



St. Paul's Church Ansdell & Fairhaven
Working In Unity To Share The Good News Of Christ

PEWS NEWS EXTRA

Issue No 149 ~ March 2021



Palm Sunday - 28th March

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Vicar	The Rev Paul Bye
Curate	The Rev Kyle Mulholland
Licensed Lay Minister	Miss Janet Kimber
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Parish Secretary	Vacant
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Useful Information

Vicarage	01253 734562
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Letter from the Vicarage...

March 15th will mark one year one from the last Sunday we were all in church together. By the following Tuesday, church services had been suspended, and by the 23rd March, we were in national lockdown. I suspect this year has been one of the strangest and most painful many of us have experienced. We also recognise that it is sadly far from over.



As we reach a year on, my mind is drawn back to the passage I spoke on the first Sunday that public worship returned in July – Psalm 126. I think it has helpful things for us to ponder as we reach this unwelcome milestone.

*'The Lord has done great things for us,
and we are filled with joy.'* (v3)

There is much we are able to give thanks for as we reflect on the past 12 months. The Lord has kept us. The Lord has provided for us. He has enabled new things in our lives and in our church life. He has caused us to be thankful for things we once took for granted. He is bringing us through this terrible time. I suspect our hearts find it hard at the moment to give thanks. So one year on, let's not give up looking for things to give thanks for.

*'Restore our fortunes, Lord,
like streams in the Negev.'* (v4)

Israel had seen the Lord do wonderful things in their lives. But at the time of the psalm it was not their present experience. So they prayed that the Lord would act dramatically and decisively to change their situation. Like the streams in the desert, which are dry for much of the year, but then comes a rainstorm and suddenly they are flowing.

A year on, I suspect our desire to see the Lord lift this from us, and suddenly, has only grown! However, maybe our prayer and expectation as the months roll on may have been discouraged. But the Lord is able to change things dramatically and suddenly. So one year on, let's not give up asking expectantly.

*'Those who sow with tears will reap with songs of joy.
Those who go out weeping, carrying seed to sow,
will return with songs of joy, carrying sheaves with them.'* (v5-6)

There is hope in these verses. But there is also honest realism. The present experience is often one of tears. That is very true now. It is right we feel able to be honest with each other about how we are sorrowing. Separation from loved ones, death of loved ones, isolation, a feeling of frustration, not being able to invest ourselves fully, and being unsettled by change.

Yet there is also another sorrow we are right to reflect on one year on. For lament is a part of the Christian life. We ought to lament the time we have been apart as a church, the inability to fully worship as God intended for us (singing, close fellowship, the fullness of the sacraments). Perhaps while not enjoying this experience, we have got used to it, even comfortable in it. But it is right to lament what has been lost, and what is presently less than it is made to be. So one year on, let's not create a situation where we can't be honest with our struggles, nor forget to lament.

But let's also be a people of hope. Those who sow in tears will one day reap a harvest and return with songs of joy. God is a God who changes his people's fortunes. There will be a day when we will sing together! There will be a day that from deadness of the seed, God brings forth new things, different things and life among us and our church – a harvest. One day, beyond this pandemic, joy will be had when all sickness and sorrow will be done away with. So one year on, let's not give up being hopeful in the Lord.

Paul



*'The Lord has done
great things for us, and
we are filled with joy.'*
(Psalm 126:3)



**ARTICLES FOR
THE APRIL PNE**

If you have an article
for inclusion in the
April PNE, please
make sure that I have a copy
by **Monday 15th March.**

Thank you.
Janet Kimber

Glory

*Glory with us
in the Easter message
from John's Gospel
this Holy Week*



Palm Sunday

Sunday 28th March	10am & 11am	Service of the Word
Monday 29th	4pm	Night Prayer (Compline)
Tuesday 30th	4pm	Night Prayer (Compline)
Wednesday 31st	4pm	Night Prayer (Compline)

Maundy Thursday

Thursday 1st April	7pm	Holy Communion
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Good Friday

