



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

PEWS NEWS EXTRA

Issue No 169 ~ November 2022



Photo by Laurentiu Iordache on Unsplash

*'At the going down of the sun and in the morning
we will remember them.'* Laurence Binyon

Letter from the Vicarage...

Isn't Christianity 'exclusive'? That is a question which is often raised about Christianity. Maybe you have asked it? Behind the question is perhaps the thought that God only wants certain people on his team. That God is narrow.

Recently I have been reading through a letter in the New Testament by the Apostle Paul, the first letter to a church leader called Timothy. It has been refreshing and challenging. Paul shows the wideness of the good news of Jesus in a way which may surprise us.



Pray for all – *'I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people - for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness.'* (1 Timothy 2:1-2). Christians are called to pray for all. While we rightly pray for our particular circumstances and needs, all people are to be in our prayers as well.

Why that width?

God's desire for all – *'This is good, and pleases God our Saviour, who wants all people to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth.'* (v3-4) God's heart is wide. He looks at our world, in all its goodness and rebellion, and his heart goes out to it. He desires that all people come to know the rescue from sin he offers. There is not a nation, or group which that doesn't extend to.

How has that been shown?

Jesus' rescue for all – *'For there is one God and one mediator between God and mankind, the man Christ Jesus, who gave himself as a ransom for all people.'* (v5-6) Jesus did not come into the world or die to be the means of reconciling us back to God, just for certain types of people. Jesus' rescue and the new life which wonderfully flows from it, is wide in its reach.

Good news for all – *'And for this purpose I was appointed a herald and an apostle – I am telling the truth, I am not lying – and a true and faithful teacher of the Gentiles.'* (v7) Paul therefore shared that message with all. He was sent to the 'Gentiles', the great outsiders, with the good news.

So is Christianity 'exclusive'? On one level 'yes'! Jesus was clear, he is the only way to God the Father. No other religion or way of life can bring us there. But that exclusivity is offered in abounding love. Like a

consultant telling us there is only one medicine we can take to get better. It is not out of spite, but love, that such 'exclusivity' is shared.

But on another, real and deep level, 'no' it is not. God's heart is that all, whatever background or situation, would turn back to him and find the saving life he offers in Jesus, by following him. His heart flowed out into the sending of Jesus for all.

So, if you think Jesus is not for you. That you are not one of the 'in group', please think again. God's desire is for you. Jesus' death extends to someone like me, and like you. Come and find out about the God whose heart is wide.

And if we know that reality, then let us like Paul commit to praying, and proclaiming, that many, of all sorts of backgrounds, come to know this life-giving truth for themselves.

With blessings

Paul



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.

Tuesdays

10am - 11:30am (Term time)

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

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

Booking not required

stpaulsfairhaven.weebly.com/st-pauls-tots



St Paul's Fundraising Shop

I have been volunteering in the Fundraising Shop for nearly 10 years since I retired from teaching. I have worked with different people and have loved it. I currently work on a Wednesday morning with Trish and we love the time we spend in the shop ... meeting people and selling things.

Our shop is a great place for the church to reach out into the community. There is literature and information about our church and its services and events, both in the front window and in the small area near the back of the shop with table and chairs; and drinks that the customers can use at their leisure ... juice in the summer and we will make tea or coffee as it gets cooler. Some volunteers are church goers and all volunteers enjoy chatting to the customers.

Our windows are looking lovely thanks to Sheila Redcliffe who has had colour themed windows and sport themed windows and recently a harvest window.

The weather was very hot in August so dehumidifiers and air fans were needed. Lots of summer clothes, shoes and accessories were sold at half price, so that the shelves could be cleared ready for the autumn stock to be displayed . Now we have winter coats and boots as these will soon be needed by our customers.

We have lots of items for sale and they change every day ... so it is a good place to visit when you are doing your shopping or just walking through Ansdell! Do call in and see us!



