

**ST A - + - S O R C**

**Lillington Parish Magazine  
St Mary Magdalene's Church  
NOVEMBER 2017**



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References available

## FROM OUR MINISTER

Dear Friends,

It's November already, the clocks have gone back and the summer months are fading into a pleasant but distant memory. This can sometimes be one of those months when nothing very much happens, and our normal daily routine can seem very boring and mundane at times.

For me, the challenge is to take those ordinary things of life and see them as something we can offer to God. In his letter to the Colossians, Paul says to his readers '*Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men.*' (Colossians 3.23)

Do we, I wonder, 'work for the Lord' in everything we do? It can be difficult to keep God in mind as we do those routine tasks – indeed why should he even be interested in our 'daily round, the common task': after all, if I don't find cleaning the house interesting, why should he! But he is, of course, because everything aspect of our lives is of interest to him and God is always present and active in our lives, whether or not we see him. Jesus told those listening to him, 'not one sparrow is forgotten in God's sight. Do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows.'

So, might working for the Lord change the way we actually feel about those daily tasks? I suggest that yes it would. Would you want to do something half-heartedly if you were offering it to God? Of course not. It might actually be easier to sit through the meeting you don't want to go to, to pass the time of day with that rather awkward neighbour, or fight your way round Sainsbury's with everyone else. It can turn the commonplace into something special and valuable.



Brother Lawrence, a seventeenth century French monk followed this principle all his life. In his collection of letters 'The Practice of the Presence of God' he talks about finding God in his daily work in the monastery kitchen and how, by turning all his activities into an offering to God he was drawn ever closer into His presence.

Brother Lawrence said that we are equally bound to be one with God in times of action as well as in times of prayer and that *'when we are in doubt, God will never fail to give light when we have no other plan than to please him and to act in love for him.'*

Of course, we're none of us going to manage it all the time. However, like everything else in life, practice does make things easier to achieve and if we can share our daily lives with God, how much more worthwhile everything will become.

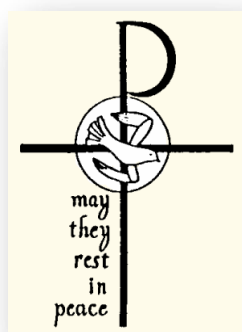
Give it a go!

With love,

**Rev. Sue Fairhurst**

## ALL SOULS

**Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> November at 6:30pm**



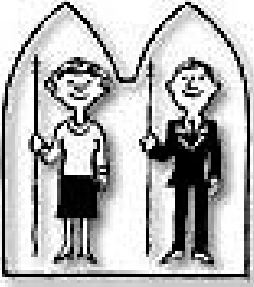
Our service to remember loved ones offers an opportunity to light a candle in memory of loved ones.

If you would like a name read out at the service, please inform a Churchwarden or Wendy Driscoll, the Church Administrator by Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October.

**A** huge thank you to everyone in the congregation and to local schools who gave so generously at our Harvest Services. We have delivered car loads of food to The Leamington Night Shelter, The Salvation Army and Eden Place Nursing Home. A number of individuals have received gifts, and we raised nearly £900 for our Harvest Appeal – enough to buy twenty five beehives through the "Send a Cow" charity. Well done all.



## WARDEN'S WORDS

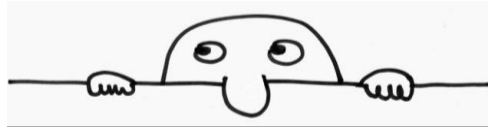


It seems like a long time since we said farewell to Rev Charlotte but in fact it's only four months. The draft Parish Profile came back to us in October and although there were a few suggested changes it had been well received. We are now working with Old Milverton and the PCC to agree the final document - with lots of photographs! Once we advertise the post it

takes about 8 weeks before we can interview. The Diocese did offer dates for interviewing just before Christmas but it wasn't possible to finalise the profile in time for advertising. We are therefore waiting for some more interview dates in the New Year.

Fabric wise, by the time you read this article the finale stage of the roof work - painting some of the interior of the church - should be completed. Aside from the inevitable final 'snagging' problems the project has gone well. Congratulations to John Butler for managing this mammoth project and keeping our finances on track.

### Wot no Vicar?



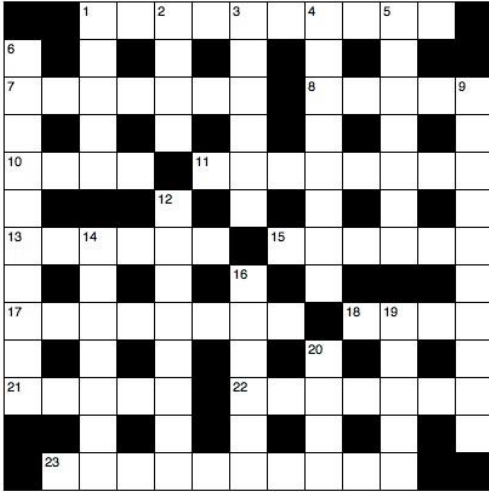
Glyn and I have been planning a bit of a tidy up, apparently it's what all new churchwardens do, but inevitably the spaces soon fill up again with items that might come in useful one day! Amongst the items that we have been thinking about are the altar frontals that we used for the old altar and the matching vestments. It is a sad fact that we are unlikely to ever use them again. I don't know anything about the history of these lovely items although I have heard that some were handmade by members of the congregation. If you know anything about their history please do let me know. We do need to think about alternative uses or disposal of these frontals and vestments so any ideas would be welcome.