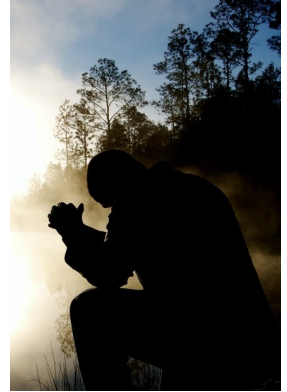
Friday 2nd	10am	Service for All-Ages
	4pm	Good Friday Reflection

Easter Sunday	10am & 11. <u>15</u> am	Easter Service with Holy Communion
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(Further details regarding Easter Sunday to be confirmed as potential impacts of reduced restrictions on public worship are made known)

The Importance of the Church Prayer Meeting

by Kyle Mulholland



There is something distinctive about church prayer meetings. Of course, we pray when we gather for our church services: the liturgical worship that we are accustomed to in the Church of England is prayerful throughout; and a part of the service is given over to prayer led by an appointed intercessor, whether a minister or some other person from the congregation. But the church prayer meeting is different; and it's something I feel ought to be at the centre of church life.

When I first encountered a prayer meeting of this kind - where believers gather, and, for a certain period of time, pray freely in their own words about various matters, as they feel led by the Spirit - I was intimidated, and even a little doubtful. I was intimidated: if I opened my mouth to pray, and prayed something wrong or silly, would I be exposed? Would others think me a fraud, or less than a true Christian? I was doubtful: was this "proper"? Was this informality, free prayer, lay men and women lifting up their voices to God, not in the refined poetic manner that we come across in our liturgy, but in their own voices and characters, "right" and "appropriate"?

But eventually I was won over to the format, not as a replacement for formal church prayer, but as a fitting accompaniment to it. In our usual church services, prayer is both *led* and *modelled*. It is *led*, in that those, often in authoritative positions in the church, lead the congregation into God's presence in prayer, and exercise the authority that God has given them by bringing the people's needs and concerns before the Lord. The shepherds shepherd the flock as they voice the prayers of the people; those whose vocation it is to know the people and their concerns bring those needs before the Lord. Prayer in the context of our worship is *modelled* also: those who have had significant theological training, or experience, through how they pray, seek to give a pattern to the whole church that helps us to learn how to pray for ourselves.

*They all
joined
together
constantly
in prayer.
Acts 1:14*

But in the prayer meeting, the emphasis is somewhere else. It's an equally legitimate, but different manner of approaching God. Though the New Testament teaches that some are set apart to lead the church, it also



*Devote
yourselves
to prayer,
being
watchful
and
thankful.*

Colossians 4:2

teaches that every Christian is a "priest:" someone who offers prayer and worship to God. In the prayer meeting, we see this "priesthood" in action: we all have the opportunity to bring our prayer and our worship to the Lord, in our own words, with our own personalities: and we are greatly blessed as we join in with the prayers of brothers and sisters who seek the Lord alongside us. In the prayer meeting, we also have the opportunity to bring concerns to the Lord that others might not be aware of: the minister can't know everything! We often come to the prayer meeting with a prayer agenda, and leave the meeting with a greatly enlarged agenda - people have prayed for things we hadn't even thought about: and now the Lord has shown them to us.

I served at St John's Church, Over, as a lay ministry assistant from 2015-2017. At that time, we were wrestling with a number of issues. We worked hard, but we saw little visible fruit from the ministry: many who came to church didn't seem spiritually alive; new people were not joining; the Sunday school was shrinking. We tried out various forms of outreach: but little happened. So, when every idea had been tried, we decided to switch from a monthly prayer meeting to a weekly meeting on a Sunday evening. The blessing was double: not only did we have the opportunity to pray together more often, but we also had the opportunity to set apart more of the Lord's day for the Lord. I can't say that we suddenly saw a great influx of new believers, or that things were radically changed at the church overnight: but the core of committed believers certainly grew closer through those times of prayer.

A week before Amy and I got married (March 2017), we were on a weekend away with our church. We had a mid-afternoon prayer meeting: and, in the midst of the time of prayer, we heard the voice of little Joey, then I think 6 or 7 years old: Joey, with a little help from his Mum, prayed for us in the midst of the meeting. I can't remember what he prayed: but we were both very affected by this expression of love and oneness.

