
- Socks for boys – ages 3-8
- Tights for girls – ages 3-8
- Warm gloves for women
- Nail varnish and remover
- Small items of jewellery
- Toiletries for women
- Small torches and spare batteries
- Small toy cars
- Hair slides and bobbles for girls
- Small toys for children age 3-8
- Colouring books – please leave unwrapped
- Washable felt tips – please leave unwrapped



## ST JAMES'S VIRTUAL CHRISTMAS FAYRE

### 14th - 21st NOVEMBER

By the time you read this, the Fayre (on 21st November) will very close. The proceeds will support finances at St James's, which have been stretched by the pandemic.

In practical terms, the Fayre will have to run during the week from 14th, when collection and delivery of raffle tickets and goods ordered will be in full swing. The Fayre event on Saturday 21st will be on Zoom, with the option to join in by phone, which is the closest we can come to meeting at the moment.

The programme on 21st will (probably) be -

**2pm - Guess the weight of the Christmas cake and chat (bring your own cuppa and mince pie)**



**2.20pm - Letters to Santa, read by the man himself, of course**

**2.30pm - Linda's Virtual Christmas Tree Festival - Prizes and Photos**

**2.45pm - Raffle Draw**

**3pm - Christmas carols to a recording by Kevin Gill (we will have to mute ourselves as Zoom cannot blend voices)**



I will be sending out lists of cakes, goods and raffle tickets to order. Payment can be in cash or by cheque (if in an envelope please mark clearly 'Christmas Fayre') and there will also be an online site for payments and donations. There will be the option of delivery or you can arrange to collect your purchases.

If anyone who is not on the regular church contact lists would like to take part, contact Kate (07562 664163) and I can send you the order forms and the links to the event.

Fingers tightly crossed, especially for the tech, which is a steep learning curve for me.

*Kate Crocker*

## HELPING THOSE IN NEED



**FOOD BANK:** your response to the Harvest Festival appeal was very generous whether by fresh food, tinned food or the cash donations. David and I sat in Church House (masked and well away from folks!) to sort, date and pack everything – and it took us three hours so that is an indicator of how kind you were.

The regular shortages are still **dried milk, long life fruit juice and small bags of sugar** – how often have I typed those requests! and **strong bags...**

**ADAVU:** as you will see from Sarah’s article (page 18), we have started to collect presents for Christmas parcels to be given to the ladies rescued from slavery and trafficking in the West Midlands. We are very disappointed that we can’t give parties for them and for the local families who have been helped by the Narthex this year - they enjoyed them so much and it was a rare social outing for them and their children - but at least the parcels will show that we haven’t forgotten them.



Best wishes to you all - we were very lucky recently to have a visit from our daughter in law and grandson, Robert, aged two, from Dubai. Such precious memories and what fun to see how he is developing since our last visit to them at Christmas. The weather was dry and sunny, and we threw him outside in the garden straight after breakfast - at home he hadn’t been outside for seven months due to the virus and the temperatures of up to 42 degrees C. Grandpa played endless Train Track on the patio whilst Grandma played “shops” with old pennies and tins from the cupboard. (We now have some mysterious tins with no labels...)

Hope that you have managed to see some of your loved ones during these trying times.

*Elizabeth Paice*

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## A COUPLE OF THINGS TO REFLECT ON ...

This prayer was found by the liberators of the Ravensbruck concentration camp, crumpled up among the remains. I thought that I would share with you.

*O Lord, remember,  
not only the men and women of goodwill,  
but also those of ill will.  
But do not remember all the suffering  
they inflicted upon us;  
remember the fruits we have borne,  
thanks to this suffering  
our comradeship, our loyalty,  
our humility,  
our courage, our generosity,  
the greatness of heart which has grown out of all this  
and when they come to judgement,  
let all the fruits that we have borne be their forgiveness.*



“We tend to be very attached to our places of worship, but in the Tyne Valley Area there is an initiative called “God’s Tent”. Each month it moves to a different place and people gather to worship and share.”

(Quote from the Bible Reading Fellowship)

*Margaret Foresheew*

## CARRY ON LIVING - PART 2

So, I thought I would make a list of things I would like to do, rather than thinking about what I can no longer do.

So fishing was top of my list, doesn't take too much effort, I can sit to fish out in the open air and away from people.

So, we book a Farmhouse cottage in Devon that we could share with the family and off we go.

This is what started out as a challenge for my Palliative Care Nurse, as it was at her suggestion I look at what hobbies I used to do and pick one that suits my needs now. Mel was determined that she would get me to the September date and worked her magic on getting things sorted for me to go, including a short stay in hospital to look at my new oxygen levels, as she had seen I had lost my sparkle in August.

