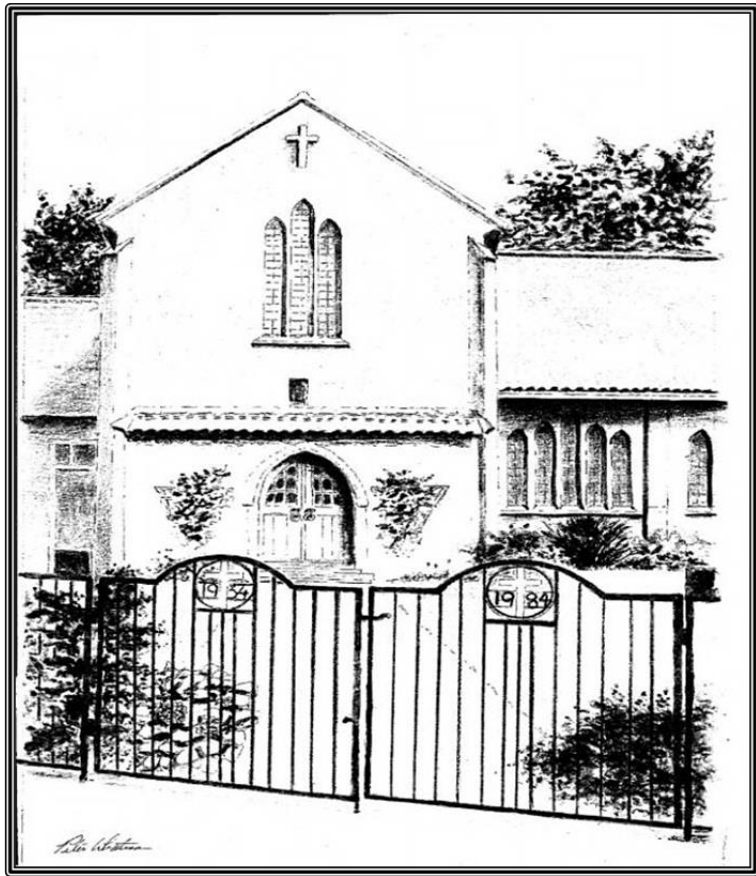


CHURCH MAGAZINE

JUNE/JULY 2024

ST MARY OF NAZARETH

WEST WICKHAM



*A WELCOMING FAMILY WITH THE
CHRISTIAN FAITH AT THE HEART
OF ALL WE DO.*

50P

CLERGY AND OFFICERS

| | | | |
|---|--|--|--------------|
| Vicar: | <i>Parish Vacancy</i> | | |
| Assistant Priests: | Rev Richard Ford | 7 Sylvan Way | 8289 2432 |
| | richard.ford73@ntlworld.com | | |
| | Ven Carol Coslett | 7 Woodland Way | 7939 9456 |
| | Carol.coslett@southwark.anglican.org | | |
| Readers: | Mr Ken Bryan | 55 Goodhart Way | 8777 1850 |
| | KennethABryan@aol.com | | |
| | Mrs Debbie Adams | 87 Goodhart Way | 8777 7834 |
| | debadams87@outlook.com | | |
| Church Wardens: | Mr David Taylor | 92 Wellbrook Road | 01689 856512 |
| | davey.taylor@talktalk.net | Locksbottom | |
| | Mrs Gifty Nortey | gfnortey@gmail.com | 8776 1563 |
| Assistant Wardens: | Mrs Natalie Outten | 151 Goodhart Way | 8777 0340 |
| | Mr. J. Womack | 2 Long Meadow Close | 8777 8772 |
| | Mrs. M. Womack | 2 Long Meadow Close | 8777 8772 |
| Sacristans: | Mrs Deidre Fitzgerald | | 8777 0083 |
| | Mrs Wendy Taylor | 92 Wellbrook Road | 01689 856512 |
| | | Locksbottom | |
| PCC Secretary: | Ms Julie Conway | julie.conway@ntlworld.com | |
| Treasurer/Free-Will Offering Secretary: | Mr Bob West | 163 Wickham Chase | 8776 0210 |
| | robandlinwest@tiscali.co.uk | | |
| Organist/Choirmaster: | Mr Geoff Mussard | 35 Oakfield Gardens | 8650 8389 |
| | geoff@mussard.org.uk | Beckenham | |
| Electoral Roll Officer: | Mr Chris Fitzgerald | | 8777 0083 |
| Parish Safeguarding Officer: | | Mrs Charlotte Wilson | 07981 040067 |
| | charlottewilson21@hotmail.com | | |

NORMAL SERVICES

| | | |
|-----------------------|---|---|
| Sunday: | 8:00 a.m. | Holy Communion (1 st , 3 rd and 5 th Sundays only) |
| | 9:15 a.m. | Sung Communion & Crèche (joint service at 10am on the 1 st Sunday of the month, sometimes at St Francis) |
| Morning Praise: | 9:15 a.m. | Normally on the 2 nd Sunday of the month |
| Messy Church: | 3:45 p.m. | Normally on the 2 nd Friday of the month |
| Holy Baptism: | By appointment | |
| Other Services: | Refer to the Calendar in this magazine. | |
| Weddings/Banns, etc.: | By appointment | |

LETTER FROM RICHARD

Dear All,

I'm writing this in mid-May, during the first really warm spell of the year, and, of course, people are, as usual, saying, "Better make the most of it. It may be all we get." But if previous years are anything to go by, the chances are high that we'll get at least one extreme heatwave, and that may have already happened by the time that you read this article.

Just yesterday, the headline in my daily paper read, "Scientists despair amid forecast of at least 2.5C temperature rise." The scientists in question belong to the highly respected Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), and many of them "envisage a 'semi-dystopian' future, with famines, conflicts and mass migration driven by heatwaves, wildfires, floods and storms of intensity far beyond those already struck."

Positively, the majority of people now recognise the need to take climate change seriously and implement measures to reduce global warming. The problem is that this is likely to come at a cost, and that's when people start complaining. It's been interesting seeing the responses on the "Next Door" social media site to Sadiq Khan's re-election as London Mayor, where his introduction of the Ultra Low Emission Zone has made him, in the eyes of many people, Public Enemy Number One. Now I fully understand that this measure has caused real problems for many less well-off people, but it has also led to the scrapping of many highly polluting vehicles, which must be a good thing. And it's a sad fact that those most badly affected by climate change live in some of the poorest countries. The problem is that there are always reasons to object to steps taken to reduce the damage being done to the environment by global warming. Ending the use of fossil fuels will hit the pockets of the shareholders in petroleum companies. Establishing wind farms spoils the view of those in the vicinity. And so on ... and the world keeps getting hotter!

