

June and July 2022



GRIDIRON

The Magazine of the Parish Church of
Saint Laurence Upminster

£1



Pentecost – 5th June 2022

Service times

Sundays		Weekdays	
Holy Communion	08.00	Wednesday	Morning Prayer 08.45
Sung Parish Mass	09.30		Mass 11.00
Sunday Schools	09.30		Evening Prayer 16.30
Evensong	18.30		
<i>(see Parish Diary for details)</i>			

Footsteps

This Service for pre-school children and grown-ups normally takes place monthly on a Monday at 09.45 in the Lady Chapel. The next service is on **Monday 27th June**.



Additional services on Saints' Days are shown in the Diary in the back pages.

Baptisms and Wedding Banns

These are administered during public services.
Please contact the Parish Office to make arrangements.

Confessions

By appointment with the clergy.

**Please inform the Parish Office, Revd Susannah or
Deborah Masterson of anyone who is ill
or in need of a pastoral visit.**

See back pages for useful telephone contact numbers

www.upminsterparish.co.uk

Parish Office ☎ 01708 220696

parish.office@upminsterparish.co.uk

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From the Rector

As this edition of 'Gridiron' is published, we will be marking the Queen's Platinum Jubilee – an extraordinary milestone in both the Queen's own life and the life of our country. Hopefully the weather will be kind and the various celebrations planned both nationally and locally will be able to go ahead as planned.

In marking the Platinum Jubilee, we are of course not simply marking a long life or a list of many remarkable achievements, but a life of vocation and service. In many public statements, particularly in her Christmas speeches, the Queen has been very clear about the wholly foundational role of faith in her life. She clearly has a strong faith, and a conviction that her life as our monarch is a vocation - a life lived in response to God. She has sought to live out the meaning of the anointing given at her Coronation, by which she was consecrated for the particular office asked of her, and at which this prayer of blessing was offered:

Our Lord Jesus Christ,
the Son of God,
who by his Father was anointed with the Oil of gladness
above his fellows,
by his holy Anointing pour down upon your Head and Heart
the blessing of the Holy Ghost,
and prosper the works of your Hands:
that by the assistance of his heavenly grace
you may govern and preserve
the Peoples committed to your charge
in wealth, peace, and godliness;
and after a long and glorious course
of ruling a temporal kingdom
wisely, justly, and religiously,
you may at last be made partaker of an eternal kingdom,
through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Many of us have only known, or largely only known, the current Queen as our monarch. It is quite extraordinary to consider the pace of change in society and the world during her reign, not least the many developments in science and technology. She is someone who has shown a willingness to change and adapt

herself, and yet has preserved a remarkable constancy of commitment, faith and service.

As we celebrate this Platinum Jubilee, may it be both a moment of thanksgiving, celebration and community, and also an opportunity to reflect upon Christian vocation – that of the Queen, and that of ourselves and others. The ‘yes’ of a lifelong vocation is built upon making particular commitments and responses every day; in reflecting upon the ways in which the Queen has embodied this, may we also be led to reflect upon how we live our lives as a living response to God, and how we best enable and support others to do the same.

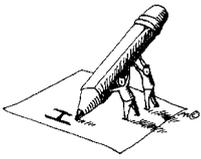
Susannah

Carole's retirement



Carole has been our Halls Bookings Secretary for over 11 years and decided to retire from the position. As usual, St Laurence provided a cake, made with the usual expert skill by Jean and Sarah Keen. She will be a hard act to follow!

The new secretary is Becky Perchard and we wish her well in her new role.



From the Editors

Dear Readers

Pentecost has arrived where we celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit and then move through Corpus Christi and onwards towards the Sundays after Trinity. A time for reflection after Easter.

As the weather improves, it gives us a chance to get out and about and reconnect with the world. Hopefully Covid-19 is now under control and people can meet up with those they have missed over the last 2 years. Sadly, some people will have gone from our lives, and we may need this time to remember them.

As the world continues to turn, please hold in your prayers those in the Ukraine and Russia.

The Queen's celebration of her Platinum Jubilee is being marked by St Laurence with a cream tea to be held at 4pm on Sunday 5th June. Fingers crossed that the weather is kind on that day!

Arlette Wiggins, Editor.

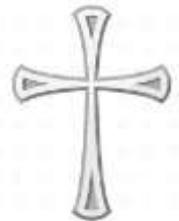
From the Parish Registers

FUNERAL

We offer our deepest sympathy to the family and friends of:

30 March Anthony Bruce Mason Latham

26 April Sharon Latimer



August and September Magazine Deadline

Items for inclusion in the **August and September** edition of *Gridiron* should reach the editorial team by **8th July**. We would prefer to receive items by e-mail at gridiron@upminsterparish.co.uk. Paper copy is acceptable but should be submitted to us as early as possible. The **August and September** Magazine will be on sale from **31st July**.

Where there's muck there's.....Gold!

by Rob Brabner

The Friends of the Old Chapel have resumed monthly meetings. However, their 'Tea & Talks' series are now being held at the Roope Hall, Trinity URC Church in Station Road. Unfortunately the Old Chapel is now out of action whilst repairs are being carried out due to subsidence to the new extension at the back of the Chapel.