Judith Lakin

Fundraising Shop Opening Hours:

Monday - Friday	10am - 1pm; 2pm - 4pm
Saturday and Sunday	Closed

PCC Update October 2022

Here are some headlines from the October PCC meeting:

- **Mission Partners** – Following the De Leeuws returning from South Sudan to the Netherlands, the PCC are exploring who we might be able to partner with in prayer and giving. We are considering possible links through Crosslinks, an Anglican Mission Agency, as well as a potential parish link in Kenya. Please pray for the Lord's leading.
- **Christmas** – We discussed plans for Advent and Christmas, to make connections with our parish, and share the hope of Jesus. These include a special 'Advent Calendar' in the Fundraising Shop Window, a mince pie give away outside the shop as a way of connecting with people on Woodlands Road and sharing the Christmas message, as well as our carol singing and Christmas services.
- **Energy Costs** – A separate letter to the church family highlights our increased needs, and a call to prayer.
- **Volunteer Travel Expenses Policy** – The PCC agreed a new policy to seek to address situations where finances for travel may be a barrier to volunteering.
- **Noticeboard** – one of our existing noticeboards is in disrepair. The PCC voted on a replacement.
- **Fundraising Shop Lease** – Following a rent review, and as our current lease draws near to its last year, members of the PCC have been in discussion with our landlord over possible lease extensions. The PCC agreed in principle, and will later pass a motion, on a proposal to extend our current lease by two years, with the potential to extend for a further two at a later date. We hope this gives a degree of security, but also flexibility going forward. Blackburn Diocese will need to agree to this proposal as our custodian trustee.
- **Safeguarding** – We received a review of a recent Safeguarding Audit, showing areas where we are working in line with best practice, and areas where further development (mostly updated training) is needed.



King Charles III

Canon Paul Hardingham considers our new monarch.

'And wherever you may live in the United Kingdom, or in the realms and territories across the world, and whatever may be your background or beliefs, I shall endeavour to serve you with loyalty, respect and love, as I have throughout my life.'

These are King Charles III's words from his TV broadcast following the death of Queen Elizabeth. They reflect the Queen's own commitment to serve the nation for 70 years. They also express the continuity of monarchy: *'The Queen is dead. Long live the King!'*

However, continuity doesn't mean that things remain the same. King Charles III will face different challenges to the Queen, but the same God works His purposes through each of them. At his death, King David spoke these words to his son Solomon: *'Be strong and observe what the Lord your God requires: walk in obedience to him...Do this so that you may prosper in all you do and wherever you go.'* (1 Kings 2:2,3) These are words for our new King and ourselves, as we seek God's will in a time of uncertainty.

King Charles III has demonstrated his ability to get alongside people to *'see the value of each person as God sees them.'* (Archbishop of Canterbury). He is also in touch with the important issues of the day. He has provided young people with opportunities to change their lives. He understands the life of the poorest in our society, and he is passionate about the state of our planet. Let's pray for our king, as he faces new challenges and opportunities: *'I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness.* (1 Timothy 2:1,2).

Support a Christian Charity this Christmas

Many of us like to support various charities when it comes to buying our Christmas cards but you may find it worthwhile to visit <https://www.eden.co.uk/charity-christmas-cards/> as they offer a range of Christmas cards that raise money for various Christian charities.

A Service of Memorial

Join us in a service for the whole community,
as we reflect together, hear from God,
and remember loved ones who have died.

Saturday 19th November 2022

3pm

St Paul's Church, Ansdell and Fairhaven

Open to all. Please consider yourself invited.

If you wish to have your loved one's name read out on the memorial roll,
call 01253 732939 or email stpaulsoffice2@gmail.com



Visiting Speaker: David Dean

Chief Partnership Coordinator, Barnabus Aid UK

Come along and find out about the work of Barnabas Aid. Barnabas Aid stands with Christians around the world, wherever they suffer discrimination or oppression as a result of their faith.

Sunday 20th November

10.30am & 6.30pm

**All Saints Church, North Drive/Valeway Ave,
Anchorholme, Blackpool, FY5 3HT**

The Two Minutes Silence

Canon Paul Hardingham considers the value of a brief silence



In the month when we think about those who have given their lives in war, the Two Minutes Silence is a significant act of remembrance. The silence provides an opportunity to remember those who have suffered in war and how we can work for a peaceful world. However, we can also find ourselves thinking about lunch or whether we've switched off our phone?

