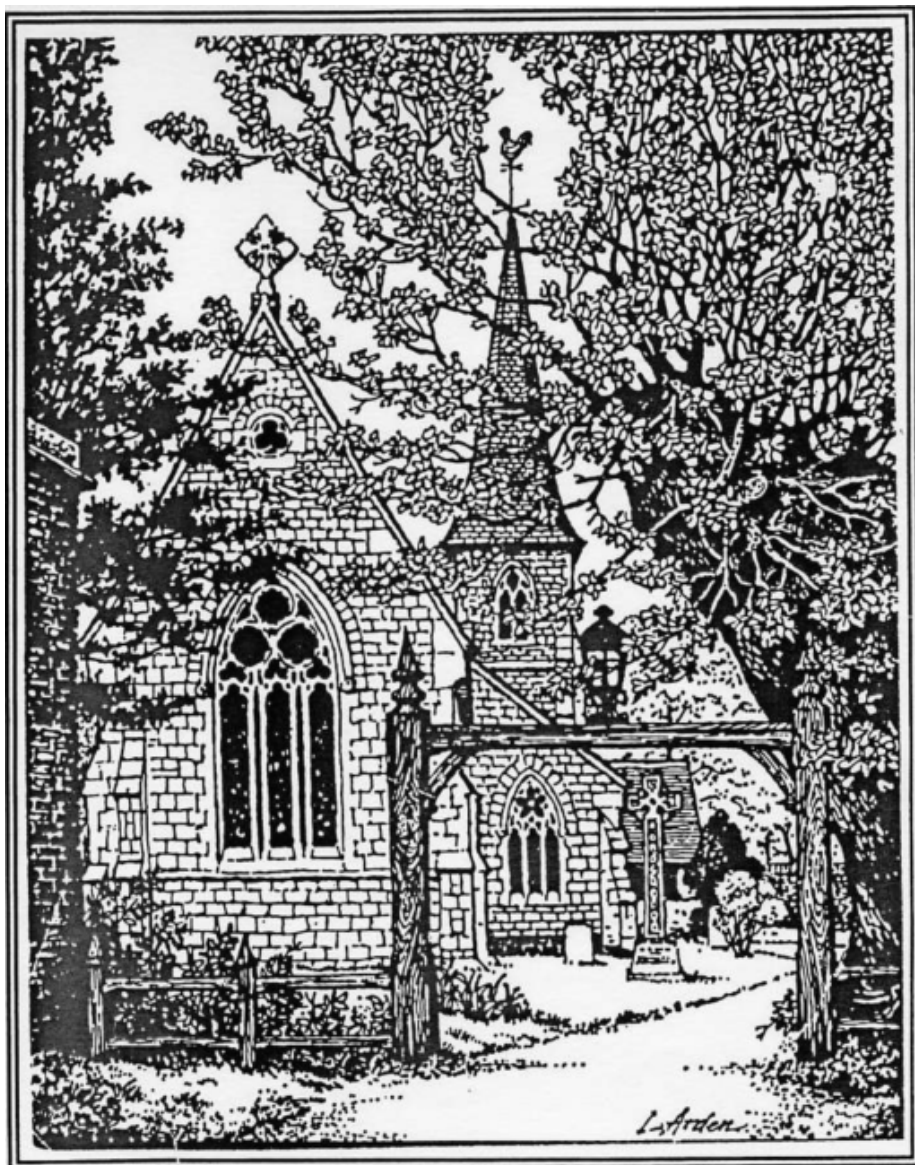


**The Parish Church of
*St. James, North Cray***

**50p
*February, 2021***

(Part of the Bexley Team Ministry)



St JAMES, NORTH CRAY PARISH STAFF

Team Vicar: Reverend Ren Harding 01322 528923
The Vicarage, 6 Tile Kiln Lane,
Joydens Wood, DA5 2BB
renharding@hotmail.co.uk

Lay Reader: David Stevens 020 8300 0867

Church Wardens: Suzy Higgs 020 8302 5719
suzyjhiggs@gmail.com

Maxine Heath 020 8468 7895
maxinejheath@gmail.com

Treasurer: Position vacant

PCC Secretary: Rhonda Collins 020 8300 3797

Sacristan: Stephen Hills 020 8302 7236

Bothy Bookings: Lynne Meads 07966 315518

Parish Safeguarding: Rhonda Collins 020 8300 3797

Magazine Editor: Steve Blake
sblakestjames@virginmedia.com

St James Sunday Service

9.30am Holy Communion

(All age service with Uniformed Organisations on second Sunday)

TEAM RECTOR'S LETTER FEBRUARY 2021



It's been quite a while since I've had to pack for a trip away! Like many of you, I had no holidays in 2020 and no overnight stays. Future travel seems very uncertain at the moment.