In Psalm 8, the writer says of human beings that God has made them "a little lower" than himself and goes on:

6 You have given them dominion over the works of your hands;
you have put all things under their feet,
7 all sheep and oxen,
and also the beasts of the field,
8 the birds of the air, and the fish of the sea,
whatever passes along the paths of the seas.

As Christians, we are called to be stewards of this wonderful creation that God has given us and take a lead in endorsing activities that will impact positively on global warming, including supporting the members of the IPCC in putting pressure on our politicians to take the steps necessary to ensure that the world that we leave to our children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren is not one that is burning up.

There is hope: as one scientist put it, “I really don’t know what needs to happen for the people that have all the power and all the money to make the change. But then I see the younger generations fighting and I get a bit of hope again.” (Ruth Ceroza Mota, Climate Scientist, National Autonomous University of Mexico)

As Christians we believe that God is ultimately in charge. There is, then, much to think about, pray about and take action about. As Teresa of Avila wrote:

Christ has no body but yours,
No hands, no feet on earth but yours,
Yours are the eyes with which he looks
Compassion on this world,
Yours are the feet with which he walks to do good,
Yours are the hands, with which he blesses all the world.

God bless,
Richard

CALENDAR FOR JUNE

Sunday 2nd

8.00 a.m.

1ST SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

Holy Communion at St. Mary's

Carol Coslett/Debbie Adams

10.00 a.m.

Joint Holy Communion at St. Francis with
livestream

Carol Coslett/Debbie Adam

Sunday 9th

8.00 a.m.

2ND SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

Holy Communion at St. Francis

Richard Ford

9.15 a.m.

Morning Praise Songs of Praise at
St. Mary's with livestream

Richard Ford/Debbie Adams

10.45 a.m.

Morning Worship at St. Francis

Richard Ford/Debbie Adams

Friday 14th

Messy Church at St. Mary's

Messy Church Team

Saturday 15th

11.00 a.m. to 3.00 p.m. St. Mary's Garden Party

Sunday 16th

8.00 a.m.

3RD SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

Holy Communion at St. Mary's

Carol Coslett

9.15 a.m.

Holy Communion at St. Mary's with livestream

Richard Ford/Carol Coslett/Ken Bryan

10.45 a.m.

Holy Communion at St. Francis

Carol Coslett

Sunday 23rd

8.00 a.m.

4TH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

Holy Communion at St. Francis

Nick Lang/Ken Bryan

Sunday 23rd

9.15 a.m.

4TH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

Holy Communion at St. Mary's with livestream
Nick Lang/Ken Bryan

10.45 a.m.

Holy Communion at St. Francis
Nick Lang/Ken Bryan

Sunday 30th

8.00 a.m.

5TH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

Holy Communion at St. Mary's
Nick Lang

9.15 a.m.

Holy Communion at St. Mary's with livestream
Nick Lang

10.45 a.m.

Holy Communion at St. Francis
Nick Lang

+++++

God in All

*He inspires all,
He gives life to all,
He dominates all,
He supports all.
He lights the light of the sun.
He furnishes the light of the night.
He has made springs in dry land.
He is the God of heaven and earth,
of sea and rivers,
of sun, moon and stars,
of the lofty mountain and the lowly valley,
the God above heaven,
and in heaven,
and under heaven.*

A prayer of St Patrick

CALENDAR FOR JULY

Sunday 7th

8.00 a.m.

6TH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

Holy Communion at St. Francis

Carol Coslett/Ken Bryan

10.00 a.m.

Joint Holy Communion at St. Mary's with
livestream

Carol Coslett/Ken Bryan

3.00 p.m.

Healing Service at St. Mary's

Carol Coslett/Debbie Adams

Saturday 13th

West Wickham Choir Concert 7.30 p.m.
at St. Francis

Sunday 14th

8.00 a.m.

7TH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

Holy Communion at St. Mary's

Richard Ford

9.15 a.m.

Morning Praise at St. Mary's with livestream

Richard Ford/Debbie Adams

10.45 a.m.

Morning Worship at St. Francis

Richard Ford/Debbie Adams

Sunday 21st

8.00 a.m.

8TH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

Holy Communion at St. Mary's

Richard Ford

9.15 a.m.

Holy Communion at St. Mary's with livestream

Greg Prior

10.45 a.m.

Holy Communion at St. Francis

Carol Coslett/Greg Prior

Sunday 28th

8.00 a.m.

9TH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

Holy Communion at St. Francis

Carol Coslett

9.15 a.m.

Holy Communion at St. Mary's with livestream

Carol Coslett/Ken Bryan

10.45 a.m.

Holy Communion at St. Francis

Carol Coslett

BIBLE READINGS

| Date | Reading | Reader |
|------------------------|---|----------------------------------|
| June | | |
| 2nd | Deut. 5: 12-15 2 Cor. 4: 5-12 Mark 2: 23 - 3: 6 | At. St. Francis Debbie Adams |
| 9th | Special readings for Morning Praise - Margaret Bond | |
| 16th | Ez.17: 22-24 2 Cor.5: 6-10,14-17 Mark 4: 26-34 | Beryl Bolton Carol Coslett |
| 23rd | Job 38: 1-11 2 Cor. 6: 1-13 Mark 4: 35-41 | Stephen Howe Ken Bryan |
| 30th | Lam.3: 23-33 2 Cor. 8: 7-24 Mark 5: 21- 43 | Malcolm Hubbard Nick Lang |
| July | | |
| 7th | Ez. 2: 1-5 2 Cor. 12: 2-10 | Jean Mathers |
| 14th | Special readings for Morning Praise - Claire Cordery | |
| 21st | Eph. 2: 11-22 | Jer. 23: 1-6 Charlotte Wilson |
| 28th | 2 Kings 4: 42-44 Eph. 3: 14-21 John 6: 1-15 | Cheryl Davies Carol Coslett |

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

June

Music and Tea at St Francis'

We are very pleased and happy to invite you to a wonderful tea concert on **Saturday, 1st June at 3 o'clock** in which we will hear local musicians Nigel Clayton and Imma Setiadi play the Planets Suite by Gustav Holst as a piano duet. Hazel heard them play this recently and said it was a performance not to be missed! Nigel is a Professor at the Royal College of Music and has performed internationally as well as all over the U.K., so we are assured of a stunning afternoon of music. Tea and cakes will follow, and entry is free, however we will be happy to accept voluntary contributions towards expenses.

Parish Lunch

The Parish Lunch on **Wednesday 5th June** has been cancelled.

Garden Party/BBQ

The Garden Party will be held on **Saturday, 15th of June** from 11.00am – 3.00pm. See poster on page 14 for more details.

