



**Mothering  
Sunday  
30 March**

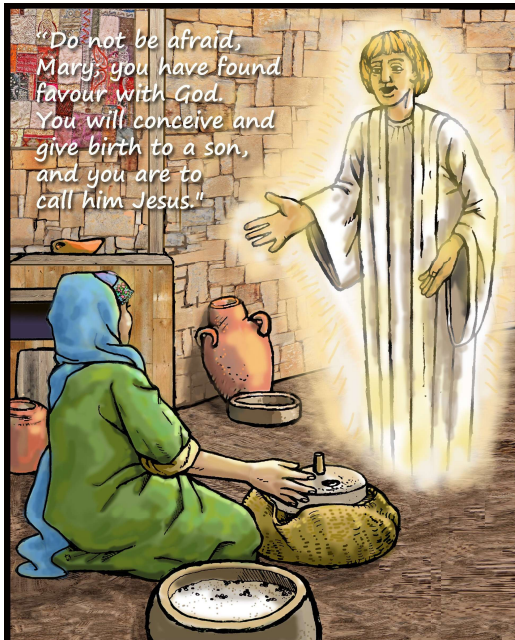
# St Andrew's Trinity E-News



**Issue 02 / 25**

Trinity's email: [trinity@basingstokecircuit.net](mailto:trinity@basingstokecircuit.net)

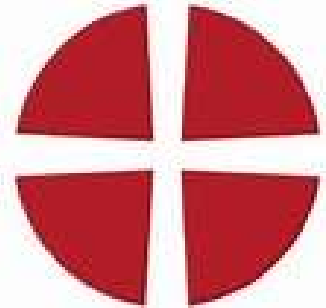
**March 2025**



**Our Minister is:  
Revd Claire Simpson**

email:  
[revclaire72@btinternet.com](mailto:revclaire72@btinternet.com)

***Our Minister is on  
Sabbatical and  
Unavailable until  
the start of April***



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**St Andrew's Trinity Church  
worship at St Andrew's  
Centre, South Ham,  
Basingstoke.**

**St Andrew's Trinity  
Website can be reached at:**

[https://e-voice.org.uk/  
standrewstrinitymc/](https://e-voice.org.uk/standrewstrinitymc/)  
(use control & click)

**St Andrew's Trinity  
E-News: Deadline for:  
April 25 Issue:  
Sat 15 March 2025**

I love receiving all your items, so please keep them coming. **Thankyou** to everyone who sends in items. They can be phoned, posted, emailed or given to me. **Thank you, Hazel, Ed**  
(☎: 01256-461375) email:  
[hazel@basingstokecircuit.net](mailto:hazel@basingstokecircuit.net)

16B Portacre Rise, B/Stoke,  
RG21 8YQ

**Link: Circuit Website:**  
[www.bhbcircuit.org.uk](http://www.bhbcircuit.org.uk)

**TEN COMMANDMENTS:** The Most Important Top Ten list.



Thank you!



**Part of Berkshire & Hampshire  
Borders Methodist Circuit**

March 2025

Dear friends,

It is always a privilege to spend time with the families who come to share with us at Jesus and me (JAM) and in the first session this year, we all spent time looking at what each one of us is good at and what talents we possess. It wasn't surprising that despite all of us being part of God's big family we were very different with very varied gifts and talents. To understand a bit more, we looked at the parable of the talents that Jesus told.

This parable is the story where a rich man with three servants gives each of them some money (talents) and asks them to use it while he is away. When the master returns, two of the servants have made a profit by investing or buying and selling but one servant has just buried his talent and has nothing extra to show his master.

The children all agreed that the message of the story lay in the trust the master had placed in his servants. He expected them to use the talents he had given them to achieve something good; something which they and their master could be proud of. They weren't surprised that he was angry with the servant who had done nothing with the money entrusted to him.

The master rewarded the active, diligent servants by placing more trust in them and giving them more responsibility but the other servant lost all that he had been given. We could all see that God has given each of us gifts and talents but that he expects us to make good, profitable decisions about the ways that we use them.

The story led us to an understanding that just like the servants in the story, "whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much." Luke 16 v 10.

It would be unreasonable if we gave young children large salaries and made them

responsible for their own food, shelter or too much else. However we all come to a time when we need to understand that everything has a cost and a value and that there are choices to be made. That's why we gradually give children pocket money and responsibility for some of their own decisions. It's the same with us and God, He expects us to look after the gifts we've been given and to understand the trust that is placed in our hands. The parable tells us that if we are faithful with the little things we have, God will trust us with more.

Some of the decisions and questions which currently face us as individuals and as a nation may seem too big or too complicated for us but we have a God in whom we can confidently place our trust, whom we can ask for wisdom and who has promised always to be by our side. That's a cause for hope in the future and trust in the eventual coming of God's Kingdom and the fruition of His plan.

Hilary

## WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

**Friday 7 MARCH 2025**  
**at 2 pm at the**

**United Reformed Church**  
**20 London Street**  
**Basingstoke RG21 7NU**



The annual **World Day of Prayer** is a women led, global, ecumenical movement and all are welcome. This year the service has been prepared by Christian women in the 'Cook Islands' and their theme is '***I made you wonderful***', based on the words of **Psalm 139**. The Cook Islands cover 15 islands in the Pacific Ocean and as we join with ecumenical colleagues, we are part of a wave of prayer which encircles the globe, praying with, and for, the Cook Islands and its people.

**Anne Rowe**



**Our Minister is: Revd Claire Simpson**

**Sunday Worship at St Andrew's Trinity  
and our Basingstoke Churches –  
Plan for Worship: March to May 2025**



**Enquiries – Joint Senior Stewards:**

**Diane Bath** ☎: 01256 320429 or email [dianebath51@gmail.com](mailto:dianebath51@gmail.com)

**Linda Hoe** ☎: 01256 417219 or email [lindahoe@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:lindahoe@hotmail.co.uk)

### **Berkshire & Hampshire Borders Circuit Plan, March 2025 (B/Stoke Churches)**

Dates	2 March	9 March 1 <sup>st</sup> in Lent	16 March 2 <sup>nd</sup> in Lent	23 March 3 <sup>rd</sup> in Lent	30 March 4 <sup>th</sup> in Lent Mothering Sunday
<b>St Andrew's Trinity</b> 10.30 am	Mrs Linda Hoe	Revd Andy Fitchet, Parade	Revd David Jenkins	Revd Barbara McIntivey, HC	LA
<b>Church of L Stream</b> 10.30 am	Mr Jonathan Skeet	Revd Dr Ruth Midcalf, HC	Mr Nick Klingaman	Mr Peter Frank	LA
<b>Oakley</b> 10.30 am	Mrs Sarah Whithorn	Mr Nick Klingaman	Revd Jenny Dowding, HC	LA	Mr Peter Frank
<b>Oakridge</b> 10.30 am	LA	Revd David Cook, HC	Revd Jackie Case	Mrs Linda Hoe	Revd David Cook
<b>Old Basing</b> 10.30 am	Mr Chris Marsh	Mr David Munns	LA	Revd Jenny Dowding, HC	Mrs Sarah Whithorn

### **Berkshire & Hampshire Borders Circuit Plan, April 2025 (B/Stoke Churches)**

Dates	6 April 5 <sup>th</sup> in Lent	13 April, 6 <sup>th</sup> in Lent, Palm Sunday	20 April, Easter Sunday	27 April
<b>St Andrew's Trinity</b> 10.30 am	Mrs Anne Rowe	Mrs Rosie Greenhaigh	Revd Claire Simpson, HC	LA
<b>Church of L Stream</b> 10.30 am	Revd Dr James Mather	Mrs Helen Watson (LP)	Mr Terry Rowell	Mrs Sarah Whithorn
<b>Oakley</b> 10.30 am	Mr Chris Marsh	Mrs Linda Hoe	Revd Dr Ruth Midcalf, HC	LA
<b>Oakridge</b> 10.30 am	Mr Nick Klingaman	Revd Claire Simpson, HC	Cole	Revd David Cook
<b>Old Basing</b> 10.30 am	Revd Barbara McIntivey	LA	Mrs Helen Watson (LP)	Revd Claire Simpson, HC

### **Printing Copies from the E-News**

**It is very easy for you to print one or any number of pages you wish to from the 'pdf' file of the e-news you receive by email.** If you would like a particular page, bigger perhaps, or if you want a printed copy of some of the pages to keep, or even if you want to print the whole newsletter. You can print what you like in A5 or A4 size.



**Berkshire & Hampshire Borders Circuit Plan, May 2025 (B/Stoke Churches)**

Dates	4 May	11 May	18 May	25 May
<b>St Andrew's Trinity</b> 10.30 am	Mrs Helen Watson (LP)	Rev'd Claire Simpson, HC	Rev'd Andy Fitchet	Mr John Smith
<b>Church of L Stream</b> 10.30 am	Mr David Munns	LA	Mr Neil Graham	LA
<b>Oakley</b> 10.30 am	Rev'd Claire Simpson	Rev'd Barbara McIntivey	Rev'd David Jenkins, HC	LA
<b>Oakridge</b> 10.30 am	Rev'd Jackie Case	Rev David Cook HC	LA	Rev'd Claire Simpson
<b>Old Basing</b> 10.30 am	Mr Terry Rowell	Mrs Sarah Whithorn	Mrs Linda Hoe	Rev'd Andy Fitchet, HC

**Clocks go Forward on Sunday 30 March****Enjoy 'Fellowship & Refreshments' after Morning Worship.**

Our Thanks to all who serve refreshments Sundays and weekdays in the 'Mug & Biscuit'.

(More Volunteers always very welcome, Sundays or weekdays, if you can help, please have a word with Linda, thank you).

**Spring Sale, at St Andrew's Trinity – 'SAVE the Date'**

**Saturday 22 March, 11 am – 3 pm**

**Good quality items for sale** (not jumble) can be left at St Andrew's Trinity from **Tuesday 11 March** during 'Mug & Biscuit Opening Times', see page 21. If you are unable to get to the church during these times, please speak to Linda to arrange another time.

**If you can help 'Man a Stall' for all or part of the day please let Linda know:**

☎ 01256 417219 / email:

[lindahoe@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:lindahoe@hotmail.co.uk)



There will be **Light Snacks, Cakes & Drinks** available

**A Prayer Request Book**

Is available each Sunday and prayers will be included in the 'Intercessions'. Please ensure you have permission from the person you would like prayed for.

**Diane Bath**





## **Farewell to Edward (Ted) Dowson,**

### **2 July 1950 – 12 January 2025**

Edward Dowson was well known to people at Trinity where he was part of a team working the sound system that enhanced worship at Sarum Hill. At the time of the death of his wife, Julie, he was recovering from Meningitis, and he continued to experience ill-health for the rest of his life. After becoming seriously ill in the autumn of 2024, his health declined rapidly and he died on 12 January, shortly after entering a nursing home.

His funeral took place on 31 January. The committal, attended only by his family, took place at the graveside in Ellisfield where he had lived with Julie for many years. This was followed by a celebration of his life at the Farleigh Estate Social Club.

