

CROSS-FLY

Lillington Parish Magazine St Mary Magdalene's Church



February 2017

God's love and faithfulness will last for ever. Psalm 100:5 You are good to us, Lord, and your love never fails. Psalm 106:1 Love is always supportive, loyal, hopeful and trusting. 1 Corinthians 13:7 Love comes from God, and when we love each other it shows that we have been given new life. 1 John 4:7 God showed His love for us when He sent His only son into the world to give us life. 1 John 4:9 1 Corinthians 13:13 For now there are faith, hope and love, but the greatest of these is love.

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References available

FROM THE VICARAGE

The 2nd February is **Candlemas**. This ancient festival marks the midpoint of winter, halfway between the shortest day and the spring equinox. Forty days after Christmas, it marks the end of the seasons of Christmas and Epiphany and we remember the story of Mary and Joseph taking the baby Jesus to be presented in the temple.



This festival came to be called Candlemas because in the past it was the day of the year when all the candles that were to be used in the church in the coming year were brought into church and a blessing was said over them, hence 'the mass of the candles'. In those times, candles weren't just important because there were no electric lights. Some people also thought they gave protection against plague and illness and famines. For us as Christians they were (and still are) a reminder of something even more important. Before Jesus came to earth, it was as if everyone was 'in the dark'. People often felt lost and lonely. Afraid. As if they were on their own with no one to help them. Then came Jesus with his message that he is with his followers, always ready to help and comfort us. He is a guiding light to us in the darkness. We often talk of Jesus as 'the light of the world' and candles are lit during church services to remind us of this. When we baptise babies we give them a lighted candle to remind them of the light of Christ in their life.

So on 2nd February, maybe you could light a candle at home and say the following prayer, to remind you of the light of Christ in your life.

Rev Charlotte Gale, Feb 2017

Father God, thank you for the light that Jesus brings to us and the light we can pass on to others.

Father God, thank you that whatever age we are, we can still be used by you to be a light for you to each other.

Father God, help us not to hide our light away, keeping it to ourselves.

You want us to be lights that bring light to as many people as possible

Father God, help us to put you first every day and in every situation, so the light from our flame grows tall, sending out more light to others

Father God, you wanted your light to be passed on to others.

You are the light of the world and you call us to be lights to the world

Father God, thank you for sending Jesus to die for us on the cross so that we can be forgiven and come to share in your light

Father God, thank you that even when we cannot see you, you are still with us.

May your invisible light shine brightly in and through us wherever we go in the days ahead.

Amen.

FROM THE CHURCH RECORDS

FUNERALS	
Dec 6	Mary Winyard Age 81
Dec 6	Pamela Chandler Age 91
Dec 15	Lily Martha Fedeski Age 99
Dec 15	Pamela Anne Cummins Age 86



WARDEN'S WORDS

Hello friends and neighbours,

February is traditionally the time when even shy and embarrassed people pluck up the courage to send out little 'love signals'. A Valentine's card, bouquet of flowers or even something more daring and risky!

True love can sneak up on you and smack you in the face. It can change your life completely. And it's not just the amorous, sexually attracted kind of love either which can make a fool of you. You love your family, friends and neighbours. You're passionate about a hobby or activity, which really nourishes your core being. We're told that 'God is Love'. I personally find that deeply comforting and reassuring. My trust in Jesus Christ is triggered by that knowledge. It brings into sharp focus those activities which I deem to be important.

WH Auden, the poet, has this to say on the topic: ' Will it come like a change in the weather? Will its greeting be courteous or rough? Will it alter my life altogether? O tell me the truth about love'.

It goes without saying that there are many ways to express your love. Some practical, caring or sensitive. Others drive your whole being and the very English 'actions speak louder than words' quite often is the quintessential expression of our love.

Do you love this Church? Its people and its solid walls? Could you volunteer, with love in your heart, to stand up and be counted upon to join the band of willing workers? If the answer is a profound 'yes' then please consider putting your name forward to be a member of the PCC. Several long-standing members will need to stand down this year in April, so fresh ideas and new people are critical for our Church's on-going health. Please talk to John Butler or myself in the first instance, and we will be able to facilitate your enquiry.

Love eh? Bring it on!

With my love and best wishes to you all.

Glyn Wright

BIG NUMBERS AND THE BIG WEEKEND



As I finalise the accounts for last year there are some striking numbers in them.

Most of you, unless you've been in hibernation for the last year, will have been aware of our needs for extensive roof repairs and the likelihood of a bill, somewhere in the region of two hundred thousand pounds, to effect them. That's the first big number and one that made our churchwarden, John Butler, blanch somewhat!

I've talked before of the generosity of our church members in supporting good causes and, I'm sure, Gaynor Cook was amazed and delighted at the response to the Lent appeal to African Vision Malawi which realised a total of £604.18. It's also a delight for me to write such a cheque and to get the returning thank you letter. The precision is intended – 18 pence means a lot to many countries in the world especially when we have learnt very recently that the eight richest men (yes men!) in the world have the same wealth as the poorest HALF of the world. It's probably only fair to say that Bill Gates and Warren Buffet (two of the 8) do a lot of philanthropic work in Africa with their wealth. End of soapbox!