Women's Group Event

Our next women's group evening will be on **Tuesday, June 18th** at 8pm at St Francis. We have two speakers from Reigate Deanery Social Justice Team coming to talk to us about Modern Day Slavery. It's closer than you think! Come and find out more. All welcome.

Lunchtime Concerts at St. Francis

Our second St. Francis Lunchtime concert will take place on **June 20th** this year and will feature brilliant violinist Julia Hart accompanied by our friend Martin Sharpe at the piano to play an engaging and lively programme for us.

Lunchtime concerts commence at 12.45pm. Tea and coffee will be available beforehand. Come along and bring a friend to enjoy lovely lunchtime music. Admission is free but contributions will be welcomed.

Jean Mathers

St Francis' Community Lunch

The Community lunch will be held on **Sunday 23rd June** at 12:30pm in the hall. Please contact Barbara Goodchild (0208 777 8782) for a ticket - £8.00.



July

Parish Lunch

The Parish Lunch is on **Wednesday 3rd July** at 1.00 p.m. in the hall. Please contact Beryl Bolton on 0208 289 8097 or berylbolton@hotmail.com if you are unable to attend.

West Wickham Choir Concert

Saturday 13th July at 7.30pm at St. Francis' Church

The West Wickham Choir is planning to present a concert consisting of a full performance of "A Grain of Mustard-Seed" by Roger Jones, together with other choral and instrumental music.

Further details of the concert, ticket arrangements etc., will be in pew-sheets, on our church websites and on flyers from mid-June. For information and/or for offers of help, please contact Geoff Mussard at geoff@mussard.org.uk or in person at either St. Mary of Nazareth Church or St. Francis of Assisi Church.

Lunchtime Concerts at St. Francis

The Lunchtime concert on July 18th will feature local flautist Amanda Butler accompanied by Peter Sargent in an adventurous and varied programme of music for flute and piano, which will include solo and duet items.

Tea and coffee will be available as usual before the concerts commence, and with free entry bring a friend along and we can look forward to a happy lunch hour with music once a month!

Jean Mathers



A certain vicar had a kindly, pastoral heart. He often wrote little notes to any parishioners in distress, assuring them of his prayers. Then came the day he heard that one of his favourite old ladies in the church had been injured in a bad fall. The vicar felt so much sympathy that he wanted to add a note of pastoral affection. He thought of the little postscript that his young niece always added to her emails to him, which he took as a sign of her affection, and decided to add that to this note.

It read: "Dear Mrs Gantry, I am told that you fell down the stairs, broke both legs, and may be in hospital for some weeks. This is just to assure you that you are much in my thoughts." Then he added the postscript: LOL.



Answers to Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS: 1, Ambush. 4, School. 8, Tired. 9, Famines. 10, Citadel. 11, Endor. 12, Atonement. 17, Avert. 19, Oracles. 21, Married. 22, Lance. 23, Rhythm. 24, Hyssop.

DOWN: 1, Attach. 2, Biretta. 3, Sided. 5, Compete. 6, Owned. 7, Lustre. 9, Falsehood. 13, Ostrich. 14, Talents. 15, Farmer. 16, Asleep. 18, Early. 20, Alley.

PARISH MATTERS

St. George's Supper

Well, what a spread! Michelle, Paul and their team delighted us all, yet again, with a wonderful roast meal on April 20th, in preparation for St. George's Day on the 23rd. There were magnificent prawn cocktails (a meal in themselves!) or melon, followed by delicious tender beef and a trifle for pudd. It was all rounded off by coffee and chocolates.



Enthusiastic patriotic singing ensued accompanied by Jean and much flag waving! If you weren't there you missed a treat. PLEASE come next year but book early it's rightly a popular event!

A profit of £405 was made for Church funds and many thanks go to all concerned.

Claire Cordrey

St Francis and St Mary's Women's Group

Rather than meeting at one of our Churches in April we ventured further afield and went to St Paul's Cathedral to hear Rev Kate Bottley speak. Kate Bottley is a vicar, journalist and radio presenter. She presents Good Morning Sunday on BBC Radio 2 and is a regular presenter on BBC1's Songs of Praise. Her first book is *Have a Little Faith: Life Lessons on Love, Death and How Lasagne Always Helps* (Penguin 2023).

She talked about what faith means to her, that it's not all-or-nothing, and also some of the things she's learnt about life's big questions about love, death, forgiveness, loneliness and joy, and why she thinks, ultimately, faith is the key to happiness. She told us that faith is about hope, being human, having doubts, getting through life's hard bits, celebrating the great bits, and finding meaning and connection in it all.

St Paul's was very impressive as usual though the acoustics were a bit challenging. Kate is a very engaging speaker with great communication skills so listening to her talking about her faith journey was both thought provoking and a pleasure.

To quote from an interview she gave to 'Woman Alive' last year; *'When you become a Christian, it's not a destination you arrive at, it's a process that you go through continually'*.

St Paul's Cathedral runs a year-round social justice and Christian spirituality programme. <https://www.stpauls.co.uk/events-spirituality-and-social-justice>

Hazel's Farewell Service and Celebration

On Sunday 5th May in a joint service with St. Francis, we said an official goodbye and thank you to Hazel. What a celebration it was! A very uplifting service of hymns, Rutter anthems (chosen by Hazel) and an emotional reflection given by Hazel. This was followed by presentations from both churches of gifts that had been purchased from collections, including a book of memories from the Joint Benefice put together from contributions of photos and articles from members of both churches.

Everyone then retired to the vestibule for drinks and coffee before 80 went on into the hall for a delicious buffet lunch that had been organised and prepared by Gifty and Ann with their team of helpers.

The selection of food was amazing and the hall beautifully decorated in yellow and purple (Hazel's favourite colours). After the savoury course a selection of desserts was followed by a cake for Hazel to cut. Stephen gave a farewell thank you to Hazel from us all.

A big thank you to Gifty, Ann and everyone who helped prepare for this celebration.



We will miss you greatly, Hazel, and wish you well in your new life in Liverpool. God bless you.

Beryl Bolton

The Bromley Boy Singers Concert on 18 May 2024

The boys love to sing and perform at a professional standard. The audience showed their appreciation by their enthusiastic applause at the end of the concert.

There are sixty boys at present from the age of seven to young adulthood. Some go on to sing professionally as a career. The concert choir of thirty is superb and performs in many prestigious venues at home and abroad with director Travis Baker and accompanist Krystal Tunncliffe.