Finally a special thanks to Jeff Burgess for so valiantly taking on the role of magazine Editor. I thought that he did a great job of the October issue, long may it continue.

A close-up photograph of a hand holding a black pen, writing the words "Thank you!" in cursive on a white surface.

**Carol Innes**  
**Churchwarden**

# CROSSWORD



## Across

1 He was replaced as king of Judah by his uncle Mattaniah (2 Kings 24:17) (10)

7 'Let us fix our eyes on Jesus... who for the joy set before him — the cross' (Hebrews 12:2) (7)

8 Relieved (5)

10 Impetuous (Acts 19:36) (4)

11 Surprised and alarmed (Luke 24:37) (8)

13 'It is — for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for the rich to enter the kingdom of God' (Mark 10:25) (6)

15 Directions for the conduct of a church service (6)

17 One of the acts of the sinful nature (Galatians 5:19) (8)

18 and 20 Down 'She began to wet his — with her tears. Then she wiped them with her — ' (Luke 7:38) (4,4)

21 'We will all be changed, in a flash, in the twinkling of an — , — the last trumpet' (1 Corinthians 15:51-52) (3,2)

22 'But he replied, "Lord, I am — — go with you to prison and to death"' (Luke 22:33) (5,2)

23 Third person of the Trinity (2 Corinthians 13:14) (4,6)

## Down

1 He betrayed Jesus (Matthew 27:3) (5)

2 Paul's assurance to the Philippian jailer: 'Don't — yourself! We are all here!' (Acts 16:28) (4)

3 'Fear God and keep his commandments, for this — the whole — of man' (Ecclesiastes 12:13) (2,4)

4 The sort of giver God loves (2 Corinthians 9:7) (8)

5 Sun rail (anag.) (7)

6 Naboth, the ill-fated vineyard owner, was one (1 Kings 21:1) (10)

9 Paul said of young widows, 'When their sensual desires overcome their — to Christ, they want to marry' (1 Timothy 5:11) (10)

12 This was how Joseph of Arimathea practised his discipleship 'because he feared the Jews' (John 19:38) (8)

14 Mop ruse (anag.) (7)

16 Foment (Philippians 1:17) (4,2)

19 Where Joseph and Mary escaped to with the baby Jesus (Matthew 2:14) (5)

20 See 18 Across

*Answers on page 11*

## WALKERS' GROUP

### October walk



This was a 5.5 mile walk beginning at the Castle Farm Recreation Centre, then skirting the outer walls of Kenilworth Castle before heading overland through fields of maize to Chase Lane and an easy walk along it to Chase Wood. From



there we circled back along harvested fields and pasture to cross The Pleasance, where Henry V could escape the pressures of his court. Returning to the Castle, we skirted its other side before exiting at the modern entrance for a welcome lunch at The Green Man.

*Stanley and Helen  
Ireland*



### November AGM and walk

This year's AGM will be held in the Octagon on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> November at 9.0 am.

After the meeting, at about 9.30, we will make our way to the New Inn at Norton Lindsey, which is a community pub, for a 5 mile walk. There are about 5 stiles.

The walk is very rural through mainly grassland which is quite uneven, so walking can be slightly challenging.

For further details, if required, ring 332958

*Sandra and Ted Dear.*



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## The Chain Hub News

**Alison Selwood, Crown Routes Coordinator writes:**



In May 2017 the Chain Community Hub received a make-over! The new look office is much brighter, less cluttered and offers a welcoming area to sit and chat, as well as gain advice and support on a range of issues. There is also a confidential meeting room which is available for more private discussions. We are very pleased to welcome several different agencies to the Chain Hub who are able to offer more specialist advice on a regular basis.

Each Monday the **Employment Club** runs from 10.00 – 1.00 in the Chain Hub

On the 2nd Tuesday of each month **WCAVA** offer Volunteer recruitment and support from 10.00 – 12.00 and Community Group development and support from 12.00 – 2.00.

On the last Tuesday of the Month **Age UK** offer advice and information from 12.00 – 1.30 at the Community café and from 1.30 – 2.30 at the Chain Hub

On Wednesdays each week **Citizens Advice** offer three x 1 hour appointments (Please book at the Chain Hub)

On Wednesday 2.00 – 3.30 **Neighbourhood Watch** offer a drop –in session where safety and security equipment is available to purchase.

On the 1st Thursday each month the **Police and WDC Housing Department** are available from 11.00 -12.00 to offer advice and information.

