



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

PEWS NEWS EXTRA

Issue No 155 ~ September 2021



Harvest Festival ~ Sunday 26th September

Church Officers

Vicar	The Rev Paul Bye
Curate	The Rev Kyle Mulholland
Licensed Lay Minister	Miss Janet Kimber
Church Wardens	Mrs Pamela Rowell Mr Alan Curtis
Parish Secretary	Vacant
Treasurer	Mrs Loraine Lee



Useful Information

Vicarage	01253 734562
Parish Office:	01253 732939
Fundraising Shop:	01253 732253
Website:	www.stpaulsfairhaven.weebly.com
E-mail:	stpaulsoffice2@gmail.com



Help St Paul's Church, Ansdell & Fairhaven to raise money every time you shop online.

Every time you shop online using the Easy Fundraising website or the Easy Fundraising app, St. Paul's will receive a donation from the online store that you visit. There are more than 3,000 to choose from and it doesn't cost you any more than the price of your purchases!
Visit: <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/stpaulsansdell>

Letter from the Vicarage...

September is often a time of new starts. For some that might be the return of an interest group which has stopped for the summer. For others it might be beginning a new school or class.



This September also marks something new and exciting at St Paul's – a new pattern of meeting together before the Lord. You can find the details on page 5. This new pattern comes as the culmination of reflections and prayers involving myself, the Parochial Church Council and interactions with the church congregation.

But why change? That is a good question. God is the only one who never changes. Change is inevitable. But that doesn't mean we change for the sake of it. Rather having sought to discern a vision of where God is calling us ('I Have a Dream' in the February 2021 edition of the PNE), these new patterns seek to help us step forward in enabling that vision:

A pattern working to bring us together – While giving space for different styles across the whole, through the two main Sunday services in particular we seek to help us grow to be a church where we learn together with genuine relationships between different ages and Christian stages. This involves loving service, yet works to express a oneness which the church has been created to exhibit.

A pattern taking steps to reach out – Children, young people and families are not the sole focus of this pattern, nor our church. However, it is recognised that nationally and locally, these are groups which are currently lost from the church and Jesus in the main. This is not about just making sure the church is here in a decade's time. But about taking steps to help as many people as possible be able to engage with Jesus. We pray that the multigenerational service in particular might be a place of real connection for younger and older people in our church. Accessibility reaches beyond this to those who have little church connections of whatever age. Whilst retaining a strong Christian content, we want make the news of Jesus accessible to as many as possible.

A pattern which seeks to build up – While Jesus commands us to seek the lost, we are also called to build each other up. This service pattern expresses a range of spiritualities within it, recognising we are a church family of different people, and so seeking to provide for different needs at different points.

Changes are not easy. It is unsettling and painful. While nearly every congregation is impacted, some are more greatly impacted. I want to assure you that these decisions have not been taken lightly, seeking to listen, consider options, with prayer and indeed personal turmoil. The pattern seeks to maintain traditional Eucharistic and non-Eucharistic worship, whilst taking sustainable steps to grow together and reach the lost.

This time is going to require patient love. It will take time to settle into these new patterns. Some things might work, and others might not. None of us know how things will fully work out. But we also step forward in faith in our good God who goes before his people.

So can I urge us all to seek to move forward together into this pattern of services, giving ourselves to each other in them. I don't underestimate what that might mean for us, potentially moving out of our comfort zones, or re-evaluating how we structure our weeks.

Can I encourage us to use the beginning of a new term as an opportunity to commit, or re-commit ourselves, to meeting regularly on a Sunday (at 10.30am, 4pm or both), and make that the sustained focus of our corporate gathering each week. Our mid-week services are a great blessing which grow from that, complementing, rather than replacing them. I recognise in the particular circumstances of some there are challenges or barriers to meeting weekly on a Sunday, and we want to help you in those. In these early weeks, why not explore the different services for yourself. Maybe visit one you have never done before?

Please join me in praying for our church – for love, unity, boldness, and the Lord to work in and through us in this next stage. We seek to continue to grow to be a church which is 'By God's grace, a loving family, of wholehearted disciples, making more disciples.'

Please don't hesitate to be in touch if you would like to talk about or find our more regarding our new patterns.

With love

Paul



Something to consider as Back to Church Sunday approaches on 19th September...

Local churches are to be thought of not as churches of individuals, but, primarily, churches of families. - *Paul Helm*



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

Meeting together at St Paul's

Sunday

9.45am Short prayer meeting (church hall)

10.30am Our **morning service** with a common liturgy incorporating traditional and more contemporary elements and music across each month. Refreshments served after the service.
1st Sunday - Service of the Word;
2nd - 4th - Holy Communion.
Sunday Club meets on the 2nd and 4th weeks for 3-11s.