Victor Frankl, a victim of Auschwitz, suggested that the most intolerable of all human conditions is not imprisonment or hunger, but lack of meaning. The two minutes of silence enables us to connect with Jesus' message, which offers true meaning to our lives and world. He spoke of giving ourselves in love for each other and the world, 'Love your enemies and pray for those that persecute you' (Matthew 5:44). He also demonstrated such love in sacrificing His own life, 'Greater love has no-one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends' (John 15:13). When observing the silence, let's use it to reflect on this sacrificial love, as we call to mind those who have laid down their lives.

In our busy lives, where so much clamours for our attention, silence gives us an opportunity to reflect on our priorities and rediscover true meaning in our lives. This is not just for Remembrance Sunday, as Jesus often withdrew to find silence to seek God (eg: Luke 5:16). Let's use silence in our lives as space to seek God's will and offer ourselves to Him, just as those who gave themselves in conflict through the years.

*'They shall grow not old as we that are left grow old:
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.*

At the going down of the sun and in the morning we will remember them.'



Photo by Simon Godfrey on Unsplash

St Paul's Soldiers

By the remembrance section in church there is a purple file filled with information about the soldiers from St. Paul's church who lost their lives in the First World War.

Their lives have been researched and make such interesting reading. Please feel free to borrow the file...complete the piece of paper with your details so that we know who has borrowed it...then when it is returned others can borrow it.

These young men were part of our church and we must remember them.

Judith Lakin



Prayers for Remembrance

Remembrance Sunday will be especially poignant this year, as Russia's war on Ukraine continues to cast long shadows over Europe. But Remembrance is also a time to remember those whom we have loved and lost, from Queen Elizabeth II to members of our own families. So, these prayers may help direct your thoughts as you think back...