The Chain Hub is open for **general enquiries and support** on :  
Tuesday 9.30 – 2.30, Wednesday 9.30 – 1.00, Thursday 9.30 – 2.30  
Friday 9.30 – 12.00

**Future Events:** Christmas Lunch for the Elderly residents of Crown Ward on 12th December – more details to follow. For any further information please contact the Chain Office on 019926 739402. If anyone has any spare time and would like to help with any of the events or volunteer at the Chain, or the Community Café we are always pleased to chat to you about the opportunities available.

Don't forget that you can read Crosstalk in glorious technicolour on the church website:  
[www.lillingtonparishchurch.org](http://www.lillingtonparishchurch.org)

## FROM THE CHURCH RECORDS

BAPTISMS	
24 September	Megan Rosena Owen & Jacob McCarthy
RENEWAL OF WEDDING VOWS	
2 September	Patricia & Peter Reynolds

### **Christmas Scratch Choir – Abby Rhodes writes:**

Following the fun we had with the Harvest music evening, I am hoping to put together a Christmas scratch choir, to learn some carols and Christmas music. There are a number of opportunities to sing in November and December and it would be great to do this together.

As with the Harvest choir, no prior experience or huge talent is necessary – if you'd like to just have some fun singing then this is for you!

If you are interested, please contact me – either by email ([music@lillingtonparishchurch.org](mailto:music@lillingtonparishchurch.org)) or on 07779 499640





## **REVERSE ADVENT - remember it just keeps on giving!**

Once more we are supporting the Leamington Night Shelter and our local Lillington branch of the Leamington and Warwick Food Bank.

**\*\*Here are the details\*\*** We will launch Reverse Advent at our 9.30am service of Morning Praise on **Sunday 3rd December** when we will be distributing boxes and baskets for you to take home and fill up, ready for Christmas. (there will also be baskets/boxes available at the 8.00am service). Filled boxes and baskets will be received back into church at our 9.30am Communion & Nativity Service on **Sunday 17th December**.

**\*\*How it works\*\*** Lots of us now have an Advent calendar with a chocolate or little toy for each day. With the Reverse Advent Calendar, you GIVE a little something for each day. You could fill a box or basket for the Night Shelter, or our local Food Bank and at the same time your help will support what "Love Lillington" is doing in our Community. For the Night Shelter, the little gifts can be hand-warmers, new socks, hats, gloves, scarves, underwear, toiletries, toothbrushes & toothpaste, chocolates or biscuits and other luxury foods, and for the Foodbank, tins of vegetables, stuffing, gravy, bread sauce, little Christmassy goodies and stocking fillers, or even a supermarket gift card. At the end of Advent these will be fantastic boxes and baskets of little gifts for us to distribute to Leamington and Lillington people in need. Perhaps think about writing a short prayer and enclose it with your gifts, or tie it on with a ribbon?

If filling a whole box or basket is not for you, there will be a 'whole church' Reverse Advent box, available in church, where your contribution may be made.

Here are some thoughtful words from Margaret Moore *"Thank you so much for supporting the Leamington Night Shelter again, this year. Last year everything was so very well received by our clients. In fact, all of the boxes were put out on the floor for our clients to go and choose. We have found out that if clients are left to help themselves, rather than given things in a pre-packed bag, it works better, and they are usually not too greedy, and they mostly ask first too! It also created a lovely atmosphere, as there was so much to choose from."*

Christine Butler

## WHAT I LOVE ABOUT.....

**The second in a new series describing the enthusiasms of church members.**

### **Sarah Boad on Serving my Community**

I have represented all of / parts of the Parish of St Mary Magdalene for the last 30 years on County, District and Town Councils at various times. I currently represent 'Leamington North' on the County Council and 'Crown' on the Town Council.

There are three sides to the role of Councillor – helping local residents with their issues; attending council meetings and sitting on outside bodies.

I love helping local residents with their issues – it is very satisfying when a resident contacts me with an issue and I am able to get it resolved. I deal with a huge range of issues – traffic and road safety, parking, houses, holes in roads and pavements, trees, social services, neighbour disputes – and some are easier to sort than others. I build relationships with various residents over time and help them with different issues. The arrival of email has made record keeping re casework much easier to look back and see what issues a constituent has raised before.

I also enjoy attending Council and Committee Meetings – it is a chance to raise local issues as well as matters of policy and the budget. Those who know me know that I do enjoy making a good speech!!

As well as helping residents, Councillors also help local organisations in various ways – for example, I sit on the governing bodies of Telford Infant School and North Leamington School. I have been able to assist both schools with road safety issues and I was over the moon in the summer when a four year campaign to restore the school crossing patrol on Telford Avenue was successful.

Other bodies that I am involved with include:

Lillington Children's Centre – I have been involved for 14 years since the centre was first planned;



SACRE – this body deals with the curriculum for RE in the County. I was involved many years ago, and have just re-joined the committee. I am enjoying this work all over again!!

BID – this covers businesses in the Town Centre and organises events such as the Food Festival and the lantern parade.