Recently, Martin Lewis (no, not the one who provides financial advice on TV) presented a talk to the Friends on the 'Tidal Thames', an enjoyable talk full of information and stories from the history and various locations along the river.

He did slightly wander off location for one story; however, it was worth telling. Although there is no proof that it is true, Martin Lewis has had confirmation from a friend who works in the Bank of England, that it is believed inside the Bank that there is truth in the story that follows.

'The Old Lady of Threadneedle Street' - perhaps these days it is 'politically' incorrect, but the Bank of England has always taken great pride in that it has never been robbed, at least in a physical robbery, though these days there are different sorts of robberies with online transactions etc.



The Bank has been at its present site on Threadneedle Street since 1734 and the building conceals eight subterranean vaults filled with gold. It is reported to hold an estimated £100 billion of gold and to be the second largest keeper of gold in the world, with the New York Federal Reserve being number one.

This colossal wealth is stored in the form of 400,000 thick gold bars weighing just over 12kg each and the collective weight some 5,134 tons, hence the need to spread this weight over eight different vaults to prevent it sinking into the ground.

Back in 1836 the directors of the Bank of England received an anonymous letter, in which the writer claimed that he had direct access to the gold in the bank. At the time the directors ignored this, presuming it to be a hoax.

However, a little later they received a further letter, in which the writer offered to meet them at an hour of their choosing inside the main gold vault.

Although the directors were intrigued by this they still firmly believed that it was impossible to break in without their knowledge, but they thought it prudent to go along with the suggestion and so arranged an evening for meeting their intruder.

At the appointed time they were shocked to find a man emerging from a loose flagstone. I guess it was a further shock to their dignity that the man who emerged was a sewer worker. The man had been working on repairs close to the Bank site, and he had discovered an old drain that led directly to the gold vault inside the Bank.

For those of us with an imagination it recalls the story of Howard Carter breaking into the Tutankhamun tomb, and being asked from behind 'What can you see?' and Carter, overwhelmed for the moment, replied 'Wonderful things!'. When he first broke in, the sewer work must have seen a breathtaking sight - countless gold bars and within reach.

The directors of the Bank were thoroughly embarrassed, but they soon realised that the sewer worker had not taken anything. Indeed he had been completely honest. As a result the directors gifted him £800, an astonishing £80,000 in today's money, which also no doubt included a 'hush' clause to protect the Directors' embarrassment,

The sewer worker was never named, but whoever he was, he would certainly never need to continue his living in those revolting subterranean tunnels.

(Addition information from 'The Vintage News' website.)

Saint Anselm (Archbishop and Doctor of the Church)

by Rob Brabner

Her Majesty the Queen was born on 21st April and shares this date with St Anselm, who is commemorated by the Church on that day.

In some ways this could be considered rather inappropriate, as Anselm was twice exiled from England, firstly by King William (Rufus) II and then by King

Henry I. So Anselm was an Archbishop who, on occasion, earned the ire of England's rulers. Of course, that wouldn't happen in today's world....

Anselm was born in 1033/4 in or near Aosta, Upper Burgundy, which is now part of Italy. He left home at the age of 23 and eventually decided to become a monk. He came under the influence of the Benedictine order.

Anselm was appointed Abbot of Bec in France in 1078. The Bec Monastery held lands in England as well as France, so Anselm was no stranger to England when King William (Rufus) II nominated Anselm to the See of Canterbury in 1093. It is said that Anselm was reluctant to take up the nomination for Canterbury, citing age. He would then have been 60 or 61, which would have been quite a senior age in the 11th century. Anselm was keen to ensure that his clergy were pure and faithful, and that they had entirely surrendered themselves to God for the sake of the Holy Church.

Anselm's priests were to be living examples to the faithful, as all priests ought to be. It also follows that all faithful laity should follow their example. A simple message but, for most of us, a real challenge to live the life of the gospel, and although we fall short, we must keep trying.

St Anselm died in 1109 on 21st April.

One of the beautiful prayers he left us;-

We bring before Thee, O lord,
the troubles and perils of peoples and nations,
the sighings of prisoners and captives,
the sorrows of the bereaved,
the necessities of strangers,
the helplessness of the weak,
the despondency of the weary,
the failing powers of the aged.
O Lord draw near to each,
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

References: A Calendar of Catholic Devotion – daily prayers with the Saints by Julien Chilcott-Monk and published by Canterbury Press, Norwich 2008.

Also: Pocket Prayers – The Classic Collection – The National Society & Church House Publishing 1999.

When East Meets West - My Tale of Two Cities through Anglican Church Music

by David Chan

It has been 4 months since I joined the St Laurence's community. It might be unusual to see a Director of Music at church with an Asian face. That comes to my thoughts as I share the bridges between two cultures, my journey in Anglican churches from Hong Kong to UK, especially after Nick's remark of "East Meets West" (which coincidentally is also one of the titles of my music work) during a choir rehearsal. That also recalls my theatre work "Confessions on the Edge", which I take it as my tale of two cities, between London and Hong Kong, after Charles Dickens' classic.