4.00pm Our new complementary, **multigenerational** service seeking to reach and disciple all ages of the church together with a deliberate intention of incorporating children, young people and families. Begins Sunday 12th September in the church hall. Followed by refreshments.

5.30pm Our sung service of Book of Common Prayer **Evensong** to mark selected Christian festivals six times a year.

Wednesday

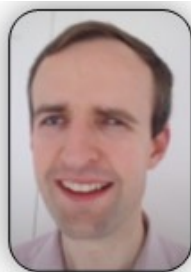
10.00am Our mid-week Book of Common Prayer **Holy Communion** service, followed by refreshments.

Thursday

3.30pm Our weekly service of Book of Common Prayer **Evening Prayer** alternating between said and sung forms.
Begins Thursday 2nd September.

Thoughts on Evening Prayer

by Kyle Mulholland



The first church I attended as a student used the Book of Common Prayer exclusively. I am thankful to God for what I learned while worshipping at that church. The majesty and holiness of God, the sinfulness of man, the necessity of reverence in approaching God - all these things were powerfully impressed on my mind through the Prayer Book.

From September at St Paul's, we will be gathering every Thursday at 3:30pm for BCP Evening Prayer (also called Evensong). I am very excited about the opportunity to be part of this service, and believe that God can powerfully use it - as a supplement to our Sunday services - to form us into the Christians and worshippers he wants us to be. I want to commend the service to you, and encourage you to be a part of it, if you're able.

Why "Evening" Prayer?

The apostle Paul says, "For everything created by God is good, and nothing is to be rejected if it is received with thanksgiving: for it is sanctified by the word of God and prayer" (1 Tim 4:4-5).

One of the "things" God has created, and has called "good," is *time*. In the Bible, the day is initially divided into two basic units: "the evening and the morning" (Genesis 1:5, etc.). Christians therefore "receive" the evening "with thanksgiving" by welcoming it with "the word and prayer." Thus it is "sanctified" - set apart - for God.

In the new creation, everything will be "sanctified" - set apart for God, used in a way that pleases him. Christians show the Lordship of Jesus by "sanctifying" what we have within our grasp: we give thanks over our common meals; we pray that God would help us to use our money well; we bring our children for baptism; and we give our time to him. One of the ways that we can "sanctify" the evening is by gathering together for prayer. We have the opportunity to experience a foretaste of the future, when Christians will spend eternity in the worship of God.

Why a Sung Service?

On alternate weeks, we intend, if the Lord will, to sing at Evening Prayer. We sing not only hymns, but also other parts of the service. Some find this strange; but it has great value. Singing is not an optional aspect of worship; it is commanded in Scripture in many places (e.g. Colossians 3:16). When we sing, God enables us both to experience and express a whole breadth of emotions (see, for example, Matthew 11:17). Most importantly, perhaps, we sing because God and Christ are "worthy to receive" such worship (4:11; 5:12). Yes, singing requires more physical effort than mere speaking: in the past I've felt exhausted after a service involving much loud singing! But Christ is worthy to receive everything we can offer to him - and infinitely more!

Why a Traditional Service?

The word "tradition" literally means "handed on." The picture is of something precious being passed from one generation to the next. The church is in some ways incurably "traditional." We call one another "back" to the God from whom we have historically fallen; to "seek the old paths" (Jer 6:16). The commandment, "Honour thy father and mother," comes even before the one prohibiting murder! We are called not only to respect our immediate parents, but all who have gone before us - especially those who have gone before us in the true faith (see Psalm 145:4). We are not uncritical of tradition: we must reject all practices that are opposed to the Bible, however "traditional" they have become (Mark 7:8; 1 Peter 1:18).

Our service of Evening Prayer comes from the 1662 Book of Common Prayer. But much of the service predates our Prayer Book: scriptures such as the Magnificat (Luke 1:46-55) have been used in worship in this context for centuries. The language we use - early modern English with its "thou" and "thee" pronouns intact - is clear, direct, reverent, memorable, and beautiful. We ought not to doubt that this act of worship, which has both nourished the faith of generations before us, and continues to be offered all around the world, will nourish us today, if we approach it with open hearts.





St Paul's Tots

St. Paul's Tots is a baby and toddler group for **0-3s**; their parents, carers and grandparents.

With toys, songs, crafts and Bible stories.

Our new term begins on:-

Tuesday 7th September

10am - 11:30am

St. Paul's Church Hall, Lake Road North,
Lytham St. Annes, FY8 1BZ

£1 per family, which includes a hot drink for adults.