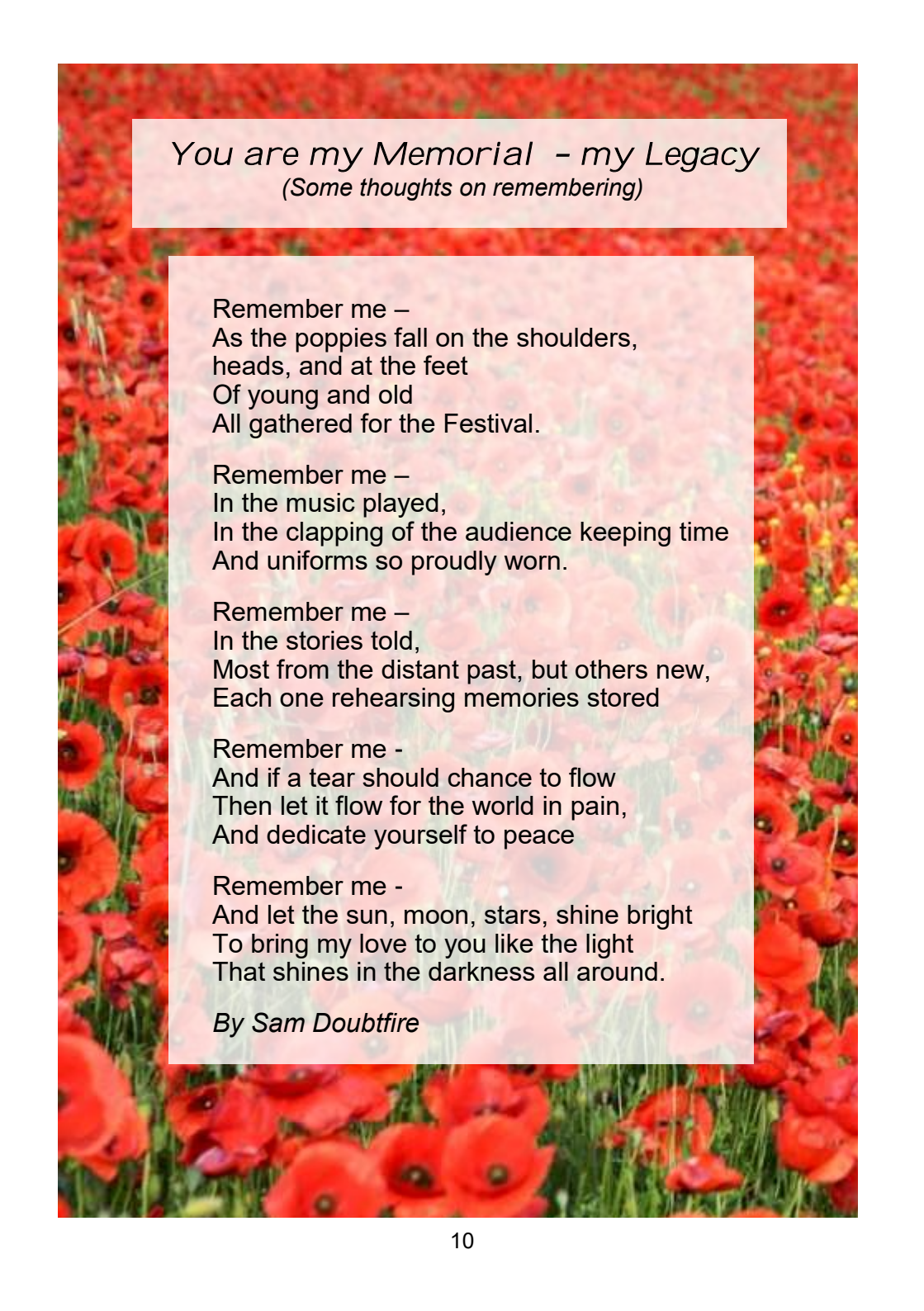
For those who have died

Almighty and eternal God,
from whose love in Christ we cannot be parted,
either by death or life:
hear our prayers and thanksgivings
for all whom we remember this day;
fulfil in them the purpose of your love;
and bring us all, with them, to your eternal joy;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

For those who have died on active service

O God of truth and justice,
we hold before you those men and women
who have died in active service:
in Iraq, in Afghanistan and elsewhere.
As we honour their courage and cherish their memory,
may we put our faith in your future;
for you are the source of life and hope,
now and for ever.
Amen.



A dense field of vibrant red poppies with green stems and leaves, filling the entire background of the page.

You are my Memorial - my Legacy
(Some thoughts on remembering)

Remember me –
As the poppies fall on the shoulders,
heads, and at the feet
Of young and old
All gathered for the Festival.

Remember me –
In the music played,
In the clapping of the audience keeping time
And uniforms so proudly worn.

Remember me –
In the stories told,
Most from the distant past, but others new,
Each one rehearsing memories stored

Remember me -
And if a tear should chance to flow
Then let it flow for the world in pain,
And dedicate yourself to peace

Remember me -
And let the sun, moon, stars, shine bright
To bring my love to you like the light
That shines in the darkness all around.

By Sam Doubtfire

**Something
to Think
About**



Christian Basics: How Does God Guide Us?

by Canon Paul Hardingham

We are all faced with daily decisions about our jobs, future, money, relationships etc. Yet God promises to guide those who listen to Him: *'My sheep listen to My voice; I know them, and they follow Me.'* (John 10:27). There are five key aspects of hearing God's voice.

1. Scripture:

The primary way God guides us is through the Bible: *'Your word is lamp for my feet, and a light on my path'* (Psalm 119:105). The Scriptures give us general guidance for life eg whether to pay taxes, give or forgive others, as well as what to do in particular situations.

2. Holy Spirit:

'And now, compelled by the Spirit, I am going to Jerusalem' (Acts 20:22). The Holy Spirit helps us to hear God's voice through Scripture, prayer or pictures, and also by prompting us in particular situations.