I was born and raised in Hong Kong, a colony of the British Empire from 1841 till 1997. St. Paul's College, the oldest and first Anglican school in Hong Kong, is my alma mater. The school comes with a very strong historic bond with the first Anglican cathedral in Hong Kong, St. John's Cathedral, founded in 1849. For over 150 years (till 2008), all the Asian male choristers at St. John were either studying or graduated from St. Paul's. As such, I was raised at two of the three Anglican cathedrals in Hong Kong during my studies at secondary school and university, where I was nurtured with the liturgical and musical heritage of the Church of England in the Far East.

After relocating to England to study for a Master's Degree, I was first the Director of Music at John Keble Church in North London. The most memorable moment was the choral evensong with the Bishop of London during the Patronal Festival for commemorating the 150th anniversary of John Keble's death. That odyssey further continued after I graduated from the Royal College of Music, when I was the organist at 2 boarding schools around London before the pandemic, then one of the organists at St. Martin-in-the-Fields, after the 3rd lockdown, before joining St Laurence.

Church music is there to serve the message of God. Whilst a good composer builds an extra musical layer, on top of text, to depict and express the message, text in choral music becomes the most important element and singing is the catalyst to further strengthen its power. That is my belief of church music-making which brings the congregation to re-experience the ethos and doctrines of Christianity through music with revitalised experiences.

Altogether, roles at different angles help me to understand myself as a human being.

Life is such a wonderful odyssey and adventure. It is made difficult for all of us, but we can always choose to make others' lives easier.

"I do not ask to see the distant scene, one step enough for me." - John Newman

5th June **Fire of Pentecost** from Parish Pump

'You shall receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you and you will be witnesses to me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria and to the ends of the earth' Acts 1:8

We all get tired and battle weary sometimes. The disciples of Jesus had just been through a three-year long roller coaster adventure with Jesus that had culminated in His death, resurrection and ascension into heaven.

The range of emotions would have been hugely taxing in the days leading up to Pentecost, as they remembered Jesus weeping in the garden of Gethsemane, betrayed by Judas, brutally beaten and crucified, and then dead and buried. Then there had been the shock and awe of finding out that He was alive again! But then He had left them again, to return to His Father. By the time the day of Pentecost arrived, the disciples would indeed have welcomed some fresh spiritual fire!

For us today, many of us have felt emotionally drained with the uncertainties caused by Covid 19, the worry of prices rising at an alarming rate, and now the pain and uncertainty of what will happen in the war in Ukraine.

So, what better day to pray for fresh spiritual fire for each of us? As we celebrate the outpouring of the Holy Spirit and birth of the Church, let us thank God that He will never leave us or forsake us.

Trinity From the Revd Dr Ian Paul's blog
at: <https://www.psephizo.com/revelation/what-does-rev-4-5-tell-us-about-the-trinity/> (dated May 17, 2017)

The Trinity is easier to say than to explain. Christians believe in one God, made up of three equal Persons. It is fundamental to the Nicene Creed, which sets out the definitive doctrine of the Trinity for more than two billion Christians

worldwide, including all Roman Catholics, Eastern Orthodox, Anglicans, Lutherans, Presbyterians and Reformed Christians.

The theologian Ian Paul, writing on the Book of Revelation, points out that chapter five has a wonderful depiction of the Trinity in action. He writes: "...another figure appears in the drama, the lion who looks like a lamb. ... Here is the one who fulfils the hopes of God's people Israel, as the promised anointed Davidic king who was to come. Here is one who is fierce and powerful enough to conquer their enemies, and tear them apart.

"And yet when John sees Him, He is like a weak and vulnerable lamb who has been slaughtered, just as the Passover lamb eaten by the people, the suffering servant who was 'wounded for our transgressions' and the lamb offered as an atoning sacrifice. He is the one who was slain, but now stands, and shares the throne with God, and with Him sends the Spirit to enact His will on earth. Here we have the most explicit (and perhaps the most complex) Trinitarian statement in the whole New Testament."

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News from the Friends of Essex Churches Trust

The News and Annual Report 2022 from the 'Friends' reports on last year's events and the Ride & Stride held last September - and included a picture of our St Laurence 'Striders' which we have previously published in Gridiron.

Ride & Stride 2022 - Saturday 10th September - Note St Laurence do hope that once again we will at least have some 'Striders' to take part and raise some money for both St Laurence and the 'Friends'.

Overall, the Friends awarded repair grants to 13 different churches around the county amounting to £99,500 plus an improvement grant to Holy Trinity, Rayleigh, of £15,000. Churches near St Laurence that have gained grants include St Mary the Virgin, Great Warley, awarded £5,000 for underpinning their porch and St Alban's, Romford, awarded £9,000 following flood damage.

Applications for grants were down on the previous year. No doubt the Covid pandemic would be a major factor but more applications will be expected as conditions improve.