Natalie Outten's Delicious Afternoon Tea

It was a sunny May afternoon, and about thirty of us gathered in St Mary's church hall in anticipation of having a lovely afternoon tea and we were not disappointed. The tables were beautifully set, and we were in good company. An array of delicious sandwiches was followed by scones, cream and jam and a selection of wonderful homemade cakes. Tea, coffee, and optional fizz was served throughout. This was all expertly brought to our tables by Natalie's lovely team of helpers who also helped with the washing up! Natalie would like to thank all who helped make the afternoon so enjoyable by making scones and cakes and helping with the raffle. She made a profit of over £300 which she hopes will increase when she invests it in her stall at this years' Christmas Market! Thank you, Natalie, for organising a lovely afternoon.

Cheryl Davies

Interregnum Update from the Churchwardens

The PCCs of St Mary's and St Francis met with the Archdeacon Greg Prior to discuss the process of appointing a new Vicar for the United Benefice of St Mary's and St Francis.

The initial steps will be reflecting on our Mission Action Plans and convening our Section 11 meetings to draw up our Parish profiles and appoint two representatives from each Church to sit on the interview panel.

The profile needs to reflect our work as individual Churches but also as a United Benefice and needs to be approved by both PCCs. Once the profile has been agreed by the Archdeacon and the Bishop, we can then start advertising the post, shortlisting applicants, and interviewing. The successful applicant would then have to give three months' notice to their current Parish.

It is envisaged that the process will take several months, and it is not possible to shorten the recruitment time. The interregnum allows us to adjust to Hazel's departure. It also gives us time to think about our future direction and pray for God's guidance in our search for a new vicar.

Your thoughts on the desired attributes of the new vicar would be welcome as well as what you think our churches strengths and weaknesses are. There are suggestion boxes in both churches for you to post your ideas or, you can email it to office@stmaryswestwickham.co.uk for St Mary's and to francisandmary9@gmail.com for St. Francis.

Thank you.

“ St Mary’s ”
SUMMER BBQ
Garden Party



BBQ 12 noon - 2pm

SATURDAY
15th
JUNE
11am - 3pm

Bouncy Castle, Games

Homemade Cakes

Hot & Cold Drinks, Pimms

Plants Stall

Various Stalls

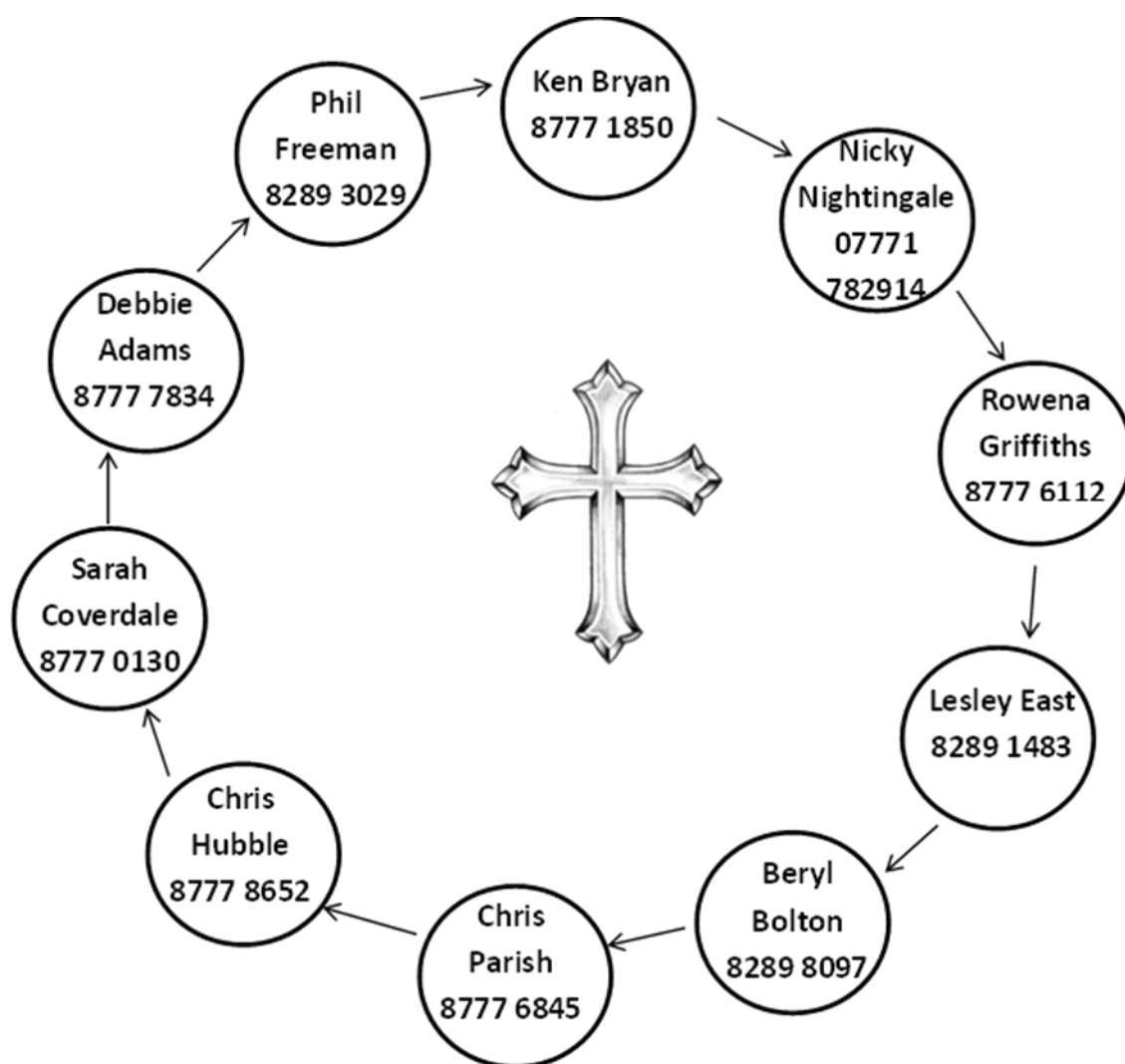
St. Mary's Church Gardens
The Avenue, West Wickham BR4 0DX

FREE ENTRY!

St Francis and St Mary's Prayer Chain

Many people find they are given strength and peace of mind when they know that they, or their loved ones, are being prayed for. And the more people who are praying for someone, the better!

If you would like prayer for yourself, please call anyone on the chain below and they will pass a message on around the circle. If you like a name added to the intercessions list in our services, (which will be on-line as well as in-person) please state this when you make contact.



PRAYER

June

2nd Trinity Praise to the Lord, who has revealed Himself as Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

11th St. Barnabas Pray for those who travel the world to spread the Christian faith.

15th Corpus Christy We give thanks today for Jesus' gift to us of Holy Communion.