Edward had lived in the Basingstoke area for many years, both within the town and later in the village of Ellisfield, which he loved. He had many interests, several of which reflected his love of nature. He was an active participant in the life of the rural community, assisting with the organisation of local events. His love of film saw him leading a film society in Ellisfield and he also enjoyed jazz.

He was a member of the U3A and one of the activities he undertook was Croquet, moving on from U3A Croquet to becoming a keen and valued member of Basingstoke Croquet Club.

Some years after Julie's death, he met and married Barbara Richardson, a widow and member of Kempshott Methodist Church. They shared many interests and enjoyed several holidays abroad. When travel became difficult they moved back into Basingstoke to a bungalow in Buckland Avenue. Barbara did not enjoy robust health and sadly died in February 2022.

Edward has two daughters, Sarah, who lives at Sherfield-on-Loddon, and Louise who lives and works in education in Brunei. Edward braved the travel to visit Louise and her children a couple of years ago. Both Sarah and Louise spoke lovingly about their father and gave a real sense of his personality. A long-term friend also spoke of camping holidays abroad in a car which seemed not up to the job. He bore witness to Edward's impetuosity.

Edward's children, step-daughter, grandchildren, brother, nephews and many friends from all his interest groups enjoyed remembering a man of kindness, imagination and integrity. Charities selected for donations in his memory were the Hawk Conservancy Trust, Andover and the Hampshire Wildlife Trust.

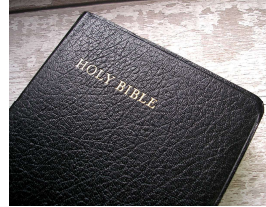
May he rest in peace.

**Charmian Harrison**

*(Our thanks to Charmian for writing this lovely piece about Edward (Ted) Dowson for us)*

- 175 years ago, on 5 March 1850 the Britannia Bridge linking Anglesey & mainland Wales across the Menai Strait was officially opened. Designed & built by railway engineer Robert Stephenson, it had to be replaced after a disastrous fire in 1970.

## Lent Group



**From Monday 10 March at 2pm** there will be a weekly **Lent Group** in the church. The theme this year is pilgrimage.

Copies for each week can be emailed to you (or printed for those without email).

Please see Pauline Ansell or one of the stewards for more details.

### SPARK –

#### Christian Resources for Children and Young Teens

**SPARK** is produced by UCB (United Christian Broadcasters) and provides an accessible message everyday with a follow up activity and message.

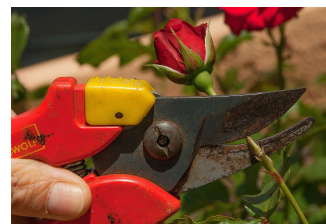
Easy and free to download at [UCBSPARK.co.uk](http://UCBSPARK.co.uk)

Try it out for yourself and recommend it to somebody who might enjoy getting God's message everyday on their computer or phone.

**Hilary Reed**

### Church Gardens

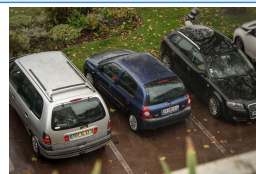
**The church gardener has emigrated to Spain** and we have engaged Andy Bonner, a previous gardener of ours to take over. One of his jobs will be litter picking so we are standing down our faithful helpers. Many thanks to Peter Harris, Stuart Parker and Helen Blake who in sunshine and rain have undertaken the litter picking for the past couple of years. *(They never did find that £20 note I lost).*



**Bob**

### BEWARE AND FORWARDED

On **Sunday 27 April** there is a Junior Netball Tournament taking place at Russell Howard Park. This means **car parking at the St Andrew's Centre and the car park at Russell Howard will be at a minimum.** Please share cars if you can, there should be parking available in the lay-bys in Western Way or see Bob about parking in his road, 2 minutes' walk to church, **Bob**



## SAVE THE DATE

**10 & 11 May 2025**

*(details to follow)*

**Celebrating 60 years of:**

**'3rd Basingstoke Boys' Brigade' at our Church.**

**Theresa Strachan**

### Sunday Car Parking

I am looking into the problem of parking at Church for Sunday Worship. Most roads adjacent to the church do not have yellow lines. For those who are severely affected I have a solution so please see me personally.

**Bob Lock**



- 90 years ago, on 16 March 1935 driving tests were first introduced in Britain. Three days later, on 19 March, a speed limit of 30 mph in built-up areas was also introduced, under the Road Traffic Act of 1934.

## St Andrews Trinity has its own Website & Quarterly Flyer

*The Home Page for our website is: (use control & click)*

<https://e-voice.org.uk/standrewstrinitymc/>




**Our Website** – currently has details of Church activities including Church Services, the Mug & Biscuit, Church Groups, Children's Groups and other users of our premises. There are details of upcoming events at or relevant to St Andrew's Trinity as well as the current issue of the **e-news** magazine. It will be updated with new information as and when it is available.

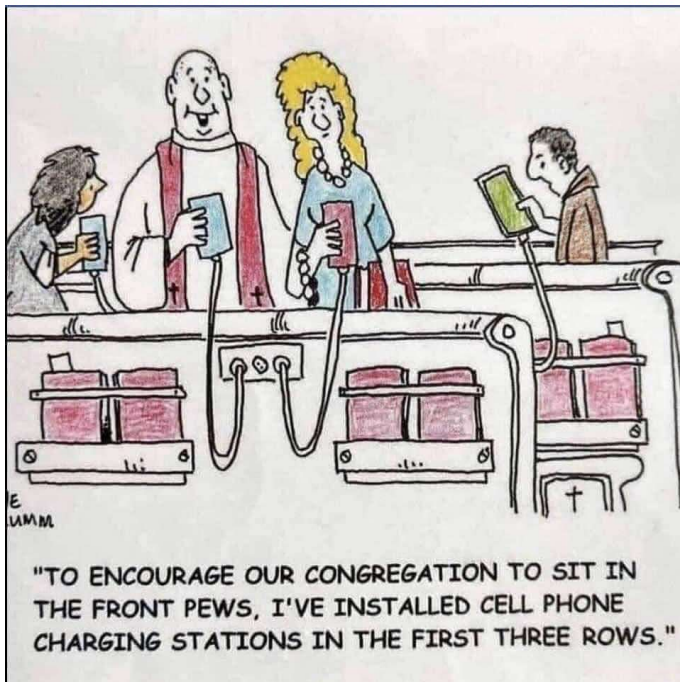
***BUT it will be up to our Church congregation & those running various groups & activities*** to keep both me and our e-news editor (Hazel) informed of what is going on.

The website is in its infancy, and a huge learning curve for me in its development, so I welcome any suggestions for changes and/or additions you would like to see on the website, **Peter H**

**Our Flyer** – *Hopefully you have caught sight of one of the Flyers, (look out for them on the table as you come into the Mug & Biscuit).* Out the beginning of December, A4 folded with info on what is going on at our church, next one out the beginning of March, **Hazel H**

**Unfortunately the  Bookstall scheduled for after church on Sunday 30 March has had to be CANCELLED. A new date will be announced when arranged, but will not be before the end of April and possibly in May.**

**Books, daily readings etc can be ordered, please see Linda**



### Shrove Tuesday, 4 March



### Giving

*The grave of Christopher Chapman in Westminster Abbey, bearing the date 1680, says:*

What I gave, I have,

What I spent, I had,

What I left, I lost:  
By not giving it.

- If you your lips would keep from slips, five things observe with care:  
to whom you speak, of whom you speak, and how, and when, and where!  
*William E Norris*
- The important thing about your lot in life is whether you use it for building or parking –  
*Anon*



**ABRIDGED MINUTES of ST ANDREW'S TRINITY CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING****Monday 10 February 2025 at 2 pm**

Twenty-six people attended

Apologies received from four members

1. **The Minutes** of the meetings held on 21 October 2024 and 18 November 2024 were agreed as a true record.
2. **Matters Arising:** Under 9. Publicity, Peter Harris wanted to clarify that he and Hazel were not producing a register of activities, but a Flyer.
3. **Property:** A property report had been circulated prior to the meeting.

**Roof:** BL drew attention to the paragraph concerning roof repairs following storm damage. The cost of the November repairs was £12,000 and is guaranteed for 15 years. The second repair in December cost £4,800 and is guaranteed for 10 years.

**Gardener:** We have employed a new gardener, Mr A. Bonner.

**Signage:** Estimates had been received to supply three outside signs showing our new Church name, at a cost of £1,002, which included the removal and disposal of the old signs. The proposal was carried by a majority vote and one abstention.

**Lettings:** We have lost one letting which was the South Ham Action Group which has disbanded. At a recent Stewards meeting it was agreed that Church Council be asked to agree to an increase in letting fees. The proposal is that from September 2025 the hourly rate for regular bookings will increase by £1 and for occasional bookings £2 per hour. It is further proposed that the Guides, Brownies and Rainbows will remain at their existing rate. In reply to a question, the Treasurer confirmed that the revenue from lettings more than covers the cost of heating and lighting.

**Health & Safety Policy Notice:** This had been circulated, and MP asked the meeting if they would approve the notice for the coming year. To be reviewed annually. A risk assessment policy should also be attached.

4. **Finance:** Sarah W had produced a financial report and a balance sheet for St Andrew's Trinity for the 5 months ending 31<sup>st</sup> January 2025, plus an additional report which included a 5 month comparison to the previous year. In reply to a question SW explained why the circuit assessment is a year behind, and the reason why there is an assessment for St Andrews, and one for Trinity.

MH confirmed that there will still be some money for St Andrew's Trinity Church, which will come from ex-Trinity accounts

**Reports from Other Groups:** Reports circulated before the meeting were from the Worship Group, Pastoral Group, Tech Group, Outreach Group, BB & U5's Group, Outreach Group, Children's/Young People and Families Group and Mission. The only questions arising from these reports were on AV and Mission.

**AV:** DW had produced a very comprehensive report which was circulated prior to this meeting. He gave a summary of the work already carried out in the hall and mentioned the four outstanding items left to complete the AV scheme. He also talked about other additional improvements that people might like. DW proposed to Church Council that we purchase a new laptop with Microsoft 365 and suggested that perhaps a small group of people could investigate what sort of laptop and software would be best for our church and then put forward a proposal to Church Council.

*cont'd.....*

**ABRIDGED MINUTES, ST ANDREW'S TRINITY CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING (cont'd)**

**Projectors:** MF asked if the quality of projection could be improved, mentioning the distracting sunlight from the circular window. There was some discussion about turning lights off, and having single lighting for organ/piano, and the pulpit. MH thought a new laptop would improve the quality of projection on the screen. PH suggested we look at procuring a better-quality screen. It was agreed that this should wait until Revd Claire is back from sabbatical. In the meantime, DW said the AV group would think about the points raise and explore further possibilities.