Forthcoming Events

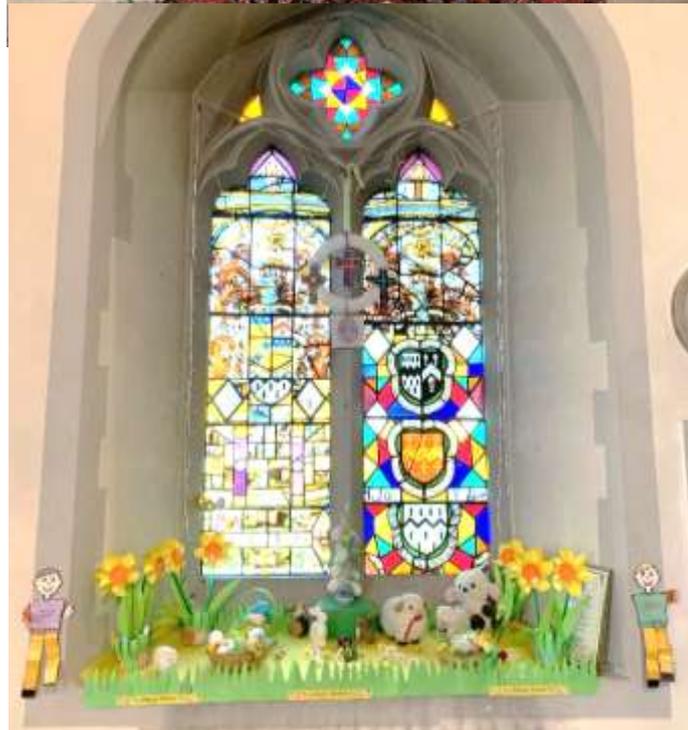
Garden Visit - Thursday 16th June, 2-5pm - Garlands, Steeple Bumpstead. These much admired gardens, not normally open to the public will be opened for all to enjoy. Highlights include the Sicilian garden, Italian garden, stumperies, pleached hedges, herbaceous borders and large landscaped meadow. Also tea and cake included. Apply to Jo Pimblett - tickets are £15 each and cheques, payable to FECEC, should be sent to Parsonage Bury, Henham, Bishops Stortford, Hertfordshire, CM22 6AN Tel No 01279 850150 or 07890 625408 email: pimbletts@btinternet.co.uk.

Gift Fair - Wednesday 5th October at Hylands House, Chelmsford, CM2 8WG. The acclaimed Gift Fair - a great opportunity to buy those special pre-Christmas gifts, also see the historic Hylands House with light lunches and refreshments available.

Autumn Study Day - Saturday 8th October. For those interested in visiting historic churches. The churches are to be confirmed but will include visits to four churches in or around Ingatestone and Stock.

For further information on the above please speak to Rob Brabner or visit the Friends' website at www.friendsof Essex churches.org.uk.

Easter in the church



Father Roy and Jean

On Sunday 24th April we marked Fr Roy's last Sunday of ministry at St Laurence prior to retiring. We gave thanks for all that he and Jean have been and done in Upminster over the past three and a half years, and wished them every blessing as they prepared to move back to Solihull. Following a short speech by Susannah in



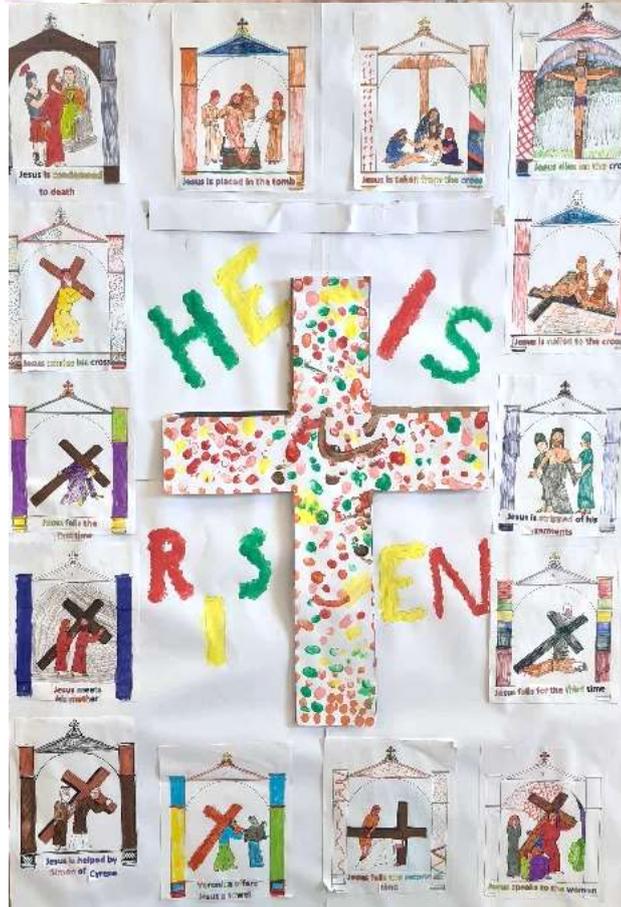
church, they were presented with cards and a gift- and then, in customary St Laurence fashion, we shared cake and wine together in the Hall. Fr Roy and Jean will be much missed but we know that their legacy will continue here,



and are sure that they will be a great blessing to those whom they encounter in the future.