When you are able to go away, are you a careful, organised packer, or a last-minute one? What counts as a 'travel essential' for you? My main travel essential is my Kindle, as it saves me packing a suitcase full of books. What you take with you depends of course on where you are going, and what you plan to be doing. For some holidays it will be sturdy boots, a torch and sleeping bag, for others an elegant outfit for dining out and a good supply of sun-cream and beach-towels.

Spiritual writers have often seen human lives as like a 'journey'. We may encounter times in our lives when it is as if the sun is shining and the sky is cloudless or others when it seems that the storm clouds gather and the temperature seems to drop dramatically. At these times, the spiritual equivalent of 'travel essentials' are vital for our survival.

In good times and dark times, we have a deep need of God in our life-journey! God can offer us some sense of direction, for He is our destination and our guide. He offers us nourishment and refreshment, through the powerful words of the Bible. He brings light into our lives through the kindness of other people. And whatever our circumstances, He enables us to have a sense of security and peace. May you know God's presence with you on your 'journey of life'.

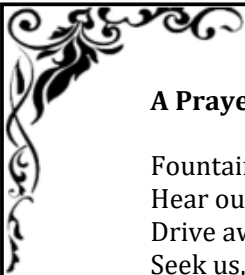
Reverend Ren Harding (Team Rector)

contact me at Joydens Wood Vicarage,

6 Tile Kiln Lane, Joydens Wood, Bexley, DA5 2BB

01322-528923

renharding@hotmail.co.uk



A Prayer for Light

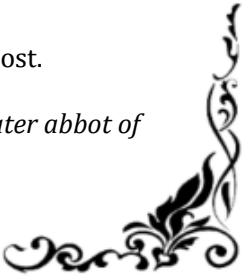
Fountain of light, source of light,
Hear our prayer.
Drive away from us the shadow of sin.
Seek us, kindly light.

You, who created us in holiness,
Who condemned our sin,
Who redeemed us from our sin,
Sustain us by your power.

Pour your gentle light into our dull minds,
Filling our heads with holy thoughts.
Pour your glorious light into our cold breasts,
Kindling holy love within our hearts.

From horror, lust and fear,
Guard us while we sleep.
And if we cannot sleep,
Let our eyes behold your heavenly host.

*By Alcuin of York, c. 735 – 804, was later abbot of
Tours.*



THE BOTHY

Are you looking for a small hall for a function?

**The Bothy (in St James Church Grounds) has all the facilities
you need and can seat 35 people.**

If you need further information please contact

Lynne Meads on 07966 315518



SERVICES AND EVENTS FOR FEBRUARY 2021

The Team Rector, the Team clergy, and the PCC's of the Parish churches in the Bexley Team have been extremely concerned about the figures for Covid infections in this area. We are mindful of our responsibility for the safety and well-being of those attending worship in our church buildings.

We have therefore, in accordance with Canon Law, sought the permission of the Bishop of Rochester to suspend public worship for the time being.

We will continue to circulate worship material via email, and also make worship available online, on Zoom, or via a phone-in link on Zoom.

Saturday	5.30pm	Zoom Nightwatch Service a quiet service of reflection on the week that is past
Sunday	10am	Zoom Worship including a bible-based talk.

Please contact the Team Rector or a member of the clergy team to be included on the emailing list or see our website for further information.

Also, do contact any of our clergy team if you are concerned, or if you would simply like a chat, or prayer.

May God bless you all at this difficult and worrying time.

BEXLEY TEAM MINISTRY

“Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God. .”

2 Corinthians 1:10-11 (NIV)

PRACTICAL ADVICE

Wash hands frequently with soap & water or alcohol-based hand rub. It has been suggested that instead of singing Happy Birthday to ensure we wash our hands for long enough - that we say the Lord's Prayer!

Avoid touching eyes, nose & mouth as this can transfer the virus.

Stay informed (but not obsessively so!) on the latest developments about COVID-19. Follow advice given by your own healthcare provider, your national and local public health authority or your employer. National & local authorities have the most up to date information for your area.

A CALL TO PRAYER

Wherever you are, and whatever your personal circumstances, we invite you to pause at midday each day, to join with your brothers and sisters across the Bexley Team Ministry to pray for our churches, our community, our nation and the world. We pray the prayer that unites all Christians, the Lord's Prayer. This is the Traditional version:-

“Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done; on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory; for ever and ever. Amen.”