Locally I sit on the Community Action Forum – this a group of local agencies, organisations and churches which discusses issues affecting Crown Ward.

I have just finished chairing the North Leamington Community Forum – a position I held for many years. This body gives out small grants for local projects.

I am also the Chair of Lillington Community Centre Committee.

So, these are some of the reasons why I love serving my local community – how long I continue is, of course, down to the voters of North Leamington.



## Light Party

**All children of Sunday Club age are invited to a Light Party at 9.30am on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> November. Come along and bring friends as we celebrate Jesus being the light in the darkness with games and food!**



## Crossword answers.

**ACROSS:** 1, Jehoiachin. 7, Endured. 8, Eased. 10, Rash. 11, Startled. 13, Easier. 15, Rubric. 17, Impurity. 18, Feet. 21, Eye at. 22, Ready to. 23, Holy Spirit.

**DOWN:** 1, Judas. 2, Harm. 3, Is duty. 4, Cheerful. 5, Insular. 6, Jezreelite. 9, Dedication. 12, Secretly. 14, Supremo. 16, Stir up. 19, Egypt. 20, Hair.



## **Coventry Diocese Clergy Conference: September 2017**

Next year, the Diocese of Coventry will be 100 years old and the first clergy conference for many years provided a good opportunity for the clergy of the diocese to spend time some together to reflect on where we have come from and to look to the future. The title of the conference was 'A Fish Out Of Water' and by leaving our normal environment behind, and going away together for three days to Liverpool, we had the opportunity to stand back and look at our own space with a sense of perspective that comes from being at a distance.

Each day of the conference had its own focus, held together in our daily acts of worship through our scripture readings from the life of Moses. The theme for day one was 'Looking Back', a chance to give thanks to God for the life of our diocese over the past one hundred years, to reflect upon the history of our Cathedral and its work for reconciliation across the world. Day two, our only full day in Liverpool, centred around 'Vulnerability and Risk' and on day three we thought about 'Grace and Future' in an extended and joyous café-style Eucharist service with two key note speakers, as we prepared to come back to our parishes, ready to pick up the threads of daily life and to recommit ourselves to God's service.

All our speakers picked up on the themes of vulnerability and risk and there were also a variety of optional workshops that one could attend covering a wide range of topics including literature and theology, using scripture as a starting point for art, using new digital resources to help bring the New Testament to a broader audience and practical suggestions for running a PCC meeting.

The highlight for me was the Hope Street Pilgrimage. Hope Street is the road that runs between the Roman Catholic and the Anglican Cathedrals in Liverpool. We started in The Metropolitan Cathedral where we heard about the vision for its construction and the depth of collaboration between the leaders of the two Christian communities in Liverpool, Roman Catholic Archbishop Warlock and Anglican Bishop David Sheppard. After looking around the building, affectionately known locally as 'Paddy's Wigwam', we walked in small groups down

Hope Street, stopping at two sculptures along the way: one of the two Christian leaders and one a powerful sculpture of baggage – suitcases, boxes etc. – each one associated with a well-known Liverpoolian who has left their mark on the city. At each point we were encouraged to reflect on some general themes of pilgrimage – where have I come from; where am I going to; what might God be asking me to leave behind. Finally we arrived at the Anglican Cathedral, an immense building, where the Diocesan Secretary of Liverpool Diocese talked to us about some of the ways in which the Cathedral tries to reach out to the people of the city, sometimes in what might be considered risky ways, but always asking where Christ might be in each of the proposed activities.



It was an enjoyable three days, extremely well organised (but what else would we expect from Naomi!) and an opportunity to share the highs and lows of parish life with our fellow clergy.

As we move forward into that centenary anniversary, you might like to use our diocesan prayer as part of your own prayers to hold our diocese, our bishops, our cathedral and all our individual churches before God, as we all continue to try to reach out in his name to the people around us:

*Father, pour out your Spirit upon us.  
Grant us a new vision of your glory, a new experience of your power,  
a new faithfulness to your word and a new consecration to your service,  
that your love may grow among us and your kingdom come.  
Through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
Amen*

Rev Sue

# SERVICE DETAILS

## SUNDAY WORSHIP - NOVEMBER 2017

5 <sup>th</sup> November	08:00	Holy Communion
	09:30	Morning Praise, Sunday Club & Light Party
	18:30	All Saints / All Souls Bereavement Service
12 <sup>th</sup> November	08:00	Holy Communion
	<b>10.00</b>	Remembrance Service & Sunday Club
19 <sup>th</sup> November	08:00	Holy Communion
	09:30	Holy Communion & Sunday Club
	18:30	Evensong
26 <sup>th</sup> November	08:00	Holy Communion
	09:30	Holy Communion and Sunday Club

## SUNDAY CLUB

For children of all ages up to 10 years during School Term time. Children join the main 09:30 service at the beginning and the end, and leave for a 30 minutes Sunday Club session, which has a range of age appropriate activities

## WEEKDAY WORSHIP:

Tuesday	28 <sup>th</sup> November	13:30	Holy Communion
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## THE CHURCH OFFICE

The office is open Monday, Tuesday and Thursday from 9:30am till 1:00pm. Please note that the office is no longer open on a Wednesday.