**Mission:** BJ had circulated the notes she had taken at the Zoom meeting. DW spoke about his own thoughts and there was a general discussion on what mission meant to us as individuals. Before the next Church Council Meeting DW asked everybody (a) to pray and make a note of what we do that might be described as mission. "Nothing" is an acceptable answer, but we should be creative about what this means – not just evangelism, but living out our Christian calling of love for the world not just "church" sponsored things, but personal ones too. (b) What, if anything else, we think that God might be calling us as individuals to do on 'mission', including areas not to continue. (c) the same question as (b) but as a group of people, or the whole church community. (d) What are the reasons why we don't do items (b and c).

It was pointed out that no one has asked the church people what they do, or want and that we should encourage the congregation to join in. eg: ask people to pray for us.

LH said she was surprised to learn that there was a lack of understanding that the Mug and Biscuit was for everyone, not just church people. We will have to think about how best to promote the M & B.

**5. Safeguarding/GDPR**

**Safeguarding:** MH reported that there had been some advanced training courses. She pointed out that safeguarding is the responsibility of everyone. Five people were mentioned that needed to renew their DBS certificate,

**GDPR:** Pauline volunteered to look at the Trinity website/emails and inform Michael if there was any sensitive information that comes under the GDPR rules.

**6. Circuit**

Sarah R. reported on Circuit news. Heather Symons had been appointed as Pastoral Assistant and Louise Craig appointed as Lay Outreach (all subject to references). We were not able to attract a Deacon in the north of the circuit for the elderly. There are outstanding vacancies in Andover and Reading.

**7. Any Other Business**

**Extra tables and chairs** will continue to be put out on Sunday. LF will put a message on the screen to remind people.

**Christians Against Poverty:** YH gave information to the meeting on this national charity which works with churches enabling people to manage their budgets. She proposed that CAP would like to run 4 sessions at South Ham and she asked if our church would cover the cost of the meals and rental of our building. AV would be required. LH volunteered to provide refreshments.

**Michael asked for a nomination to be our church link to the Foodbank.** PW offered to be a telephone contact and JL volunteered to be the e-mail link.

*cont'd.....*

**ABRIDGED MINUTES, ST ANDREW'S TRINITY CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING (cont'd)**

**Memorial Book:** PA mentioned that the memorial book had been updated and is now back in the display cabinet.

A suggestion was made to have some artificial floral displays in front of the back walls in Church.

**Trinity Church Clear Out: Monday 17<sup>th</sup> February.** Yvonne invited members to Trinity Church from 10.30am onwards to view items or help clear out the remaining cupboards. She had been given permission from Circuit to sell off items and raise money for Youth outreach. The sale will be sometime in the spring.

**9. Date of next meeting: Note new time of 7.30pm Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2025**

NB: An unabridged copy of these minutes is posted on the Notice Board in Church

## Memorial flowers

We have a small group of flower arrangers who are happy to offer to do small flower arrangements, on our memorial book cabinet (Max cost £10).

If you would like to mark a significant date in memory of someone special in this way, please **speak to Ann Walker or a steward**, preferably two weeks in advance.



## *Canon Paul Hardingham considers* **A Lent Reflection**



Somebody asked a Christian friend why he was eating doughnuts, when he had given them up for Lent! He answered, *'At the bakers I told God, that if He wanted me to buy doughnuts, He should provide a parking space in front. On the eighth time around, there it was!'*

Rather than seeing Lent simply as a time to give things up, let's use it intentionally for self-examination, reading Scripture, penitence, fasting and prayer. At Jesus' baptism, God's voice says, *'You are My Son, whom I love; with You I am well pleased.'* (Luke 3:22). The Holy Spirit then leads Jesus into the wilderness, where we find Him coming to terms with who He is. Satan's temptations challenge Jesus in key three areas of His identity: His divine sonship, political power and Messianic role (Luke 4: 1-13). It is as though Jesus was looking into the mirror at Himself to discern what kind of Saviour He should be.

For us, Lent is an opportunity to hold up a mirror to ourselves and ask the question, *'who am I?'* It's a season of honest encounter with who we are, what we've done, and how we should live. What will we see when we hold up the mirror to ourselves? Keeping Lent, the 40 days running up to Easter, could mean taking time to read Scripture, studying a Christian book or spending five minutes each day in silence! We might fast by missing one or two meals, refraining from TV, alcohol, social media, or scrolling on our phones. All of these can help us to give more attention to God in our lives. Whatever we do, Lent is a season for self-reflection, as we put ourselves in a position to receive afresh the forgiveness and healing that God offers. **(PP)**

- The pulse of prayer is praise. The heart of prayer is gratitude. The voice of prayer is obedience. The arm of prayer is service – *William A Ward*



## Zac in Basingstoke in 2025

Do you sing? Play an instrument? Want a challenging but rewarding day on **7 June 2025**? It is not long to go now!

The musical Zac is a familiar gospel story with a different slant, which we will present at Christ Church Chineham. Please book it in your diaries!

If you are interested in singing, or playing an instrument, we would love you to join us. We are also looking for support people – if you think you could help please let me know. (If you have already said you would like to join, there is no need to tell me again).

Or... just come along to the presentation in the afternoon, and get caught up in the story.

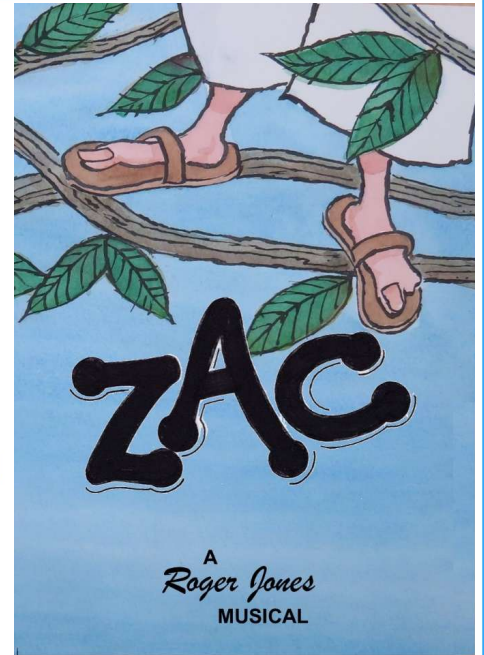
If you want to see the musical on YouTube, it is at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BMyaRXypJ5g>

Just as happened with “Wildfire” that we did last April, Christian musicals are great worship, they are good fun, and they are a very good way to meet with other people and just share and enjoy each other’s company. They also offer something to people who are just curious about Christianity.

There will be an opportunity for singers to practise the songs in the lead up to the day. You do not need to come to these familiarisation sessions – it is ok to just come on the day for the rehearsal and presentation.

Please book the date, and if you want to know more, please do contact me.

Thank you – David Webb, ☎: 07848 843360 [circuitmusical@bhbcircuit.org.uk](mailto:circuitmusical@bhbcircuit.org.uk)



## Changing a light bulb is a generational thing



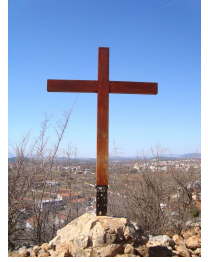
Do you know how to clean a car, change a lightbulb, hang a picture and identify a spanner? If yes, then chances are, you are a Baby Boomer (1955-1964) and not a Gen Z (1997-2012).

For recent research has found that some Gen Z are paying up to £1,300 a year for simple household tasks to be done, because they don't want to tackle them. Changing a light bulb? Gen Z worry that a step ladder can be dangerous, and that the bulb might be “too hot”. They do not want “to mess around with electrics.” Hanging a picture frame? Add air to a car tyre? Identify a spanner? Fit a wiper blade? Clean a car?

The list of practical jobs is endless, and huge numbers of Gen Z get round them by asking a parent or even paying a professional, to do it. The research was commissioned by Halfords. It concluded that DIY may sadly be a dying skill, because too many Gen Z-ers are simply not practically minded. **(PP)**

- God's help is near and always available, but it is only given for those who seek it – *Max Lucado*
- Many people will walk in and out of your life, but only true friends will leave footprints in your heart – *Eleanor Roosevelt*
- A word of encouragement can sometimes make the difference between giving up and going on – *Anon*

## Ecumenism



Last month a week was set aside by churches, to consider church unity. This was termed, 'The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity.' In years past, this was celebrated positively, in Basingstoke. It finished each week, with a united, Service, in one of the town's churches.

It seems to have ceased. And I for one miss it. I am an Ecumenist, and I believe that each denomination of the Christian Church, has a part to play in worship and adherence to the Faith. Their respective churches are all the 'House of God' and although their style of worship varies, all are valid.

None of them are inferior, they are all part of the whole. Many Christians give what I call 'lip service' to this idea. It is so easy to become entrenched in our own way of doing things, that we think it is the only way, and worse still the RIGHT way.

It is part of being human. We know what we know, and the older we get, the more disturbing things outside our experience become.

I started life as an infant receiving baptism in the Anglican church. During my childhood, I started attending The Salvation Army Sunday School. In young adulthood, I became a Methodist, and in later years an Anglican, now I am a Salvation Army Adherent, and an Ecumenist.

An Anglican Priest said to me some time ago, 'Wherever we go, we take our luggage with us'. My luggage comprises all my life experiences, my knowledge of faith and all that makes up my personality.

We cannot leave our 'luggage' behind. It is who we are.

Ecumenism helps me to be a follower of Jesus Christ, a Christian. I look forward, to the day, when we will all meet at His feet, truly united.

God bless you,

**Margaret Garland**

### **3<sup>rd</sup> Basingstoke Boys Brigade** –

**Especially  
5 – 8 yr old boys**

If there are any boys with nothing to do on a Friday night between 6.30 pm – 7.45 pm, it's £2 per session and boys can come any Friday to see what we do. If they want to join us on a regular basis that would be great. The older Boys meet from 7.45 pm until 10 pm.

### **Prayer for March 2025**

Dear Lord, In this month when Lent begins, we remember the difficult journey Jesus made to the cross, to take upon Himself our sins and the sins of the whole world, to bring us the hope of eternal life by His resurrection.

Lord, we bring to You our own journeys through our daily lives. We bring our disappointments, our bewilderment, our pain, as well as our happy times. We thank You that You are with us in and through all of it.

We thank You that the message of Christmas is the message of Lent and the message of every day – You, our God, are with us always, giving us hope and life, because of Jesus.

Thank You that He made that journey for us, and all we have to do is trust in Him. Help us to do that and to share His good news with others, especially those in distress.

We pray in His name, Amen. **by Daphne Kitching, PP**



# Curcuit Youth weekend

Calling all young people School year 4 to 12

**Saturday 29th to Sunday 30th  
March 2025**

**Location is the Emmanuel Oxford Road  
Church, in Reading.**

For more information please talk to your Church Youth and Children Leader or Minister

Or Contact Yvonne, Rea or the Circuit Office

Yvonne Hunt (she/her)

Circuit Children Families and Young Persons Outreach Worker

Phone: 07462040644

Email: yvonne.h@bhbcircuit.org.uk

Rae Douglas (he/him)

Circuit Youth Minister

Phone: 07873722319

Email: rae.d@bhbcircuit.org.uk

*1<sup>st</sup> March is St David's Day –*

***St David is the Patron Saint of Wales***

**“Be joyful, keep the faith, do the little things”**

He said “Be joyful, keep the faith  
And do the little things”  
Words spoken by a Celtic Saint  
To common folk and kings.