While studying for ordination at Oak Hill College in London, I was given the task of leading the College's prayer meeting. The meeting had the same egalitarian feel, with students and lecturers praying



together. We had great times of fellowship with other Christians, praying for various things: but attendance was never very good. The men and women who were there were very busy: but I often thought, "If we, as those training for ministry, are not devoted to prayer, what will happen to the church?"



When Amy and I met Paul and Ruth Bye in summer 2019 to explore the curacy possibility, we enquired whether there was a prayer meeting at the church. Not yet. We were thrilled to learn, then, that during the first lockdown a weekly, 30-minute Zoom prayer meeting was started. We began to join the meeting even before we moved; and we have found the meeting a great blessing ever since.

It's an encouragement to see those of you who are able to join us at 4pm on Sundays for prayer. It's an encouragement to hear of others who aren't able to join online, but who are also setting apart that time for prayer. If you have access to a telephone, you can join the prayer meeting that way also: you don't need to have access to the internet. If you want to join us, but don't feel confident enough to pray, you don't have to lift up your voice: there will be a number of men and women who will pray, and you can add your Amen. I'm thankful to God for the increasing confidence he seems to be giving to our people in public prayer: it's not an easy thing; like a new language, prayer is something we must learn - and we will always be learners!

The book of Acts, that we've read in the Bible recently, is a book that powerfully encourages prayer. If your faith in the power of prayer is weak, read Acts, and note all the prayers that are recorded, and the mighty answers! The Holy Spirit comes on the disciples in answer to prayer (1:14; 2:4); believers are given boldness

*Pray in the Spirit
on all occasions
with all kinds of
prayers and
requests. With this
in mind, be alert
and always keep
on praying for all
the Lord's people.*

Ephesians 6:18

to speak of Jesus in answer to prayer (4:31); Peter is miraculously released from prison in answer to prayer (12:5; 12:11)! There are other examples I could give. Prayer works: prayer binds the church together; prayer grows the church; prayer strengthens our faith; prayer is our means of drawing near to God our Father, through the Lord Jesus Christ. Jesus has died for us, *so that we can access God in prayer, and so that our prayers can be heard and answered.* Let's avail ourselves of the privilege, and then see what the Lord will do!



St Paul's Tots At Home

St Paul's Tots is a new
toddler group from
St Paul's Church...



Beginning online from 9th February

Watch our 'At Home' sessions premiering on our Facebook and YouTube pages

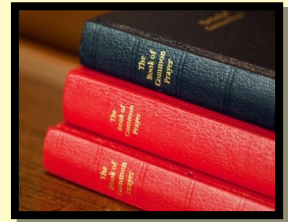
Tuesdays at 10am

or watch back later

www.facebook.com/St.Pauls.Ansdell.Fairhaven/

You can also join us online via the website at:
<https://stpaulsfairhaven.weebly.com/st-pauls-tots.html>

Mid-Week Book of Common Prayer Service of Hbly Communion



From CofE website

Wednesdays weekly – 10am

*Please keep watching your weekly e-mails and printed notice sheets
for any changes that occur due to coronavirus restrictions.*

Miscellaneous observations on daily life

The way some people love to find fault, you'd think there was a reward.
The reason a dog has so many friends is that he wags his tail and not
his tongue.

Finding God in Each Moment of the Day

The Revd Canon Paul Hardingham offers the following for Lent...



Do you know the popular series of books entitled *Where's Wally?* These books are filled with very detailed cartoon drawings in each of which is hidden Wally. He is dressed in a red and white striped ski cap and glasses and the challenge is to find Wally. You have to search for some time to pick him out of the crowd, but Wally is always there!

In many ways, like finding Wally, we need to develop the skill of identifying God's presence in our daily lives. One approach that can help us to find God throughout the day is to do a daily review of our day with God. It can provide us with a means of seeing where God has been at work during our day. It's an opportunity of remembering how God has been at work and how we have responded to Him. As the psalmist says, *'On my bed I remember you; I think of you through the watches of the night'* (Ps 63:6).