During these hours, the church may be used for private prayer - please use the office entrance. For Baptism, Weddings and general enquiries please contact the church office (01926 470449). Outside of office hours please leave a message on the answer phone and we will get back to you.





# WHAT'S ON

## November 2017

Fri 3	4.30 pm	Lillington History Group in Free Church Hall, Cubbington Road.
Fri 3	5.30 pm	Fireworks at Lillington Primary School
Sat 5	9:00 am	Walkers' Group AGM followed by walk – Ted & Sandra Dear.
Wed 8	3.00 pm	Poetry Group at 17 Lime Avenue
Thurs 9	7:30 am	PCC meeting
Sat 11	6.30 pm	Martin Luther talk at Leamington Mission, George Street
Mon 13	All day	Delia's Christmas Fair at 5 Park Road
Tue 14	6.30 pm	Knitters' Group in the Octagon
Sat 18	9.45 am	"Churches Together in Leamington" walkers meet at The Crab Mill, Preston Bagot
Sun 19	3.00 pm	Warwickshire Symphony Orchestra family concert at Spa Centre
Fri 24	10.30 am	Dementia Friendly Coffee Drop-In at Acorn Court, Stockton Grove, Lillington
Sat 25	1.00 pm	Christmas Market
Tue 28	2.00 pm	Tea & Chat in The Octagon
Tue 28	6.30 pm	Knitters' Group in the Octagon

## December 2017

Sat 2	6:00 pm	Christmas Charity Concert at St Mary's, Warwick by The Gentlemen of Her Majesty's Chapel Royal in aid of Rufus' Friends' Fund
Sat 9	2.00 pm	Christmas Tree Festival launch tea party
Sat 9	7.30 pm	The Amici Choir in church
Tue 11	6.30 pm	Knitters' Group in the Octagon
Tue 12	TBA	The Chain's Christmas Lunch for the Elderly residents of Crown Ward

A reminder: Please make Cheques payable to Lillington PCC

**For any events you wish to publicise please contact the Editor or email [events@lillingtonparishchurch.org](mailto:events@lillingtonparishchurch.org)**



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Following on from our article last month about Martin Luther and the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of The Reformation, readers may find the following presentation interesting. It is the last in a series of talks.

**Saturday November 11<sup>th</sup> at 6.30 pm**

**Leamington Spa Mission, George Street.**

**Milan Gugleta will talk on "Martin Luther, Human Nature and Human Identity".**

## Amici's Advent Return



On **Saturday December 9<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 in the church** the Amici Choir will present an evening of advent themed choral music and readings. Tickets will cost £10 and will be available from the church office or from Godfrey and Caroline Carr (01926 422916/ [thecarrs01@virginmedia.com](mailto:thecarrs01@virginmedia.com)). Seasonally themed refreshments are planned for the interval!

Amici have visited the church twice before and have been very warmly received, but these were both presentations of summer programmes and this is a chance to hear one with a quite different theme. Amici are conducted by Kerry Beaumont, Musical Director of Coventry Cathedral, and the choir is tasked with strengthening links between the Cathedral and churches in the diocese. The proceeds of the evening will be split equally between St Mary Magdalene and the Cathedral, with the cathedral portion being used to develop the Cathedral's musical life.

We would like to have good audience to welcome them back to St Mary Magdalene, so please spread the word.

*Godfrey Carr*

# COOKING WITH CROSSTALK

## **November – Thanksgiving Day (USA)**

In September 1620, a small ship called the Mayflower left Plymouth, England, carrying 102 passengers—thirty five were members of the English Separatist Church (a radical faction of Puritanism) an assortment of seeking a new home where they could freely practice their faith. After a treacherous and uncomfortable



crossing that lasted sixty six days, they dropped anchor near the tip of Cape Cod. One month later, the Mayflower crossed Massachusetts Bay, where the Pilgrims, as they are now commonly known, began the work of establishing a village at Plymouth.

In 1621, the Plymouth colonists and Wampanoag Indians shared an autumn harvest feast that is acknowledged today as one of the first Thanksgiving celebrations in the colonies. It wasn't until 1863, in the midst of the Civil War, that President Abraham Lincoln proclaimed a national thanksgiving day to be held each November. It was Franklin D. Roosevelt in 1939 who declared that Thanksgiving Day should be the fourth Thursday in November.

Traditional food is Turkey and very similar to our Christmas dinner. Some of the trimmings however use ingredients that we may not be familiar with such as Collard Greens and grits, so I've chosen ingredients that we know!