3. Common Sense:

We must not abandon common sense: *'Reflect on what I am saying, for the Lord will give you insight into all this'* (2 Timothy 2:7). In making most decisions, God uses our thinking about what to do. *'God's promises of guidance were not given to save us the problem of thinking'* (John Stott).

4. Wise Advice:

'Make plans by seeking advice' (Proverbs 20:18). Although we're responsible for decision making, it's good to talk to others about the choices we are making.

5. Circumstances:

God also guides us through circumstances, *'In his heart a man plans his course, but the Lord determines his steps'* (Proverbs 16:9). He will open or close doors in particular circumstances.

We won't always get it right, but God can include our mistakes in his bigger plan: *'And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love Him'* (Romans 8:28).

The message of Advent?

- *history is going somewhere!*

We consider the beginning of the Church Year...

'And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped Him in swaddling clothes and laid Him in a manger...' (Luke 2:7)

'They will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of the sky, with power and great glory.' (Matthew 24:30)



Advent Sunday
27th November

What a contrast between the humble birth of Jesus in Bethlehem – and His eventual return! No one knows when that day will be, but it will be earth-shaking. In the meantime, Advent reminds us of the last of six great saving actions of God in Jesus Christ.

The Birth of Jesus at Bethlehem was to inaugurate our salvation. The Death of Jesus at Calvary established it – forever. The Resurrection of Jesus at Easter confirmed it. The Ascension of Jesus to heaven celebrated it. The Gift of the Spirit at Pentecost drove it worldwide. And sixthly will come the Return of Jesus at the world's end – to consummate and complete it.

The message of Advent reminds us that history is not circular or locked into an unending stalemate. Neither can we ever accept a notion of successive reincarnations, for the Bible is clear that *man is destined to die once, and after that to face judgment* (Hebrews 9:27).

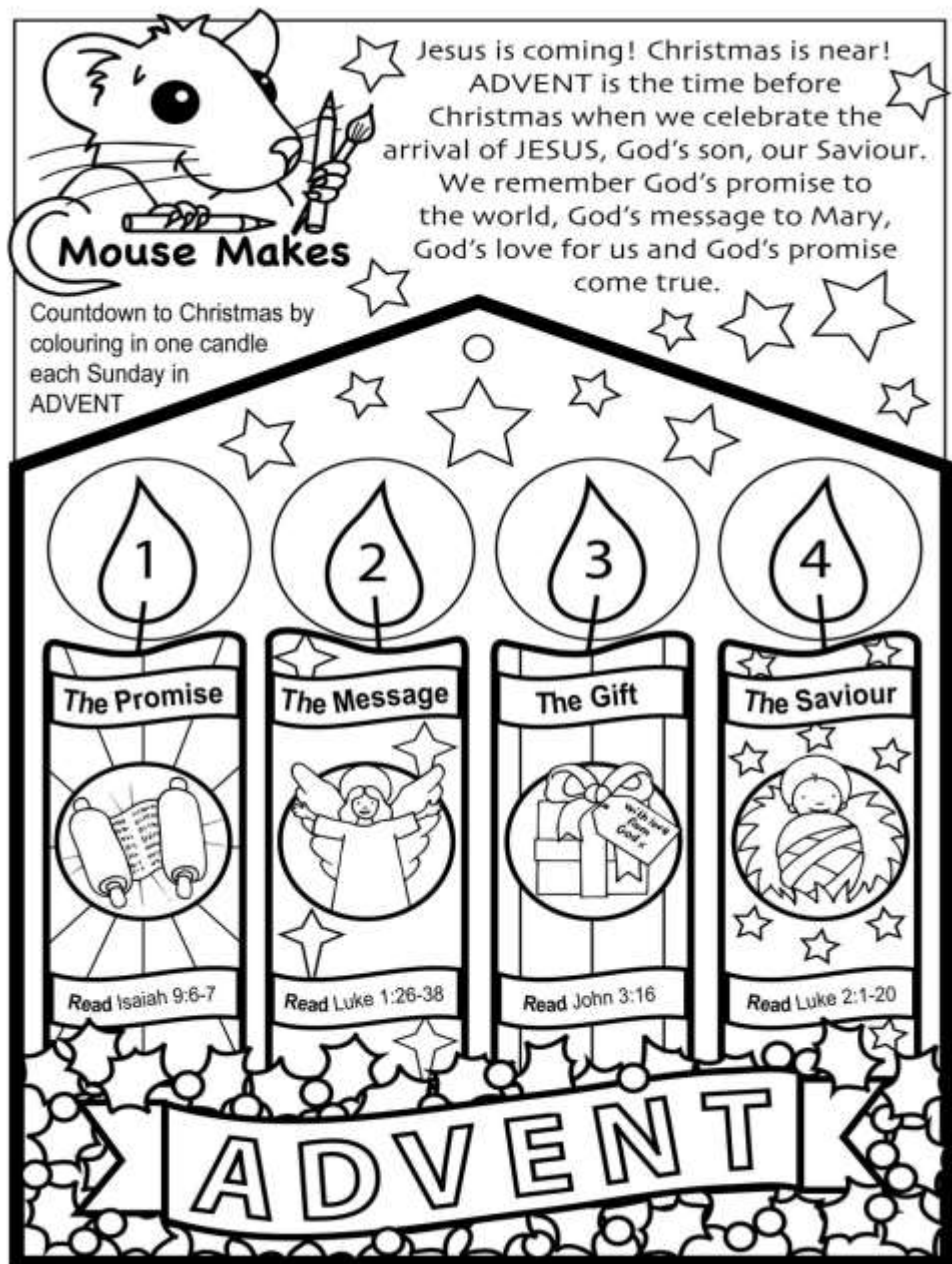
The Bible has had many pre-runs of that final 'Day of the Lord.' Noah's flood, the overthrow of wicked Babylon; these and other upheavals were but pointers to the final 'Day of our Lord Jesus Christ' (1 Corinthians 1:8), when all wrongs will be stopped, and the Lord shall reign with justice.