The joy of the Lord is our strength  
And faith in the goodness of God,  
He has a path for us to walk  
One He's already trod.

All what He plans for us to do  
May seem of little worth,  
But they're the very things He'll use  
To bring His love to earth. **By Megan Carter**



*Dag Hammarskjold  
(1905 – 1961) gave the  
impression of being an  
agnostic humanist while  
he was serving as  
Secretary-General of  
the United Nations. So,  
it was a surprise when  
after his death in a  
plane crash, his private  
papers contained some  
notes entitled  
“negotiations with  
myself – and with God”.  
His prayers have a  
naked honesty which is  
deeply moving. This one  
is from 1961, written the  
year of his untimely  
death.*

\* \* \* \* \*

**Negotiations with  
myself – and God (PP)**

Have mercy upon us. Have  
mercy upon our efforts,  
That we before Thee, in  
love and in faith,  
Righteousness and  
humility,  
May follow Thee,  
With self-denial,  
steadfastness and courage,  
And meet Thee in the  
silence.

Give us a pure heart that  
we may see Thee,  
A humble heart that we  
may hear Thee,  
A heart of love that we may  
serve Thee,  
A heart of faith that we may  
love Thee,

Thou whom I do not know  
But whose I am.

Thou whom I do not  
comprehend  
But who hast dedicated  
me To my fate. Thou –

**By Dag Hammarskjold**



## Oakley Methodist Church



**Coffee Mornings on:**  
**Tuesdays 11 & 25 March**  
**10.30 am – 12 noon**  
**£1 for a bottomless**  
**tea or coffee & biscuits**  
*Paperbacks available*  
**30p each**

*Proceeds to the Red Cross.*

## Oakridge Methodist Church

Vivian Road, Basingstoke, RG21 5QB

### 'Welcome Hub'

**EVERY Wednesday, 10 am – 12 noon**

A 'busy group' doing mainly craft activities for local charities, but opportunity to bring along something you are working on.

Refreshments and some craft materials provided.  
 No charge but donations gratefully received.

### Coffee & Craft

*Why not come and give us a try?*

## 'Open the Book' – OTB In-person CORE Training in Basingstoke

**Tuesday 8 April 2025**  
**10 am – 2 pm**

At Oakridge Methodist Church, Vivian Road, Basingstoke RG21 5QB  
*(taken from Circuit Notices)*

*Refreshments will be provided, but participants are required to bring their own lunch.*

**Booking details are on the:**

'Open the Book' website:

<https://www.biblesociety.org.uk/get-involved/open-the-book/training/>



## Old Basing Methodist Church

**CAMEO Club next meet on:**

**18 March between**  
**11.30 am – 1 pm**



*Light lunch served. Please bring along your crafts. All Welcome.*

**Gillian Smethurst**

## Joint Cafe Venture – 'Old Basing MC and St Mary's Church, Old Basing':

### "The Welcome Cafe"

Open at **St Mary's Parish Room, Old Basing**  
**2 pm to 4.30 pm on Fridays 7 & 21 March.**

**Delicious homemade cakes and hot beverages will be served. You pay what you can afford. All are welcome.**



- We change things by changing ourselves! – Anon

## Whisper it softly, but many of us *prefer* instant coffee

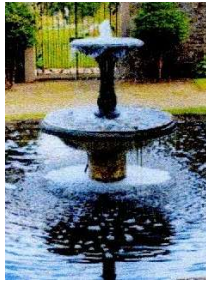
In this age of exotic coffee making machines, there are still a good 39 per cent of us in Britain who reach for the instant coffee – and even prefer it. In fact, a 2024 Kantar report has found that seven million of us happily drink instant coffee two or three times each day. Nescafe Gold Blend is the UK's leading instant coffee brand, with 4.3 million of us buying it in 2023. As James Chiavarini, patron of the Italian restaurant Il Portico says: "Gold Blend is weak and sweet, and I can drink it all day without the risk of a stomach ulcer." (PP)

## PRAYING & LISTENING Sunday mornings



Anyone wearing this badge will be available to listen & pray quietly with you at the back of the church after the service.

**The Fountain Prayer Group**  
meets in the **Main Hall or Small Hall** at St Andrew's Trinity  
on: **Thursdays 13 & 27 March**



We gather at 2.30 pm and begin at 2.45 pm with a short reflection. The rest of our time together includes a period of silence and some prayerful sharing. We finish the formal part at around 4 pm. Please come even if you cannot attend every meeting.

**Angela Webb** ([angela@webbfamily.org.uk](mailto:angela@webbfamily.org.uk))

## **'TUESDAY COFFEE CLUB'**

Come and enjoy a '*cuppa & chat*', everyone very welcome. Runs alongside the **Mug & Biscuit** at the back of the church **10 am to 11.30 am**, finishing in time to grab lunch in the Mug & Biscuit! Aims to stay open **all year apart from Christmas**,



**Di Spencer**

Pixabay



## Trinity Circle

Next meet on: **Tuesday 11 March** at **7.30 pm** at St Andrew's Trinity. Our Speaker is Jackie Dimmock, who is coming back to tell us more about "A life of Law and Order". Trinity Circle is open to everyone and we look forward to seeing you, **Sonia**

## Northern Housegroup

Meet next on: **Tuesday 4 March** at **7.30 pm**. Edna Rawlins will be hosting this in the **Lounge at Westdeane Court**. We welcome back Revd Jackie Case who will be leading our evening.

**Sonia, Hilary and Edna**

## (JAM) – 'Jesus And Me'

**Meets: 2.30 pm – 4.30 pm,**  
**usually the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of**  
**the month at St Andrew's Trinity**  
**Methodist Church**



**The Next 'JAM' Dates are:**  
**Sunday 2 March – Theme: 'New beginnings, the story of Zaccheus'**  
**Sunday 6 April – Theme: 'The Big Surprise'**

\* \* \* \* \*

**JAM – Children & Families** meet at **St Andrew's Trinity**, usually the **1<sup>st</sup> Sunday** of the month to hear stories of Jesus, Craft, Singing & Tea.  
**All very welcome, do come & join us.**

**Yvonne Hunt** – is our **Children's, Families & Young Persons Outreach Worker** for our **Basingstoke Methodist Churches**.

**email: [yvonne.h@bhbcircuit.org.uk](mailto:yvonne.h@bhbcircuit.org.uk) or phone on: ☎: 07462 040644**

## South Ham Churches Lunch Club

St Andrews, St Josephs & St Peters run a Lunch Club on the **2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Fridays**, **12.30 pm**, at St Joseph's Church, St Michael's Road. Open to over 55's, cost **£5 per head**. More info from **Churches' Co-ordinator, Hannah Lock**. If you would like to help, more information from **Bob Lock, Methodist Co-ordinator**.



## 'Singing Group Dates'

The '**Singing Group**' meets next on **Mondays 10 & 24 March at 11am.**

We look forward to seeing you, everyone is very welcome, especially a few more men. Do come and join us for an enjoyable 'sing'. If you would like more information, have a word with Peggy, **Peggy and Hazel**



**The List of - Church Stewards & Congregational Representatives on Church Council** can be found on the Notice Board at the back of the Church, along with a copy of the most **Current Church Council Minutes**.

## Why a Glass of Milk may help Save your Life

Drinking a glass of milk a day could cut the risk of you getting bowel cancer by almost a fifth. So say researchers at the University of Oxford. They have found strong evidence that calcium protects against the deadly disease.

According to the data, it takes only an extra 300mg of calcium a day (found in a large 240ml of milk, or a couple of pots of yoghurt) to result in a 17 per cent lessening of the risk of bowel cancer. Currently, one in 20 women and one in 17 men in the UK will be diagnosed with bowel cancer during their lifetime. It affects around 44,000 people each year in the UK. (PP)



## 'Crafting Bits' – If anyone wants some Crafting Bits

(we have paints, coloured sand, felt, google eyes, lollipop sticks and much more), please contact: **Yvonne Hunt**: [Outreach@BRMC.uk](mailto:Outreach@BRMC.uk)



Pixabay

## Newsletter: 'Events / Dates / Contributions'



Please send me any: '**Events**', '**Dates for Diaries**', '**other contributions**' you would like included or promoted in '**OUR**' Newsletter. **Thank you, Hazel, Ed.** (Items can be: bible passages, prayers, poems, stories, outings, holidays, events, anything else you would like included).

## Useful ☎ & Email Contacts:

Our Minister is: Revd Claire Simpson

email: [revclaire72@btinternet.com](mailto:revclaire72@btinternet.com)

**On Sabbatical, NOT Contactable in Mar 2025**

\* \* \* \* \*

Church Contacts: Joint Senior Stewards:

Diane Bath: ☎ 01256 320429 /

email: [dianebath51@gmail.com](mailto:dianebath51@gmail.com)

Linda Hoe: ☎ 01256 417219 /

email: [lindahoe@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:lindahoe@hotmail.co.uk)

\* \* \* \* \*

St Andrew's Trinity Bookings: Contact: Bob

Lock, email: [robertlock1@virginmedia.com](mailto:robertlock1@virginmedia.com)

\* \* \* \* \*

St Andrew's Trinity E-News, Editor: Hazel

Harris, email: [hazel@basingstokecircuit.net](mailto:hazel@basingstokecircuit.net)

☎ 01256-461375, address:

16B Portacre Rise, B/Stoke, RG21 8YQ

\* \* \* \* \*

## Other Useful ☎ & Email Contacts:

Circuit Administrator: Mrs Marion Young, can

be contacted: ☎ 07503 652961 (working hours

only) & email: [marion.y@bhbcircuit.org.uk](mailto:marion.y@bhbcircuit.org.uk)

\* \* \* \* \*

Circuit Administrator: Lee Frost, can be

contacted: ☎ 07586 441328 & by email at:

[lee.f@bhbcircuit.org.uk](mailto:lee.f@bhbcircuit.org.uk)

\* \* \* \* \*

Children's, Families & Young Person's

Outreach Worker, B/Stoke, Yvonne Hunt can

be contacted: ☎ 07462 040644 or by

email: [yvonne.h@bhbcircuit.org.uk](mailto:yvonne.h@bhbcircuit.org.uk)

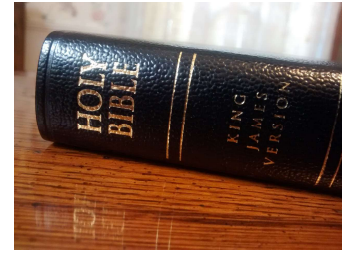
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We are now part of the new Berkshire & Hampshire Borders Methodist Circuit, the new website is: [www.bhbcircuit.org.uk](http://www.bhbcircuit.org.uk)

Berkshire and Hampshire Borders Methodist Circuit is a Registered Charity, the Charity No is: 1134891



## Where are the Miracles Today?



When Jesus was alive in this World and preaching the Gospel of Salvation and eternal life, He performed many miracles in His travels demonstrating His love for mankind and confirming His Divine authority. Many of these were healing of the sick, and disabled, who would otherwise remain incapacitated given the limitations of medical science in those times. They confirmed indeed that He was the Son of God.