You may wish to use this prayer written by Malcolm Duncan of Spring Harvest: -

“May you be given the gift of simple faith. When the world around you is full of uncertainty, may God remind you that you are not alone and you do not need to be dominated by fear. May you find peace amidst chaos from God's promises. Hold onto the God who holds you.”

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Pray for those infected or in quarantine

Loving Jesus may they feel your power of healing through the care of medical staff. Take away fear, anxiety, and feelings of isolation from people receiving treatment or under quarantine. Protect their families and friends and bring peace to all who love them.

Pray for those at high risk

Dear Lord, we lift to you the elderly and people with chronic health conditions. Protect them from harm and be their comfort in this time of uncertainty.

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Adapted from prayers of World Vision

<https://www.worldvision.org/disaster-relief-news-stories/prayer>

WORSHIPPING AT HOME

The following are resources which you may like to use as aids to your own personal prayer and worship. As the weeks progress we will make additions to the list via a weekly newsheet, and will endeavour to make these prayer resources available in paper form in the coming days.

If you have access to the internet this is a good site to visit.
<https://www.churchofengland.org/more/media-centre/coronavirus-covid-19-liturgy-and-prayer-resources>

Radio 4

Prayer for the Day @ 5.43 am – if this is too early for you it can be found at a time to suit you online at bbc.co.uk

Daily Service Monday to Friday @ 9.45 am – on Longwave and DAB
Sunday worship @ 8.10am

Ren, is available to talk to anyone who is feeling the need of a church minister at this time, to talk over a difficult circumstance or to ask for prayer. We also have a resource that can be used at home if you are unable to attend a funeral because of the current restrictions, and a weekly newsletter that is going out on email, with news, reflections and prayers. All you need to do is ring, or email me (see inside cover) and I will do what I can to help, and I can also put you on the circulation list so you receive weekly information. Your email will not be given to anyone else.

Suzy Higgs, Churchwarden

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News and Issues



Christian Aid report surveys climate breakdown

A new report by Christian Aid, *Counting the cost 2020: a year of climate breakdown*, has identified 15 of the most destructive climate disasters of the year.

Ten of those events cost \$1.5 billion or more, with nine of them causing damage worth at least \$5 billion. Most of these estimates are based only on insured losses, meaning the true financial costs are likely to be higher.

Among them is Storm Ciara which struck the UK, Ireland and other European countries in February costing, \$2.7 billion and killing 14. The UK's Environment Agency issued 251 flood warnings.

While the report focuses on financial costs, which are usually higher in richer countries because they have more valuable property, some extreme weather events in 2020 were devastating in poorer countries, even though the price tag was lower. South Sudan, for example, experienced one of its worst floods on record, which killed 138 people and destroyed the year's crops.

Some of the disasters hit fast, like Cyclone Amphan, which struck the Bay of Bengal in May and caused losses valued at \$13 billion in just a few days. Other events unfolded over months, like floods in China and India, which had an estimated cost of \$32 billion and \$10 billion respectively.

Six of the ten most costly events took place in Asia, five of them associated with an unusually rainy monsoon. And in Africa, huge locust swarms ravaged crops and vegetation across several countries, causing damages estimated at \$8.5 billion. The outbreak has been linked to wet conditions brought about by unusual rains fuelled by climate change.

But the impact of extreme weather was felt all over the world. In Europe, two extra-tropical cyclones, Ciara and Alex, had a combined cost of almost \$6 billion. And the US suffered from both a record-

breaking hurricane season and a record-breaking fire season adding up to more than \$60 billion in damages.

Some less populated places also suffered the consequences of a warming world. In Siberia, a heat wave during the first half of the year set a record in the city of Verkhoyansk, with temperatures reaching 38°C. A few months later, on the other side of the world, heat and drought drove the fires in Bolivia, Argentina, Paraguay and Brazil. While there were no human casualties reported from these events, the destruction of these areas has a great impact on biodiversity and the planet's capacity to respond to a warmer world.

Christian Aid says that: "These extreme events highlight the need for urgent climate action. The Paris Agreement, which set the goal of keeping temperature rise 'well below' 2°C, and ideally 1.5°C, compared to pre-industrial levels, has just turned five years old. It is critical that countries commit to bold new targets ahead of the next climate conference, which will take place in Glasgow, in November 2021."

Church Action on Poverty Sunday, 21st February

This month you can join churches around the UK in prayer, giving and action, on behalf of those who are struggling with poverty. Society should be "founded on compassion and justice, where all people are able to exercise dignity, agency and power," says Church Action on Poverty. For free resources to encourage prayer and fund-raising, go to: www.church-poverty.org.uk/sunday/.

