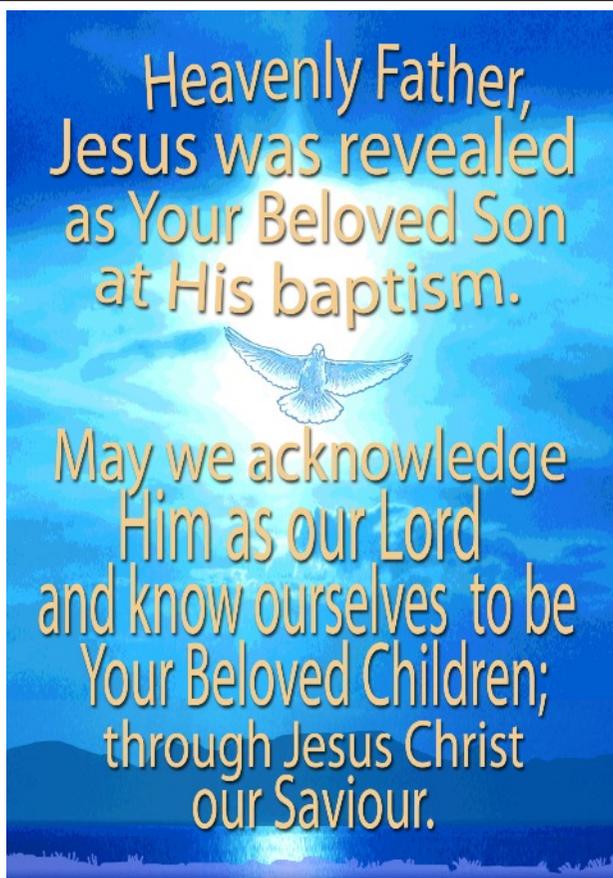


HOPE HERALD

News, views & comment from
St James Church, Hope

January / February 2022



What's
inside

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St James Church, Hope Sunday Services

9–30 am Holy Communion (Anglican)

11–30 am Elim Church Worship

Vine Community Hub

It's now up and running

Lots going on
Something for everyone

You can find a lot of detail on page 9

(Very reliant on volunteers – is that you?
If so have a chat with Neil Hudson)





From The Vicar

Jan/Feb 2022

WE RECENTLY had a family service at St James' church on the theme of Noah's Ark. It is often a story we tell to our children as it has all sorts of animals, a family working together and it ends with a beautiful rainbow. There are lots of books and videos available to tell the story to our younger children particularly, but in all honesty I find it quite a difficult story and not at all child friendly.

The story starts with God being so angry with the way humanity is behaving that he decides to wipe out all life on the land with a huge flood, not just men, women and children, but all animal life as well, except for Noah's family and a few of each type of animal with which to repopulate the world. I don't know about you, but this is incredibly harsh to me, after all, no matter how wicked and cruel the adults may have been, what could the children have possibly done to deserve this, never mind any of the animals? How is the God of this

story the same God who comes to us as a helpless baby, lives a life as one of us and dies on the cross saying "Father forgive them, they do not know what they are doing"?

I was once told, and have since found it to be very true, that when you come to a passage in the bible which you find difficult or uncomfortable to stay with it and pray on it, because "digging" you will find gold.

Something that certainly is true is that there are myths in many of the ancient cultures in the Middle East about a great flood, why it happened and how people survived that there was a great flood in the ancient history of that place seems likely. What natural phenomena might have caused such a flood I don't know, perhaps an underwater earthquake, or as we've seen in the waters close to Tonga, perhaps the eruption of an underwater volcano, could have caused it. The text talks not just about rain causing the flood, but the waters

from under the earth being released, which would make sense with such an occurrence. For the Hebrew people at the time the Old Testament was written everything that happened was because God willed it, so if there is a huge flood God must have caused it, and the reason must have been because of the awful behaviour of us humans. I don't know why the flood came, but what I do find in the story of Noah's Ark is the God that saves, that delivers us, that brings us through the trauma's of life and promises to be with us always, and that God I certainly recognise on the cross as well. God bless

Gareth



Gift Day Result



GIFT DAY in 2021 was held on 12th December - the same day as our Carol Service.

The amount collected on the day was:

£860

Notable was **£162** raised from a special event run by the Rainbows and Brownies led by Sylvia McGreal. Some donations (£797) were made under Gift Aid and some

of the cash was eligible for a claim under the Small Cash Donation Scheme.

This means that the actual value to Church was approximately:

£1059.25

A great result!