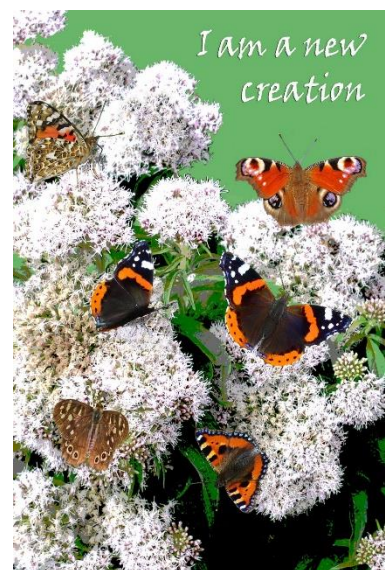
24th John the Baptist Lord, help us, like John, to bear witness to you.

29th SS. Peter and Paul Pray that we may have the same qualities of faith, courage and devotion as we serve God.

Praise for God's Creation

For the beauty of the earth, For the beauty of the skies,
For the love which from our birth, Over and around us lies.
Lord of all to thee we raise, This our grateful hymn of praise.

How blessed we are in our lovely land and in the surroundings of West Wickham where we live! We praise and thank you Lord for the variety and beauty of the trees and flowers around us; - For all our gardens with their lawns, their sweet – smelling roses and colourful flower beds. Thanks indeed be to God.
Amen



FOCUS

July

**3rd
St. Thomas** When we are unsure, help us to trust – when we can't see ahead, help us to keep going.

**22nd
St. Mary Magdalene** May we also proclaim the Good News that JESUS IS ALIVE!

**25th
St. James** Pray that we both listen and are obedient to Jesus calling to us.

**29th
SS Martha & Mary** Let us be as quick to spend time at the feet of Jesus as we are to actively serve hm.

For Peace in the World

Lord, I cannot understand all the violence in our world today, all the greed for power and possession that leads to nation fighting against nation. You have provided enough for all so there is no need for us to behave in this terrifying way. Forgive us our private and national sins that lead to destruction. Open eyes to see your beauty in our neighbour and in the world around us and grant us the peace that only you can give. In Jesus' name we ask. Amen



St Francis & St Mary's Community & Social Events Calendar

June

- 5th St Mary's Community Lunch – CANCELLED
- 6th – 8th Matchbox performances
- 15th St Mary's Garden Party & BBQ – 11am to 2pm
- 18th Women's event at St Francis' – 8pm
- 20th Lunchtime Concert at St Francis' – 12:45pm
- 22nd Hayes Symphony Orchestra at St Francis' – 7:30pm
- 23rd St Francis' Community Lunch – 12:30pm

July

- 3rd St Mary's Community Lunch – 1pm
- 13th /14th West Wickham Choir concert – TBC
- 18th Lunchtime Concert at St Francis' – 12:45pm
- 20th High Street Foodbank collection – 10am to 1pm

August

- 3rd Thank you to Volunteers Coffee Morning at St Francis' – 10:30am
- 7th St Mary's Community Lunch – 1pm
- 15th Lunchtime Concert at St Francis' – 12:45pm

September

- 4th St Mary's Community Lunch – 1pm
- 7th Community Garden Open day – TBC
- 7th Caribbean evening at St Mary's – 7:30pm
- 17th Women's event at St Francis' – 8pm
- 29th St Francis' Community Lunch – 12:30pm

October

- 2nd St Mary's Community Lunch – 1pm
- 12th Harvest Supper at St Mary's – 7pm

November

- 6th St Mary's Community Lunch – 1pm
- 19th Women's event at ST Mary's – 8pm
- 29th High Street Christmas Lights event at St Francis'
- 30th St Mary's Christmas Market – 10:30am to 2:30pm

December

- 5th to 7th Matchbox performances
- 7th The Big Christmas Sing at St Francis' – 4pm
- 11th St Mary's Christmas Community Lunch – 12:30pm
- 14th – 21st Christmas Tree Festival at St Francis'
- 15th St Francis' Christmas Community Lunch – 12:30pm

St Andrew's Gweru Update

As many of you will know, our two churches have a link with St Andrew's Church in Gweru, Zimbabwe. They now have a new parish priest, Revd Tinashe Mahwerera, who has written, in response to my earlier email, to introduce himself and to update us on what is happening in his church.

"Dear Richard Ford (Revd.)

Greetings in the Name of our Risen Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Indeed am grateful to receive an email from you. Praise be to God. Before we came to St Andrews, we were at a Parish in Shurugwi called St Athanasius. We arrived at St Andrews Anglican Church last year in January. Am married to Mildred and we are blessed with our son, Bradley.



Revd. Tinashe and Mildred Mahwerera

We thank God for the Parish of St Andrews, and we believe we are growing spiritually and even in numbers in all the Guilds. This month of April is a month for conferences for all the guilds and we are happy that we are attending.

Our 2024 Theme is from 2 Corinthians 5 verse 7. We have started building a parsonage (Rector's house) and it is now at ring beam level. We are trying to raise money for the roof, window frames, doorframes and plumbing equipment.



Rectory under construction

Currently am staying in Ascot, which is a location about 12 km from the church. So we do commute to church for services and pastoral work. The building under construction is in the church premises.

We do fundraisings to fund some of these projects but generally the economy is depressed and therefore affect church incomes. We have a tuck shop which is owned by the church and a means of fundraising. Currently its temporarily closed after we experienced a burglary and lost most of the goods which were on sale.

We do have a borehole at the church which is also assisting the community very much. Mkoba has challenges in provision of clean water. So the borehole is assisting most neighbourhoods to get clean water for drinking. The church we believe should be there to meet the needs of people in communities and we feel this is also a way of evangelizing societies.