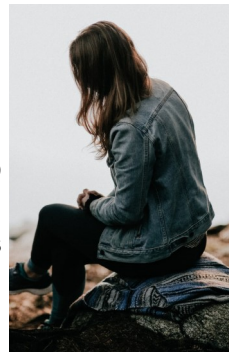
What does this look like in practice? Here is a step by step guide:

1. Be still for a moment, and quiet your mind.
2. Acknowledge that Jesus is present. Invite Him to guide you.
3. Recall the beginning of the day, when you first woke up. Watch that scene, as if on film. What is your reaction to what you see? Talk to God about it.
4. Continue through the film of your day, going from scene to scene. As you reflect on each one, some scenes may fill you with gratitude, others with regret. Speak directly to God about this. You may also want to pray for those you encountered during the day.
5. End your review with a prayer of thanksgiving for God's mercy and love. Ask him to refresh you as you sleep.

As you begin reviewing your day with God regularly, you can expect to see two things beginning to happen:

Firstly, you will become more aware of recurring negative patterns in your life, which will challenge these wrong attitudes and habits and increase your desire to grow and change.

Secondly, you will become more aware of God's presence in the ordinary moments of your life. And when you start experiencing the reality of God's presence with you every day, it's not ordinary any more!



'One Year On'

*The Revd Canon Paul Hardingham looks back
on the year that changed the world.*

It was just over a year ago that the WHO discussed the coronavirus that was starting to spread around the world. None of us could have foreseen the devastating effect on our world, with over 80 million people infected and nearly two million deaths. How has the pandemic challenged our faith, as we look back over the last year?

Firstly, it has forced us to face up to the **reality of our situation**. We cannot underestimate the health, social and economic effects of the virus on our lives, churches and communities. We have learned how to do church online, but the future shape of church life is uncertain!

As the apostle Paul writes: *'We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed. We always carry around in our body the death of Jesus'* (2 Cor 4:8-10).

The pandemic has challenged so much of what we take for granted, but also demonstrated that God is alongside to help us in these circumstances.

Secondly, alongside the fear and uncertainty of this year, we have also learned to find **new faith and hope in Jesus**. The experience of Jesus' death and His resurrection provides a pattern for us in facing the future: *'so that His life may also be revealed in our mortal body. So then, death is at work in us, but life is at work in you.'* (2 Cor 4:10-12).

During the season of Lent, as we anticipate the events at Easter, it's good to focus on the promise of sharing in the death and resurrection of Jesus. As we consider our present struggles, are we ready to surrender them to Jesus? May the hope of Easter Day take us forward into the coming year.

'Zoomed Out?'

*The Revd Canon Paul Hardingham
considers the need to stay connected*

'You're still on mute!' If you've used Zoom over the past year, you'll be familiar with this cry! After a day on Zoom, the last thing we often want to do is using it for a chat with friends or a church service on Sunday! Now this reveals a wider problem that we face. We know that staying connected in the pandemic is hard. When we're tired and busy, it's easy to stop connecting with others, which would encourage our faith or wellbeing. This might also include not sending a text, Facebook comment or phoning somebody up.

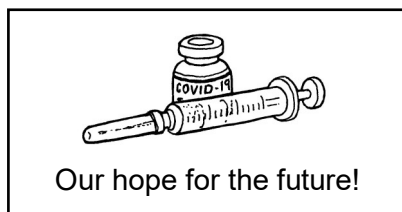
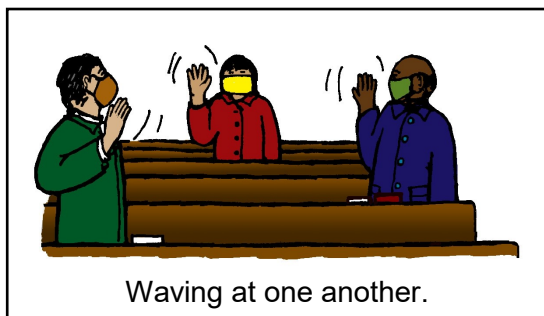
Remember what Paul says: *'For what I want to do I do not do, but what I hate I do.'* (Romans 7:15). It's often easier to avoid connecting with God and others, when this would be good for our sense of value, purpose and identity. Certain patterns of behaviour can make us feel safer, but in reality they prevent us from living our lives fully as God intends.

Paul adds: *'What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body that is subject to death? Thanks be to God, who delivers me through Jesus Christ our Lord!'* (Romans 7:24,25). Through the death and resurrection of Jesus we have the freedom to act differently. Lent is an ideal time to develop new habits, especially when we are tired or anxious. It may involve spending less time on Facebook, turning the TV off to call a friend who we need to catch up with, or getting up a bit earlier to spend time in Bible reading and prayer.