An MBE for the founder of CCPAS

The founder of the largest independent faith-based safeguarding charity in the UK was recently awarded an MBE for services to safeguarding the vulnerable. David Pearson led Thirtyone:eight (known previously as CCPAS) until his retirement in 2010.

From humble beginnings in a caravan parked on his driveway, the charity now employs 50 staff and engages with a network of over 10,000 churches, organisations and individuals both nationally and internationally.

David Pearson spent 50 years providing advice and support on a range of safeguarding and child protection issues to the Christian community and wider society.



MEETINGS and Events 2021

**Planning for The "Welcome to the Meadows"
Educational Day which was scheduled for
19th July 2020 is on hold.**

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ALL IN THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY

200 years ago, on 23rd Feb 1821 John Keats, the poet, died of tuberculosis, aged 25.

125 years ago, on 1st Feb 1896 the premiere of Giacomo Puccini's opera *La boheme*, took place in Turin, Italy.

75 years ago, on 11th Feb 1946 The Revised Standard Version of the New Testament was published. It was the first major English-language update of the Bible since the King James version published in 1611.

70 years ago, on 27th Feb 1951 the 22nd Amendment to the US Constitution was ratified. It limits the President to two terms in office.

65 years ago, on 11th Feb 1956 two members of the Cambridge spy ring, British diplomats Guy Burgess and Donald Maclean, announced that they had defected to the Soviet Union. They had both vanished in mysterious circumstances in 1951.

50 years ago, on 15th Feb 1971 the UK's currency was decimalised.

30 years ago, on 28th Feb 1991 the Gulf War ended at midnight when a ceasefire came into effect.

25 years ago, on 15th Feb 1996 the oil tanker Sea Empress ran aground near Milford Haven, Wales, causing a major oil spill along the coastlines of Wales and Ireland.

20 years ago, on 19th Feb 2001 the first case of foot-and-mouth disease in the 2001 UK outbreak was detected at an abattoir in Essex. The EU subsequently banned all British meat, milk and livestock exports.

10 years ago, on 22nd Feb 2011 the Canterbury earthquake in New Zealand took place. 185 people were killed and up to 2,000 injured., and there was widespread damage across the city.

BEXLEY TEAM MINISTRY
“EXPLORING CONFIRMATION” 2020



This series of informal sessions is designed to help you discover more about the Christian faith and to explore it in greater depth.

It is also designed to help you to decide whether it might be right for you to take the step of being 'confirmed' as a member of the Anglican Church.

THE CONFIRMATION SERVICE ON 3 MAY HAS BEEN POSTPONED - TBA

The preparation sessions will take place at
The Joydens Wood Vicarage, 6 Tile Kiln Lane
Joydens Wood, DA5 2BB

PLEASE NOTE... Coming to the sessions does NOT commit you to being confirmed. That is your decision nearer the time.

Each of the three sessions will help you to look at some aspects of the Christian faith, and give you plenty of opportunity to bring and share your own questions, doubts, hopes and uncertainties.

Believing	Who is Jesus? The Bible
Belonging	The Eucharist Christian Symbols
Behaving	Prayer and the wider church
	Preparing for the Service

There will be a Rehearsal at St Francis, Petts Wood nearer the time

Reverend Ren Harding (Team Rector)
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Thomas Bray, founder of SPCK

By Tim Lenton

Thomas Bray was an 18th century English clergyman (1658 – 1730) who not only helped to establish the Church of England in Maryland, but was



also founder of the Society for the Propagation of Christian Knowledge (SPCK) in 1698 and the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts (USPG) in 1701.

The aim of these societies was to get Christian books and resources into the hands of those who desperately needed them. In the early 18th century books were expensive, and many clergymen had few, or none to guide them in their ministry. And so, Thomas Bray, who had been educated at Oxford,

joined with some other clergy friends to help them.

After a trip to assess the needs of the young Episcopal Church in Maryland (he was sent by the Bishop of London), Bray became rector of St Botolph's, Aldgate in London in 1708. From here he served his parish, and through SPCK eventually established 80 parish libraries in England and a further 39 in the Colonies. SPCK and USPG worked by asking learned authors to donate copies of their books. They also appealed to merchants to the foreign plantations for financial help in establishing the libraries.

Bray also worked to help poor debtors emigrate to better lives, and homeless children to get care in England. He helped feed prisoners at Newgate prison in London and joined in the political fight against slavery. He also supported outreaches to Africans and Native Americans in their home countries. When he died on 15th February 1730, he was mourned by many thousands.