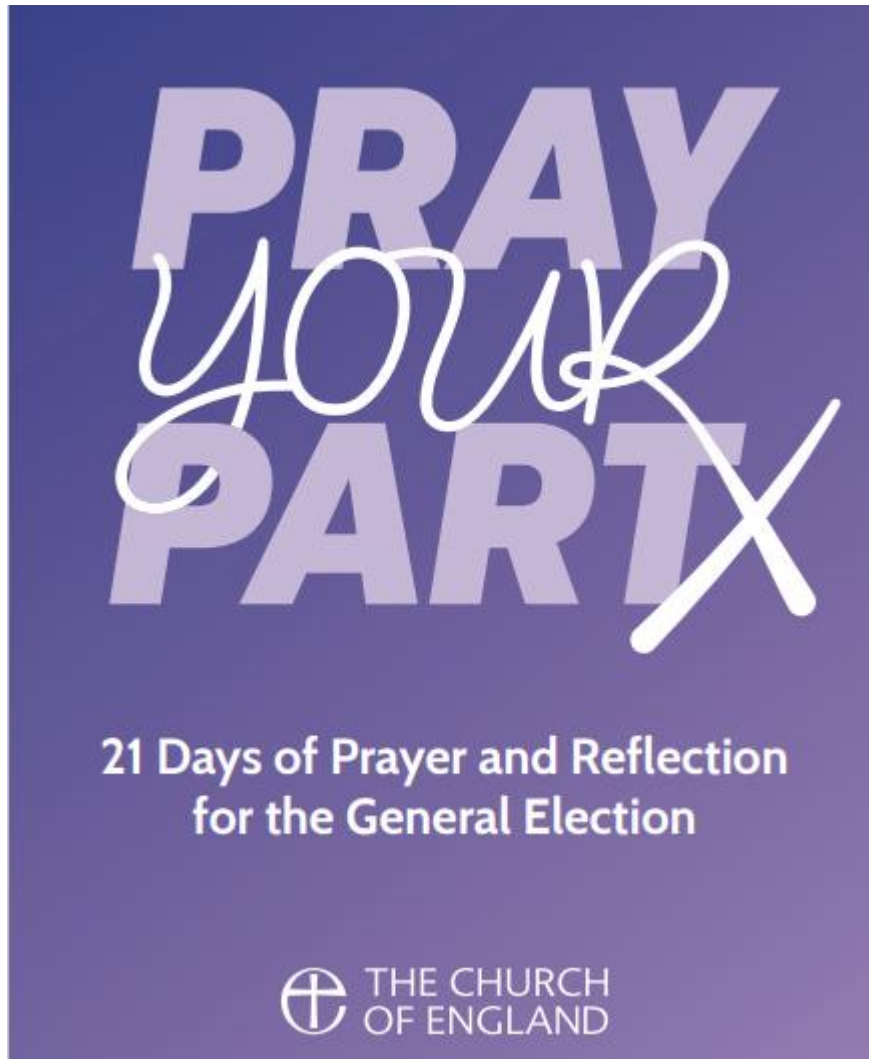
Church building and the water tank

Our church choir recently launched a new gospel music album which has our theme as the album title. This is a first of its kind at St Andrews and even in the whole Diocese. We really thank God for guiding us through. The choir is looking forward to do some videos of the new album and hopefully start working on the second album, and also to buy a new keyboard for use in the worship service”.



Yours In Christ, Tinashe Mahwerera(Rev)

Pray your Part: General Election 2024



The General Election will be a moment for the nation to ask important questions about the future. **Pray your Part** is an invitation from the bishops of the Church of England to encourage prayer and participation in the life of our nation and communities, both as voters and as citizens.

This 21-day journey of prayer and reflection (from Friday 14th June until Election Day on 4th July) is designed for use in the run-up to the UK general Election. Each day explores a different theme, with a short Bible reading, reflection and prayer for a different aspect of our common life.

Sign up for our daily election reflections via email at [Pray Your Part: General Election 2024 | The Church of England](#)