Good Friday



Archbishop Edward White Benson (1829 – 96)

by Rob Brabner

Benson is today remembered for a number of things, primarily, perhaps, for instituting the first 'Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols' whilst he was the first Bishop of Truro, the service was used at Truro Cathedral on Christmas Eve in 1880.

He initially established a career as a schoolmaster at Rugby School and was later chosen by Prince Albert as first Master of Wellington College, Berkshire. He was ordained in 1853 whilst serving at Rugby School.

Interesting that, as a young student at Cambridge, he was a joint founder of The Cambridge Association of Spiritual Inquiry, known informally as the Cambridge Ghost Society or the Ghostlie Guild. It has been described as a predecessor of the Society for Psychical Research. In later life it was recorded by the author Henry James that his famous novella, *The Turn of the Screw*, was inspired by a story he had heard from Benson.

Benson married his second cousin Mary (Minnie) Sidgewick when he was 24 and she was 18. The couple had six children. Their fifth child was the novelist Edward Frederic Benson, remembered for the popular *Mapp and Lucia* novels. Another son was Arthur Christopher Benson, the author of the lyrics of Elgar's *Land of Hope and Glory* and the Master of Magdalene College, Cambridge. Their sixth and youngest child, Robert Hugh Benson, became an Anglican priest though later converted to Roman Catholicism. He wrote many popular novels. Their daughter, Margaret Benson, was an artist, author and Egyptologist. None of the children married. Some appeared to suffer from mental illness, possibly bipolar disorder.

Benson became Archbishop of Canterbury in 1883 and remained Archbishop until his untimely death at the age of 67 in 1896. His time in office covered many disputes and stresses in the Church at the time and the reputation and the influence of the office were constantly growing, both at home and overseas. He appears to have died of heart failure during a visit to the former Prime Minister, William Ewart Gladstone at Hawarden, Wales.



His death came at an unfortunate time for the church. In September that year, the papal bull *Apostolicae curae*, which denied the validity of Anglican orders, was published and Benson had started a reply.

He was buried at Canterbury Cathedral, in a magnificent tomb located at the western end of the nave. The tomb is emblazoned with the epitaph Benson had chosen in Latin script – *Have mercy on me O Christ our God, Through Thy Cross and Passion, deliver thou me.*

Benson's work on St Cyprian, *Cyprian : his life, his times, his work* was published posthumously in the year after his death.

Sources: A Book of English Belief – Bede to Temple chosen by Joanna M Hughes, SCM Press, published 1989 also supporting information from Internet sources.

The Future of the UK's Church Buildings by Rob Brabner

The National Churches Trust have carried out a consultation survey on 'The Future of the UK's Church Buildings'.

An overwhelming majority of people responded by saying that churches are still needed, despite the growth of digital worship during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Other key findings include:

- The primary responsibility for the funding of church buildings should rest with heritage bodies such as the National Lottery Heritage Fund and local church congregations, according to 79% of people taking part in the consultation.
- Many people think that Charitable Trusts and Foundations (73%), Central Government and Devolved Administrations (54%) and Christian denominations (50%) should also shoulder financial responsibility for places of worship.
- There is support for the idea of local people being able to take ownership of a church threatened with closure. 89% of people told the NCT that churches facing closure should become a community asset.

The National Churches Trust have said that they will use the findings and the ideas generated in the consultation survey to continue to discuss with Government and partners in the church and heritage sectors how best to keep

as many churches as possible open and how they may be used to benefit local people.

The survey was answered by 1250 people and was carried out online between November 2021 and February 2022. Key findings are available on the National Churches Trust website, with further analysis of what people told the NCT about church buildings.



On behalf of churches, chapels and meeting houses across the UK, we would like to thank Her Majesty The Queen for being the Royal Patron of the National Churches Trust and the Historic Churches Preservation Trust since 1953.

Churches are impressive, exciting, and surprising places.

Thank you, Your Majesty, for your support which helps us to keep churches open, thriving, and at the heart of local communities.



Yours for good.

nationalchurchestrust.org

Queen's Platinum Jubilee

The UK and Commonwealth will celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee with a four-day Bank Holiday from Thursday 2nd to Sunday 5th June and churches throughout the country will join in on the celebrations - we plan to hold a cream tea on the Sunday - and this is the programme for national events:



Thursday 2nd June: The Queen's Birthday Parade - Trooping the Colour in London and lighting of beacons around the country and Commonwealth.

Friday 3rd June: St Paul's Cathedral Service of Thanksgiving.

Saturday 4th June: The Derby at Epsom Downs, attended by members of the Royal Family, and the Platinum Party at the Palace - a concert broadcast from Buckingham Palace.