Thank you
everyone

Christians in England and Wales now less than 51 per cent

THE NUMBER of Christians in England and Wales has fallen to 51 per cent of the population, from the 59 per cent recorded in the 2011 Census.

The latest figures from the Office for National Statistics have revealed just over half the population in England and Wales described their religion as Christian in 2019. This coincides with an increase in the number of those not adhering to any religion, which has grown from 32.3 per cent in 2011 to 38.4 per cent now.

Of those with no religion, 53 per cent are aged

between 20 to 29-year-olds followed by those aged between 30 to 39-year-olds with 46 per cent. Young adults are therefore the smallest proportion of Christians, with only 35 per cent of 20 to 29-year-olds adhering to Christianity as their religion.

This compared to 60 per cent of 60 to 69-year-olds, 74 per cent of 70 to 79-year-olds, and 81 per cent of those aged 80 and over.

Statistics has revealed data showing that “no religion” was the second most common response in 2019.

Reacting to the figures, Dave Male, the Church of England’s director of evangelism and discipleship told the Telegraph: “It’s encouraging that in an age where people are less likely to [class] themselves as ‘Christian’, more than half the population still do.

“We know from research that there is a willingness among younger generations to engage with faith and, for people of all ages, the need for meaning and answers in life hasn’t stopped.”

From the Churchwardens

WHAT WILL? 2022 BRING? I guess that question is on everybody's minds. As I write, the U.K. is moving from "Plan B" to "Plan A" concerning COVID restrictions. Fuel prices are expected to rise enormously, and inflation is also on the way up. Every day, there are reports of growing famine in parts of the world – Afghanistan and Yemen being particularly badly hit. Russian troops are amassed on the borders of Ukraine, and there are endless rounds of talks between the Russian Government and NATO. What will 2022 bring?

St.James' may seem a million miles from some of these broader issues, but then what happens in one corner of our world can so easily influence us more than we think. I was touched by the theme of one of our joint worship services with Elim church – "Do not be afraid!" It is easy to think that things are entirely out of our hands, but each one of us can pray for peace, extend a hand of friendship to others, give what little we have to those in need, and perhaps more importantly,

can stand firm and witness that we "don't need to be afraid", because we have a Saviour who cares for us.

What will 2022 bring? The Diocese of Manchester is calling on all churches in the various Deaneries (we are in the Salford and Leigh Deanery), to be transformed into mission communities, so that we may better bring the Good News to our local environment. In a sense, this has already been a continuous process at St James', where we share a ministry team with St John's Church, Pendlebury. New initiatives with the Salford Elim Church gives us the hope that through a shared vision, we can use our worship space, and our church hall more effectively and efficiently. This includes four joint services planned for 2022. A new accessible toilet is being constructed in the Hall. Plans are underway for improving the outlook of the hall. A garden maintenance team is being established to improve the look of the church grounds.

It's easy to feel overwhelmed by all that's happening in the world around us, and think that it is easi-

er to do nothing, than do something, however small. Those few disciples of Jesus hid, afraid, not knowing what to do and feeling overwhelmed and omnipotent after Jesus' humiliating torture and death on the cross. We don't need to be afraid because we can also share in that great Easter shout – "Praise God! Jesus has conquered

death!"



With best wishes from. Bob and Trevor.

Neil Says: You are what you say

IT'S BEEN A BAD START to the year for Boris Johnson, Novak Djokovic and Prince Andrew.



All of them have become headline grabbers, dominating the news. Each of them have backed themselves into corners that do not seem to have many escape routes. They only have themselves to blame. It's hard to see any of them recovering with any integrity intact.

It's easy for us to watch the stories of lies, scarcely believable excuses and examples of remarkably poor judgment and wonder how they thought they would ever get away with it. It's easy to judge. I'm not sure how any of these situations will play out, except I think I know how they happen, because there but for the grace of God go I.

We lose integrity when we make decisions

thinking no one is looking and that no one will find out. We think we will get away with things that if others knew, they would be shocked.

In the 1970s, as a youngster sitting in church, I remember hearing Jesus' words in Matthew 12:36: 'I tell you, on the day of judgment you will have to give an account for every careless word you utter.'

I can remember wondering how that would happen; was there some heavenly cassette tape recorder replaying all the things that had been said in secret?

Now I'm an adult I can see how the day of judgment comes quicker than you might expect. People hear and remember. Secrets get out. And not just for the rich and famous. There have been too many church leaders, teachers, care workers, fathers and mothers whose abuse of their authority comes to light 40 years later.