St. Mary of Nazareth and St. Francis of Assisi Churches, West Wickham

St Francis and St Mary's Women's Group

Modern Day Slavery



Chris Elliott and Jennifer Hyde

Reigate Archdeaconry Social Justice Focus

At

St Francis of Assisi

Ravenswood Avenue, West Wickham

on Tuesday 18th June 2024 at 8pm

In the Church

ALL WELCOME



ROOFING & Maintenance

All types of work undertaken
Also Flat pack assembly
No job too small

Harry Allen
138 Queen Anne Avenue, Bromley BR2 0SF

07801 755199

WE ARE ALL GUILTY

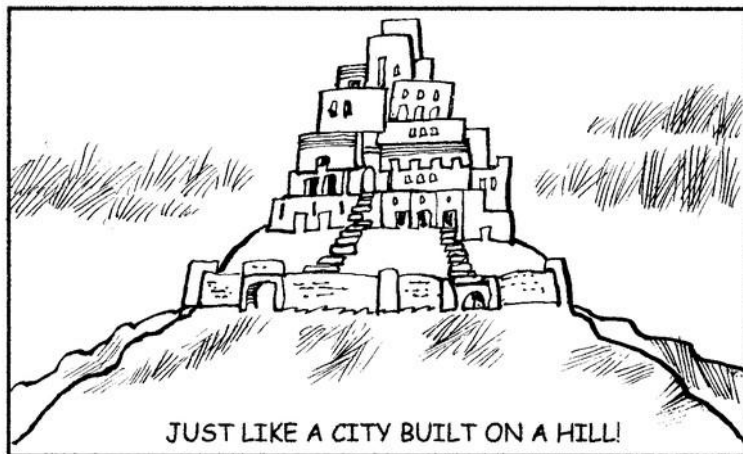
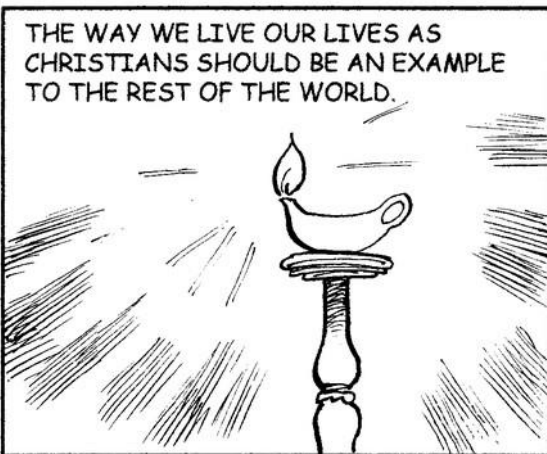
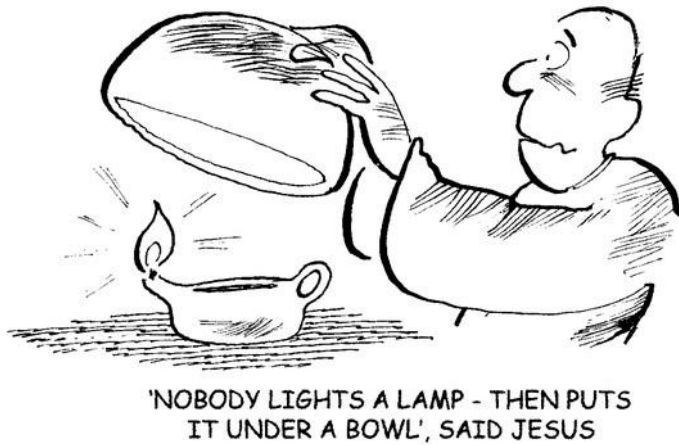
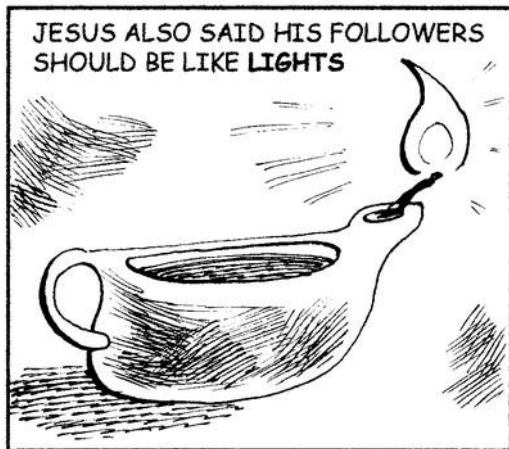
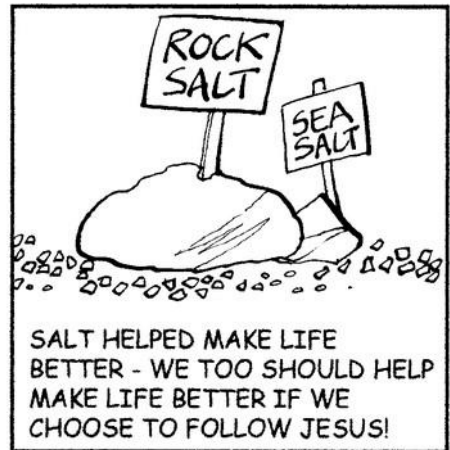
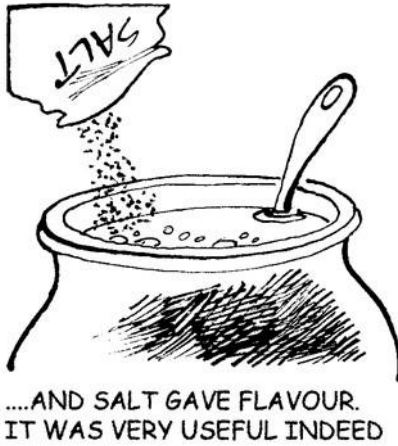
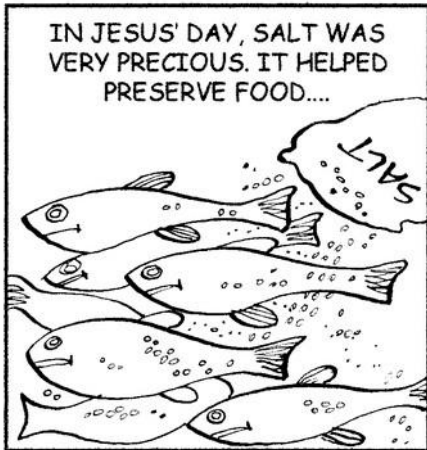
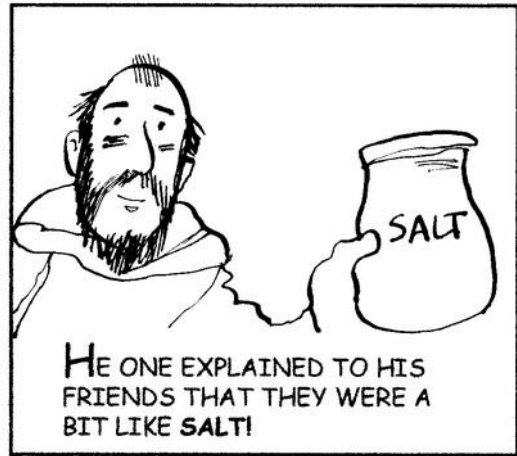
Well, I am. At times! Of complacency of leaving it to others to sort out!

BUT we do have a duty when it comes to the safeguarding of children **OR** vulnerable adults in the church.

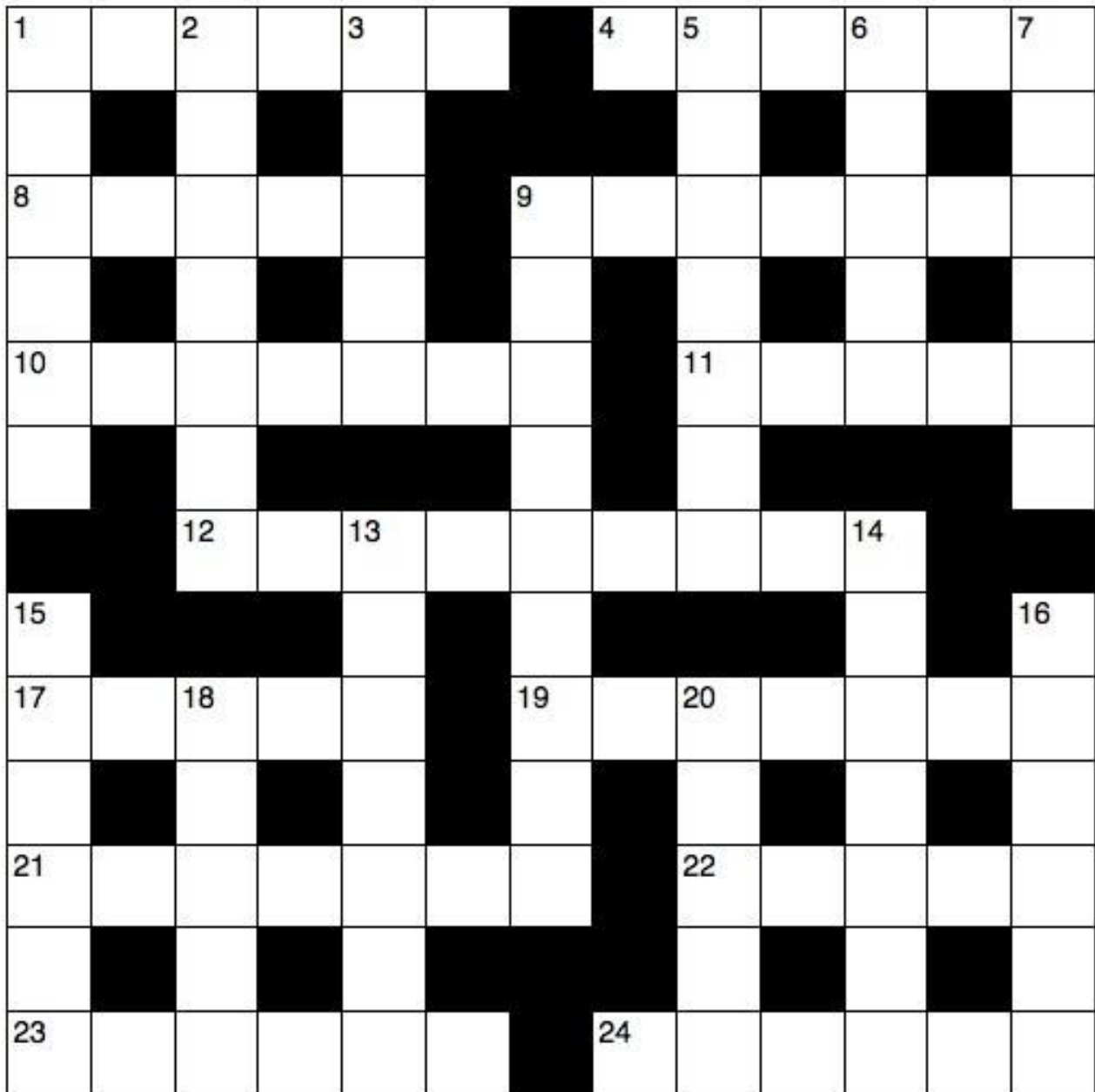
There is a manual in our church vestibule entitled, '*A Safe Church*', which is for reference by anyone and acts as a guide to safeguarding matters.