Let's keep reminding ourselves that *'God is bigger than Zoom'* and make sure that we don't get disconnected! Let's be committed to doing the right thing, rather than simply the easier thing.



Church Life during Lockdown



Your Daily Walk Should Be A Sacred Ritual

Under lockdown, millions of us who rarely walked around our immediate locality are now well acquainted with every nearby driveway, every crack in the pavement, and every pothole in the road. We have developed views on our neighbours' gardens, on their oddly coloured garage doors, and on their dogs, children and cars. If we go out at the same time every day, we may even be saying hello to the same people we don't know every day.



For many of us, that daily walk has become the high point of our day. After all, it is one of the few liberties we have left. Some of us go early, to enjoy the relative peace and quiet. Some of us go midday, to at least see other people, even if we can't talk to them. Others of us opt for dusk, the dark comfort of a street with lit houses and stars in the sky.

Whatever time you most enjoy, make sure you do make the time to go for your walk. Your mental and physical fitness can only improve!

Let's clap for mothers!

The Revd Peter Crumpler considers all that mothers have done for us this past year.

As Mother's Day approaches, let's hear it for all the mothers who have been on the frontline of helping our country survive the Covid pandemic!

Just as we've clapped on our doorsteps for the NHS and other heroes, let's applaud all that mothers have done – often balancing home and employment – during these long lockdown months.

Research shows that mums have carried out most of the home schooling and household tasks – with many also holding down important frontline roles in the NHS and other essential services.



Women spent more than twice as much time as men on their children's home schooling and development during the lockdown, according to a study by University College London. It measured how parents responded while schools and nurseries were closed to most families.

The survey, reported by the Guardian newspaper, found that women across several age groups took the major share of childcare and home schooling. Those with primary school-aged children "were considerably more likely" to have given up working than fathers with children of the same age.

The pressure on families was further increased as many grandparents and other carers were unable to help. Family and friendship networks were put under strain with contacts restricted to online Zoom or Facetime calls that are often difficult with younger children.

Launching a Children's Society report into children's welfare during the lockdown, chief executive Mark Russell said: "We are living in unprecedented times. Months of national lockdown, only small numbers of children in school, and many families experiencing real crisis. Coronavirus has impacted every area of our lives and The Children's Society has been deeply concerned about the impact of this crisis on children, especially the most disadvantaged."

He added: "Our survey found a higher proportion of young people experiencing low well-being than we are used to seeing. Whilst we know that most children's well-being will 'bounce-back', there will be some who do not."

Mothers are at the frontline of helping our children cope with – and then recover from – the effects of the Covid pandemic and the extended lockdowns.

Many working mothers lost their jobs because of the pandemic, and families will be hard-pressed to make up for the income lost. Food bank provider, the Trussell Trust has warned churches to prepare for a 'tidal wave' of poverty and to be ready to help their local communities.

This Mother's Day, daffodils and chocolate may seem very thin reward for the major contribution of mums across our nation.



In normal times, they have a challenging and demanding job to do. Through the pandemic, they have risen to the challenges and sought to ensure children thrive despite the lockdowns.

As we celebrate Mother's Day, let's recognise the amazing efforts made by mothers in the home with their children.

Let's also celebrate the vital roles many also play – as do those without children – in the NHS, in education, in the government and civil service, in keeping vital supplies flowing – and in our pulpits and across our churches.

Prayer for Families

Dear Father God,

In this month, when we especially think about mothers, we thank you for the families and friends you have given us. You know how hard it has been to have been separated over these past months, how much we have missed and longed for their hugs, their physical presence and fellowship.

As we hold on to the hope of overcoming the pandemic, help us to be strengthened by the power of the love we receive - and to strengthen others by the love we give. May we know that, wherever we are, whatever our circumstances, we and our loved ones are held safe and connected by your unfailing love for us, revealed in Jesus – who is alive - and from whom nothing, no pandemic, no man-made turmoil, absolutely nothing and no-one can separate us, when we put our trust in Him.