The truth is we can't change the decisions we made in the past, but we

can decide how we want our lives to be now. We can choose to live with integrity: always telling the truth, even when it is the difficult path; always choosing to put others first, even when it is hard. In short, we can choose to follow the way of Jesus. And we will do that because we know this is the right path and also because we sense the fear of not living like that. In *The Message* paraphrase of the Bible, this is how Matthew 12:36 is presented:

"Let me tell you something: Every one of these careless words is going to come back to haunt you. There will be a time of Reckoning. Words are powerful; take them seriously. Words can be your salvation. Words can also be your damnation."

The men in the news will have to deal with the results of their actions in the past. What we can decide to do is live our own much more ordinary lives with an integrity that means we have nothing to fear

Neil Hudson

LATE EXTRA: from my point of view

EACH YEAR when Christmas is over and the year is drawing to its close, I have to make a very important decision. What sort of calendar shall I get to hang on my bedroom wall, to lift my spirits and to help me be and do my best in the year ahead? I like a good picture calendar, something I can see clearly from my bed when I wake up. I shan't actually write anything on it except perhaps a reminder about some appointment or a request for help. Last year I had a 'countryside' calendar, and to tell you the truth I was quite disappointed with it. I expected to see pictures of fields and farms and typically English villages such as those I knew so well when I was young. Instead I had pictures of birds and animals – British wildlife, as we say – and beautiful as they were, they simply didn't inspire me to any useful activity. Fortunately a large percentage of the calendar's purchase price went to charity, so it wasn't entirely a bad mistake.

For 2022 I have selected a calendar all about trees. It has beautiful pictures of trees photographed in different

locations at different times of the year. I have always been inspired by trees; so strong, so shapely, so obliging, whatever the season, infinitely useful and vital for the wellbeing of humanity. Quite a lot there to make me stop and ask myself, 'What could you be doing today that would justify your being here?'

January's picture is not exactly seasonal. There's not a trace anywhere of ice or snow or fog or frosty air. There is a wide path through a forest. The path is dry, not muddy, and plenty of sunlight filters through the tree tops. At least half of the trees still have green leaves or needles. Everything is still, as if Nature is resting before doing something spectacular, which of course she is.

Someone has said that Jesus was never more active than when he died on the cross, his arms outstretched, his head bowed, not conquered but conquering. As winter drifts slowly onward, darkness yields to daylight, and what seems caught in the sleep of death is preparing to spring into new life.

The picture chosen for May is precisely what



I expected it to be: woodland carpeted with bluebells. About an hour's bike ride from where I was born there was an area of woodland divided in two by a narrow country road, and in May each half of it was covered with vibrant blue flowers – more than I have ever seen anywhere else in my life. Habits change. Time was when I would go there for an armful of flowers to give my mother and my grandmother, but my instinct now, quite apart from what is said by the law, would be to leave them where they are for all to enjoy and for Nature's Maker to have the praise. I can happily confirm that the woods are still there, and so are the bluebells.

The country road is wider and busier than it used to be but the area is not threatened by development. My brother's grandson got married in a village church nearby and held his reception in a local barn converted into a

venue for special events. On my way there I couldn't resist doing a little detour, just to reassure myself that in an age of rapid change, when things are often swept away for no other reason than that they have been there a long time, some things move very slowly, some not at all and much remains the same.

From time to time, some thing, some view perhaps, which you have gazed at for years without actually registering what is there, suddenly takes on a different aspect. Walking to church from the traffic lights on Half Edge Lane – 'Up the brew!', as the late, great Marion Hulme used to say – gets harder as you get older. It's not until you start puffing that you realise what a steep climb it is that brings the old road up from the valley, where the Manchester Ship Canal had all the rivers diverted, to the high level where the church is. Can you imagine what this was like when there was nothing

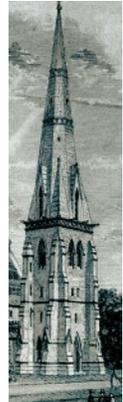
but Eccles church behind you and open fields? Ahead of you now is the unmistakable, unavoidable drum-shaped bulk of the entrance to Salford Royal Hospital, dwarfed for the present by huge cranes helping to add even more to its size and its scope. Amazing to think



that not so long ago there was a long drive off Eccles Old Road up to the Hospital's main buildings, with car parks on either side! This hospital in its enormity reminds us of all that can be done, has been done, to keep people in good health, cure them of their infections, help them with their disabilities and save them in their emergencies.