Many people would say that miracles were only in Jesus' time and do not happen today, and ask, "Where are the miracles today?" We as faithful Christian believers and obedient to God's Word and His calling in our lives, can answer positively. Many of us will have witnessed healing miracles through prayer in the lives of our families and friends where this is beyond the abilities of the medical profession. Sometimes it may take years of prayer and in other times happen very quickly. God's Divine intervention. Our faith is put to the test and strengthened by witnessing them.

We can seek guidance on this from Paul's letter to the Corinthians in 1 Corinthians 12. Each one of us is given Spiritual Gifts by God, as He determines, for the common good. These include workers of miracles and those having gifts of healing (1 Corinthians 12 :28 – 31). We are all individual members of the Body of Christ working together for the common good.

There are many miracles happening around us daily that go unnoticed by most of us. We are guided by the Holy Spirit as He desires, each one of us making a contribution in providing answers to the prayers of others maybe unknown to us. A good example being a family in our neighbourhood in these difficult economic times not being able to purchase food for themselves. On our weekly food shop we may be guided to make a food donation to a charity food bank at the supermarket checkout. The supermarket management and others will have been guided to distribute these donations to food bank locations within the community available to those in need. In cases where the needy cannot reach the food bank others under God's guidance will deliver the required food to their doors. The miracle is the Holy Spirit working in the hearts of each of us Believers in answering the prayers of those seeking God's Love and support.

Our Lord will find a way where there seems to be no way to answer our prayers, whether it is direct Divine intervention or the Holy Spirit active in the hearts of His people.

Yes, miracles are happening every day, and we should actively work together with our ever Faithful Lord to achieve His purpose, Amen.

**Martin Frost, 29 January 2025**

## In Quietness & Trust – Lent Devotions from the Beatitudes by Matt Searles, 10Publishing, £6.99

Early in His ministry, Jesus gave His followers a description of how He wants His people to live. Rather than seeking to ascend to God, Christian discipleship is a downward flourishing; a counter-cultural way of blessing. These 40 devotions, with a daily reading and short reflection, will guide you through the beatitudes Jesus gave in the Sermon on the Mount. This Easter, join Jesus on His path to the cross, and see that His way – though so different to the way of the world – leads to freedom, joy and life. **(PP)**

- The Bible is a letter God has sent to us; prayer is a letter we send to Him – *Matthew Henry*

## Around our Circuit – What's on & Where ?

(taken from our circuit notices)



- **NEW Circuit Website: 'Berkshire & Hampshire Borders Methodist Circuit'** at: [www.bhbcircuit.org.uk](http://www.bhbcircuit.org.uk)
- **Eye-Witness: Stories from Israel – Wesley Church, 6 March, 7pm:** See poster on opposite page, 19. Talk by The Very Reverend Nicholas Papadopolos, who recently returned from Jerusalem.
- **Vintage Adventure in Thatcham 20 March, 2.30 – 4.30 pm:** See poster below.
- **Hungerford Methodist Church & Hall:** Spring Jumble & Plant sale: **Saturday 8 March, 11 am – 2 pm:** <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61556250595555>
- **Monthly Events – "Hot Potatoes" Open Discussion Group,** Zoom, first Monday, at: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84961411119> (Meeting ID: 849 6141 1119).
- **Monthly Online Bible Study –** Open Bible study, Zoom, fourth Wednesday, 7.30 pm at: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81154471992> (Meeting ID: 811 5447 1992).
- **Hungerford Memory Worship,** 30 minute informal Service, all welcome, especially those living with dementia & their carers. Traditional hymns, Bible reading, Prayer, Thought-for-the-Day; drinks & biscuits after. **2<sup>nd</sup> Thurs monthly:** Methodist Church, Bridge Street, RG17 0EH, 2.30 pm led by Revd Andy Fitchet & Karen Frost ☎: 07444 851606. Free parking outside church/in Canal Walk. Step-free access, accessible toilet.
- **Hungerford At-Home-Events weekly: Evening Prayer, Tuesday, Zoom, 7.30 pm:** <https://us05web.zoom.us/j/87317558512?pwd=Zk92M0NsSG5DdnlnYmkyV1hVXZjUT09> / **Men's Prayer "Breakfast", Saturday, 9 am, Zoom:** <https://us05web.zoom.us/j/83446790478?pwd=L1IKRkJNS3N3VTBCbTZmR0htbHIZUT09>



We invite you to join us at

### Vintage Adventure

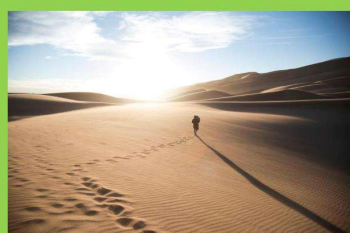
A time of fun, making friends, singing, informal Christian worship, activities, drinks and homemade cakes

For the young at heart in our community

Inclusive and dementia friendly

Led by the Churches in Thatcham

**Theme: Footprints**



**Thursday, 20 March 2025**

**2.30pm – 4.00pm**

**Thatcham Methodist Church** (RG18 4QL)

Book your place: Karen on 07444 851606 or email [karen.f@bhbcircuit.org.uk](mailto:karen.f@bhbcircuit.org.uk)

## Taking Books to Christians

### Everywhere (PP) (slightly abridged)

The first Thursday in March is World Book Day and a good time to think about sending Christian books around the world. For 35 years, the **Book Aid Charitable Trust** has collected Bibles and Christian literature books & supplied them to partners in countries where books are badly wanted, but not easily found or afforded. It began in the back of a car in 1988, when an English missionary couple retired & began to collect Christian books from friends to send abroad. Since then, **Book Aid** has worked with global partners in 17 countries in Africa, Asia & Central America.

**The vision:** gather books around the UK, sort, package & ship them around the world. When books reach their destination, they are sold at affordable prices, profit earned through book sales is used to develop & enhance local literature initiatives & Christian ministries.

To pay shipping & admin, **Book Aid** sell books online, & in their bookshops. To date, **Book Aid** has sent over 35 million books! Find out more & how you could help at: <https://book-aid.org>

\* \* \* \* \*



# EYE-WITNESS

## Stories from Israel-Palestine

*Come and hear first-hand from Nick Papadopoulos, recently returned from three months in East Jerusalem*

- *What is daily life under occupation really like?*
- *What are the implications for human rights and international law?*
- *What can be done to promote a just peace in Israel-Palestine?*

6<sup>th</sup> March 2025 at 7pm  
Wesley Methodist Church  
84 Queen's Road  
Reading  
RG14BW

**ALL WELCOME!**



Ecumenical  
Accompaniment  
Programme  
in Palestine  
and Israel

For more information about the programme please  
visit: [www.eyewitnessblogs.com](http://www.eyewitnessblogs.com)

## 'Open The Book' Celebrates 25 years of Bible Storytelling

This year Bible Society's 'Open the Book' turns 25.

It has seen remarkable progress in getting Bible stories 'out there', to young children right across the world. Open the Book brings the Bible to life through its creative and interactive storytelling approach.

From England to Kyrgyzstan, storytelling teams visit schools and present a ten to fifteen-minute scripted Bible story, designed to be interactive. Over many years, hundreds of volunteers and creative storytelling teams have shared the ageless stories in thousands of primary schools.

They have created lasting memories, sparked the imagination, given hope, connected generations and touched the hearts of countless young people and their teachers.

Fiona, a member of the Open the Book staff team at Bible Society, says: "With 95 per cent of children no longer in church, who else will tell them these powerful, life changing stories and take the word into our neighbourhoods?"

Would you like to share Bible stories with primary school children? Why not become a storyteller?

**Find out more at:**

<https://www.biblesociety.org.uk/get-involved/open-the-book/>  
(PP)

**We have a number of 'OTB' Teams in our own churches in Basingstoke.**

## Christian Resources still available:



**Steve Wood, continues supplying Christian Resources to Newbury, Thatcham & surrounding areas via 'Sonrise Christian Resources'. LENT Resources available.**

You can **phone Steve on ☎: 07396 825097** or email as below for advice, or to talk through options / requirements.

*They are happy to help source any item needed: General Christian books, cards, gifts and more'. Look at our*

**website at:** [www.sonrisechristianresources.co.uk](http://www.sonrisechristianresources.co.uk)

Contact details are: email:

[stevewood@sonrisechristianresources.co.uk](mailto:stevewood@sonrisechristianresources.co.uk)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/sonrisechristianresources](https://www.facebook.com/sonrisechristianresources)