Thank you, Father, that we belong to your family. Thank you for the love and security we have in you. In Jesus' name, Amen.

by Daphne Kitching

2021 World Watch List of the Persecution of Christians

A Christian persecution watchdog has warned that more Christians around the world are suffering because of their faith, and the kind of persecution they're experiencing has intensified.

Open Doors has found that more than 340 million Christians suffer high levels of persecution and discrimination for their faith, amounting to one in eight worldwide.



Now the charity has released its 2021 World Watch List (WWL) which highlights the top 50 countries that are most hostile toward Christians.

Here are the top ten.

1. North Korea

Being discovered as a Christian is a death sentence in North Korea. If you aren't killed instantly, you will be taken to a labour camp as a political criminal.

2. Afghanistan

ISIS and the Taliban continue to have a strong, violent presence in Afghanistan, with the Taliban controlling large regions.

3. Somalia

Islam is considered a crucial part of Somali identity, and if any Somali is suspected of having converted to Christianity, they are in great danger. Members of their family, clan or community will harass, intimidate or even kill them. Women may be raped and forcibly married.

4. Libya

There is no freedom of speech, no freedom of religion and very limited possibility of public church life in Libya. Although there are around 34,500 Christians in the country, only a tiny number (approximately 150) are Libyan – the majority are expatriates and migrant workers.

5. Pakistan

Pakistan's notorious blasphemy laws are used to target Christians, and Islamic extremist groups vehemently "defend" these laws, including attacking or killing those believed to have contravened them.

6. Eritrea

Government security forces monitor phone calls, scrutinise activity and conduct countless raids which target Christians, seize Christian materials and damage house churches. Christians can be arrested and imprisoned without trial.

7. Yemen

Christians in Yemen usually keep their faith secret, because if they are discovered then they could face the death penalty. Leaving Islam is forbidden, and all Yemenis are considered Muslims by the state.

8. Iran

The Iranian government sees the conversion of Muslims to Christianity as an attempt by Western countries to undermine the Islamic rule of Iran. Christians from a Muslim background are persecuted the most, primarily by the government, but also by their families and communities.

9. Nigeria

More Christians are murdered for their faith in Nigeria than in any other country. Violent attacks by Boko Haram, Hausa-Fulani Muslim militant herdsmen, ISWAP (an affiliate of ISIS) and other Islamic extremist groups are common in the north and middle belt of the country, & they are becoming more common further south.

10. India

Hindu extremists believe that all Indians should be Hindus, and that the country should be rid of Christianity and Islam. They use extensive violence to achieve this goal, particularly targeting Christians from a Hindu background.

Coming Up in March ...

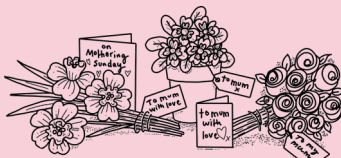


World Book Day 4th March

World Book Day was created by UNESCO on 23rd April 1995 as a worldwide

celebration of books and reading. Its mission is to promote reading for pleasure, offering every child and young person the opportunity to have a book of their own. It is marked in over 100 countries.

Mothering Sunday 14th March



World Poetry Day 21st March

Another event supported by UNESCO, this time recognising the unique ability of poetry to capture the creative spirit of the human mind.

Wear a Hat Day Friday 26th March



**Brain Tumour
Research**

March is brain tumour awareness month, so have some fun while raising money for this worthwhile charity, by wearing a hat on Friday

26th March. More details at:
<https://www.braintumourresearch.org/fundraise/wear-a-hat-day>



Comic Relief Friday 19th March

Red Nose Day is back on Friday 19th March and this year it's never felt more important to have some fun and raise money to support people living incredibly tough lives. We need the power of funny to turn laughs into lasting change. If you want to join in, please visit:
<https://www.comicrelief.com/rednoseday/>

Holy Week 29th March onwards

Join us each day this week as we travel with Jesus through the last week of his life.

You will find more details on page 5.



Palm Sunday 28th March

Join with us as we remember Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem in preparation for the Passover feast.

A close-up photograph of a hand holding a metallic chalice. The background is dark with out-of-focus light spots, creating a bokeh effect. The lighting is dramatic, highlighting the texture of the hand and the rim of the chalice.