The needs of our roof and the needs of the world's poor seemed to come together in two days in October in what I like to call WOW – Wonderfully Open-hearted Weekend. It's a bit contrived but it describes my reaction to the generosity shown by the Church in giving £11,665.45 to the Roof Fund on its Gift Day on 1st October, and the final day of the Harvest appeal on 2nd October which realised a total of £728.32 given to Send a Cow.

All pence (and pounds) most gratefully received! Thank you.

Alan Wright

WAYS OF PRAYER

Each month, a member of the 8 Essential Qualities Strategy Group has agreed to write an article about their own prayer life for Crosstalk. This is a pretty daunting challenge when you are the Vicar. People tend to make assumptions about the depth and quality of a priest's prayer life and I am hesitant to disabuse you. But here goes.



I have never known a time in my life when it didn't feel like God was close by. I have always prayed sporadically, at moments of crisis, and in joyful thanksgiving. However, consistent daily prayer has been harder. When I was a teenager at a lively church youth group, we were firmly taught that you must have a personal 'Quiet Time' each day. The distinct impression was given that it needed to be at least half an hour of bible reading and prayer. All sorts of resources and ideas were around to help you do this, and over the years I tried all of them. I tried bible reading notes, I tried books of liturgy, I tried praying in different places and at different times of the day. I tried everything, but nothing really worked. I'd be ok for a while, maybe a few weeks, but then something would happen, and suddenly I would realise I'd gone a month or more without a 'Quiet Time'. I felt a complete failure. When I was going through the selection process for ordained ministry I tried extra hard – after all, people were scrutinising my prayer life. I prayed regularly in church and at my home group, as well as at various other events and meetings I went to, but none of this seemed to matter. I felt I was being judged entirely on my ability (or inability as it turns out) to sit still and pray for half an hour each day.

I didn't begin to see the light until I got to theological college. There we were expected to be in the chapel at 8 am every morning from Monday to Friday for corporate Morning Prayer. I was always there. Other people grumbled and groaned about it, but I loved it. I lived on site, so I could be in bed at 7.45 am and still make it on time. I found the discipline of knowing I had to be there really helpful, and found that I could focus so much better on my own prayers in the company of others. I even found that I would stay an extra ten minutes or so after everyone left, to just be in the presence of God.

Some days I sat through the whole thing in a weary fug, but I was there, I was present, and that seemed important.

It wasn't perfect. My prayer life at weekends and in the holidays was still sketchy at best, but it was the most consistent my prayer life had ever been, and I really began to notice the difference it made. A bit like choosing to eat a more healthy diet. You don't notice immediately, but after a few weeks and then months, everything just feels better.

I realised that those people who had told me I must have a 'Quiet Time' each day were right, but they were also wrong. Trying to spend some time deliberately in the presence of God each day (most days...) is really important, but it doesn't need to be half an hour and it doesn't need to be on your own. It needs to be in a way that works for you. For me, the rhythm of the Church of England service of Morning Prayer, done in the company of someone else, has proved to be the only way I can have a really quality prayer life.

Currently, Naomi and I pray the morning office each day together in the Vicarage at about 8 am. We don't do it at weekends. We take turns to lead, and it can last anything from 10 minutes (oh dear, one of us has overslept...) to half an hour. The combination of liturgy, set bible readings, and time for open prayer works well for us. The fact that the whole thing is accessed via an app on the iPad makes life even easier.

I also pray at groups and in meetings, with people in need, whilst walking the dog and in church on a Sunday. I go and see my 'Spiritual Director' every couple of months and spend a whole morning in prayer. These are all important, but it turns out that the regular, daily diet of prayer is the most important thing. When I get that right, the sense of God's presence and calling in my life is just so much stronger.

John Butler, in his article last month quoted David Wilkinson saying that "the more I pray the more coincidences seem to happen". Unsurprisingly, the more time we spend with God in prayer, the more we are able to see his presence in our lives and in the world. The trick is finding the right way of praying, and that 'right way' will be different for each and every one of us.

Rev Charlotte Gale, 18 January

SAFEGUARDING – AN UPDATE

Safeguarding is about looking after vulnerable people, but who is vulnerable? The law says that its children under 18 and any Adult who is at risk of being taken advantage of. It's easy to see why children are vulnerable and perhaps adults with severe mental or physical disabilities but we can all be vulnerable at times in our lives, when we are sick or grieving or just in a bad place.

In the past allegations have not always been taken seriously or maybe they have been just ignored – you only have to look at the newspaper headlines to see what awful things have happened.

So something has to change. In July 2016 the General Synod approved proposals intended to make the Church a safer place for children and vulnerable adults. Some of the changes introduced are:

- A safer recruitment process
- New ways of responding to serious safeguarding concerns of church officers
- Risk Assessments for individual who may post a risk to children or adults
- A national learning and development framework on safeguarding



Here at St Mary Magdalene's this will mean we have to review our practices including:

- safe recruitment of volunteers and staff,
- training for all those involved with children and adults at risk,
- ensure that recordkeeping is compliant with national standards and
- ensure that even external groups on church premises meet certain standards.

During 2017 you will see or hear things happening, mostly to do with the new ways of 'recruiting' volunteers. Essentially we have to assure ourselves that anyone undertaking a volunteer role with children or vulnerable adults is safe to do so. This will involve a

simple application form, taking up references and where appropriate applying for Disclosure & Barring Service check (DBS). The Diocese has asked us to put a plan in place to retrospectively check all other current volunteers who work with children and adults at risk.