To request a place, go to:

stpaulsfairhaven.weebly.com/st-pauls-tots



A 'Thank You' from Sheila Swindells

Peter had many happy memories of both times we spent at St Paul's Fairhaven: his church music, the choir, cubs, helping with Guides, and the many fundraising activities, to name but a few. Then, of course, our children grew up during our first time here.

And then to come back and enjoy a few more years was so good. Many thanks for all the messages and kindness sent to me during the last few weeks.

Sheila



Two Thirds of Churches in UK Plan to Keep Streaming Online, says Survey



Almost two thirds of UK churches plan to carry on streaming online, even after restrictions lift.

According to a recent survey by the insurance group Ecclesiastical and The Bible Society, 93 per cent of churches have used new ways to keep in touch with their congregation and over two in five churches (43 per cent) saw an increase in attendance as a result.

Live streaming has undoubtedly helped churches keep their services going during the pandemic, but this research suggests most, 62 per cent, would like the new habit to stay.

In the survey, 93 per cent said that they had used the video platform Zoom since March 2020, while others used Facebook (60 per cent), YouTube (5 per cent) and Microsoft Teams (1 per cent) to stream to their congregation.

Over two in five of the churches who had used these new channels said that they had seen an increase in attendance against their usual numbers, leading most to say they will carry on streaming after lockdown ends.

As one vicar in Norfolk said, "At the height of the pandemic we were getting over a hundred visits to our Facebook page a day, ten times as many as beforehand.



"By using social media we've been able to reach many more people than ever came through the actual church door each week, so it's definitely something we're looking to continue offering. There is certainly more hope now than there was this time last year and we look forward to the Lord leading us from this difficult time into freedom and new beginnings."



I can take my telescope and look millions of miles into space; but I can go away to my room and in prayer get nearer to God and heaven than I can when assisted by all the telescopes on earth. - *Isaac Newton*

Harvest Sunday 2021

Sunday 26th September

Join us this Harvest as we give thanks to our God for all his gifts.

10.30am - Morning Service (Holy Communion)

4pm - Multigenerational Service

5.30pm - Sung Festival Evening Prayer

With opportunity to give to the Bishop's Harvest Appeal and Fylde Foodbank



Heritage Open Day

Thursday 16th September 2021

10 am – 3.30pm

Join us for a chance to tour our beautiful church building.

Refreshments and children's trail available.

Short organ recitals at 10.30am and 2.30pm.

Longer organ recital at 12noon.

Why not join us for Sung Evening Prayer held at 3.30pm?

Everyone welcome!

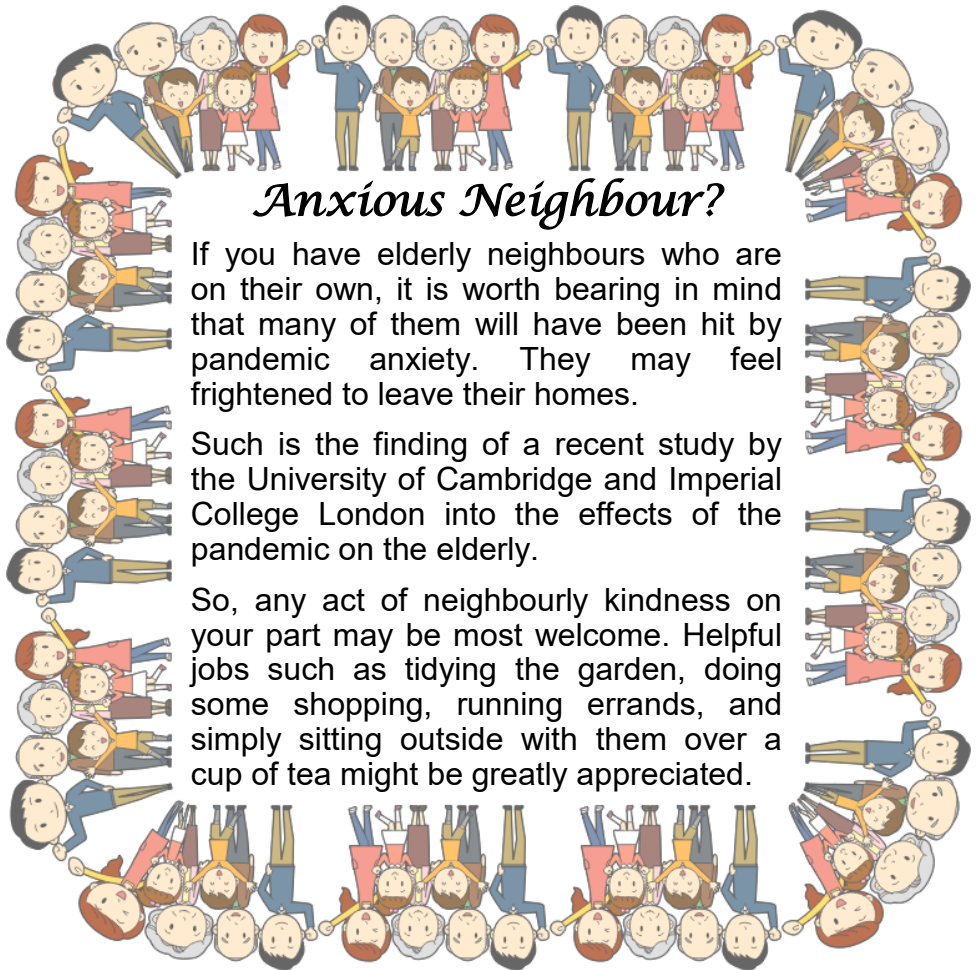
St Paul's Church, Lake Road North, FY8 1AG