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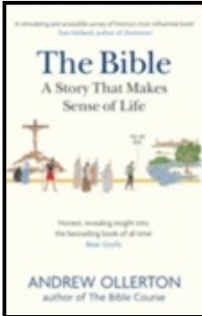




Book Mark

The Bible: a story that makes sense of life

By Andrew Ollerton, Bible Society, £14.99



This book explores how the story of the Bible not only helps us understand our own lives but gives us a framework for making sense of life in general. We can see how the narratives in the Bible mirror the narrative arcs we go through:

'We are not Israel enslaved in Egypt, but their quest for freedom mirrors our own. We are not with Jesus on the shores of Lake Galilee, but our need for a Messiah is just as real. In our modern age, perhaps we need this grand narrative and ancient wisdom more than ever?'

Helpful diagrams and maps are integrated throughout. Wherever you stand with the Bible, whether you are seeking to find out its meaning for your own life or just want to know more about its stories, this book may be an excellent starting point.

A London Sparrow – the inspiring and true story of Gladys Aylward

By Phyllis Thompson Publishing, £9.99



Gladys Aylward became a Christian when she was just 18. When she felt God's call on her to go to China as a missionary, she made the perilous solitary journey from London to China to join other missionaries out there. Gladys was little-educated, but was determined and committed, and in time became a formidable force for the gospel amongst her beloved Chinese people. Her courage was extraordinary, leading her to even going into a Chinese prison in order to stop a riot.

But she will be forever remembered for her 'incredible journey' during the Second World War, when the Japanese had invaded China. She led hundreds of Chinese children to safety on foot through the war zone, risking her life in order to save theirs. Throughout it all, Gladys had a simple, transparent faith in God and knew she rather die with 'her people' than desert them.

Who's for pancakes?

by David Winter

Why do we have pancakes on Shrove Tuesday, or Pancake Day, as we call it today? And what is Shrove Tuesday? And why do thousands of people feel it rewarding to race along a street somewhere tossing pancakes from their frying pans as they go?

Well, the answer to the first question is that it is the day before Lent begins and for well over a thousand years that has meant it was the last chance to enjoy meat, fat and other tasty dishes until Easter Day. The 'Lent Fast' was widely and strictly observed. The food in the larder wouldn't keep for six weeks so it had to be eaten. With all these rich foods no wonder the French call it 'Fatty Tuesday' – Mardi Gras.

So, what have pancake races got to do with all this solemnity? 'Shrove' is an old word for 'forgiven' and in those days to prepare for the rigours of Lent people would want to confess and seek forgiveness – not quite what you want at a party. The answer is quite simply enjoying yourself while you can! So, on Shrove Tuesday this year let's have some fun and make it last as long as possible.

The most convincing (and amusing) of the explanations of pancake races is of outwitting the Sexton who rang the curfew bell that marked the start of Lent. He was reluctant to do it while the race was unfinished. So, the revelry caused by dropped pancakes, postponed the inevitable.

Since the Reformation it has not been so rigorously observed in Britain, but still people will resolve to 'give up something for Lent'. Six weeks is about right as a duration and Sunday has always been exempt but make the most of those pancakes. They may well not reappear until April 12th

Remembering John Keats

By Tim Lenton

It was 200 years ago, on 23rd February 1821, that John Keats, the Romantic poet, died in Rome of tuberculosis, aged 25.



Keats was a generous, likeable and hard-working man who had much experience of suffering in his short life. He also had a love of civil and religious liberty. Most of his best work was done during the year 1819, when he was already sickening after an exhausting walking tour of the Lakes and Scotland the previous summer.

In that same year he had also been nursing his brother Tom through tuberculosis – the disease that killed their mother. But in 1819, after Tom’s death, he moved to Hampstead and fell in love with a neighbour, Fanny Brawne, who was 18.

By this time Keats was devoting himself to poetry, having originally trained as a surgeon following his mother’s early death. He is most famous for his Odes, all of which (except the one to Autumn) were composed between March and June 1819. All of them ponder the clash between eternal ideals and the transience of the physical world. His most famous lines: “Beauty is truth, truth beauty, – that is all / Ye know on earth, and all ye need to know.”