Many volunteers will have to undertake the training which is being offered by the Diocese at various locations around Coventry and Warwickshire (it's only a couple of hours every 3 years – not exactly onerous!). For some this will be compulsory but for others it is up to you whether you want to go. You will be advised whether or not you have to do it!

Recordkeeping has become much more important; so things like allegations of abuse, Risk Assessments, Employment and Disciplinary records/notes will be kept, and kept securely.

This is going to be a busy time, so we have also appointed a Deputy PSO – Maureen Reynolds. Maureen has much experience in working with children and has familiarity with the safeguarding process in schools. She will be a great asset to our church in helping and understanding what needs to be done.

So if you get asked to come along to a safeguarding event or fill in an application – please do it gladly and don't get grumpy with us!

And even if you don't get involved in children's work or help vulnerable adults, you still have eyes and ears. Reporting what you have seen or heard to Maureen or myself (in confidence) is vital. Sometimes the old adage is true "Everybody thought that Somebody, was doing Something and in the end Nobody did Anything." So be somebody and do something!



Remember Safeguarding is about looking after our children, our friends and our neighbours – IT IS EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY. DOING NOTHING IS NOT AN OPTION

Carol Innes – Parish Safeguarding Officer



Love Lillington Newsletter – 2017

Being a trustee of a small charity for the benefit of local people is something I take very seriously. This Victorian Charity administered by Lillington Parish Church has been operating quietly, with very limited funds for many years. I have been a trustee for the past twenty or so years, but the new developments have really excited me.

Since Revd. Charlotte Gale had the idea of extending this charity into 'Love Lillington' it has really taken off. After much preparatory work the whole scheme was launched in January 2016 and has flourished. Greater involvement with Health and Social Services professionals has brought forth an increased number of requests and referrals, and the increased giving of funds by members of the church and other well-wishers has made it possible to say yes to these.

We have provided carpets, cookers, bedding, warm clothes and a mobile phone. Some gifts are simply delivered to the Referrers to pass on, but we have paid for a skip to remove accumulated rubbish, and tools and materials for improving gardens and cheering up interiors. The Love Lillington Action Team has worked tirelessly in achieving this.

All this work is supported by a Prayer Network and we have experienced the power of prayer in leading us into places where we can be useful and giving us the strength to help people in great need. No names are ever used but we pray for the individuals we help, that they will have the strength to overcome their problems and lead a more fulfilling life.

We firmly believe that this is a worthwhile project and if we can 'make a difference' to any of our neighbours we are happy to do this.

*Charlotte Sanders
Trustee and Lead Volunteer "Grants For Lillington"*



WALKERS GROUP

January 2017 walk

On Saturday, 7th January, 9 of us drove to the car park on Quarry Lane at the Southern edge of Hay Wood, near Baddesley Clinton House.

From here we walked through Hay Wood. initially on a good estate track, but later on a rather muddy bridleway. Exit from the wood to the Knowle to Warwick main road (A4141) was via Wood Corner Farm; we then followed the main road towards Wroxall village, turning right on an estate track along the edge of the grounds of Wroxall Abbey, now a Hotel.

There were good open views of the Wroxall Abbey estate, except when we had to skirt a wood to gain access to a field exit where we took a short break.

When we passed into the next field, heading back towards Hay Wood, we heard the sound of game shooting in an adjacent wood. By the time we met someone emerging from the wood, to enquire whether we would be safe on the path, the shoot was apparently over. There had been no warning signs on the path.

We eventually came to Quarry Lane, not far from the corner of Hay Wood where we had started. On this occasion, however, we soon turned left on the road to Rowington, following it until we reached a path heading back towards Baddesley Clinton House. The later part of this forms part of the property's perimeter walk, which may be of interest to National Trust members. We saw pens remaining from a recent sheep dipping exercise around here.

The path ended at Baddesley Clinton church, outside where we posed for a group photograph (kindly taken by Roderick Clark). It was a short walk from here back to our parking place; once there we drove to the Tom o'the Wood pub at Rowington for an enjoyable lunch.



Bob Cooke

STAINED GLASS WINDOWS (OCT 2016) - AN UPDATE

Two for the price of one this month!



Back in October the stained glass window article featured the West End of the North Wall, a window which was dedicated to Sarah Mapplebeck by her husband Edward. The article posed a question"

The window is dedicated to Sarah Mapplebeck by her husband Edward. It also commemorates Gordon W. Mapplebeck (presumably her son – can anyone confirm this?).

Well, I'm pleased to say we have an answer!

"The October 2016 edition of your excellent parish magazine contains a short article about the Tower stained glass window in your church.

My family has a connection with the Mapplebecks and I read with interest that Mr David Eason has been researching Great War personnel, including Gordon Whitfield Mapplebeck.

Very briefly, the answer to the question whether Sarah (née Wilkes) was Gordon's mother is yes. There is at least one other fine stained glass window dedicated to a member of the Wilkes family and this is to be found in Packwood Church. The Packwood window was designed by John Hardman Powell, son-in-law and pupil of Augustus Welby Pugin."

Nessie's Note: Unfortunately I was unable to find an image of the Packwood window but if you are interested in visiting Saint Giles, it is located in Solihull, B94 6PU.

Information provided by Mr Andrew Rose

STAINED GLASS WINDOWS

NORTH AISLE

Our final window is in the north wall, next to the door leading to the choir vestry.