Call 732939 or visit stpaulsfairhaven.weebly.com to find out more.

**FREE TO
EXPLORE**

Part of


heritage open days



Anxious Neighbour?

If you have elderly neighbours who are on their own, it is worth bearing in mind that many of them will have been hit by pandemic anxiety. They may feel frightened to leave their homes.

Such is the finding of a recent study by the University of Cambridge and Imperial College London into the effects of the pandemic on the elderly.

So, any act of neighbourly kindness on your part may be most welcome. Helpful jobs such as tidying the garden, doing some shopping, running errands, and simply sitting outside with them over a cup of tea might be greatly appreciated.



Would you like to be involved in the Community and help support St Paul's?

St Paul's Fundraising Shop would love to welcome new volunteers. There are a range of jobs to get involved in as best suits you, from working on the till, restocking the shop, sorting and more.

No experience needed. All training and support given.

To find out more email: stpaulscharityshop@gmail.com
or call 01253 732253.

Let Jesus Christ find you

The Ven John Barton on God's search for us.

Jesus said, 'Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling-places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also.' John 14:1-6

We come to church regularly to meet God. But actually, God comes to meet us. He comes to us personally though His Word; and in Holy Communion, Jesus arrives under cover of bread and wine, saying 'this is My body; this is My blood'.

The whole Bible is the story of God searching for us, not the other way round. It begins with Adam and Eve running away and hiding, and that's how it continues to this day. But it ends with a dramatic vision of reunion.

In the meantime, humanity is invited to stop, turn round, and face God who is in pursuit. 'Turning round' is what 'repentance' means.

Becoming a Christian is letting Christ find us; being a Christian is becoming an apprentice in His workforce.

Not long before His crucifixion, Jesus taught His apprentices about His death - and theirs. "I'm going to prepare a place for you, and I will come again and take you to myself, so that where I am you may be also."

When we contemplate dying, it may seem like a journey into the dark. But we will not go alone. Never alone. As we reach out into the darkness, Christ is reaching out to us. Just as He has been reaching out to us throughout our lives, so He is there to grasp us as we breathe our last. "I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also."

For the disciple, death is a union - a reunion with Christ. It's the most natural thing in the world. So, we pray that at our end, we may reach out into the darkness, to find we are grasped by the One who has already prepared a place for us.

The Parable of the Sower



Canon Paul Hardingham considers how various people respond to God.

This month we are looking at the Parable of the Sower (Mark 4:1-20). It's the story of a farmer who sowed his seed in different type of soils. These represent the different responses of the heart to God's Word (v15-20):

- 1) **The hard heart:** *'like seed along the path...as soon as they hear it, Satan comes and takes away the word that was sown in them.'* (15). Some people, when they hear the message, get distracted eg social media, work or relationships. Personal priorities prevent them from hearing God.
- 2) **The shallow heart:** *'like seed sown on rocky places...since they have no root, they last only a short time. When trouble or persecution comes because of the word, they quickly fall away.'* (16,17). These are the people whose heart isn't open to the message. When things become uncomfortable or discouraging, they are ready to quit.
- 3) **The crowded heart:** *'like seed sown among thorns...but the worries of this life, the deceitfulness of wealth and the desires for other things come in and choke the word, making it unfruitful.'* (18,19). This soil is most relevant for us today. People crave status, comfort, security and personal desires alongside the things of God. It's a heart that is worried about life getting out of control!
- 4) **The open heart:** *'like seed sown on good soil, hear the word, accept it, and produce a crop – some thirty, some sixty, some a hundred times what was sown.'* (20). This represents the open heart that listens and accepts Jesus's word, and is ready to follow Him however difficult things become.

What kind of soil is our heart? Are we hard, shallow, crowded or open? Do we have a heart of faith to follow Jesus in every aspect of our lives?