WORDSEARCH



naming	Anna	romance	coffee	poverty
Christ	temple	Matthias	bananas	nest box
Candlemas	love	Fairtrade	chocolate	marriage
Simeon	Valentine	fortnight	justice	wedding
Holocaust	leprosy			

Solutions on page 27

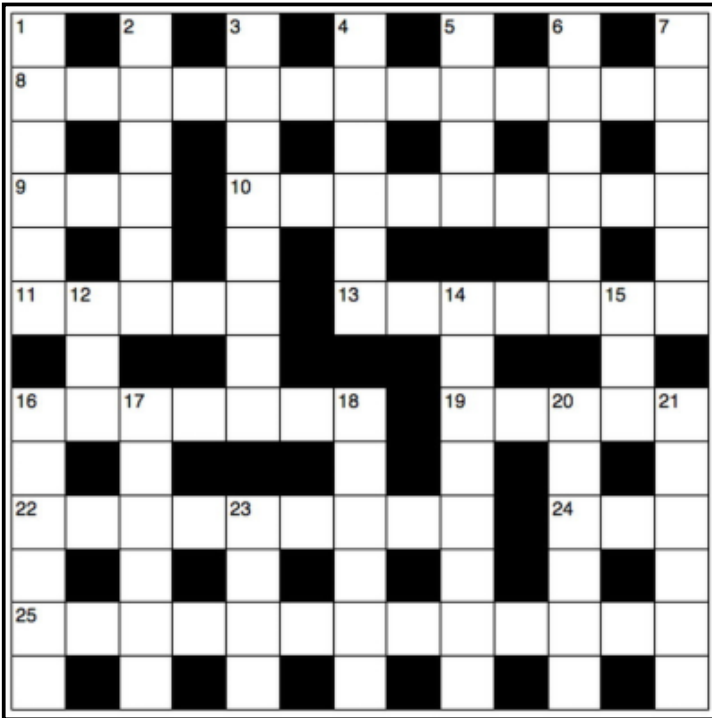
FEBRUARY CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Across

- 8 Interrogated (Acts 12:19) (5-8)
- 9 'Burn it in a wood fire on the — heap' (Leviticus 4:12) (3)
- 10 Tobit, Judith, Baruch and the books of Esdras and the Maccabees are part of it (9)
- 11 Science fiction (abbrev.) (3-2)
- 13 Clay pit (anag.) (7)
- 16 Went to (John 4:46) (7)
- 19 'Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to — your bodies as living sacrifices' (Romans 12:1) (5)
- 22 David's plea to God concerning those referred to in 14 Down: 'On — — let them escape' (Psalm 56:7) (2,7)
- 24 Royal Automobile Club (1,1,1) 25 How the book of Ezekiel refers to God more than 200 times (Ezekiel 2:4) (9,4)

Down

- 1 Seas (Proverbs 8:24) (6)
- 2 One of the sons of Eli the priest, killed in battle by the Philistines (1 Samuel 4:11) (6)
- 3 Specialist in the study of the Muslim religion (8)
- 4 'Do not rebuke an older man harshly, but — him as if he were your father' (1 Timothy 5:1) (6)
- 5 One of Esau's grandsons (Genesis 36:11) (4)
- 6 Taking a chance (colloq.) (2,4)
- 7 God's instructions to the Israelites concerning grain offerings: ' — salt to — your offerings' (Leviticus 2:13) (3,3)
- 12 Confederation of British Industry (1,1,1)
- 14 'All day long they twist my words; they are always — to harm me' (Psalm 56:5) (8)



- 15 The crowd's reaction to Jesus bringing back to life a widow's son in Nain (Luke 7:16) (3)
- 16 Disappear (Psalm 104:35) (6)
- 17 How Jeremiah was likely to die if he wasn't rescued from the cistern where he was imprisoned (Jeremiah 38:9) (6)
- 18 What the prophets do to a wall, with whitewash (Ezekiel 13:10, RSV) (4,2)
- 20 Made by a plough (Job 39:10) (6)
- 21 Noah was relieved when the flood waters continued to — (Genesis 8:5) (6)
- 23 Jesus gave the Twelve the power and authority to do this to diseases (Luke 9:1) (4)

(Solutions on page 28)

ST JAMES THE LEAST OF ALL



On how to manage the boiler at church

The Rectory

St. James the Least of All

My dear Nephew Darren

I confess to being rather disappointed that little Miss Asquith retired from stoking the church boiler last month. She was ideally suited to the job; being only five feet, two inches tall, she didn't have to stoop too much to get into the five foot high cellar.

That she had done the job for the past 50 years seemed another good reason for her continuing. But no, just because she turned 94 at the end of last month and was finding it difficult to negotiate the cellar steps on her two sticks, she decided to throw in the towel. And her rash decision placed us in a dilemma.

The boiler has been lit every Wednesday, so that the church becomes almost bearable by Sunday morning. It therefore means that it has had to be stoked three times a day for four days - not too onerous a duty I would have thought, especially as it gives an ample three days afterwards for recovery. Admittedly, the fact that a complete change of clothing is necessary after each visit is a slight handicap, but no one could be persuaded. Such is the level of Christian commitment these days.