The left hand panel portrays Jesus as the Good Shepherd. He is wearing a gold coloured cloak and carries a lamb in his right hand and a shepherd's crook in his left. At his feet are two more sheep, one of them with horns. At the bottom of this panel are the words, "I am the Good Shepherd."

The right hand panel shows Jesus, dressed in a red cloak, knocking at a door. In his left hand he is carrying a book and his right foot is raised on to the doorstep. The inscription below is, "I stand at the door and knock." In the trefoil at the top of the window is an angel bearing a scroll with the words, "Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord."



In loving memory of Frances Margaret Frederica and Sarah Jane, daughters of the late Lt. Col. T. Richmond Gale Braddyll of Coniston Priory, Lancs. AD 1896.

The Bishop of Worcester, in whose diocese Lillington then was, granted the Faculty for this window on 12th May 1896. The window was the gift of Georgiana Braddyll, spinster, of Birkdale, Southport.

Special thanks go to John Nutt who did much of the research for Crosstalk in 2000, I merely copied much of his work.

Carol Innes

COMING SOON - NEW BCD MODULE
At St Mary Magdalene's. FOC to church members.
Don't forget to put the date in your diaries.



Jesus taught us to love one another and to love our neighbour as ourselves. But what does that mean in the messiness of everyday life? How are we to understand the ethical teaching of the Bible? In this module you will explore the ethical framework of the Bible and think about what it means for how we should live, respond to issues and engage with the world.

Dates and Time: Monday evenings, 7:00-9:30pm, 27th February - 27th March

Venue: St Mary Magdalene Lillington, The Octagon, Vicarage Road, Leamington Spa, CV32 7RH

To register, please go

to: www.dioceseofcoventry.org/BCDMregister

WHAT'S ON

FEBRUARY 2017

Sat 4	9:30	Walkers Group meets outside Church. Contact Godfrey & Caroline Carr. Tel: 422916
Tue 14	18:30	Knitting Group in the Octagon
Mon 27	07:00	BCD Module- <i>Intro to Christian Ethics</i> Octagon
Tue 28	18:30	Knitting Group in the Octagon

MARCH 2017

Sat 4	9:30	Walkers Group meets outside Church. Contact John & Sue Hollins tel 773919
Mon 6	07:00	BCD Module- <i>Intro to Christian Ethics</i> Octagon
Sun 12	18:15	Youth Group
Mon 13	07:00	BCD Module- <i>Intro to Christian Ethics</i> Octagon
Tue 14	18:30	Knitting Group in the Octagon
Mon 20	07:00	BCD Module- <i>Intro to Christian Ethics</i> Octagon
Tue 21	18:45	Lillington and Cubbington Churches 2Gether Prayer @ Lillington Free Church
Mon 27	07:00	BCD Module- <i>Intro to Christian Ethics</i> Octagon
Tue 28	18:30	Knitting Group in the Octagon
Tue 28	14:00	Tea & Chat in the Octagon

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

LOVE QUOTES

- © All you need is LOVE. But a little chocolate now and then doesn't hurt. **Charles Schulz**
- © LOVE is the greatest refreshment in life. **Pablo Picasso**
- © As God by creation made two of one, so again by marriage he made one of two. **Thomas Adams**

SERVICE DETAILS

SUNDAY WORSHIP - FEBRUARY 2017

Feb 5	08:00	Holy Communion
	09:30	Morning Praise (All Age)
	18:30	Evensong
Feb 12	08:00	Holy Communion
	09:30	Confirmation Service
	18:30	Youth Group
Feb 19	08:00	Holy Communion
	09:30	Holy Communion
	18:30	Rejoicing Together
Feb 26	08:00	Holy Communion
	9:30	Holy Communion

A Time for Quiet and Prayer
Monday – Thursday, 12.00 – 1.00 pm
(Please use main entrance)

**“God speaks in the silence of the heart.
Listening is the beginning of prayer.”**

Mother Teresa

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 th February	13:30	Holy Communion
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THE CHURCH OFFICE

The office is open Monday to Thursday 9.00am till 1.00pm.

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.

COOKING WITH CROSSTALK

February - Chinese New Year

Regional customs and traditions concerning the celebration of the Chinese New Year vary widely. Often, the evening preceding Chinese New Year's Day is an occasion for Chinese families to gather for the annual reunion dinner. It is also traditional for every family to thoroughly cleanse the house, in order to sweep away any ill-fortune and to make way for good incoming luck. 2017 symbolises the year of the Rooster.



Ken Hom's steamed fish Cantonese style recipe

A wonderfully light Chinese main course from Ken Hom, using firm white fish and plenty of flavourings. **Serves:** 4

450g (15.9 oz) firm white fish fillets, such as cod or sole or salmon fillets, or a whole fish such as sole or turbot
1 tsp coarse sea salt or plain salt
1½ tbsp fresh ginger, finely shredded/

For the garnish

3 tablespoons spring onions, finely shredded
2 tbsp Kikkomann soy sauce
1 tbsp groundnut oil
2 tsp sesame oil
1 cup fresh coriander sprigs

1. If you are using a whole fish, remove the gills. Pat the fish or fish fillets dry with kitchen paper. Rub with the salt on both sides, and then set aside for 30 minutes. This helps the flesh to firm up and draws out any excess moisture.
2. Next set up a steamer or put a rack into a wok or deep pan and fill it with 5 cm (2 inches) of water. Bring the water to the boil over a high heat. Put the fish on a heat proof plate and scatter the ginger evenly over the top. Put the plate of fish into the steamer or onto the rack.
3. Cover the pan tightly and gently steam the fish until it is just cooked. Flat fish will take about 5 minutes to cook. Thicker fish or fillets such as sea bass will take 12-14 minutes.
4. Remove the plate of cooked fish and sprinkle on the spring onions and light and dark soy sauces.
5. Heat the two oils together in a small saucepan. When they are hot and smoking pour the hot oil on top of the fish, garnish with the coriander sprigs.
6. Serve at once.