So here we are in Devon and as I had never been sea fishing decided this was one of the things I wanted to achieve, so we bought all the kit over the days leading up to the holiday so we were fully prepared.

Finding a safe place to fish when you are in a wheelchair became the challenge of the day for the family. Thanks to the son-in-law helping me to climb down steps onto a beach and the grandson carrying down the wheelchair and the rest carrying my "fishing gear" I managed to fish three times in all. Trouble was I never caught a thing!

So, the son-in-law and grandson arranged to take me out on a fishing mackerel trip, all three of us excited as those two never been out to sea fishing. But come the day and it was cancelled by an exceptionally high tide, so all sea expeditions were cancelled for that day. Which was a shame as our holiday ended the next day.

We visited Ilfracombe, Woolacombe, Morteohoe, Westward Ho, Bude, Bideford and Lynton and Lynmouth.

When we were in Lynmouth and by the harbour we bumped in the Reverend Lynn Busfield who was there with a friend. She had previously visited me in hospital so was really pleased to see me, after a chat she asked would I like a blessing so right there in the middle of the street she gave me and the family a lovely blessing .We thanked her and went on our way.

This man had been standing there watching as Lynn blessed us and he called out to us, he was so excited said he couldn't believe it, he had seen Jesus at work in the blessing given, to a family not afraid to show their faith in our Lord. He had waited for years to see God in action and it happened right there in front of him.

## CARRY ON LIVING - PART 2 continued

How amazing he was going down to the beach to play his guitar and sing his hymns and was going to tell everyone about what he had just witnessed. God does move in mysterious ways.

Each place that we visited was so different from each other, for example Ilfracombe with its rugged cliffs to Woolacombe's long sandy beach, which in each and every case shows the beauty in what God has made and I marveled at the scenes in front of my eyes and at the patience my family had to help me achieve my goal of sea fishing.

In the evenings I ended up around the pool table playing a game and then back in the farmhouse playing bingo and quizzes. It was a good family holiday and we are already planning to do it all again next year, God willing.

So, thanks be to God, Amen.

*Graham Smith (Reader)*



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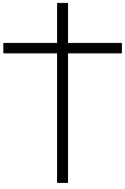


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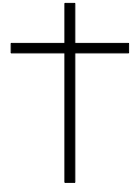
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## SEVEN O'CLOCK BAKE

This recipe was given to me around thirty years ago by a caravan friend. It has been tried and tested many times.

It is a different type of supper dish, but my family say it is delicious, and ideal for vegetarians

**INGREDIENTS** - for two large or three medium size portions

|                             |                                     |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 112 gms (4 ozs) Plain Flour | 2 Large Cooking Apples              |
| 275 mls (1/2 pt) Cold Milk  | 56gms (2ozs) Sultanas               |
| 1 Large Egg                 | 224gms (8ozs) Strong Cheddar Cheese |
| Seasoning                   |                                     |

### METHOD

- \* Heat the oven temperature to 160C, 350-400F
- \* Make up the batter with flour, milk, egg and seasoning
- \* Peel, core and slice the apples thinly and place on the bottom of a greased oblong ovenproof dish
- \* Sprinkle the sultanas over the apples
- \* Grate the cheese and sprinkle liberally over the apples and sultanas
- \* Pour the batter over the cheese and bake in the middle of the oven for 35 to 40 minutes
- \* Serve immediately

NB If the apples are very firm, I microwave the apples in the greased dish for approximately 3-5 minutes prior to adding sultanas, cheese and batter

*Ann Blackford*



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## THIS MONTH'S CROSSWORD

### Across

- 1** 'The Lord Jesus... took bread, and when He had given — , he broke it'  
(1 Corinthians 11:24) (6)
- 4** 'He has taken me to the banquet hall, and His — over me is love'  
(Song of Songs 2:4) (6)
- 8** Surrey town that hosts the National Christian Resources Exhibition (5)
- 9** Also known as Abednego (Daniel 1:7) (7)
- 10** Liken (Isaiah 40:18) (7)
- 11** A son of Etam, descendant of Judah (1 Chronicles 4:3) (5)
- 12** A part of the temple where the blood of a young bull was to be smeared  
(Ezekiel 45:19) (9)
- 17** 'They make many promises, take false — and make agreements' (Hosea 10:4) (5)
- 19** Roman province to which Paul returned after evangelizing it on his first  
missionary journey (Acts 16:6) (7)
- 21** Material used to make baby Moses' basket (Exodus 2:3) (7)
- 22** 'And feeble as — , in thee do we trust, nor find thee to fail' (5)
- 23** 'The watchman opens the gate for him, and the sheep — to his voice'  
(John 10:3) (6)
- 24** Stalk carrying the sponge of wine vinegar given to Christ on the cross  
(John 19:29) (6)