And so we have become very modern and now have a gas boiler. No longer used, the cellar was instantly invaded and occupied by the flower arrangers and is now full of chipped vases no one can bring themselves to throw away and lengths of string and chicken wire that seem indispensable to their art.

There was an attempted second invasion by the Scouts looking for somewhere to store their tents, but they were repulsed by volleys of Oasis from the female occupying forces. They initially also took

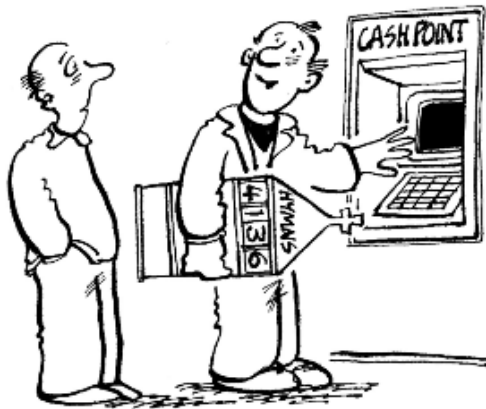
hostages, until the police convinced them it was not an entirely good idea.

We now have a system with frost detectors, thermostats and so many options on the time clock that it renders the system incomprehensible. Apparently a simple on/off switch was an option the plumbers were unaware of. I also miss that deep rumble beneath our feet during Mattins, sounding like the Queen Mary coming into port, letting us know that the ancient boiler was attempting to get the water lukewarm.

Naturally, there have been teething troubles; for several weeks, the church was admirably heated on Tuesday mornings and Friday afternoons when it was unused, but arctic on Sundays. On another occasion, the frost stat took over, but would then not let go, keeping the building heated for 14 days continuously. We shall probably need a loan from the International Monetary Fund to pay the bill.

And so twenty-first century technology is beginning to make a not altogether welcome appearance at St. James'. Miss Asquith has a lot to answer for.

Your loving uncle,
Eustace



*...between you and me, it's the
only way I can remember my PIN number!*

GOD AND THE ARTS

By The Rev Michael Burgess

Forty days and forty nights

On the 17th of this month, we enter the season of Lent: those 40 days when we follow Jesus into the wilderness and prepare ourselves to celebrate His Easter victory. In the last century an artist called Stanley Spencer planned to create a series of 40 paintings, each depicting a day in the wilderness. In the end he completed nine, one of which is this month's painting from 1939: 'Christ in the Wilderness – Scorpions.'



It is currently held in a private collection.

Stanley Spencer lived and worked in the village of Cookham in Berkshire. The village and the local countryside were the setting for many of his paintings, and the village's inhabitants his models. Through their

everyday life he was trying to glimpse and convey the transcendent. 'Angels and dirt' he called it: the divine seen in the ordinary. So, in a painting of Christ carrying His cross, Jesus has the face of the local grocer.

Another villager modelled for this Jesus in the wilderness: a strong, hefty, broad figure. This is a great contrast to the Christ of stained-glass windows who often seems too good to be part of our world. Here is real life: a large man filling the canvas with his head, his hands and his feet. This figure of Jesus comes as a shock: a very human model, ordinary with nothing handsome or special about him, apart from his tunic which seems to sprawl and undulate like the hills around.

There are two focal points in the painting – the neat, little scorpion and the massive, unkempt head contemplating each other. One is life in all its hefty reality; the other a tiny creature able to squeeze that life out by one swift flick of its tail.

Jesus is shown in the wilderness pondering the life and ministry called of Him by God – a life and ministry that will take Him from the countryside into the towns and villages and take Him also to the death of Good Friday. Will He find the strength and renewal to embrace that ministry during His time in the desert? During Lent as we follow Jesus, we seek to live for God. That may mean dying to all that separates us from God.

He has a ministry, a calling for each of us. As we contemplate that calling in this season of Lent, we may find it is a calling that leads us through these 40 days to life and Easter life – we may find it a journey that calls us to die to self to find our God.

SOLUTIONS TO WORDSEARCH



17th

Janani Luwum, Archbishop & martyr of Uganda

The Most Reverend Janani Luwum (d 1977) was the Archbishop of Uganda, Rwanda and Burundi and Boga Zaire when 35 years ago this month he was murdered by the dictator Idi Amin. At the time the



Church in Uganda was on the verge of centennial celebrations of its birth through the seed of the early Ugandan martyrs, and so Luwum became the first martyr of the second century of Christianity in Uganda. A statue of him stands in Westminster Abbey London.