Circumstances change at the drop of a hat,

and this hospital, like all others, has proved its worth by being there when it was needed. But hospitals – even the best of them – can only repair what is faulty and keep it running for a little while longer. It is a comfort, therefore, that beyond the Hospital's reassuring bulk you can clearly see the spire of our church, pointing like a needle into the sky. If you want to know where true, everlasting life is, that is where you should go; for when all that can be done here has been done and there is nothing left, the power of life and love that comes from God prepares to do something extraordinary and most spectacular.



DGB

With Valentine's Day in mind:

Love is the master key to a happy home.

If you work at love, you will find love at work. – Peter Jackson

Marriage requires falling in love many times – always with the same person.



Vine Community Hub

THE VINE COMMUNITY

HUB has been set up by Salford Elim Church. We are a small team of local volunteers who care about the people of our area.

Where are we? You can find us at 87-89 Cholmondeley Rd, Salford M6 8PU.

What are we? We offer a range of great support and activities aimed at reducing isolation, improving well-being, and building community:

Now Our Regular Activities

Coffee Mornings – Mondays from 10-12pm and Tuesdays from 10.30-12pm. We have a baby-friendly area too for those with little ones.

Communal Lunch - Tuesdays and Wednesday from 12-1pm Join us for a simple meal and some company. Meals are free of charge but donations are gratefully received.

Art Workshop - Tuesdays from 10.30-12pm. If you enjoy painting, creating collages and learning new art techniques or just fancy having fun

Crafty Crew - Tuesdays from 1-2.30pm We meet weekly to be creative and enjoy good company. We occasionally arrange day trips out

Prayer and Worship - Wednesdays from 10.30-12pm A chance to pray, re-

flect on the bible, worship. Whatever church you are part of, or whether you are just exploring faith, you will be warmly welcomed.

Stretch and Relax – Thursdays from 10-11am

Led by a member of the Salford Health Improvement Team, drop in for some gentle stretching and guided relaxation.

Health Checks – Second and Fourth Thursday of the month from 1.30-3pm Led by a member of the Salford Health Improvement Team. Booking at least a day in advance is necessary (ring 0800 9521000 Option 2).

Themed Afternoon Tea – First Thursday of the month from 2-3.30pm. Cream tea and treats with company and entertainment. £3 per ticket, purchased from The Vine.

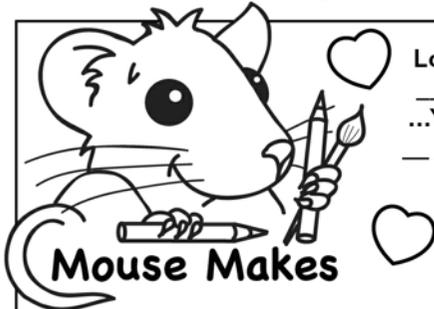
Play and Stay - Fridays 10-12pm and 1.30-3pm. Two sessions of fun and creativity for pre-school children and their parent/carer. £2 per session per family unit. Includes healthy snacks.

Entertainment Evenings - Bi-Monthly Fridays. (See our calendar below for dates)

See a full range of our activities at

www.salfordelimchurch/thevine

Junior Page



Lord, you are a God who shows _____ and is _____
 ...You have great _____ and _____

Psalm 86:1

Love the Lord your God with all your

_____ with all your

_____ and with all your

_____ Matthew 22:37

See what great love the Father has for us that He would call us His

1 John 1:3

How did God show He **loved** us?
 Read 1 John 4:9



_____ is love.
 Whoever lives in love lives in _____, and _____ lives in them.

1 John 4:16

Love is ..
 Read 1 Cor 13:4-7

Love your _____ the same as you love _____

Matthew 22:39

Love is:
 PATIENT • KIND • GRACIOUS • JUST • TRUTHFUL • TRUSTING • HOPEFUL
 PERSEVERE • ENDURES • GOD

Love is not:
 JEALOUS • ENVY • BOASTFUL • PROUD • SELFISH • ANGRY • RUDE • EVIL

God's love is:
 LOVE • MERCIFUL • FAITHFUL • UNFAILING • ABUNDANT • COMPASSIONATE

Love and Marriage.. Come in all shapes and sizes



CHRISTMAS and New Year have come and gone. Spring is round the corner, and we are encouraged to spend money on St. Valentine's Day, the "festival for lovers. According to Frank Sinatra, "love and marriage go together like a horse and carriage ". However, in different cultures, there are different views about the relation between love and marriage, some startlingly different from what we in Europe are used to.