20th Anniversary of 9/11 - Looking Back on the Horror

The Ven. John Barton looks back on a day which changed US history.

The TV pictures looked like some macabre video game, with toy aircraft crashing into matchbox towers. Then incredulity turned into utter dismay. This was real: the most powerful nation in the world had been invaded by 19 airborne Islamic terrorists, with devastating effect. Nearly 3,000 people died.

The US government announced a war on terror. Futile invasions of Iraq and Afghanistan followed, with more loss of life.

9/11 was 20 years ago this month. Five years later, coordinated suicide attacks on London's transport system were carried out, also by Islamists. 52 people of 18 different nationalities were killed and more than 700 were injured. In 2017, 23 people died and 1,017 were injured in the Manchester Arena bombing. There have been other terrorist murders; at least three plots have been foiled during the coronavirus pandemic.

Today, the MI5 estimate of the threat of a terrorist attack in the UK hovers between substantial and severe.



Photograph courtesy of Jesse Mills on Unsplash

The world isn't as secure as we had once hoped. In addition to the menace of unconstrained violence, our planet is silently protesting against centuries of abuse, and we're only just waking up to our accountability as stewards. At the same time, we must come to terms with the knowledge that Covid-19 and its variations are permanent additions to the list of deadly diseases to be held at bay by immunisation. There will be more to come.

Our forebears, who lived in even riskier times, drew strength from Psalm 91:

*You who live in the shelter of the Most High,
who abide in the shadow of the Almighty,
will say to the Lord, "My refuge and my fortress;
my God, in whom I trust."
For He will deliver you from the snare of the fowler
and from the deadly pestilence ...*

The Psalm is no panacea, or divine guarantee of earthly immunity, but the assurance that God holds the whole world in His hands and His ultimate purposes will not be thwarted.



A Prayer for Afghanistan

*written by Ramani Leathard, Christian Aid's Head of Region
for South East Asia and Afghanistan.*

O God of mercy and of peace, we hold before you the peoples of Afghanistan. Be living bread to those who are hungry each day. Be healing and wholeness to those who have no access to health care amidst the ravages of pandemic. Be their true home to all who have been displaced. Be open arms of loving acceptance to those who fear because of their gender, ethnicity, religious or political views. Be peace to those engaged in armed conflict and those who live within its shadow. Turn our hearts and minds to your ways of just and gentle peace, open our eyes to see you in all acts of compassionate care. Strengthen our hearts to step out in solidarity with your suffering people and hold us all in your unfailing love. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ, who emptied himself of all but love in order to bring life in all its fullness. Amen.

Sheep's Tale

(Luke 15:1-7)

I didn't know I was lost,
Just thought I'd try a new path,
Walk a different way for a while.
After all, the rest of the flock
Seemed so comfortable, so sure of themselves.
I'd sometimes felt alone
Even with the ninety-nine all around me.
Then there was my voice - always one bleat behind,
And just because I sat behind that particular bush
Where the ewes always congregate,
I got pushed to the edge of the flock.
So, yes, I'd strayed a bit,
But I wouldn't say I was lost exactly,
Just wandering.

That was until night fell,
And I fell
Deep into danger,
Far from the flock,
Lonely and yes, lost now
And wanting so much to go home,
Not knowing how,
Needing help,
And the night so dark.

Then out of darkness
His voice of light,
Searching,
His arms of rescue,
Saving,
His heart of love,
Rejoicing
Because He found me,
My Shepherd.

He came to look
For *me*.

By *Daphne Kitching*



Photos courtesy of www.LumoProject.com

September Prayer

Dear Lord,

September – the month of new beginnings for many, as summer fades and school and college terms start.

After such a strange time of restrictions, hopes of freedom, with warnings to be cautious, it is hard to know what to expect this September.

We can't know what lies ahead, Lord, but we *can* trust you to see us through whatever it turns out to be.

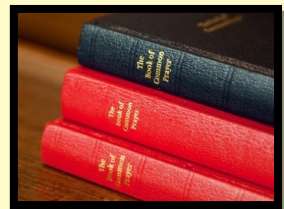
Thank you for your promise, *I will never leave you or forsake you... (Hebrews 13:5)*

Help us to hold fast to that promise, to keep trusting you - and to be thankful for each September day.

In Jesus' name. Amen.

By Daphne Kitching

Mid-Week Book of Common Prayer Service of Hbly Communion



From CofE website

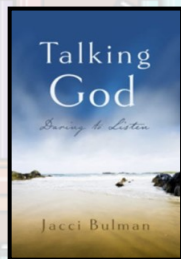
Wednesdays weekly – 10am

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

Book Reviews

Have you read a good Christian book recently that you could recommend to others? How about writing a review, which could be published in the Pews News Extra?