### **Sweet Potato Souffle**

#### **Souffle:**

113gm butter, at room temperature, plus more to grease pan  
5 medium sweet potatoes  
2 large eggs  
1 cup granulated sugar  
1½ teaspoons vanilla extract  
125ml milk

Pinch of salt

#### **Topping:**

125gm finely chopped pecans  
200gm brown sugar, packed  
113gm plain flour  
55gm butter, softened

1. Preheat the oven to 350 degrees F. Grease a 2.8 litre baking dish with butter.
2. Poke the sweet potatoes with a fork and bake on a foil-covered baking sheet until they are soft, 1 hour. When cool enough to handle, peel the potatoes, place the flesh in a large mixing bowl and mash until very smooth. Add the eggs, sugar, butter, vanilla, milk and salt. Combine well with an electric mixer or hand mixer. Turn the mixture into the baking dish.
3. In a medium bowl, stir together the pecans, brown sugar, flour and butter until thoroughly combined. Spoon the mixture over the sweet potatoes, making an even layer.
4. Bake the casserole until slightly browned, 40 minutes. Let the casserole sit for 5 minutes before serving.



## **Pumpkin Cupcakes**

12 cupcakes

### **Pumpkin Cupcakes:**

125gm plain flour  
 1 tsp ground cinnamon  
 ½ tsp ground ginger  
 ½ tsp allspice (or mixed spice)  
 ½ tsp nutmeg  
 ½ tsp baking powder  
 ½ tsp baking soda  
 113gm butter, softened  
 113gm sugar  
 125gm canned pure pumpkin puree  
 1½ tsp pure vanilla extract  
 2 large eggs

### **Maple Cream Cheese Frosting:**

One 8-ounce block cream cheese  
 22 tbs butter, at room temperature  
 2 tbs pure maple syrup  
 250gm Icing sugar  
 Chopped toasted pecans, for topping

1. Preheat the oven to 350 degrees F. Line one 12-cup muffin pan with paper cupcake liners.

2. In a medium bowl, whisk together the flour, cinnamon, ginger, allspice, nutmeg, baking powder and baking soda. Set aside.

3. In a large bowl, add the butter and the sugar. Beat with a hand-held mixer until light and fluffy, 3 to 4 minutes. Add the pumpkin puree and the vanilla extract. Slowly beat in the eggs, one at a time. Incorporate the dry mixture into the wet mixtures together until thoroughly combined.

4. Using an ice cream scoop, fill each cupcake liner 3/4 of the way full. Bake until the tops turn golden brown and a toothpick inserted in the center of the cupcake comes out clean, about 20 minutes. Remove the cupcakes from the oven to a wire rack and cool completely before frosting.

5. Add the cream cheese, butter, maple syrup, and salt to a large bowl and beat until creamy. Gradually add the powdered sugar until thoroughly combined.

6. Top the cupcakes with the frosting and chopped pecans.



## **Cranberry Sauce**

1 pound fresh cranberries, washed and dried

500gm granulated sugar

80ml water

1 cinnamon stick

½ teaspoon ground allspice

¼ teaspoon ground nutmeg

1 orange, zested and juiced

In a medium pot, combine the cranberries, sugar and water. Stir to blend. Bring the mixture to a boil over medium heat. Reduce to a simmer and add the cinnamon stick, allspice and nutmeg. Stir to blend and simmer for an additional 5 to 7 minutes. Some of the cranberries will burst and some will remain whole. Add the orange juice and zest, stir and allow to cool before serving.

## **CHRISTIAN SOLIDARITY WORLDWIDE.**

### **Graham Cooper writes:**

Christian Solidarity Worldwide (CSW) is the Church's chosen charity for the month of November. It works in over 20 countries across Asia, Africa, the Middle East and Latin America, defending everyone's right to freedom of religion or belief. Three quarters of the world's population live in countries with severe restrictions on their religious freedom. Since this is unacceptable CSW is working to change it. Its vision is of a world where everyone is free to choose their beliefs – to hold and practise any religion they like, or none at all.

The charity is a voice for justice, and campaigns for religious freedom for everyone – people of all backgrounds, religion and belief. However, because Christians are globally the most persecuted religious group, it prioritises working for Christians of all denominations and traditions.

Over three decades of advocating for religious freedom with politicians and world leaders, it has earned a reputation for providing trustworthy and reliable information. Decision-makers at the UK parliament, United Nations, European Union and US Congress turn to CSW to provide them with accurate reports on the state of religious freedom around the world. It is known for putting across a balanced view of each situation, without exaggeration. Thorough research and evidence-based analysis is the cornerstone of everything it does.

CSW speaks up for millions of people around the world who are denied the right to religious freedom, but by itself, this is not enough. People need to be able to speak up for themselves more effectively. Hence a major part of its work is providing human rights advocacy training to communities and activists worldwide. It offers training in the basics of international human rights law, and in particular freedom of religion or belief, and how to document human rights abuses effectively.

As well as its advocacy work, CSW seeks to engage churches and supporters in the UK and overseas. Its supporters encourage those who are in prison, under house arrest or being persecuted for their faith by writing letters and cards to them using its Connect and Encourage resource. It campaigns for religious freedom and prays for individuals, communities and nations.

As an organisation Christian Solidarity Worldwide is proud of its Christian heritage, identity and values. Accordingly it believes in the power of prayer to transform situations, and it encourages its supporters to join in praying for the cases and issues it works on.