When I first started working in West Cameroon, I lived in a village where the chief had eighty-eight wives. Traditionally, each family gave one girl in marriage to the chief (with the hope that one day, she might even

become the mother of the next chief!). Each wife had her own small house in the "wives' village" attached to the chief's compound. Polygamy was widespread, seemingly to have originated as more girl babies survived into adulthood than boy babies. Despite the fact that a lot of the work (food production, firewood and water collection, childcare, etc.) was carried out by women, there was still the idea that a woman needed to be "looked after". In some villages, when a man died, his sons would marry the widows. In many, but not all cases, this involved taking on the task of caring for the widows without having sexual relations with them. I had two friends of similar age, who had the same mother, but the father of one was the grandfather of the other! (Work that out!)

In the polygamous household, as the first wife became older, she would often ask her husband to take on a new, young wife, to "help with the work". This sometimes resulted in the "new wife" being of a similar age to the eldest sons in the family, but the

sons still had to address her as "mother".

Polygamy was widely practised in Old Testament times, and has been "sanctioned" in Islam, with permission to marry up to four wives, (with the proviso that you have to love them and treat them equally). Frequently discussed in the African Church, advocates always cited polygamous patriarchs, like Jacob, and King Solomon, and others as "beloved by God".

Marriage of course was perceived in relation to bearing children (the chief mentioned above had more than two hundred children!). Where I lived, childlessness was the only legitimate cause for divorcing a woman, and resulted in the woman's family having to repay the dowry (usually long since spent) .

Families encouraged their daughters to have a child before marriage, so,



in the result of childlessness, the family could produce the offspring and say, "aha ! It is not our daughter's fault". Clearly, John the Baptist's mother, Elisabeth, lived under the same stigma of barrenness.

Arranged marriage is still commonplace. An Indian friend once stunned me by announcing that she was going to "advertise her daughter" in a national newspaper. In arranged marriage, it is assumed that "our parents know best who would be suitable

for us to marry". A Ugandan friend (whose marriage was arranged) explained that, even though the newlyweds were generally not in love –perhaps never having met– it was expected that love would grow within the marriage, and that indeed was the case between her and her husband. We are familiar with arranged marriages in English royal history. Arranged marriages linked families together. In Western Ethiopia, this extended to cousins marrying,

so that "wealth would stay in the family". This is a very ancient practice –the Egyptian pharaohs married their sisters to ensure the royal bloodline (as a Cameroonian friend once told me," you can never be 100% sure who the father of a person is, but an eye witness has always been present at a birth, to testify who the mother is.)

Love and marriage – the recurring St. Valentine's Day theme. What a culturally diverse world we live in !

Waiting – waiting – waiting

WAITING is a common human experience. Our lives are made up of waiting that leads to encounter, and the waiting requires patience and humility

Simeon had been waiting. He belonged to a people who had been waiting for centuries. He was heir to the hopes and dreams of a nation waiting for a better world now that the holy city was in the hands of Roman invaders. With his people he clung to the hope that God would come to bring freedom and a new life. God's chosen one, the Messiah, would bring this

about. When it came, there was no fanfare, no warning, just an ordinary family from faraway Nazareth in the Temple, performing the religious duties for the first-born son. But the waiting led to encounter, and the sight of the new-born child led to insight as Simeon recognised that light and salvation had at last come. Many artists, including Rembrandt, have captured all this in paintings: the faith and patience, the hope and humility of an old man, a priest, who takes the babe into his arms and blesses God. It is the aged priest

and the new-born babe that impress: Simeon with his venerable beard and eyes half closed, and the tiny child cradled in his strong arms, looking up intently with his eyes open.



Soon it will be Spring again



Cyril and Methodius, helping the Slavs



CYRIL AND METHODIUS are saints for anyone with good secular qualifications, who now suspects that God may be calling them to use those skills in His service.

Cyril and Methodius were brothers, born into a wealthy family in Thessalonica, in 826 and 815 respectively. Their upbringing destined them for lives of respect and influence.

Methodius, the elder brother, was appointed governor in a Slav province of the Roman Empire, although within a few years he became a monk on Mount Olympus in Asia Minor. Meanwhile his younger brother, Cyril, went into academia in Constantinople, becoming a lecturer in philosophy and librarian.

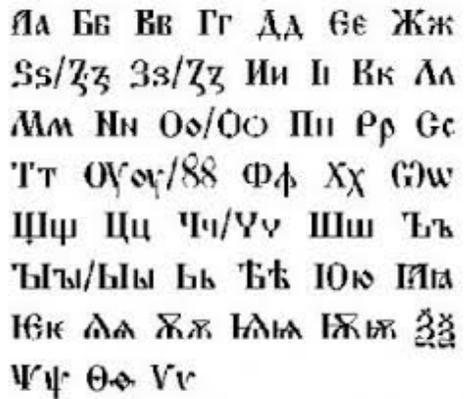
But then, in 863, the ruler of Moravia, Rostislav, asked the emperor to send him some Christian teachers who could conduct services and teach his people in

the Slavonic tongue. Emperor Michael III chose Cyril and Methodius.