The Upper Room

They meet together in the upper room
Gathering together in one accord,
He fetches a towel and washes their feet
And Judas slips out to betray His Lord.

The bread and wine are there on the table,
He takes up the bread and breaks it in two,
The cup is passed round, each drinking from it,
'These symbols,' He says, 'are given for you'.

'This bread is my body I freely give
This cup is my blood which soon will be shed',
They eat and they drink not really knowing
Or understanding of what lies ahead.

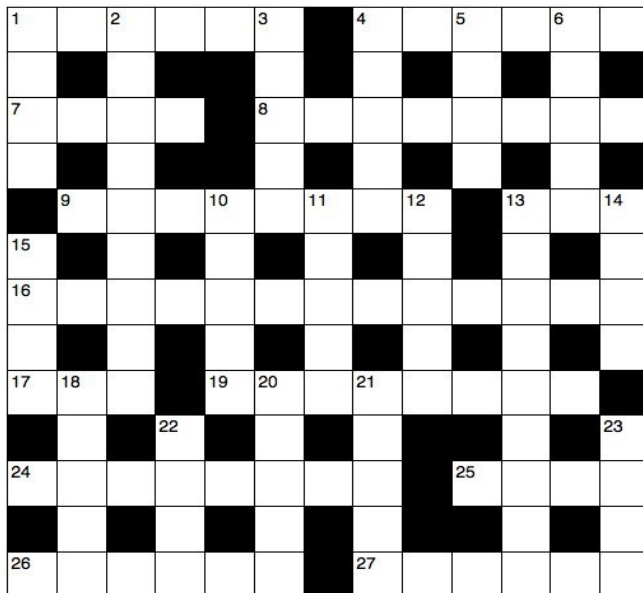
A new covenant that night has been made
Where God Himself gives His life for us all,
The Life divine in exchange is given
To free mankind from the curse of the fall.

Two thousand years on we come to partake
Of His life poured out to cover our sin
We eat and we drink the bread and the wine
With thankful hearts in remembrance of Him.

By Megan Carter

MARCH 2021 CROSSWORD

(The Bible version used in these crosswords is the NIV.)



Across

- 1 The earth is one (6)
- 4 'On a hill far away stood an old — cross' (6)
- 7 'I am the — vine and my Father is the gardener' (John 15:1) (4)
- 8 The Caesar who was Roman Emperor at the time of Jesus' birth (Luke 2:1) (8)
- 9 'Your — should be the same as that of Christ Jesus' (Philippians 2:5) (8)
- 13 Jesus said that no one would put a lighted lamp under this (Luke 8:16) (3)
- 16 Involvement (1 Corinthians 10:16) (13)
- 17 Armed conflict (2 Chronicles 15:19) (3)
- 19 Where the Gaderene pigs were feeding (Mark 5:11) (8)
- 24 What jeering youths called Elisha on the road to Bethel (2 Kings 2:23) (8)
- 25 The Venerable — , eighth-century Jarrow ecclesiastical scholar (4)
- 26 8 Across issued a decree that this should take place (Luke 2:1) (6)
- 27 Come into prominence (Deuteronomy 13:13) (6)

Down

- 1 Where some of the seed scattered by the sower fell (Matthew 13:4) (4)
- 2 Sexually immoral person whom God will judge (Hebrews 13:4) (9)
- 3 Gospel leaflet (5)
- 4 Physical state of the boy brought to Jesus for healing (Mark 9:18) (5)
- 5 Tugs (anag.) (4)
- 6 To put forth (5)
- 10 Nationality associated with St Patrick (5)
- 11 Leader of the descendants of Kohath (1 Chronicles 15:5) (5)
- 12 'After this, his brother came out, with his hand grasping — heel'(Genesis 25:26) (5)
- 13 At Dothan the Lord struck the Arameans with — at Elisha's request (2 Kings 6:18) (9)
- 14 'Peter, before the cock crows today, you will — three times that you know me' (Luke22:34) (4)
- 15 Spit out (Psalm 59:7) (4)
- 18 'When I — , I am still with you' (Psalm 139:18) (5)
- 20 Concepts (Acts 17:20) (5)
- 21 Thyatira's dealer in purple cloth (Acts 16:14) (5)
- 22 Does (anag.) (4)
- 23 The second set of seven cows in Pharaoh's dream were this. (Genesis 41:19) (4)



Crossword Solution
February 2021

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



Many of the articles and pictures in the Pews News Extra are sourced from the Parish Pump Website and

the Association of Church Editors monthly edition of "Ideas Forum".