Janani Luwum was greatly loved in Uganda. He was by all accounts an exceptional leader with a great personal godliness, a holistic vision, pastoral compassion and evangelistic fervour. Janani was born in

1922 at Mucwini in the Kitgum District of Uganda. He spent his childhood and early youth herding goats. Given an opportunity to attend a local school, he learned quickly, and was soon a teacher himself.

Janani Luwum was converted to Christianity on 1st January 1948, started at theological college in Buwalasi the following year, became a deacon in 1955 and was ordained a priest in 1956. He served in the upper Nile Diocese of Uganda and the diocese of Mbale, and was consecrated Bishop of Northern Uganda in 1969 and Archbishop of Uganda in 1974, three years after Idi Amin came to power in a military coup. His death was mourned by millions in East Africa.

SOLUTIONS TO CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS:

8, Cross-examined. 9, Ash. 10, Apocrypha. 11, Sci-fi. 13, Typical. 16, Visited. 19, Offer. 22, No account. 24, RAC. 25, Sovereign Lord.

DOWN:

1, Oceans. 2, Hophni. 3, Islamist. 4, Exhort. 5, Omar. 6, On spec. 7, Add all. 12, CBI. 14, Plotting. 15, Awe. 16, Vanish. 17, Starve. 18, Daub it. 20, Furrow. 21, Recede. 23, Cure.



LENT

Lent, before Easter, is like Advent before Christmas, a time of preparation. Lent is when we remember that Jesus prepared himself for starting his ministry by going away by himself for 40 days of fasting and prayer. You can read about it in your Bible: Matthew, chapter 4, verses 1-11; Mark, chapter 1, verses 12-13 and Luke, chapter 4, verses 1-13.

Jesus went into the wilderness, a quiet lonely place away from people where he could think things out. He knew that his work would be hard, that many people would not listen to him, or if they listened, they would not believe him. During these 40 days Jesus made his choice: to work in God's way however hard that might be.

This year Lent starts on 17th February and ends 3rd April: have you thought about how YOU are going to prepare yourself to follow Jesus this Lent?



SPRING COLOURS

The missing words in this puzzle are all colours which are mentioned with these things in the Bible.

1. Pastures, herbs and olives are all _____.
2. A sea, tents and wine are _ _ _.
3. Hangings in the Temple, pomegranates and doors of tents were all _____.
4. A horse, robes and teeth were all _____.
5. Kings' raiment (clothing), Jesus' robe and the dye that Lydia sold were all _____.
6. One of the gifts to the baby Jesus, candlesticks and spoons were _____.
7. A raven, clouds and chariot horses were _____.
8. Lips, a thread tied to a window and robes are _____.

Answers at the bottom of this page.



What do you do with a green monster?

Wait till he's ripe.



Answers: 1.green 2.red 3.blue 4.white 5.purple 6.gold 7.black 8.scarlet

FROM THE REGISTERS

Baptisms

-

Weddings

-

Burials

-

Year's mind for February 2020

5th Bernard Peter Stevens

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ACCESSIBILITY NEEDS

If you are going to attend our church and you have accessibility needs please let us know and we will be happy to make arrangements for you. There is level access to the church and the Bothy and we have a sound loop system and large print orders of service. Please feel free to telephone the Team Vicar Rev Ren Harding who will be happy to discuss the matter with you.

THE BEXLEY TEAM CLERGY - POINTS OF CONTACT

Team Rector: Reverend Ren Harding

renharding@hotmail.co.uk 01322 528923 07836644782

Associate Priest: Revd Sue Twynam

susantwynam@btconnect.com 01322 559501 07952 468127

Team Vicar: Reverend Clive Wood

revclivewood@gmail.com 01322 270942 07982 392809

Team Vicar: Reverend Edward Barlow

fr.edwardbarlow@gmail.com 01322 521786

Team Curate: Matt Hodder

matthodder10@gmail.com 07889 873125

For enquiries concerning St Barnabas, Joydens Wood

website www.joydenswoodchurch.co.uk

email - joydenswoodchurch@virginmedia.com

CONTACT the Team Rector

For enquiries concerning St James, North Cray

website www.stjamesnorthcray.org.uk/

CONTACT the Team Rector

For enquiries concerning St John the Evangelist, Bexley

website www.stjohnsbexley.org

CONTACT the Team Vicar: Reverend Edward Barlow

fr.edwardbarlow@gmail.com 01322 521786

For enquiries concerning St Mary the Virgin, Bexley

website www.stmarysbexley.co.uk

CONTACT the Team Vicar: Reverend Clive Wood

revclivewood@gmail.com 07982 392809

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