It was a daunting task, for the Slavonic language had not yet been written down. But nonetheless, the brothers methodically set about their great work.

Cyril used his academic ability to create an alphabet for the Moravians, which eventually became the Cyrillic alphabet. The brothers then much of the liturgy and the gospels to this form.

During their time in Moravia, the brothers faced opposition from missionaries of the German Church, who believed that the official languages of the church should only be Hebrew, Greek or Latin. But the Pope pronounced that both brothers were orthodox, and made them both bishops, with Methodius ending up as Archbishop of Rastislav and Svatopluk.



CROSSWORD ANSWERS

ACROSS: 1 WEED-KILLER, 7 Everest, 8 stung, 10 east, 11 selector, 13 absent, 15 middle, 17 leave out, 18 asks, 21 shirt, 22 trounce, 23 FLOWER BEDS.
DOWN: 1 weeps, 2 Eden, 3 kitten, 4 lessened, 5 erupted, 6 VEGETABLES, 9 GAR-DEN-SHED 12 undertow, 14 spaniel, 16 muster, 19 sends, 20 rose.

MY GRANDMA'S PAGE (She was born in 1883)

Some weeks ago Sheila Hughes received a letter with this heading from friend. She was so taken with it she felt it should be seen widely and where better than Hope Herald?

Christ walks behind me
on the unknown road,
He shares each sorrow,
lightens every load,
And when the road is
rough, the path seems
slim.
I shall not falter if I
trust in Him.

He'll walk beside me to
my journey's end;
Though others fail me
He remains my friend.
In death's dark vale I
need feel no ill,
For Christ my Saviour
walks beside me still.

He'll walk beside me
through the coming
years
When days are sunny or
when dark with fears,
And as He leads me on
I'll hear Him say
"I'll give thee strength
sufficient for each day."

He'll walk beside me
through eternal years,
There'll be no sickness,
sorrow, death or tears,
And there with loved
ones on that blissful
shore,
I'll walk with Christ my
Saviour evermore.

Five famous quotes from Desmond Tutu



The recent death of Archbishop Desmond Tutu was mourned around the world. Here are five of his more famous quotes, which show why he was so especially honoured for his justice and reconciliation work in South Africa.

1 Do your little bit of good where you are; it's those little bits of good put together that overwhelm the world.”

2 If you are neutral in situations of injustice, you have chosen the side of the oppressor. If an elephant has its foot on the tail of a mouse, and you say that you are neutral, the mouse will not appreciate your neutrality.”

3 Don't raise your voice, improve your argument. Good sense does not always lie with the loudest shouters, nor can we say that a large, unruly crowd is always the best arbiter of what is right.”

4 Forgiving is not forgetting; it's actually remembering – remembering and not using your right to hit back. It's a

“ second chance for a new beginning. And the remembering part is particularly important. Especially if you don't want to repeat what happened.”

5 Differences are not intended

Saving the Planet via Kitchen and Bathroom in 2022

AS WORLD LEADERS wake up to the crisis of global warming and plan emergency measures before it is too late, each of us can make a difference right now, beginning in our own homes.

Start in the KITCHEN

25% of the world's food is thrown away. One supermarket discovered British households waste seven million tonnes of food waste every year, partly because most of our fridges aren't cold enough. Keeping the fridge temperature at a maximum of 4 degrees will help food last longer and save waste.

Vast quantities of greenhouse gases are released by animals reared to supply us with red meat and dairy products. Cutting down on quantities and conserving leftovers would help.

Conserving electricity by washing clothes at 30 degrees and replacing power-hungry tumble driers with a clothes line or old-fashioned clothes-horse would have the added advantage of reducing soaring power bills.

According to the Good Housekeeping Institute, "many mainstream detergents are brimming with synthetic chemicals like phosphates, chlorine and bleach that pollute our waterways, damaging delicate ecosystems, and may irritate sensitive skin." Plant-based and eco-friendly alternatives are now readily available and work well in the washing machine and dishwasher.

Don't forget the BATHROOM

Annual increases in water consumption would be curbed, if we were to

shower rather than bath. Exchanging the shower head for a water-saving type, which regulates or aerates the flow, would save both water and cash.