# St Mary Magdalene's

Vicarage Road, Lillington

Sat 25<sup>th</sup> November 2017

**1- 4 pm**

**in the church and grounds**



# CHRISTMAS MARKET



**HOT  
FOOD**

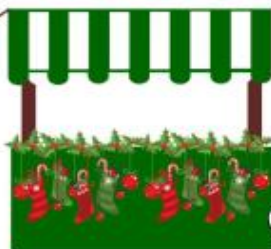


**CRAFTS**



**RAFFLE &  
TOMBOLA**

**STALLS**



**TEA &  
CAKES**



**FATHER  
CHRISTMAS**





# JUNIOR CROSSTALK



## St HUGH of LINCOLN 17<sup>th</sup> November

In the Middle Ages, bishops were very important people. They were not only men of the church but also involved in running the country. They lived in great palaces and did not have much to do with ordinary people.

Bishop Hugh of Lincoln was different. He became known and loved for his charity to the poor; he cared for lepers and even risked his own life to prevent the killing of Jewish people during riots.

The Bishop rebuilt Lincoln Cathedral after it was destroyed by a great earthquake in 1185, but to him people were always more important than all the carved stones.

If you go to Lincoln, look out for the pictures of swans because



St. Hugh is usually shown with a swan. He had a pet swan which guarded

him while he was asleep.

## BIBLE Hs

All the answers to this quiz begin with the letter H. Which 'H'...

1. Was a son of Noah? (Genesis, chapter 5)
2. Was David's first capital? (2 Samuel, chapter 2)
3. Was Herod's wife? (Matthew, chapter 14)
4. Did Goliath have that was made of bronze? (1 Samuel, chapter 17)
5. Was the King of Tyre who sent cedar wood for the Temple? (1 Kings, chapter 5)
6. Was hung on the willows by the rivers of Babylon? (Psalm 137)
7. Jesus said the birds have nests and foxes have these (Luke, chapter 9)
8. What are pleasant words like? (Proverbs, chapter 16)

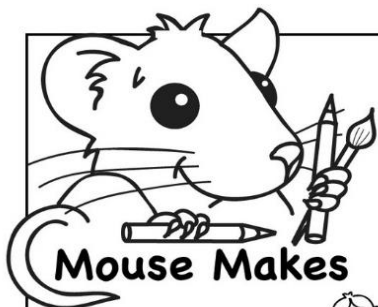


### Do you have a hobby?

Yes, I like sitting in the corner collecting dust.



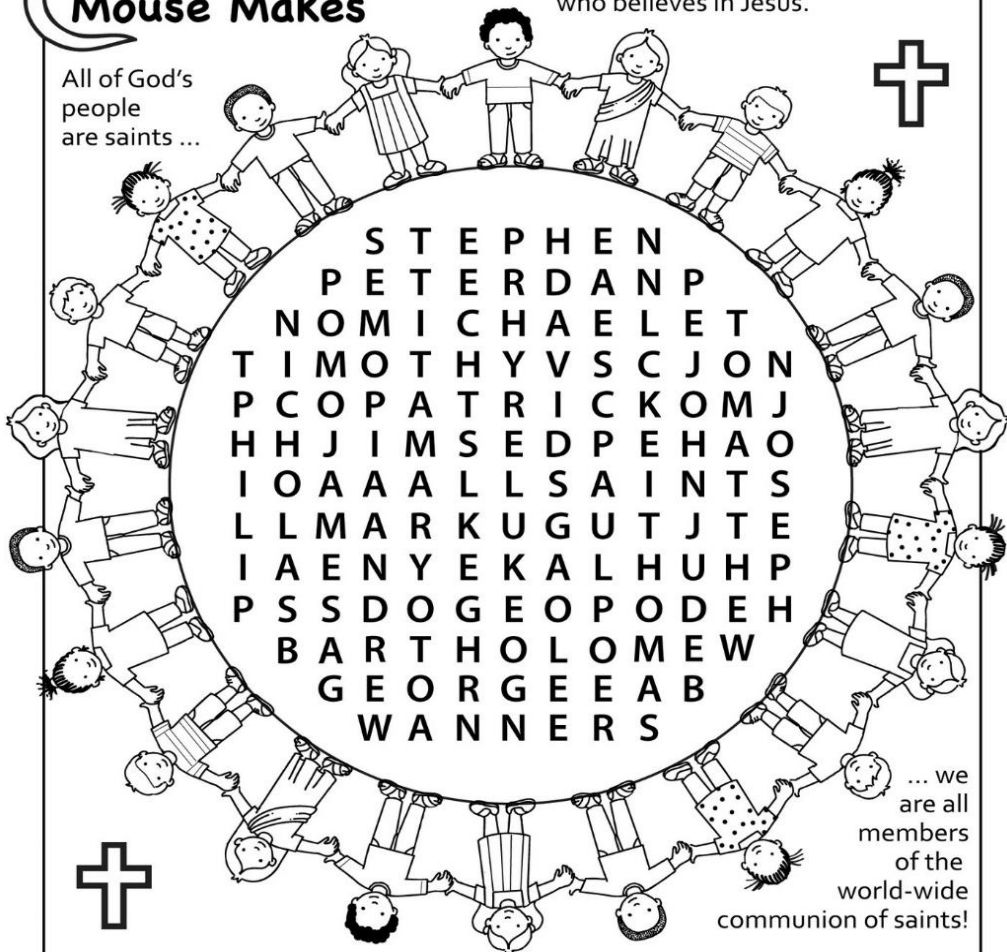
**Answers:** 1. Ham 2. Hebron  
3. Herodias 4. helmet 5. Hiram  
6. harps 7. holes 8. honeycomb