Here are two book reviews, which have been published on the Parish Pump website.

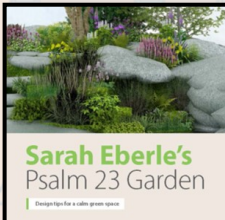


Talking God – Daring to Listen By Jacqui Bulman, Lion Hudson, £9.99

Listening is a valuable – and often neglected – tool for spiritual learning.

This book invites you to reflect on the personal beliefs many of us hold towards God through listening in on a series of 11 inspiring interviews with people of Christian or ‘Jesus-connected’ faith.

Each of these dedicated spiritual pilgrims give their response to searching questions about God, Jesus Christ, and Christianity, offering a wide range of perspectives on issues of faith and spiritual truth.



Sarah Eberle's Psalm 23 Garden – design tips for a calm green space Bible Society, £6.50

Sarah Eberle, winner of 17 gold medals at Chelsea and Hampton Court Flower Shows, has designed the Bible Society's entry garden for the RHS Chelsea Flower

Show this month (September 2021).

The theme of the garden is Psalm 23, and this is the full-colour book of photographs to go with it. Based on the themes of rest and peace, it offers a place of refuge and restoration, which is reflected in the meditations and stories within the book.

The book also offers tips from Sarah Eberle on how to create your own peaceful outdoor space.

Dead Sea Scrolls – Brought to Light 30 Years Ago

by Tim Lenton

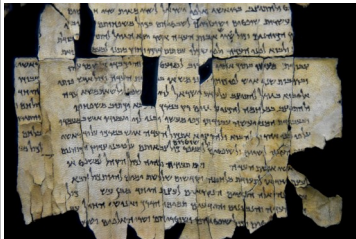
Thirty years ago, on 22nd September 1991, photographs and transcripts of the Dead Sea Scrolls were made available to scholars generally for the first time.



The Scrolls – ancient, mostly Hebrew or Aramaic manuscripts of leather, papyrus, and copper – were first found in 1947 near the shore of the Dead Sea. They come from various sites and date from the third century BC to the second century AD.

The decision by the Huntington Library, which is in San Marino, California, to make the Scrolls public was hailed by its director, Dr William A Moffett, as a bold move “equivalent to breaking down the Berlin Wall”. Up to that time access to the scrolls had been restricted to a fairly small group of ‘authorised’ scholars.

The Huntington photograph collection was created by philanthropist Elizabeth Hay Bechtel in 1980, with Robert Schlosser taking the actual pictures. After her death in 1987 they became the property of the library, with no agreed restrictions on their use – unlike the official collections, which certain experts reserved for their own use “to ensure scholarly accuracy”.



Last year the Museum of the Bible, in Washington DC, confirmed that all 16 of the fragments it owns are modern forgeries.



Some comments about the Bible.....

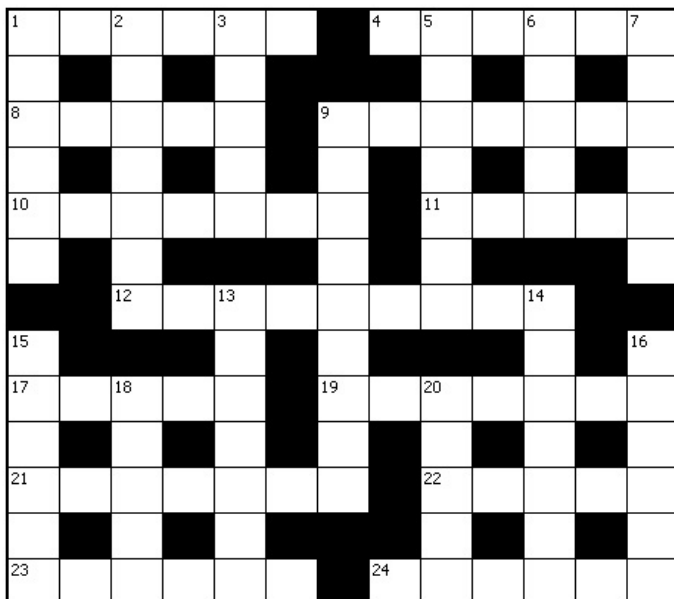
I know the Bible is inspired because it finds me at a greater depth of my being than any other book. – Samuel Taylor Coleridge

The Bible is meant to be bread for our daily use, not just cake for special occasions. Anon