Spending less time in the shower needn't be a hardship. Daily shampooing may actually be counter-productive – it's best to let some oils remain in the hair, so they can act as moisturisers. Biodegradable body wash is available in bulk, from which reusable containers can be filled.

Eco-friendly toothpaste is now on the market, some of it in plastic-free containers. More water can be saved by turning the tap off as we brush. Beware wet-wipes which may be 'flushable', but aren't biodegradable, because they are part-plastic. Saving the planet needn't cost the earth.

Those who want to get married

A MINISTER was preparing to marry a local couple within a couple of weeks. At the close of the morning service, he saw them both in the congregation, and wanted

to ask them to come forward, but he couldn't think of their names. So he said: "Will those wanting to get married please come to the front?"

Immediately, nine single ladies, six single men, three widows, and four widowers walked up the aisle.

In memory of Dolly the Sheep



JUST 25 YEARS ago, on 22nd February 1997, scientists at the Roslin Institute in Edinburgh announced that they had

successfully cloned a mammal from an adult cell for the first time: a sheep named Dolly.

Dolly – named after country singer Dolly Parton – was not the first cloned mammal, however. Another sheep had been cloned from an embryo cell as early as 1984. Dolly was made from an adult mammary cell, which had been thought impossible.

The idea was to open up possibilities in breeding and in medicine, but Christians and others were alarmed at the possibilities that seemed to be opening up for human cloning, which some said

raised difficulties because humans were made in the image of God.

The Vatican called for a total ban on the cloning of human beings, which it said was a “dangerous experiment” that could undermine human dignity. But a number of Jewish thinkers argued that in certain circumstances it could be an acceptable and compassionate option.

Over the years Dolly gave birth to six lambs but in 2000 was found – with other sheep at Roslin – to be infected with a virus causing lung cancer; she was then diagnosed with arthritis, which was treated successfully, but in 2003 she was discovered to have tumours growing in her lungs and was euthanised to prevent her suffering, at the age of six. A healthy sheep would normally live to the age of 10 or 12.

Dolly’s body was donated to the National Museum of Scotland in Edinburgh, where she has become one of the most popular exhibits.

What a tree can do for you

TREES can help prevent you getting depressed. At least, you are less likely to be on antidepressants if you live on a tree-lined street.

That is the finding of a survey by the Forestry Commission, which looked for the first time at the mental health value of our forests and woodlands. Apparently, they save the NHS something like £185million in antidepressants each year.

A spokesman at Mind, the mental health charity, said: “Although many of us feel like hibernating in winter, getting outside in green spaces and making the most of the little daylight we get can really benefit both your physical and mental health.”



Saying it with flowers

A man stopped by his local florist shop to buy flowers for his new girlfriend on Valentine’s Day. He asked the proprietor, “You know the expression, ‘Say it with flowers?’”

“I do indeed!” the florist enthused. “How about three dozen of my finest roses?”

The man hesitated. “No, make it just a half dozen roses. I’m a man of few words.”

Puzzle Page

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

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Difficulty level: Easy.

S
U
D
O
K
U

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

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Difficulty Level: Medium

WORDSEARCH

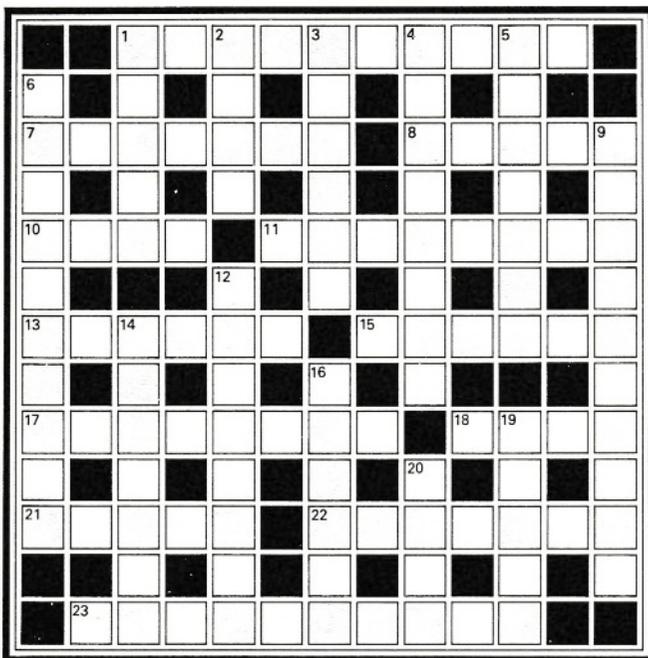
N	R	E	H	T	U	O	S	S	R	H	R
E	E	N	I	T	S	E	L	A	P	E	E
A	L	A	N	N	E	A	O	O	I	R	T
K	I	N	G	Q	U	E	E	N	M	O	N
Y	G	O	L	O	R	T	S	A	A	D	O
R	I	D	S	A	S	R	G	P	A	R	M
N	O	I	T	A	N	I	V	I	D	E	O
R	U	S	C	L	L	G	B	H	S	A	L
S	S	C	H	O	L	A	R	S	H	M	O
V	M	M	B	L	R	H	I	R	E	S	S
S	C	A	R	A	V	A	N	O	B	A	S
U	R	T	A	M	H	O	S	W	A	N	I