Ken Hom's Egg-Fried Rice

Serves: 6

Basic Steamed Rice

400ml volume long grain white rice

600ml water

Egg-Fried Rice

2 large eggs, lightly beaten

2 tsp sesame oil

1 tsp salt

2 tbsp groundnut oil

1 quantity steamed rice

¼ tsp freshly ground black pepper

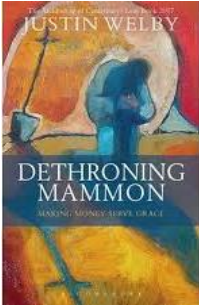
2 salad onions, finely chopped

1. Wash and drain the rice and put in a heavy-based saucepan with the water and bring to the boil. Boil for about 5 minutes until most of the liquid has evaporated. The surface of the rice should have small steam holes.
2. Cover the pan with a very tight-fitting lid. Turn the heat as low as possible and let the rice cook, undisturbed, for 15 minutes. Let it rest off the heat for 5 minutes before spreading out on a plate. Leave the rice to cool down completely.
3. When you're ready to cook the fried rice, put the eggs, sesame oil and half the amount of salt in a small jug, beat together with a fork and then set aside. Heat a wok over a high heat. Then add the groundnut oil, and when it is very hot and slightly smoking, add the cold, cooked rice. Stir-fry for 3 minutes until all the grains are thoroughly heated through.
4. Drizzle in the egg and oil mixture and continue to stir-fry for 2-3 minutes or until the eggs have set and the mixture is dry.
5. Add the remaining salt and the pepper and stir-fry for 2 minutes longer, then toss in the salad onions. Stir several times, turn the rice mixture out onto a platter or into individual bowls, and serve at once.

Next month: We celebrate International Women's Day – Russian style.

DID YOU KNOW?

Chinese food has *5 Key Flavours* that must be balanced according to Traditional Chinese Medicine – sweet, salty, bitter and spicy?



Dethroning Mammon: making money serve grace. The Archbishop of Canterbury's Lent Book 2017, *Bloomsbury Continuum*, £9.99

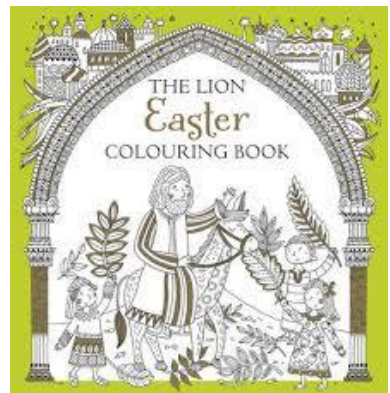
In his first full-length book Justin Welby looks at the subject of money and materialism. *Dethroning Mammon* reflects on the impact of our own attitudes, and of the pressures that surround us, on how we handle the power of money, called Mammon in this book. Who will direct our actions and attitudes? Is it Jesus Christ, who brings truth, hope and freedom? Or is it Mammon, so attractive, so clear, but leading us into paths that tangle, trip and deceive?

Archbishop Justin explores the tensions that arise in a society dominated by Mammon's modern aliases, economics and finance, and by the pressures of our culture to conform to Mammon's expectations. Following the Gospels towards Easter, this book asks the reader what it means to dethrone Mammon in the values and priorities of our civilisation and in our own existence. In *Dethroning Mammon*, Archbishop Justin encourages us to use Lent as a time of learning to trust in the abundance and grace of God.



The Lion Easter Colouring Book By Antonia Jackson, Felicity French, Lion £4,99

Join the colouring craze and add a splash of colour to the story of Easter with these beautiful and intricate black and white line drawings, just waiting for your creative input! Follow the Easter story scene by scene until you have a stunning masterpiece - your own personalised picture book.



CHARITY OF THE MONTH-UNHCR

Over the last year we have all watched news items on Syria with utter despair and when the charity group met to discuss how to distribute the money available for 2017 we all agreed that something had to be done to help the people of Syria.



The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees is a charity that I knew very little about until last year. I had been fortunate enough to pay a visit to Hampton Court Flower Show and there were several conceptual gardens there several of which were depicting the work of various charities. They were all very

beautiful and then suddenly we came across one that was very different which was the one representing the UNHCR border control garden.

There was a circular fence topped by barbed wire and a turnstile entrance. Outside the fence there was rubble and half dead plants amongst which were life jackets, children's shoes, discarded clothing etc representing the difficulties people face while trying to escape conflict and danger to reach safety. Inside the fence was a mixture of plants from different parts of the world planted together which represented different cultures living together. It was very poignant and many people were in tears.

As we see the awful images of the suffering in Syria we all feel helpless but organisations such as the UNHCR are able to help so who are they?