Pentecost, Sunday 5th June: Pentecost Sunday services in churches around the country linked to the Platinum Jubilee. Platinum Jubilee Street Parties/Big Jubilee Lunch around the country and The Platinum Jubilee Pageant on The Mall.

Two special books have been produced by HOPE Together which can be ordered from cpo.org.UK/Queen. *'Our Faithful Queen'* - a gift book using rarely-seen prayers the Queen prayed as she prepared for the Coronation and for those under 5 years *'The Girl Who Grew Up To Be Queen'*.

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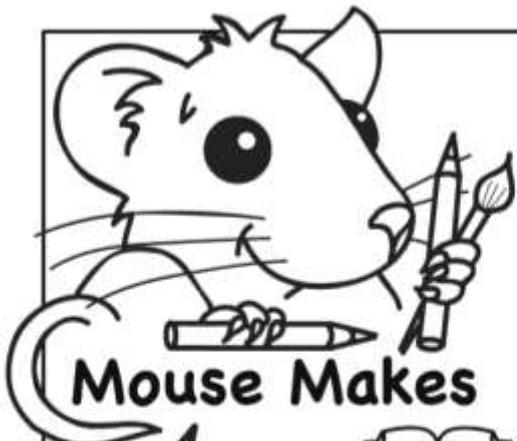


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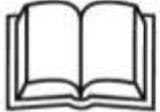


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Mouse Makes



Read the full story in Acts 2:1-11

It was the **festival** of **Pentecost**, **fifty days** since **Passover** and **Jews** from many countries had come to **Jerusalem** to **celebrate**.

The **Apostles** and other believers were all **together** in one place when they heard a **sound** like a strong **wind** and **saw** what looked like **tongues** of **fire** which spread out and **touched each** person. All of them were **filled** with the **Holy Spirit** and began to **talk** in other **languages** as the Spirit enabled them. A **crowd** gathered outside, they were all excited because each of them heard the believers speaking in their **own**