Where did the Wise Men come from?

One thing that supports the theory that the magi came from southern Arabia is this: if you study any map of Palestine as it was during biblical times, you will find that the old Arabian caravan routes all entered Palestine 'from the East'.

NOW FIND THE WORDS: Magi , East, ligious, Caste, Astrology, Divination, Dreams, Scholars, Southern, Arabia, Queen, Sheba, Messiah, Solomon, Herod, King, Star, Worship, Palestine , Caravan

Crossword No 40



GREEN FINGERS The four answers around the edge of the diagram are suggested by the title of the puzzle, and are clued simply by the word **THEME**.

ACROSS

1. THEME (4-6)
7. A high mountain (7)
8. Given a poisonous jab – and overcharged! (5)
10. The Orient (4)
11. He picks and chooses (8)
13. Missing (6)
15. To tamper – with a decoration, by the sound of it (6)
17. Omit (5, 3)
18. Enquires (4)
21. Garment – that a gambler may lose! (5)
22. To beat soundly (7)
23. THEME (6, 4)

DOWN

1. Sheds tears (5)
2. Need (anag.) – a garden (4)
3. A young feline (6)
4. Made smaller (8)
5. Burst forth (7)
6. THEME (10)
9. THEME (6-4)
12. Current opposed to the surface current – below tug! (8)
14. Pine, Sal (anag.) – for a dog (7)
16. An assembly of troops – rum set (anag.) (6)
19. Despatches (5)
20. A flower – sprang up (4)

A few clues may be a bit cryptic
Answers on page 13

THE COMMUNITY HALL

Regular activities using the facilities

WEDNESDAY

Rainbows & Brownies 17.30 - 19.00 (weekly in term time)
(Contact: Sylvia McGreal 01617980057)

THURSDAY

Archery 13.00 - 15.00 and 19.00 - 21.00
(Contact: Dominic Vaughan 01612116563
or 07934080596)

FRIDAY

Archery 19.30 - 22.00 (Contact as above)

SUNDAY

Little Gems Sunday School 9.30 - 11.30 am (monthly 1st Sunday)
(Contact: Sylvia McGreal 01617980057)

BOOKINGS

Booking requests, whether for regular or occasional events should be addressed to Mrs Sheila Jones who can be contacted on 01617892863 or 07845492109.

NOTE

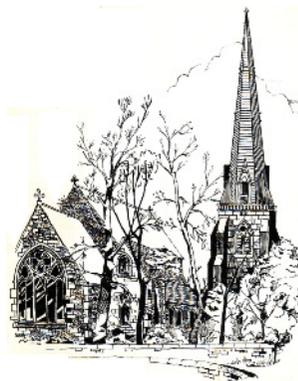
**The Hall will be closed over January & February 2022
for refurbishment works**



STAFF

Vicar of St. James & St. John

Rev. Gareth Thomas
91 Broomhall Road,
Pendlebury,
M27 8XR
Telephone: 0161 925 0059



Churchwardens:

Mr. T Palmer,
55 East Lancashire Road,
Swinton,
Manchester,
M27 5LY
Telephone: 0161 794 2702

Mr R Hedley
12 Bishop Road
Pendleton
Salford
M6 8PX
Telephone: 07493599241

SERVICES:

Sunday	9.30 am Parish Communion (Little Gems: 9.30 am, first Sunday in the month) (Family Service: 9.30 am third Sunday in the month)
Wednesday	10.00 am Holy Communion

Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals etc. by arrangement with Rev. Thomas who may be contacted by telephone, or in person at Church on Wednesdays from 10-30am

Hall Bookings: For bookings and enquiries about the Parish Hall ring Mrs. Sheila Jones on 0161 789 2863 or 07845492109

E-mail for all church issues: Stjames.hope@gmail.com

Website: stjameshope.co.uk