The UNHCR was set up in 1950 to help millions of Europeans who had fled or lost their homes after the Second World War and were given 3 years to complete their work and were awarded the Nobel

Peace Prize in 1954. Over 66 years later the organisation is still working to help and protect refugees all around the world. The start of the 21st century has seen them help with major crises in Africa, Middle East and Asia. 4 million people have fled Syria since 2011 seeking safety in Jordan, Lebanon and Iraq. Millions more are displaced inside Syria.

The UNHCR and partners are focussing on immediate assistance in Aleppo. Priorities are shelter, food, fuel, winter clothing, water and sanitation for a population scarred by years of conflict. £500 is being donated to UNHCR by St Mary Magdalene's Church as part of our charitable giving this year. If you wish you can add to that by putting your donation in one of the yellow envelopes and writing UNHCR on the front,

You can find out more about the work of the UNHCR by looking at their web site UNHCR.org

Gaynor Cook

ST VALENTINE'S DAY



There are two confusing things about this day of romance and anonymous love-cards strewn with lace, cupids and ribbon: firstly, there seems to have been two different Valentines in the 4th century - one a priest martyred on the Flaminian Way, under the emperor Claudius, the other a bishop of Terni martyred at Rome. And neither seems to have had any clear connection with lovers or courting couples.

So why has Valentine become the patron saint of romantic love? By Chaucer's time the link was assumed to be because on these saints' day -14 February - the birds are supposed to pair. Or perhaps the custom of seeking a partner on St Valentine's Day is a surviving scrap of the old Roman Lupercalia festival, which took place in the middle of February. One of the Roman gods honoured during this Festival was Pan, the god of nature. Another was Juno, the goddess of women and marriage. During the Lupercalia it was a popular custom for young men to draw the name of a young unmarried woman from a name-box. The two would then be partners or 'sweethearts' during the time of the celebrations. Even

modern Valentine decorations bear an ancient symbol of love - Roman cupids with their bows and love-arrows.

There are no churches in England dedicated to Valentine, but since 1835 his relics have been claimed by the Carmelite church in Dublin.

THE VERY FIRST VALENTINE CARD - A LEGEND

The Roman Emperor Claudius II needed soldiers. He suspected that marriage made men want to stay at home with their wives, instead of fighting wars, so he outlawed marriage.

A kind-hearted young priest named Valentine felt sorry for all the couples who wanted to marry, but couldn't. So secretly he married as many couples as he could - until the Emperor found out and condemned him to death. While he was in prison awaiting execution, Valentine showed love and compassion to everyone around him, including his jailer. The jailer had a young daughter who was blind, but through Valentine's prayers, she was healed. Just before his death in Rome on 14 February, he wrote her a farewell message signed 'From your Valentine.

So the very first Valentine card was not between lovers, but between a priest about to die, and a little girl, healed through his prayers.

The first recorded association of Valentine Day with romantic love (1382) is from Geoffrey Chaucer. He wrote, 'For this was Saint Valentine's Day, when every bird cometh there to choose his mate.' This poem was in honour of the first anniversary of the engagement of King Richard II of England to Anne of Bohemia. Valentine Day is referred to by Ophelia in Hamlet (1600-1601).

*To-morrow is St Valentine's day
All in the morning betime
And I a maid at your window
To be your Valentine.*



ADVANCE NOTICE - SUMMER PLANT FAIR!!

SUNDAY 4th JUNE 2017



Instead of our traditional summer fair we are planning something different this year: A SUMMER PLANT FAIR

For this to be successful we need your support and plenty of plants to sell, so could you help us in one or more of the following ways:

1. Growing annual flowers and vegetables
2. Propagating existing plants through cuttings and divisions
3. Planting up pots/hanging baskets for sale.

If you can please sign up on the form in church or contact us directly:

Godfrey and Caroline Carr

Tel 01926 422916 or email:
thecarrs01@virginmedia.com



NEWS RELEASE

Conductor Remembered at Memorial Concert International violinist Callum Smart joins the WSO to perform Beethoven's Violin Concerto

Guy Woolfenden, much loved international musician and acclaimed conductor of the Warwickshire Symphony Orchestra for over 40 years, will be remembered at a special memorial concert on 4th March 2017 at St Mary's Church in Warwick.

The musicians of the Warwickshire Symphony Orchestra will be joined by the young, virtuoso violinist Callum Smart, to perform Beethoven's Violin Concerto. Callum was first invited to perform with the WSO by Guy Woolfenden in 2009 aged just 13. He is currently making an international name for himself and this season makes his debut with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra. The memorial concert programme will also feature Woolfenden's Divertimento, commissioned by the Liverpool Mozart Orchestra and Brahms' Symphony No 1. It will be conducted by the WSO's Principal Conductor, Roger Coull.

Guy Woolfenden OBE (12 July 1937 – 15 April 2016) was born in Ipswich. He was a chorister at Westminster Abbey and went on to study music in Cambridge and the Guildhall School of Music and Drama. In 1961, he joined the Royal Shakespeare Company and was Head of Music there for 25 years during which time he composed music for all of Shakespeare's plays. Alongside this, he was influential in several music festivals, and was also the Chairman of the Denne Gilkes Memorial Fund, a charity which supports young musicians and actors. He was also a prolific composer for both theatre and wind orchestra and had a long association with the WSO as its principal conductor from 1972-2012.