If you do have a genuine concern about such a matter, then you may wish to speak to Charlotte Wilson or Kim Teare, our Safeguarding Officers or to one of the churchwardens.

The tale of the Salt and Light



CROSS WORD GRID



Across

- 1 Military tactic used by Joshua to attack and destroy the city of Ai (Joshua 8:2) (6)
- 4 Place of learning (6)
- 8 'When Moses' hands grew — , they took a stone and put it under him and he sat on it' (Exodus 17:12) (5)
- 9 Unpleasant auguries of the end of the age, as forecast by Jesus (Matthew 24:7) (7)
- 10 Stronghold to which girls in King Xerxes' harem (including Esther) were taken (Esther 2:8) (7)

- 11 Where Saul went to consult a medium before fighting the Philistines (1 Samuel 28:7) (5)
- 12 Propitiation (Hebrews 2:17) (9)
- 17 Turn away (Jeremiah 11:15) (5)
- 19 So clear (anag.) (7)
- 21 'I have just got — , so I can't come': one excuse to be absent from the great banquet (Luke 14:20) (7)
- 22 Long weapon with a pointed head used by horsemen (Job 39:23) (5)
- 23 Musical beat (6)
- 24 What the Israelites were told to use to daub blood on their door-frames at the first Passover (Exodus 12:22) (6)

Down

- 1 Fasten (Exodus 28:37) (6)
- 2 Art bite (anag.) (7)
- 3 'The people of the city were divided; some — with the Jews, others with the apostles' (Acts 14:4) (5)
- 5 Contend (Jeremiah 12:5) (7)
- 6 Possessed (Job 1:3) (5)
- 7 Sheen (Lamentations 4:1) (6)
- 9 'You love evil rather than good, — rather than speaking the truth' (Psalm 52:3) (9)
- 13 Large flightless bird (Job 39:13) (7)
- 14 They were worth several hundred pounds each (Matthew 25:15) (7)
- 15 'A — went out to sow his seed' (Matthew 13:3) (6)
- 16 How Jesus described Jairus's daughter when he went into the room where she lay (Mark 5:39) (6)
- 18 The part of the day when the women went to the tomb on the first Easter morning (John 20:1) (5)
- 20 Narrow passageway between buildings (Luke 14:21) (5)

The Bible version used in our crosswords is the NIV.

Answers on page 9

ROTAS

June

Welcoming in Church

8.00 a.m. services

| | | |
|------------------|-------------|--------------|
| 2 nd | St. Mary's | Stephen Howe |
| 9 th | St. Francis | Stephen Howe |
| 16 th | St. Mary's | Stephen Howe |
| 23 rd | St. Francis | Stephen Howe |
| 30 th | St. Mary's | Stephen Howe |

9:15a.m./10.00 a.m. services

| | | |
|------------------|------------|-------------------------------|
| 2 nd | 10.00 a.m. | Joint at St. Francis |
| 9 th | 9.15 a.m. | Julie Conway/Jackie Greatorex |
| 16 th | 9.15 a.m. | Claire Bull/Dot Smythe |
| 23 rd | 9.15 a.m. | Merri and John Womack |
| 30 th | 9.15 a.m. | Natalie Outten/Phil Nortey |

Coffee

| | | |
|------------------|------------|------------------------------|
| 2 nd | 10.00 a.m. | Joint at St. Francis |
| 9 th | 9.15 a.m. | Cheryl Davies/Linda West |
| 16 th | 9.15 a.m. | Merri and John Womack |
| 23 rd | 9.15 a.m. | Jean Mathers/Natalie Outten |
| 30 th | 9.15 a.m. | Claire Bull/Jackie Greatorex |

Church Cleaning

| | |
|------------------|---------------------------------|
| 7 th | Margaret Bond/Cheryl Davies |
| 21 st | Christine Bryan/Annette Cordery |

Church Flower Pedestals

| | |
|------------------|--|
| 9 th | Family birthdays for Beryl Bolton arranged by Beryl. |
| 23 rd | |

ROTAS

July

Welcoming in Church

8.00 a.m. services

| | | |
|------------------|-------------|--------------|
| 7 th | St. Francis | Stephen Howe |
| 14 th | St. Francis | Stephen Howe |
| 21 st | St. Mary's | Stephen Howe |
| 28 th | St. Francis | Stephen Howe |

9:15a.m./10.00 a.m. services

| | | |
|------------------|------------|----------------------------------|
| 7 th | 10.00 a.m. | Joint Pauline Christy/Linda West |
| 14 th | 9.15 a.m. | Malcolm Hubbard/Mike Messinger |
| 21 st | 9.15 a.m. | Julie Conway/Jackie Greatorex |
| 28 th | 9.15 a.m. | Claire Bull/Dot Smythe |

Coffee

| | | |
|------------------|------------|------------------------------------|
| 7 th | 10.00 a.m. | Joint Margaret Bond/Mike Messinger |
| 14 th | 9.15 a.m. | Beryl Bolton/Gifty Nortey |
| 21 st | 9.15 a.m. | Cheryl Davies/Linda West |
| 28 th | 9.15 a.m. | Merri and John Womack |

Church Cleaning

| | |
|------------------|------------------------------|
| 5 th | Kay Mussard/Geoff Mussard |
| 19 th | Claire Cordery/Peter Cordery |

Church Flower Pedestals

| | |
|------------------|---|
| 7 th | In memory of Joy Yallop provided by Margaret Bond, Michelle Graydon and Beryl Bolton, arranged by Beryl. |
| 21 st | |

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Magazine Articles

The Parish Magazine welcomes articles from its readers. Please place in the box provided within the vestibule or send to office@stmarywestwickham.co.uk by the 15th of the month preceding publication.

www.stmarywestwickham.co.uk
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