The New Testament does not envisage solitary religion. CS Lewis

SEPTEMBER 2021 CROSSWORD

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



Clues Across

- 1 'Through [Christ] we have gained by faith into this grace' (Romans 5:2) (6)
- 4 Deprives of sight (Deuteronomy 16:19) (6)
- 8 The words of a hymn do this (mostly) (5)
- 9 Faithful allegiance (1 Chronicles 12:33) (7)
- 10 Belgium's chief port (7)
- 11 Where John was baptizing 'because there was plenty of water' (John 3:23) (5)
- 12 Imposing height (Psalm 48:2) (9)
- 17 Jesus' tempter in the wilderness (Mark 1:13) (5)
- 19 Comes between Amos and Jonah (7)
- 21 'Your will be done' ... as it is in heaven' (Matthew 6:10) (2,5)
- 22 Gale (Matthew 8:24) (5)
- 23 Axle, eh? (anag.) (6)
- 24 'Out of the... I cry to you, O Lord' (Psalm 130:1) (6)

Clues Down

- 1 Popular Christian author and humorist, Plass (6)
- 2 Transparent ice-like mineral (Revelation 4:6) (7)
- 3 Method of compelling surrender by surrounding target of attack (2 Chronicles 32:1) (5)
- 5 Expose (Isaiah 52:10) (3,4)
- 6 Lonny (anag.) (5)
- 7 Utterance (1 Timothy 1:15) (6)
- 9 Husband of Deborah, the prophetess (Judges 4:4) (9)
- 13 Burial service (Jeremiah 34:5) (7)
- 14 What Christ threatened to do to the lukewarm church in Laodicea (Revelation 3:16) (4,3)
- 15 Simon Peter climbed aboard and dragged the net (John 21:11) (6)
- 16 His response to Jesus' decision to return to Judea was 'Let us also go, that we may die with him' (John 11:16) (6)
- 18 There will be weeping and gnashing of ... (Matthew 8:12) (5)
- 20 Walkway between rows of pews in a church (5)



Crossword Solution August 2021

M	O	S	A	I	C	S	C	A	L	E	S
O	A			I		H		I		Q	
C	A	N	A		C	L	A	U	D	I	U
K		D			C		R		E		A
S	A	D	D	U	C	E	E		S	L	M
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S	E	L	F	C	O	N	F	I	D	E	N
E		E		O		E		H		R	H
S	A	D		R	A	D		I	U	S	E
S		A			S			N		B	E
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E		S		A		I			A		E
A	S	T	E	R	N		A	R	T	H	U



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".





ARTICLES FOR THE OCTOBER PNE



If you have an article for inclusion in the September PNE, please make sure that I have a copy by **Friday 10th September**. My contact details are on page 2.

Thank you.

Janet Kimber

Time for a Smile

Flying bishop

The new Bishop wanted a bird's eye view of his new diocese, so he had an idea. He rang his local airfield to charter a flight, and was told that a twin-engine plane would be waiting for him. Arriving at the airfield, the bishop spotted a plane warming up outside a hangar. He jumped in, slammed the door shut, and shouted, "Let's go!"

At once the pilot taxied out, swung the plane into the wind and took off. Once in the air, the bishop spent several minutes enjoying the views, and looking for local landmarks. Finally, he instructed the pilot, "Fly down the valley now and make low passes so I can take pictures of some of the best of the old parish churches."

"Why?" asked the pilot.

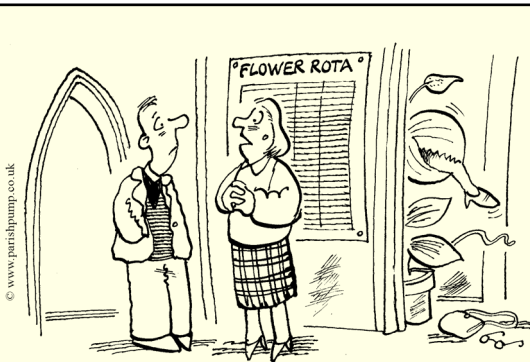
"Because I'm the new bishop," he replied happily, adjusting his camera, "and I want some good aerial views of my diocese."

The pilot was silent for a moment. Finally he stammered, "So, what you're telling me, is, you're NOT my flight instructor?"

Bifocals

A preacher went into the pulpit one Sunday morning wearing a pair of new bifocals. The reading portion of the glasses improved his vision considerably, but the top portion of the glasses didn't work so well. In fact, he was experiencing dizziness every time he looked through them.

Finally, he apologised to the congregation. "I hope you will excuse my continually removing my glasses," he said. "You see, when I look down, I can see fine, but when I look at you, it makes me feel sick."



...er Vicar, it's about that flower Mrs Brindle brought back from her foreign holiday...