### Down

- 1** Elijah dug one round the altar he built on Mount Carmel and filled it with water  
(1 Kings 18:32) (6)
- 2** 'I am not — of the gospel, because it is the power of God for the salvation of  
everyone who believes' (Romans 1:16) (7)
- 3** Buddhist term relating to belief in reincarnation (5)
- 5** Damascus disciple who, at God's command, restored the sight of the blinded Saul  
of Tarsus (Acts 9:12) (7)
- 6** and **16** Horses: their sound (Jeremiah 50:11) (5) and their gait (Joel 2:4) (6)
- 7** A three (anag.) (6)
- 9** Athenian council addressed memorably by Paul (Acts 17:22) (9)
- 13** Abide by (Galatians 3:5) (7)
- 14** Persian princes (Daniel 3:2) (7)
- 15** Force (Galatians 6:12) (6)
- 16** See 6 Down (6)
- 18** Paste (anag.) (5)
- 20** How the cedars of Lebanon are described (Isaiah 2:13) (5)

# THIS MONTH'S CROSSWORD & SUDOKU

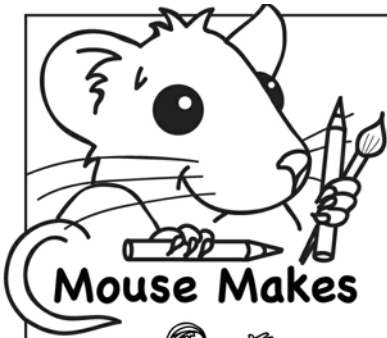
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| 23 |  |    |  |    |   |    | 24 |    |    |  |    |



Answers are on page 31

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## REMEMBERING

How do you remember things?

In bible times God's people would remember what God had done for them by building monuments made of stones and by holding festivals and celebrations to give thanks to God.

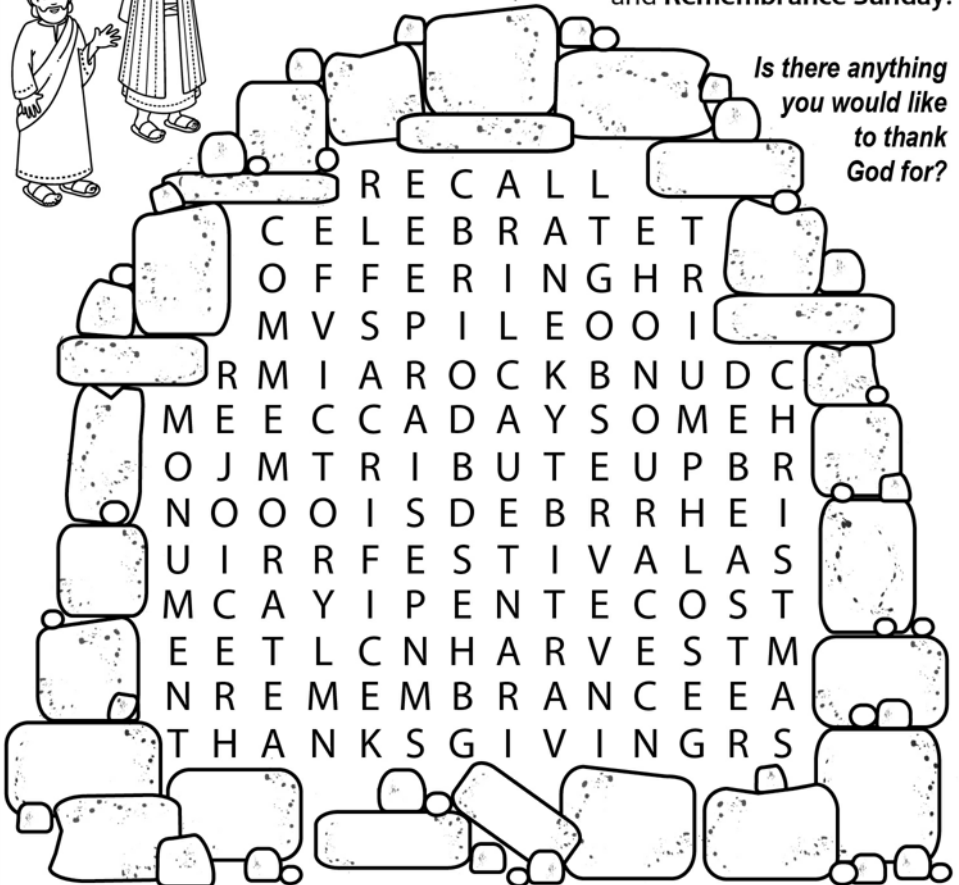


READ *Joshua 4:1-9* and *Exodus 12:1-14*

Today we too build monuments to remember and hold services of thanksgiving like **Harvest and Remembrance Sunday**.