## ***Diary Page, St Andrew's Trinity – CHECK out the Church Noticeboards !***

Dates	Timings	<b><u>EVENTS</u></b> at St Andrew's Trinity unless advised
<b><i>Weekly &amp; Monthly Events – T/T (term-time)</i></b>		
Tue, Wed, Thur <i>weekly T/T only</i>	10am–1.30pm	<b>Mug &amp; Biscuit is Open</b> for drinks, biscuits, cakes, tea-cakes, light lunches, <i>p21</i>
Tues, weekly	10am–11.30am	<b>Tuesday Coffee Club</b> , <i>p15</i>
Wed weekly T/T	1pm–3pm	<b>Knit One, Drop One</b>
2 <sup>nd</sup> /4 <sup>th</sup> Frid month	12.30pm	S/Ham Churches Lunch Club, <b><i>St Joseph's Church</i></b> , <i>p15</i>
2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Thurs <i>monthly</i>	2.30pm–4pm	<b>The Fountain Prayer Group</b> twice monthly unless otherwise advised, <i>p15</i>
4 <sup>th</sup> Tues evening	6.30pm	<b>Harrow Way Housegroup</b>
<b><i>Youth Organisations – Weekly, Mostly Term-time – abbreviated to T/T in places</i></b>		
Mon, weekly, <i>term-time (T/T)</i>	7pm–8.30pm	1 <sup>st</sup> South Ham Guides, (age 10–14), Leader: Sarah, New Members Sign Up via Girl Guides' website: <a href="http://www.girlguiding.org.uk/joinus">www.girlguiding.org.uk/joinus</a>
Wed, weekly, T/T	4.30pm–5.45pm	3 <sup>rd</sup> South Ham Rainbows, (age 4–7), Lena Ponting
Wed, weekly, T/T	6pm–7.30pm	3 <sup>rd</sup> South Ham Brownies, (age 7–10), Lena Ponting
Thurs weekly, T/T	10am–11am	Playtime U5 Group, Contact: Theresa Strachan
Frid, weekly	6.30pm–10pm	3 <sup>rd</sup> B/Stoke Boys Brigade, Captain: Theresa Strachan, <i>p12</i>
<b><i>Other Events (including events that are once a month)</i></b>		
<b><i>Mar, Apr &amp; Some Future Dates</i></b>		
Sun 2 March	2.30pm	<b>JAM – Theme 'New Beginnings</b> , <i>p15</i>
Tues 4 March	7.30pm	<b>Northern Housegroup at Westdeane Court</b> , Edna, <i>p15</i>
Fri 7 March	2pm	<b>World Day of Prayer</b> , United Reform Church, B/S, <i>p2</i>
Mon 10 & 24 Mar	1am	<b>Singing Group</b> , <i>p16</i>
Mon 10 & 17 Mar	2pm	<b>Lent Group at Church</b> (first & second of 6 weeks) <i>p6</i>
Tues 11 March	7.30pm	<b>Trinity Circle</b> , Speaker Jackie Dimmock, <i>p15</i>
Thur 13 & 27 Mar	2.30pm	<b>Fountain Prayer Group</b> , <i>p15</i>
Sat 15 March	DEADLINE	<b>For NEXT (April Issue) St Andrew's Trinity E-News</b>
Sat 22 Mar	11am – 3pm	<b>Spring Sale</b> , for fuller information <i>SEE p4</i>
Mon 24 & 31 Mar	2pm	<b>Third &amp; Fourth Lent Group at Church</b> , <i>p6</i>
Sat/Sun 29/30 Mar, Week/End		<b>Circuit Youth</b> , Emmanuel Church, Oxford Rd, <i>p13</i>
Sun 30 March		<b>CLOCKS go FORWARD</b>
Sun 6 Apr	2.30pm	<b>JAM – Theme 'The Big Surprise'</b> , <i>p15</i>
Mon 7 & 14 Apr	2pm	<b>Fifth &amp; Sixth Lent Group at Church</b> , <i>p6</i>
Sun 27 Apr	10.30am	<b>Car Parking at Church</b> , <i>p6</i>
Sat & Sun 10 & 11 May		<b>3<sup>rd</sup> B/Stoke Boys' Brigade Celebrate 60 years</b> , <i>p6</i>
Monday 20 May	7.30pm	<b>Church Council Meeting – <u>NOTE</u> New Time</b>
Sat 7 June		<b>Circuit Musical, 'Zac' at Christ Church, Chineham</b> , <i>p11</i>
Sat 8 March	10am – 3 pm	<b>'Silchester' Retreat, 'Being Attentive to God'</b> , <i>p22</i>
March Dates	Various	<b>Oakley, Oakridge &amp; Old Basing Events</b> , <i>p14</i>



## The Mug & Biscuit, St Andrew's Trinity Methodist Church is Open, (usually term-time but sometimes subject to change):



**Tuesdays: 10 am to 1.30 pm (term-time)**  
**Wednesdays: 10 am to 1.30 pm (term-time)**  
**Thursdays: 10 am to 1.30 pm (term-time)**



- We serve: **home-made cakes, jacket potatoes, toasted sandwiches & tea cakes.**
- Menu is subject to change. **Last Orders for hot food 1 pm.**
- Takeaway Available. Credit Cards Accepted.

• **The Mug & Biscuit is NOT OPEN During School Holidays**

**The Mug & Biscuit is registered as a 'Warm Hub Opening' during 'Mug & Biscuit' Hours**



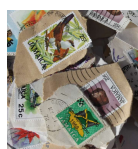
**We look forward to welcoming old & new friends.**

### The Mug & Biscuit Team



Any queries, **Offers of Help** – contact: **Linda Hoe** ☎: 07963 583506

**RECYCLE Used Postage Stamps** via the box in the Mug & Biscuit for '**St Michael's Hospice**'.



THANKS, **Bob**

Image, Pete's photo

**RECYCLE Bottle Tops – In the Brown Box on the right at the back of the church.**


Proceeds to the Hospice. Please leave tops in the bag you bring them in if you can. **I also recycle 'Milkman' foil milk bottle tops too.**

**Thank you, Helen**



**'RECYCLE plastic milk bottle tops' (only 'milk' ones), by giving them to Pamela who has a contact with the Hants & Isle of Wight Air Ambulance, or ☎: 012546 467702**



 <p><b>At 23.02.25 the Foodbank – <u>Most Needed</u>:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• UHT Fruit Juice</li> <li>• Ladies Deodorant</li> <li>• Hair Conditioner</li> <li>• Hot &amp; Cold Desserts</li> <li>• Tinned Fruit</li> <li>• Cooking sauces</li> <li>• Custard</li> </ul>	<p><b>At 23.02.25 the Foodbank – <u>Running Low</u>:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Savoury Spreads, eg marmite</li> <li>• Pet Food</li> <li>• Household Cleaning</li> <li>• Tinned Veg</li> <li>• UHT milk</li> <li>• Small Packs of Tea</li> <li>• Tinned Meat</li> <li>• Rice Pudding</li> </ul>	<p><b>At 23.02.25 the Foodbank – <u>Running Low (cont'd)</u>:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tinned Spaghetti / Ravioli</li> <li>• Sweet Spreads (Jam, marmalade etc)</li> <li>• Tinned tomatoes</li> </ul>	<p><b>At 23.02.25 the Foodbank – <u>We have Plenty</u>:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pasta &amp; Rice</li> <li>• Baked beans</li> <li>• Pulses</li> <li>• Hot &amp; Cold Cereal</li> <li>• Non-Dairy Milk</li> <li>• Sanitary pads</li> <li>• Baby Food, Formula &amp; Nappies size 5 &amp; below</li> <li>• Hand soap</li> </ul>
--	---	---	---



**More info on web:** [www.https://basingstoke.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-food/](http://www.https://basingstoke.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-food/)

## RETREAT CENTRE SILCHESTER RG7 2NY



Come and join us for a day of refreshment and reflection at Silchester Methodist Church.

Our retreats are to enable you to explore and experience meeting with God; to be explorers and journeyers. On each day, themed multi-sensory experiences are available to choose from.

\* \* \* \* \*

### Saturday 8th March Being Attentive to God

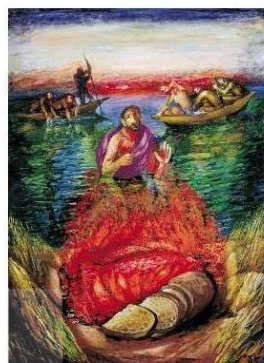
Explore how to tune in .....

I have calmed and  
quieted my soul.....

Psalm 131:2 (NRSVA)



Artwork by Sieger Koder



### Wednesday 30th April From Easter to Pentecost

Travel with the disciples as they meet the risen Jesus.

"It is the Lord" John 21:7 (NIV)

Website: [Silchester Christian Retreat Centre](http://Silchester Christian Retreat Centre)

For enquiries or to book for any of the Retreat Days please contact Angela Hiscock [angela.hiscock@btinternet.com](mailto:angela.hiscock@btinternet.com) or phone her on 01256 850432. Numbers are limited.

All days run from 10am-3pm. Refreshments from 9.45am.

Please bring a packed lunch.

Hot and cold drinks, including cup-a-soup provided.

Suggested donation per person: £10.

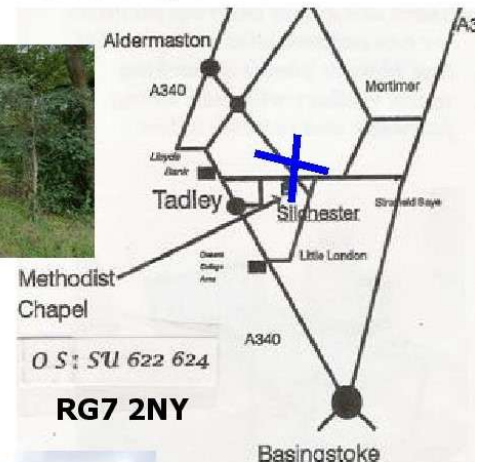
#### Location



Paddle.worthy.windmill



Entrance from  
Pamber Road



Methodist  
Chapel  
O S: SU 622 624  
RG7 2NY



Car parking and  
entrance to hall  
at rear of the Church.

**Except where otherwise stated, all artwork and photos are by a member of the Retreat Leadership team.**

### Peterborough Cathedral could 'face financial ruin by Easter'



Peterborough Cathedral, one of the great Norman Cathedrals of Europe, is facing financial collapse. The 1400-year-old Cathedral is facing a perfect storm of rising National Insurance costs, rising fuel bills, cost-of-living crisis and decline in giving to the Cathedral. The dean, the Very Revd Christopher Dalliston, needs to raise £300,000 by the end of March. Otherwise, Peterborough Cathedral risks becoming the country's first 'part-time' Cathedral, and not able to open every day of the week. It costs about £2 million a year to run the Cathedral. It relies on commercial activities, public donations, and events and exhibitions. A 'C of E' grant makes up only 15 per cent of the Cathedral's income. (PP)

\* \* \* \* \*



## Chaplaincy Prayer Letter – February 2025

### Basingstoke Town Chaplaincy

Suite 1, Paddington House  
Festival Place, Basingstoke, RG21 7LJ  
[admin@basingstoketownchaplaincy.org.uk](mailto:admin@basingstoketownchaplaincy.org.uk)  
[basingstoketownchaplaincy.org.uk](http://basingstoketownchaplaincy.org.uk)  
☎: 01256 842232



***'Thank you for your help in turning my life around'***. That was the essence of a card sent to a Chaplain recently as a result of discussion during a distressful time in court. That someone should bother to write shows the great level of appreciation of our presence in the town centre and places of work. We hear some good things as well as tales of difficulties connected to health, relationships and security. Responses to life events vary, and sometimes we can only share a word of encouragement and tell a person we are praying for them, which we do individually and collectively. We can also suggest where further help might be available. Recently we heard of one person who has started going to church where he can be encouraged to grow in Christ.

A Chaplain attends a discussion group for people who are lonely or living with loss, which is held in the Discovery Centre on Mondays and alternate Fridays. Friendships are being built and the gospel shared appropriately. Charles Spurgeon spoke of thankfulness for the wave that throws us on to the rock of Jesus; when a traumatic event occurs a Christian can help guide to Christ rather than a rock of despair or destruction.

Security in The Malls / Festival Place seems to have become more effective in combating shoplifting. Persistent offenders can be banned. Vandalism at the Top of Town has been in the news and shop workers are concerned at the intimidation and damage done. We are seeking to support shopkeepers in different ways; even our presence is a deterrent to abuse.

We are hoping to agree a temporary lease for our office as Festival Place is being sold. It is being left for the new owners, once it is sold, to decide what to do about our presence and the office accommodation. Please pray that this will be settled favourably for us.

We would love to talk more about the Chaplaincy, to churches and groups: how and why we do what we do and the benefits that come about. We are also wanting to recruit some more Chaplains so that we can help more people and spread the good news. Contact us to arrange a Visit.

I also want to thank you for praying for the work we do as a Chaplaincy and for the support you give us.