Callum Smart attracted wide public attention at the age of thirteen having won the strings category of the 2010 BBC Young Musicians Competition performing Mendelssohn's *Violin Concerto* with the BBC

National Orchestra of Wales and Vasily Petrenko. Since then he has appeared in a number of European festivals. Following his recent debut with the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra, this season sees Callum make his debut with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra performing Bruch's *Violin Concerto No. 1* under Matthew Halls, and a performance of Bach's *Double Violin Concerto* at the Windsor Festival with Matthew Trusler and the Orpheus Sinfonia.

Raymond Joyce, Chair of WSO and principal horn player said, 'Guy was such a huge influence on the WSO as our conductor for 40 years. We felt that having Callum to join us for this concert was a fitting tribute, as well as including Guy's Divertimento, which has become a real favourite for the orchestra.'

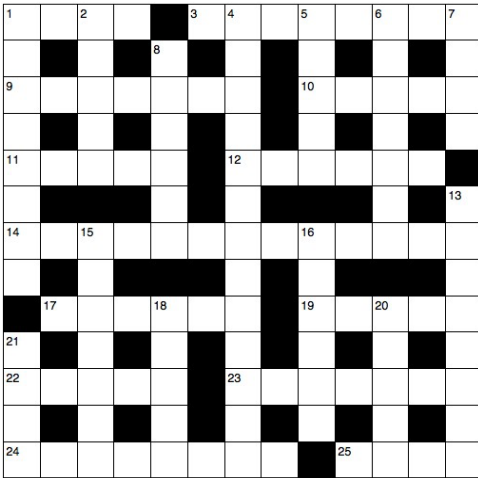
This is a concert for all the family with ticket prices of £14 & £18 for adults and half price for students and children. Tickets are available from Presto Classical in Leamington, from www.wso.org.uk or by calling the ticket secretary on 01926 850385.

About Warwickshire Symphony Orchestra

The WSO has been performing in Leamington since 1940, and as the Leamington Orchestral society before that. Its players are drawn from all over the county and beyond. The Royal Spa Centre was the orchestra's regular venue following its opening in 1972 with a concert given by the WSO. More recently the orchestra has played in the Guy Nelson Hall and in the churches of St. Mary, Warwick and All Saints, Leamington Spa.



CROSSWORD



Across

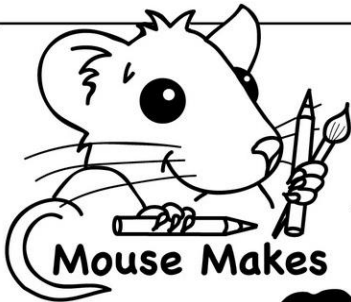
- 1** Salary (Isaiah 19:10) (4)
3 Question Jesus asked of those healed of leprosy, 'Were not all ten — ?' (Luke 17:17) (8)
9 Wide, elevated level area of land (Joshua 13:9) (7)
10 'So you also must be — , because the Son of Man will come... when you do not expect him' (Matthew 24:44) (5)
11 '[He] said to the man, "Stretch out your hand." He — — , and his hand was completely restored' (Luke 6:10) (3,2)
12 'Who has gathered up the wind in the — of his hand?' (Proverbs 30:4) (6)
14 Not born again (13)
17 'Again and again he — the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins' (Hebrews 10:11) (6)
19 Mails (anag.) (5)
22 'He — — here; he has risen' (Matthew 28:6) (2,3)
23 Defeated (Judges 20:43) (7)
24 Soldiers' quarters (Acts 21:34) (8)

25 'Pillars of marble' were how the Beloved described those of her Lover (Song of Songs 5:15) (4)