No Exams

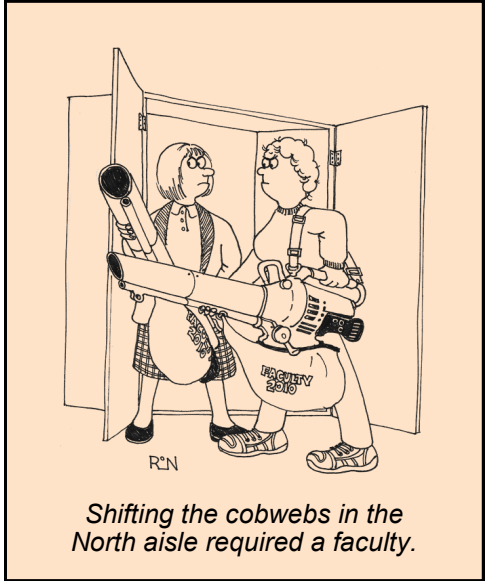
A little girl had been to Sunday School for the first time and was asked by her mother how it compared with her new primary school.

"Oh, I like it much better," she said. "There are no exams, you go only once a week for an hour, and at the end you go to heaven instead of high school."

HARVEST

Listen

My three-year-old was saying his nightly prayers in a very low voice. "I can't hear you," I finally whispered. He said firmly, "Wasn't talking to you."



Close Shave

It was our Harvest Festival Sunday. My husband had cut his ear while shaving. We arrived at the church just in time to sing: 'First the blade and then the ear'.

Grammatical sense

If people from Poland are called Poles, then why aren't people from Holland called Holes?



Gym?

Before setting off on a business trip to Birmingham, I called the hotel where I'd be staying to see if they had a gym.

The hotel receptionist's sigh had a tinge of exasperation in it when she answered.

"We have over 100 guests at this facility," she said. "Does this 'Jim' have a last name?"

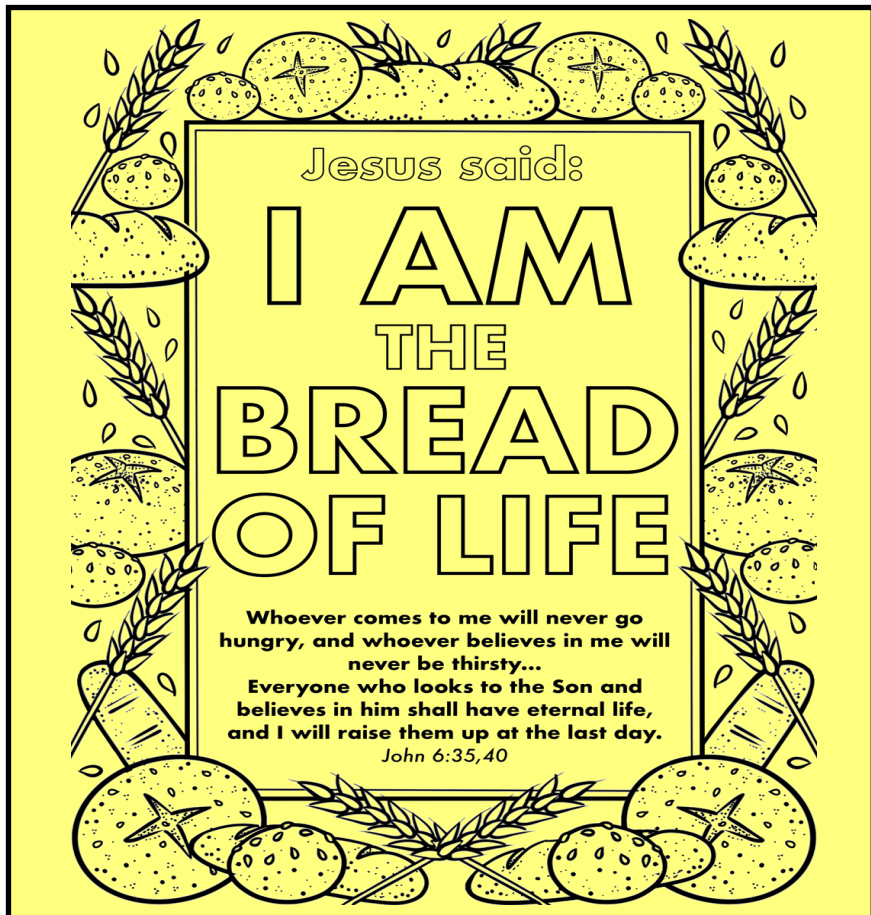
From a church notice sheet:-

PLEASE NOTE: 'From this Sunday the evening service will begin at 8pm. This will continue until October.'

Boredom

The sentence, 'Are you as bored as I am?', can be read backwards and still make sense.

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.