**John Hayward, Chair of Trustees**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Prayer points: Please give thanks for:**

- All who help and support the Chaplaincy

**Please pray for:**

- Chaplains to help meet immediate needs and point to Christ
- All involved in upholding the law and those attending the courts
- People who linger in town because they are lonely or confused
- Chaplains to be sensitive and wise as they meet people in different circumstances
- People working in the town centre and feeling vulnerable to thieving and vandalism
- That we will be able to remain in our offices
- Additional helpers in this ministry.





*A Series on Prayer by the Revd Dr Herbert McGonigle, former Senior Lecturer in Historical Theology & Church History, Nazarene Theological College, Manchester.*

### **Praying the Prayer of Forgiveness: Numbers 12:13, 'O God, heal her, I pray'**

These six words are Moses' prayer for his sister Miriam. They tell us a lot about Moses and a lot about prayer. For some time Miriam and her brother Aaron had been simmering with anger against Moses. They protested that he had married a Cushite woman (v.1), but the real cause of their animosity was jealousy. 'Has the Lord spoken only through Moses?' (v.2). Don't we have a ministry as well? Hasn't God also spoken through us? Why does everyone look to Moses? Why are we overlooked? Jealousy is a powerful and deadly emotion. God had given ministries and honour to Miriam (Exod. 15:20,21) and Aaron had become the chief priest (Num. 3:1-3), but neither of them were satisfied with that. It looks as if Miriam fomented and took the lead in criticising Moses. Suddenly the Lord intervened (v.4). He called Moses, Aaron and Miriam together and defended His servant Moses. Moses is faithful in all my house! (v.7)

Whereas the Lord had often spoken to other prophets in dreams and visions, He speaks to Moses 'mouth to mouth' (v 8). How dare Aaron and Miriam question Moses whom the Lord called 'my servant' (v 8). Having so strongly defended Moses and rebuked his critics, the Lord departed and then the divine judgement fell. Suddenly Miriam, the leader of the conspiracy, was struck down with the dreaded leprosy. Aaron immediately cried out to Moses, confessing his own and his sister's sin and foolishness (vv 11,12). Then Moses demonstrated why the Lord honoured him so highly. He expressed no anger, no vindictiveness, no spirit of 'settling scores' against his brother and sister. In spite of their antagonism and jealousy, Moses loved them both and 'cried to the Lord' on behalf of Miriam.

He prayed one of the shortest prayers found in the Bible. 'O God, heal her, I pray' (v 13). He was grieved and full of compassion to see his sister so terribly afflicted. The prayer was prompted by the love that forgives, the love that overlooks what others have done to us, the love that wants God's best for them. And only God's grace can make us like that. The prayer is so short, so simple, so direct, so personal. 'O God, heal her, I pray.'

And God heard and answered. As a warning to others who might challenge Moses' authority, Miriam was quarantined for seven days, then fully healed and restored (vv 14,15). How does this incident help us in our prayer life? First, true prayer is born in compassion. The lips express the deep feelings of the heart. Second, God will not hear our prayers if our hearts are not right with him and with one another. While we cherish resentments and grudges, our praying is powerless. Third, while there are many times when prayer needs to be persistent, there are also times when it is a simple, deep cry from the heart. **(PP)**

### **Wild Bright Hope – Reflections on Faith, The Big Church Read Lent Book 2025, SPCK, £11.99**

This heartening book on hope will galvanise readers into looking at the world and the challenges we're facing in a new way. It gathers together a range of lively, up-and-coming writers who write passionately about what gives them hope. **Wild Bright Hope** urges us to also consider how we ourselves might play a full part in bringing in the kingdom of God. **(PP)**

- Between the humble and contrite heart and the majesty of heaven there are no barriers. The only password is Prayer – *H Ballou*

*The Revd Dr Roger Roberts, formerly senior pastor of the International Baptist Church, Brussels, considers the beginnings of discipleship...*

### **Is it Time you Remembered 'Eureka!'**

As Lent 2025 gets underway, do you suspect that your Christian commitment is not all it could be? If so, you are not alone. As one American church leader sadly put it: "In America the church is 3,000 miles wide – and one inch deep." But Jesus is still calling us to be His disciples, NOT His well-wishers – from a safe distance! So how does one start as a disciple, exactly? It can be helpful to remember the story of John and Andrew in the first chapter of St John.

Firstly, John and Andrew were simply getting on with daily life when their teacher, John the Baptist, introduced them to Jesus. They hadn't been out looking for Him – but when they met Him, they were deeply affected. Andrew excitedly reported: "We have found the Messiah" (John 1:41). His statement is true, but the more you read of the story, the more you'll realize that it was Jesus *who found them*. He is after YOU, too! If you encounter God, it is no accident that your paths have crossed.

The English poet Francis Thompson was a derelict living under a bridge until a Christian benefactor took him into his home. One of the poems Francis Thompson later wrote was 'The Hound of Heaven', which described God as the one who sought him down through his wayward, "labyrinthine ways." He was, like us, running from God, who all the time was leading him to an encounter with Himself.

Secondly, there is the *eureka!* factor in Andrew and John's story. This expression, from the Greek *eurisko*, is said to have been exclaimed around the year 200 BC by the Greek mathematician Archimedes when he discovered a way to determine the purity of gold. Andrew used this same expression in vs 41, when he told his brother he had found Jesus Christ. "I've found Him! Eureka!" This Lent, you can be sure that Jesus is certainly looking for you, and if your response has ever been: 'I've found Him! Eureka!' – then you, like Andrew, have become a disciple, a Christian.

Maybe you began to follow Jesus a long time ago, but your obedience has been "on hold." You haven't been faithful in worship, in reading the Bible. You haven't even been a part of a local church. Well, Lent 2025 is an ideal time to re-discover the joy of *eureka!* again. **(PP)**

### **Basingstoke Choral Society** **Sunday 30 March 2025 at 7.30 pm** **Anvil Theatre – Basingstoke**

**Conductor:** David Gibson

***Accompanied by professional orchestra & soloists***

**Book:** [anvilarts.org.uk](http://anvilarts.org.uk)

**Programme:** Ralph Vaughan Williams:  
A Sea Symphony and Toward the Unknown Region

Benjamin Britten:  
Four Sea Interludes from Peter Grimes

We are delighted to be joined by friends from **Croydon Philharmonic Choir** & a professional orchestra and soloists



- Give me, good Lord a humble, lowly, quiet, peaceable, patient, charitable, kind, tender and pitiful mind; with all my works and all my words and all my thoughts to have a taste of the holy blessed spirit.

**Sir Thomas More**

\* \* \* \*

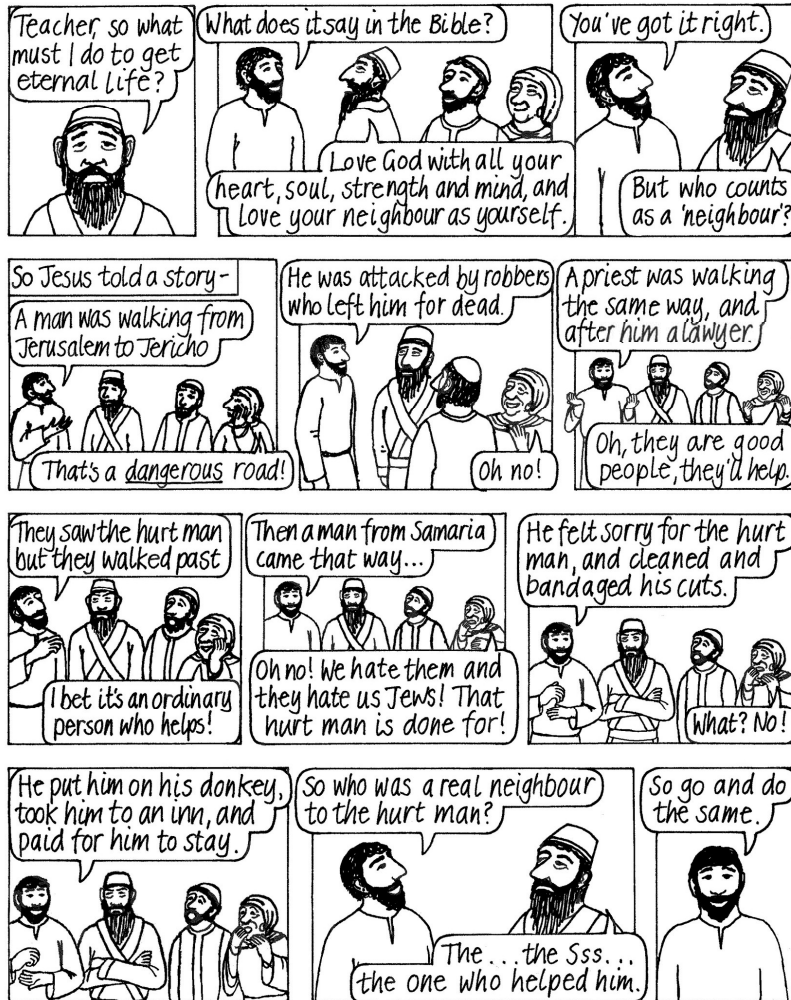
# For the Young & Young at heart

## Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

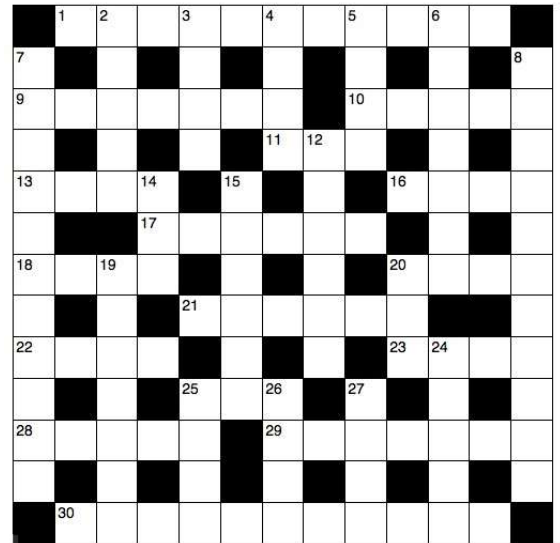
It can be read in the Bible in  
Luke 10:25-37

An expert in the Law of Moses wanted to test Jesus' knowledge of the laws in the Bible, so he asked Jesus a question.