Time for a Smile

Things We Would Not Have Known Without Sunday School

With your eyes closed for prayer, anything can happen in a room full of pre-schoolers.

Squash and song motions do not mix.

When dropped, offering money always rolls to the other side of the room.

Children's prayer requests reveal a lot about their parents.

Paradise lost?

A young mother stood in her kitchen and watched her baby screaming, her sons fighting, her daughter crying, the washing machine leaking, and the dog being sick. She sighed and said to her friend: "I sometimes wish I'd loved and lost."



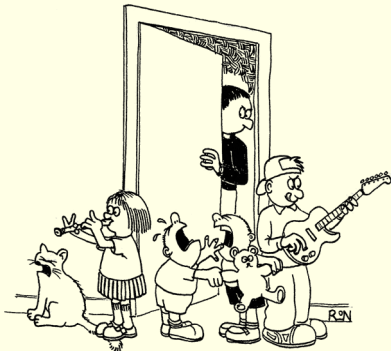
Knock knock

A conscientious minister decided to get acquainted with a new family in his church and so he visited them one Spring evening. After his knock on the door, a lilting voice from within called out, "Is that you, Angel?"

"No," replied the minister. "But I'm from the same department."

Humour

Give me a sense of humour, Lord,
give me the grace to see a joke,
To get some humour out of life,
and pass it on to other folk.



Kevin took himself off to his study to pray for peace.

Little Old Lady Seeks Handsome Young Man

An advert appeared in a student newspaper of a university: "Sweet little old lady wishes to correspond with good-looking university student – especially a six-footer with brown eyes, answering to initials J.A.D." It was signed: "his mother."

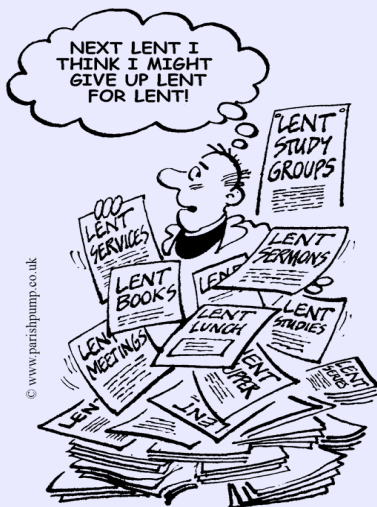
Switched on

A housewife was helping her aged mother get up the stairs on their brand-new stair lift when the minister telephoned her.

He was horrified to hear her say: "I'm so sorry, but I'll have to ring you back. I can't talk right now because I've finally got Mother in the electric chair and I'm eager to press the switch and see if it works!"

Bishop

A little girl told her mother, "We went to a confirmation service at the cathedral and I saw the bishop. Now I know what a crook looks like!"



Bend

I got a package envelope in the mail the other day that had written on the front, 'Photographs: Do Not Bend.' Underneath the postman had written: "Oh yes they do."

Observations on Modern Life

Common sense is not a gift. It's a punishment because you have to deal with everyone who doesn't have it.

Save the earth. It's the only planet with chocolate.

A bus station is where a bus stops. A train station is where a train stops. On my desk I have a workstation.

The darkest hour is just before dawn. So, if you're going to steal your neighbour's milk, that's the time to do it.

Don't be irreplaceable. If you can't be replaced, you can't be promoted.

When two egotists meet, it's an I for an I.

A filing cabinet is a place where you can lose things systematically.

Being popular on Facebook is like sitting at the cool table in the cafeteria of a mental hospital.

And finally



Safeguarding

St Paul's Church takes safeguarding very seriously. You can view all of our safeguarding information at:-

<https://stpaulsfairhaven.weebly.com/safeguarding.html>

If you are concerned that someone you know is at risk of, or is being abused, or presents a risk to others please seek advice from the Parish or Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser or if necessary, report the matter to the Local Authority Social Care Services or the Police without delay.