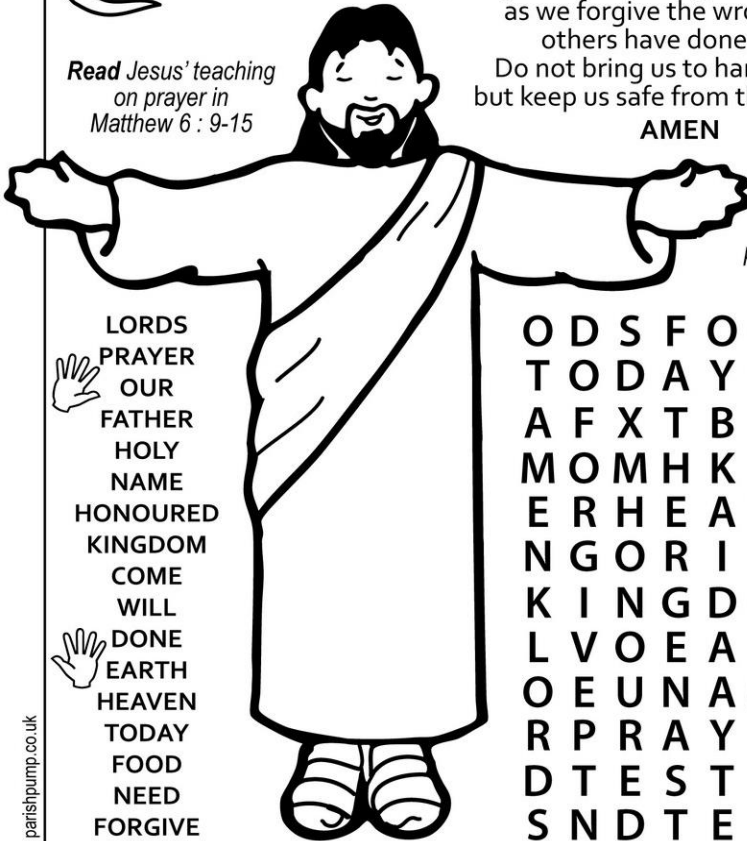
Down

- 1** Totally destroyed (Genesis 7:23) (5,3)
2 What the Philippian jailer was told to do with his prisoners Paul and Silas (Acts 16:23) (5)
4 Object of ridicule (Job 12:4) (8-5)
5 In most years, the month in which Easter falls (5)
6 For example, Caesarea, Joppa, Tyre, Sidon (7)
7 '[Jesus] was in the desert for forty — , being tempted by Satan' (Mark 1:13) (4)
8 'Hallelujah! Salvation and glory and power — to our God' (Revelation 19:1) (6)
13 Mend dots (anag.) (8)
15 Purifier (Malachi 3:3) (7)
16 Attacked (1 Samuel 27:8) (6)
18 The good Samaritan to the innkeeper: 'When I return, I will reimburse you for any — expense you may have' (Luke 10:35) (5)
20 How Matthew described the crowds who followed Jesus (Matthew 4:25) (5)
21 For example, one of 25 Across (Judges 19:29) (4)

JUNIOR CROSSTALK



Read Jesus' teaching
on prayer in
Matthew 6 : 9-15



THE LORD'S PRAYER
Our Father in heaven:
May your holy name be honoured;
may your Kingdom come;
may your will be done on earth
as it is in heaven.
Give us today the food we need.
Forgive us the wrongs we have done,
as we forgive the wrongs that
others have done to us.
Do not bring us to hard testing,
but keep us safe from the Evil One.

AMEN

Write a
prayer of
praise to God

LORDS
PRAYER
OUR
FATHER
HOLY
NAME
HONOURED
KINGDOM
COME
WILL
DONE
EARTH
HEAVEN
TODAY
FOOD
NEED
FORGIVE
WRONGS
TESTING
SAFE
EVIL
AMEN

ODS FOODH
TODAYGCW
AFXTBPOR
MOMHKVMO
ERHEAVEN
NGORISBG
KINGDOMS
LVOEARTH
OEUNAMEO
RPRAYERS
DTESTING
SNDTEHLF
AEOTVOUR
FENWILLD
EDEHLYGR

Can you find all
the words from
the list in the
wordsearch?



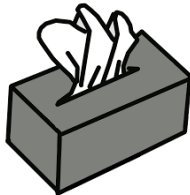
COUGHS & SNEEZES

February seems to be the coldest time of the year – and most of us get a cold, complete with runny nose and sore throat.

Well, 3rd February is the right day to have a sore throat because it is St Blaise's Day. Legend says that St Blaise was on his way to be martyred when he saw a young child choking with a fishbone stuck in his throat. The saint touched the child and the bone was dislodged. This led to a custom of Blessing the Throats on St Blaise's Day which continues today in one London church.

Another way to celebrate the day was with big bonfires (before the Bonfire Night we keep in November was thought of) and that is probably why we say that bonfires blaze.

So you can sit in front of a blazing fire, sniffing into a tissue and think about the patron saint of sore throats.

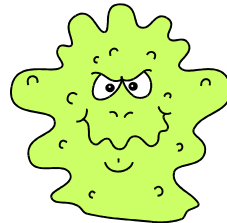


A COLD PUZZLE

All the words hidden in this word-search are to do with winter sniffles. Can you find them all?

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

cold fever flu hankie influenza
linctus medicine nose pill
shivers sniffles tablet throat
tissues winter



What happen if your nose runs and your feet smell?

You're built upside down!

What sort of transport gives people colds?

A-choo-choo-trains.



NOTES FROM NESSIE

I'm always amazed at how quickly the months go by, yet here we are in February already! I hope by now you have all settled nicely back into your routines?

I would like to say '**Thank you**' to Mr Andrew Rose for taking the time and trouble to contact us with some more information regarding the Stained Glass article in our October issue. You will find a snippet of the original article, and Mr Rose's response on **Page 11** of this issue.

Page 13 gives you details of a forthcoming BCD Module which, if you are a member of this church, will be **free of charge!** Do consider signing up for this course, there's always something new to discover.

Finally, you may remember in our December issue *Maggie the Mouse* was hidden somewhere. Well last month I forgot to let you know, oops! She was hiding on page 27 in the cartoon with Santa and the 3 wise men, if you look closely at the bottom of the head dress of the wise man next to Santa you will see Maggie!

See you next month ☺

Nessie,
Editor

DEADLINE

Copy for the February 2017 edition is required by
15th Feb 2017 to Vanessa at
magazine@lillingtonparishchurch.org

CROSSWORD ANSWERS

ACROSS: 1, Wage. 3, Cleansed. 9, Plateau. 10, Ready. 11, Did so. 12, Hollow. 14, Unregenerated. 17, Offers. 19, Islam. 22, Is not. 23, Overran. 24, Barracks. 25, Legs.

DOWN: 1, Wiped out. 2, Guard. 4, Laughing-stock. 5, April. 6, Seaport. 7, Days. 8, Belong. 13, Oddments. 15, Refiner. 16, Raided. 18, Extra. 20, Large. 21, Limb.

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Parish website: www.lillingtonparishchurch.org



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