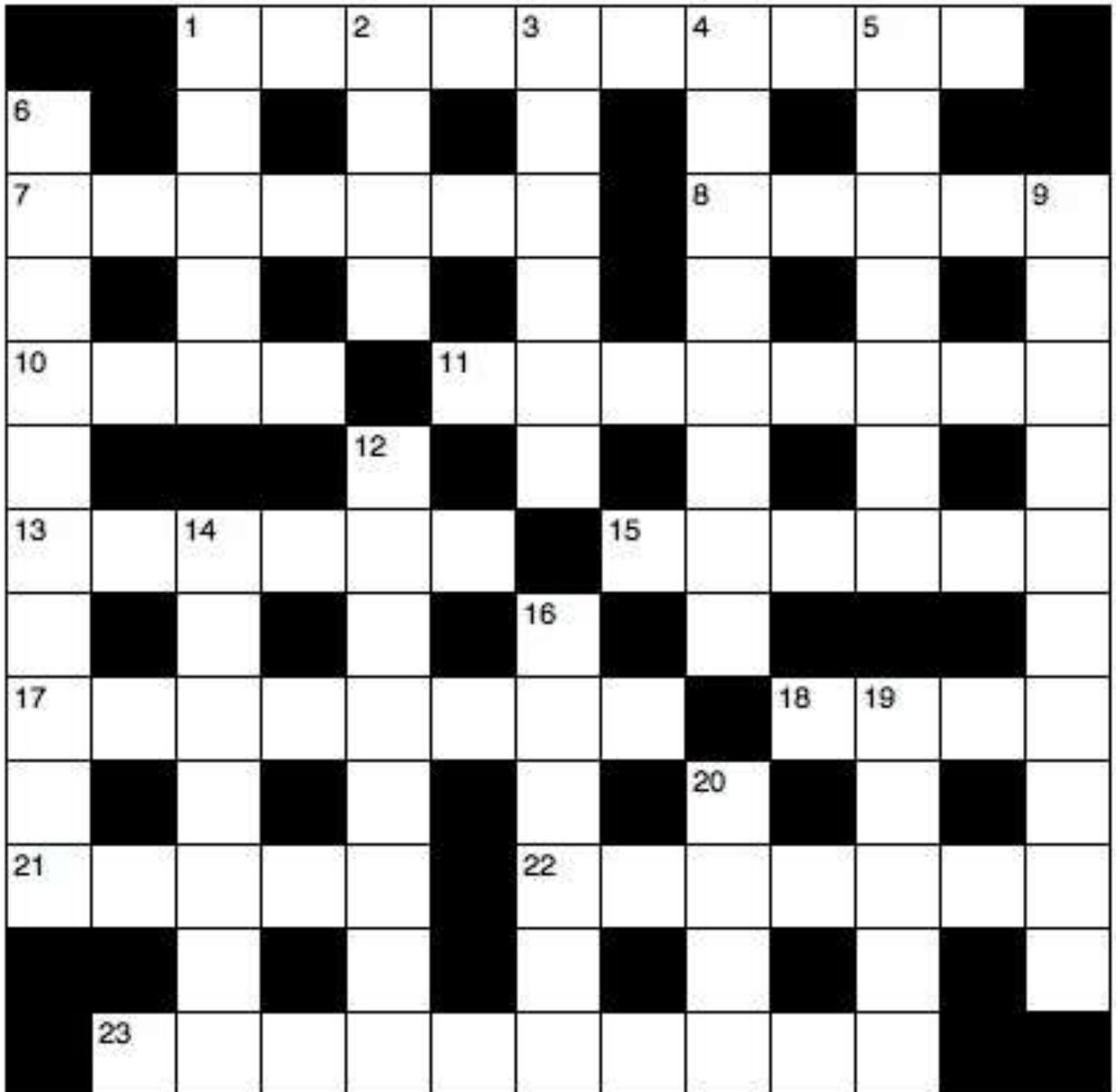


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language about the great things **God** had done. About 3,000 people **heard**, **believed** and were **baptised** that day!

All the words in bold type in the story are in the word search, can you find them?

Crossword



Across

1. Evil (Genesis 6:5) (10)
7. Musician called for by Elisha when he met the kings of Israel, Judah and Edom (2 Kings 3:15) (7)
8. The request that led to the institution of the Lord's Prayer: 'Lord, — us to pray' (Luke 11:1) (5)
10. 'We are hard pressed on every—' (2Corinthians4:8) (4)
11. Fraud (2Corinthians6:8) (8)
13. 'His troops advance in force; they build a siege ramp against me and — around my tent' (Job 19:12) (6)

15. Where Rachel hid Laban's household gods when he searched his daughter's tent (Genesis 31:34) (6)
17. 'Now about spiritual gifts, brothers, I do not want you to be—' (1 Corinthians 12:1) (8)
18. Nomadic dwelling (Genesis 26:25) (4)
21. 'As for man, his days are like—, he flourishes like a flower of the field' (Psalm 103:15) (5)
22. Or I live (anag.) (7)
23. Those guilty of 1 Across (Romans 13:4) (10)

Down

1. 'God so loved the — that he gave his one and only Son' (John 3:16) (5)
2. 'Away in a manger, no — for a bed' (4)
3. Mob ten (anag.) (6)
4. 'Each — group made its own gods in several towns where they settled' (2 Kings 17:29) (8)
5. Began (Luke 9:46) (7)
6. Speaking very softly (John 7:32) (10)
9. Workers Ruth joined when she arrived in Bethlehem with her mother-in-law Naomi (Ruth 2:3) (10)
12. Put in jail (Acts 22:19) (8)
14. A return (anag.) (7)
16. Discharge (Acts 21:3) (6)
19. 'All these—come from inside and make a man "unclean"' (Mark 7:23) (5)
20. 'Let us rejoice and be glad and — him glory!' (Revelation 19:7) (4)

Answers April May Crossword

ACROSS: 1, Womb. 3, Agnostic. 9, Long ago. 10, Fleet. 11, Horeb. 12, Yellow. 14, Deceitfulness. 17, Banish. 19, Towel. 22, Boils. 23, Inferno. 24, Eternity. 25, Defy.

DOWN: 1, Will hide. 2, Minor. 4, Glory of Christ. 5, Offal. 6, The Robe. 7, City. 8, Zabbai. 13, Psalmody. 15, Chalice. 16, Let off. 18, If son. 20, Worse. 21, Able.

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Charity of the Month June – Blind Veterans UK

Blind Veterans UK is the national charity for blind and vision impaired ex-Service men and women. They help with lifelong practical and emotional support which they provide to Armed Forces and National Service veterans regardless of when they served or how they lost their sight.

Blind Veterans UK helps ex-Service men and women of every generation rebuild their lives after sight loss. Since 1915 they've provided rehabilitation, training, practical advice and emotional support to tens of thousands of blind veterans.



It's a sad fact that many of the blind veterans they support suffer from social isolation. It happens as we get older and our families leave us, and partners pass away. For people with sight loss, that isolation is all the more painful to bear. It's not just about losing other people though, it's also about being isolated inside yourself when you are unable to carry out tasks such as going to the shops or even pick up a phone to speak to a friendly voice. For those who can't see, it often leads to losing your self-belief, and – even worse – your sense of belonging.

Charity of the Month July – Children's Air Ambulance

The children's Air Ambulance provides a lifesaving transfer service for critically ill babies and children.

When a child is too sick to travel, they can fly medical teams and bespoke equipment to them from across the UK, turning their local hospital into a specialist centre.

Their clinically designed helicopter provides a flying intensive care unit. They work with 10 paediatric retrieval teams across the UK. They received no government funding for their potentially lifesaving transfers and rely entirely on the ongoing support from people fundraising and donating.