*Is there anything you would like to thank God for?*



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FESTIVAL • EASTER • PENTECOST • HARVEST • CHRISTMAS

## WORDSEARCH : ST ANDREW

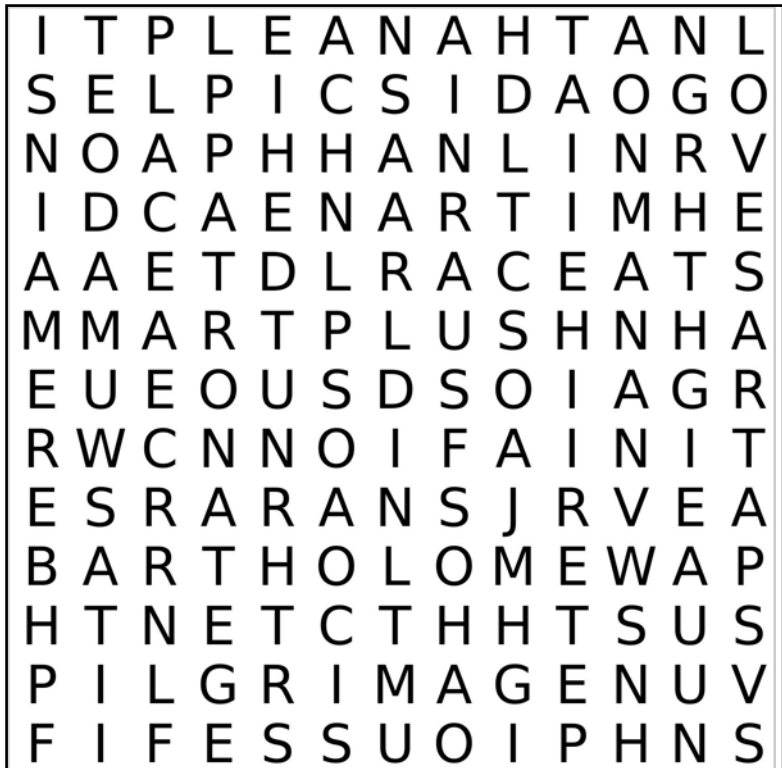
This month Scotland remembers one of the very first disciples of Jesus.

St Andrew is honoured not for any mighty deeds of his own, but for his love of introducing people to Jesus. He went straight off and introduced his brother Peter to the Saviour and followed that up by bringing Nathanael/Bartholomew to Jesus. 'Better Together' seems to have been his slogan, too! 'We have found the Messiah!', he told them, unable to keep the good news to himself.

Andrew's connection with Scotland dates back to the claimed translation of his remains from Patras in Achaia to Scotland in the eighth century. The church in Fife where these remains were buried became a place of pilgrimage during the tenth century. All of this may be no more than pious legend, but that St Andrew was highly regarded in Scotland and became its patron saint is beyond doubt.

ANDREW  
 ARCHAIA  
 BARTHOLOMEW  
 DISCIPLES  
 EIGHTH  
 FIFE  
 HONOURED  
 INTRODUCING  
 JESUS  
 LOVE  
 MESSIAH  
 NATHANAEAL  
 PATRAS  
 PATRON  
 PETER  
 PILGRIMAGE  
 PIOUS  
 PLACE  
 REMAINS  
 SAINT  
 SAVIOUR  
 SCOTLAND  
 TENTH  
 TRANSLATION

*Answers are  
 on page 31*





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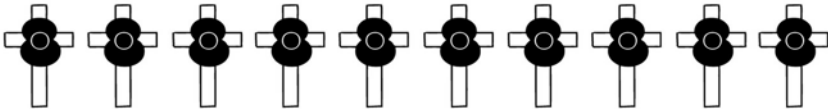
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**PUZZLE ANSWERS**

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PUBLICATION DATE - Saturday 28th November

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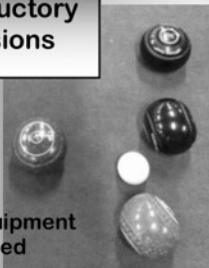
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|------|-----------------------|-----|
| 2nd  | Elsie White           | 103 |
| 4th  | Rosalie Lyndsay       | 80  |
| 7th  | Stephen Arthur Lea    | 70  |
| 23rd | Heather Cronin        | 81  |
| 24th | Pauline Rose Wills    | 84  |
| 29th | Jean Elizabeth Rivers | 90  |
| 30th | Rosalie Helen Steanes | 85  |



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

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# SHIRLEY PARISH GUIDE *continued*

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