"To those who are made holy in Christ Jesus, and called to be **saints**, with all those in every place who call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, their Lord and ours".  
from 1 Corinthians 1:2

The Bible tells us that a SAINT is not just a Christian that we think of as special but *anyone* who believes in Jesus.

All of God's people are saints ...



... we are all members of the world-wide communion of saints!

Can you find these saints names in the word search above?  
 GEORGE • ANDREW • DAVID • PATRICK • MARY • JOSEPH • MATTHEW • MARK • LUKE  
 JOHN • PETER • THOMAS • JAMES • JUDE • BARTHOLOMEW • PAUL  
 TIMOTHY • PHILIP • STEPHEN • NICHOLAS • MICHAEL • ANNE • ALL SAINTS

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## OCTOTOTS

Meets term time from 10.30am – noon.

Octotots is an informal weekly get together for babies, toddlers and their grown-ups in the Octagon at St. Mary Magdalene's.

We meet on Thursday mornings during term time for a mixture of chat, bible stories and songs with plenty of toys to keep the little ones busy.

We start with tea or coffee at 10.30 am and finish by 12.00 pm. The dates we are meeting are listed overleaf. Just pop along, or contact the church office to find out more.



## JEFF'S JOTTINGS

Clergy from our diocese met in Liverpool in September to spend time together, consider where they had come from and to look to the future.

Revd. Sue Fairhurst was among them and I am grateful to her for the report which you see in this edition.

Continuing our new series, "What I Love About...", Sarah Boad has given us a fascinating insight into all that is involved in being a councillor. Politicians are often denigrated and, whereas there are inevitably a few bad apples, the vast majority are in the job because they want to serve their communities and make them better places. It is good to remember them in our prayers and thank God for their willingness to give of themselves for the good of us all.

The run-up to Christmas is a busy time in the life of our church and, consequently, there is a lot of meat in November's Crosstalk. This is a bumper 28 page edition! Thank you to all contributors. Keep it coming for the leaner New Year editions!



*...I haven't the heart to tell her the bishop went home 20minutes ago!*



## **CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL**

You've been mulling over how you will decorate your tree – you have been discussing it with members of your group – now is the time to register your tree to take part in this year's Festival!

The information sheets have been in church for a week or two, but you may prefer to use the one you will find in this edition of Crosstalk, ready for you to tear out and complete. Please do this as soon as possible to ensure a place in church for your tree. A special box is in church for your entries, or you may put them through the letterbox of the church office.

The launch party will be held on Saturday 9th December with a Tea Party and Live Music. The church will then be open from 2-5 every afternoon until 23rd December, for enjoying the trees, music and refreshments.

You will find a form on the other side of this page. Just fill it in and put the form and your donation into an envelope marked 'Christmas Trees' and bring it to church where a box is provided for accepting your envelopes, or post into the Church Office, as soon as possible, and by 26th November at the very latest.

**Charlotte 425642, Wendy 330825**



## CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

As before we will fill the church with little trees decorated in a variety of styles and colours. Join individuals, groups, families and teams to take on a tree and decorate it in any way you wish. The trees will be displayed in church from Saturday 9th December and throughout Advent and Christmas to be enjoyed by many people.

We hope that you or your church, business, group, family or team will want to take part in this, our fourth Tree Festival. Name your tree as you wish and decorate to tell everyone about your group.

Title of Tree.....

Name of individual or group.....

Contact name.....

Phone.....E-mail.....

Donation £..... towards the cost of the tree.

We will bring our Festival Tree from last year: Yes / No

Decorate a tree in any way you fancy, but please do not include real candles or edible decorations. (Safety and mice ! ) You may like to promote your group, illustrate your interests or just enjoy creating a beautiful tree. No mains lights but battery powered lights are lovely, and can be bought quite inexpensively.

The trees will be 3-4ft. tall, planted into plastic pots, at a cost of £15 each, for which donations of any size are invited. Further information will be sent out when all entries are received.

We will label your tree with a group name and the title you choose.

We will set up the trees, which can then be decorated any time between 10 - 12 am and 6.30 – 8 pm on Friday 8th December.

**Any Questions?** Speak to Charlotte Sanders (425642) or Wendy Shear 330825.

Space in the church is limited so please register your tree early.

Further information will be sent out when entries are received.

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