Parish Diary for June

See inside front cover for regular Sunday service times

Wed	1 st	<i>Justin, martyr, c165</i> , 11am Morning Prayer (no Mass), Parish Office closed
Thurs	2 nd	Parish Office closed, 8pm Choir Practice
Fri	3 rd	<i>Martyrs of Uganda, 1185-7,1977</i> , 10.30am Coffee morning
Sat	4 th	<i>Petroc, abbot, 6th Cent</i> , Wedding (time tbc)
Sun	5 th	Pentecost, 9.30am Parade Service, 4pm Queen's Platinum Jubilee Cream Tea, 6.30pm Evensong on Zoom
Mon	6 th	<i>Ini Kopuria, founder of the Melanesian Brotherhood, 1945</i>
Wed	8 th	<i>Thomas Ken, bishop, nonjuror, hymn writer, 1711</i>
Thurs	9 th	<i>Columba, abbot, missionary, 597, Ephrem, deacon, hymn writer, teacher of the faith, 373</i> , 9.30am Organ teaching, 8pm Choir Practice
Fri	10 th	10.30am Coffee morning
Sat	11 th	<i>Barnabas the Apostle</i> , Memorial Service (time tbc)
Sun	12 th	Trinity Sunday, 12pm Baptism 6.30pm Evensong on Zoom
Mon	13 th	11.00am Organ teaching
Tue	14 th	<i>Richard Baxter, puritan divine, 1691</i>
Wed	15 th	<i>Evelyn Underhill, spiritual writer, 1941</i>
Thurs	16 th	Corpus Christi , <i>Richard, bishop, 1253, Joseph Butler, bishop, philosopher, 1752</i> , 8.30am Organ teaching, 8pm Sung Mass with Benediction
Fri	17 th	<i>Samuel and Henrietta Barnett, social reformers, 1913 and 1936</i> , 10.30am Coffee morning
Sat	18 th	<i>Bernard Mizeki, martyr, 1896</i>
Sun	19 th	1st Sunday after Trinity, 6.30pm Evensong on Zoom
Wed	22 nd	<i>Alban, first martyr of Britain, c250</i>
Thurs	23 rd	<i>Etheldreda, abbess, c678</i> , 8pm Choir practice
Fri	24 th	Birth of John the Baptist
Sun	26 th	2nd Sunday after Trinity, 6.30pm Evensong on Zoom
Mon	27 th	<i>Cyril, bishop, teacher of the faith, 444</i> , 9.30am Footsteps, 11am Organ teaching
Tue	28 th	<i>Irenaeus, bishop, teacher of the faith, c200</i>
Wed	29 th	Peter the Apostle , 8.00pm CM&FG Meeting, Parish Office
Thurs	30 th	8.30am Organ teaching, 8pm Choir practice

Details of dates, times and venues of all meetings and events need to be recorded in the Parish Diary (Parish Office 01708 220696)

Parish Diary for July

Fri	1 st	<i>Henry, John and Henry Venn, priests, evangelical divines, 1797, 1813, 1873, 10.30am Coffee morning</i>
Sat	2 nd	12pm Blessing of Marriage with Baptisms
Sun	3 rd	3rd Sunday after Trinity, 6.30pm Evensong on Zoom
Mon	4 th	<i>Thomas the Apostle</i>
Wed	6 th	<i>Thomas More, scholar, and John Fisher, bishop, martyrs, 1535</i>
Thurs	7 th	8pm Choir practice
Fri	8 th	10.30am Coffee morning
Sun	10 th	4th Sunday after Trinity, 6.30pm Evensong on Zoom
Mon	11 th	<i>Benedict, abbot, c550</i>
Thurs	14 th	<i>John Keble, priest, poet, 1866, 8pm Choir practice</i>
Fri	15 th	<i>Swithun, bishop, c862, Bonaventure, friar, bishop, teacher of the faith, 1274, 10.30am Coffee morning</i>
Sat	16 th	<i>Osmund, bishop, 1099</i>
Sun	17 th	5th Sunday after Trinity, 6.30pm Evensong on Zoom
Mon	18 th	<i>Elizabeth Ferard, deaconess, founder of the Community of St Andrew 1833</i>
Tue	19 th	<i>Gregory, bishop and his sister Macrina, deaconess, teachers of the faith, c394 and c379, Parish Office closed</i>
Wed	20 th	<i>Margaret of Antioch, martyr, 4th Cent Bartolomé de las Casas, Apostle to the Indies, 1566</i>
Thurs	21 st	Parish Office closed
Fri	22 nd	Mary Magdalene
Sat	23 rd	<i>Bridget, abbess, 1373, 1pm Wedding</i>
Sun	24 th	6th Sunday after Trinity, 12pm Baptism, 6.30pm Evensong on Zoom
Mon	25 th	James the Apostle
Tue	26 th	<i>Anne and Joachim, parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i>
Wed	27 th	<i>Brooke Foss Westcott, bishop, teacher of the faith, 1901</i>
Thurs	28 th	5pm Organ teaching, 8pm Choir practice
Fri	29 th	<i>Mary, Martha and Lazarus, companions of Our Lord, 10.30am Coffee morning</i>
Sat	30 th	<i>William Wilberforce, social reformer, Olaudah Equiano and Thomas Clarkson, anti-slavery campaigners, 1833, 1797 and 1846</i>
Sun	31 st	7th Sunday after Trinity, 6.30pm Evensong on Zoom

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