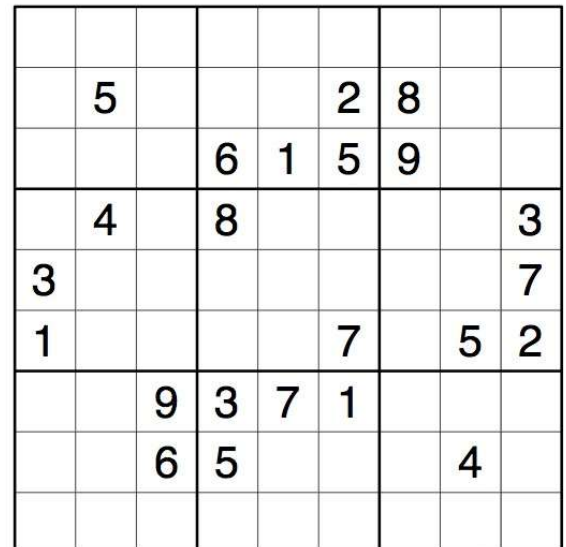


## PUZZLES

### Crossword



### Sudoku



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e e f e p d n t l y r l g p i  
l c r t r r y f a m i l y n u  
a a n e e i a g i e t e n u h  
c g u a d s h y n n e i i r e  
u s n t t i o r e i d w r s i  
o t n i i n w l d r n i t i t  
y r n r h r e d f w n r n n t  
k g d i s c i p l e s g a g u  
n o i t a r a p e r p r k e f  
a g g n i k e e s r o o r r l  
h l n t k t a h t i e w t u o  
t a h r i y s e t h l i n t w  
a o e l e l t i a o c n a r e  
t i i p t r e e v l m g d u r  
p i l d e t r e s e d m f n s

March brings us Lent & Mothering Sunday. Lent is a time of spiritual self-assessment as we prepare for Easter. It is a time to turn to God, and to grow closer to Him. Mothering Sunday reminds us of not only the mothers that have loved and raised us, but of Mother Church, who has spiritually loved and nurtured us throughout our Christian pilgrimage.

Lent	Mothers	Learning	Flowers
Love	Fasting	Spiritual	Seeking
Care	Teaching	Thankyou	Preparation
Desert	Finding	Disciples	Nursing
Easter	Nurture	Worldwide	Selfdenial
Prayer	Family	Growing	Repentance

- There is a grace of 'kind listening' as well as a grace of 'kind speaking' – Anon



**Mouse Makes**

**THE TEMPTATION OF JESUS**  
After Jesus was baptised who led him into the wilderness?  
-----  
Luke 4:1

**For how many days was Jesus tempted by the devil?**  
-----  
Luke 4:2

Who did Jesus say you should ONLY worship and serve?  
-----  
Luke 4:8

**READ**  
the story in  
**Luke 4:1-13**

**Jesus said not to put the Lord your God to the...**  
-----  
Luke 4:12

What did the devil tempt Jesus to turn a stone into?  
-----  
Luke 4:3

What happened after the temptation of Jesus?  
see Luke 4:14-15

**WORD SEARCH**

JESUS • LED  
WILDERNESS  
DESERT  
TEMPTATIONS  
DAYS • DEVIL  
HUNGRY • SON  
STONE • ROCK  
KINGDOMS  
WORLD • GLORY  
WRITTEN  
SCRIPTURE  
WORSHIP • ONLY  
SERVE • LORD  
JERUSALEM  
HIGH • TEMPLE  
THROW • DOWN  
JUMP • ANGELS  
HANDS • HOLD  
LIFT • FOOT

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

Find the words from the questions too!

Mar25© Deborah Noble • parishpump.co.uk

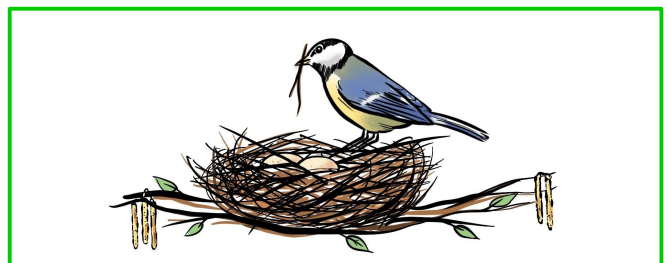
**Crossword Clues, Down:**

- 2 'That was why his parents said, "He is — —; ask him"' (John 9:23) (2,3)
- 3 Integrated Services Digital Network (1,1,1,1) 4
- 4 'Saul has slain his thousands, and David his — of thousands' (1 Samuel 18:7) (4)
- 5 Concept (John 8:14) (4)
- 6 'Do we, then, — the law by this faith? Not at all! Rather, we uphold the law' (Romans 3:31) (7)
- 7 Industrious (2 Timothy 2:6) (11)
- 8 'I pray also that the eyes of your heart may be — in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you' (Ephesians 1:18) (11)
- 12 'Out of the same mouth come — and cursing' (James 3:10) (6)
- 14 This was how many of the Jewish leaders described Jesus (John 10:20) (3)
- 15 Vitality (Job 20:11) (6)
- 19 He urged David to kill Saul at Hakilah (1 Samuel 26:8) (7)
- 20 'So for a whole year Barnabas and Saul — with the church and taught great numbers of people' (Acts 11:26) (3)
- 24 'Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord — —' (Deuteronomy 6:4) (2,3)
- 25 Parched (Matthew 12:43) (4)
- 26 'In the image of God he created him; — and female he created them' (Genesis 1:27) (4)
- 27 Disparagement (Psalm 15:3) (4)

**Crossword Clues, Across (cont'd):**

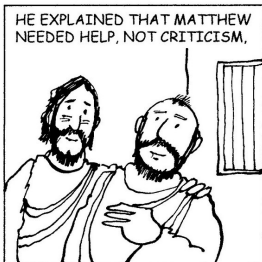
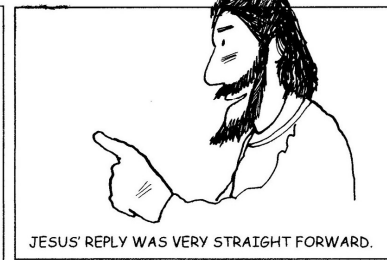
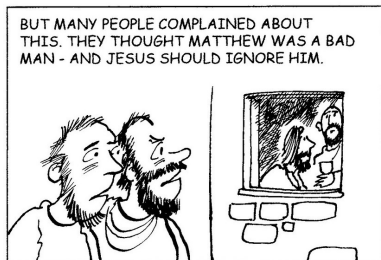
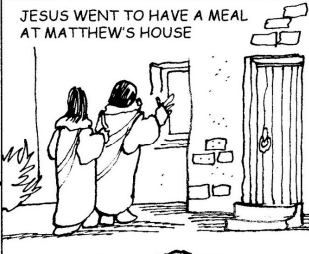
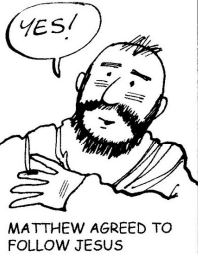
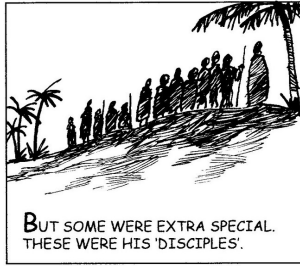
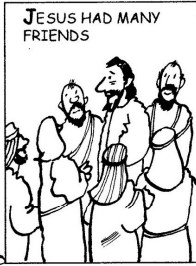
- 29 'When Mordecai learned of — that had been —, he tore his clothes' (Esther 4:1) (3,4)
- 30 Sympathetic (Proverbs 11:16) (4-7)

- We should all be concerned about the future, because we will have to spend the rest of our lives there – C F Kettering

**Crossword Clues, Across:**

- 1 These letters come between Romans and Galatians (11)
- 9 'You will not — me to the grave' (Psalm 16:10) (7)
- 10 King of Moab to whom the Israelites were subject for 18 years (Judges 3:14) (5)
- 11 Town possessing mineral spring (3)
- 13 Mede (anag.) (4)
- 16 High-fidelity (abbrev.) (4)
- 17 He succeeded his father Rehoboam as king of Judah (1 Kings 14:31) (6)
- 18 A son of Simeon (Genesis 46:10) (4)
- 20 Controversial religious book of the 1970s, The — of God Incarnate (4)
- 21 'He has received from the Father the promised Holy Spirit and has poured out what you — — and hear' (Acts 2:33) (3,3)
- 22 'You — me together in my mother's womb' (Psalm 139:13) (4)
- 23 Edit (anag.) (4)
- 25 'Who has believed our message and to whom has the — of the Lord been revealed?' (Isaiah 53:1) (3)
- 28 Abraham's brother (Genesis 22:23) (5) (cont'd)

## The Doctor and the Patient



## Puzzle Pages Solutions

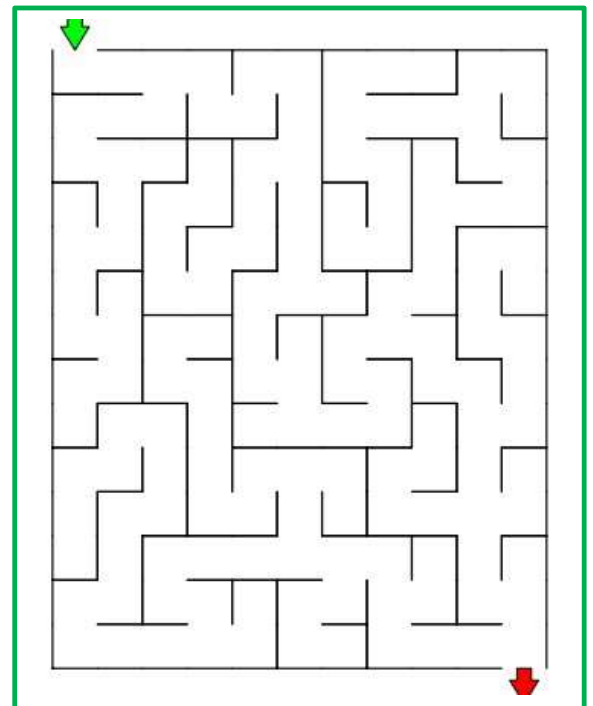
**Across:** 1, Corinthians. 9, Abandon. 10, Eglon. 11, Spa. 13, Deem. 16, Hi-fi. 17, Abijah. 18, Ohad. 20, Myth. 21, Now see. 22, Knit. 23, Tide. 25, Arm. 28, Nahor. 29, All done. 30, Kind-hearted.

**Down:** 2, Of age. 3, ISDN. 4, Tens. 5, Idea. 6, Nullify. 7, Hardworking. 8, Enlightened. 12, Praise. 14, Mad. 15, Vigour. 19, Abishai. 20, Met. 24, Is one. 25, Arid. 26, Male. 27, Slur.

## Sudoku Solution

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

I	x	b	d	q	m	i	n	d	y	j	q
t	o	i	r	u	i	l	a	w	y	e	r
w	a	v	j	e	x	t	r	h	u	r	t
p	r	i	e	s	t	e	o	m	u	i	t
h	e	a	r	t	t	a	b	o	o	c	e
e	r	c	u	i	d	c	b	t	r	h	t
l	i	r	s	o	n	h	e	g	r	o	e
p	g	d	a	n	g	e	r	o	u	s	r
r	h	x	l	i	q	r	s	o	u	l	n
s	t	r	e	n	g	t	h	d	e	n	a
w	v	n	m	s	a	m	a	r	i	a	l
d	o	n	k	e	y	b	i	b	l	e	u



Teacher  
Samaria  
Inn  
Jerusalem

Strength  
Robbers  
Bible

Right  
Good  
Help  
Dangerous

Jericho  
Donkey  
Priest

Heart  
Hurt  
Soul  
Neighbour

Mind  
Eternal  
Paid

Lawyer  
Love  
Question