For the Bible is clear that world history is leading to a *Conclusion*, to the new heaven and the new earth. That will be inaugurated when 'He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.' Christ's return will usher in the final triumph, bringing about the dismantling of the whole apparatus of Evil that has so harassed us across the centuries.

The Cross and Resurrection secured the victory over evil. Christ's return will make it final! Believers echo Paul's words in 1 Thessalonians 4:17 - 'And so we will be with the Lord for ever.' If we have a *strong view of the future, we can be sure it will energise us in the present!*

In the meantime, Advent is coming round once again. It's time to celebrate the first of God's six mighty acts that secured our salvation – and look forward to the future.

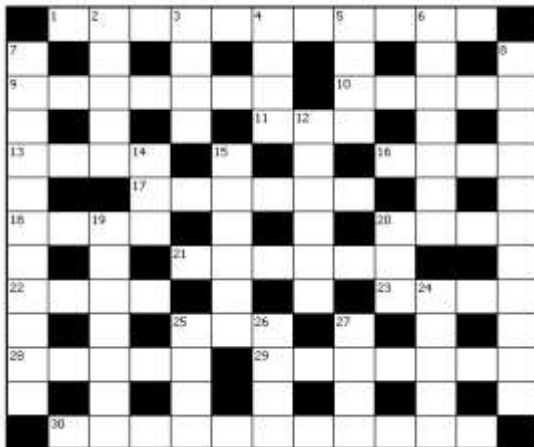
A Page for the Young at Heart



Nov14 ©deborah noble parishpump.co.uk

NOVEMBER 2022 CROSSWORD

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



Across

- 1 and 20 Down 'Lord of all __, Lord of all __, whose trust, ever child-like, no cares could destroy'(11,3)
- 9 Moses' question to a fighting Hebrew labourer: 'Why are you __ your fellow Hebrew?' (Exodus 2:13) (7)
- 10 Acclaimed cellist who contracted multiple sclerosis at the height of her fame, Jacqueline __ (2,3)
- 11 'At even __ the sun was set, the sick, O Lord, around thee lay'(3)
- 13 A descendant of Gad (xNumbers 26:16) (4)
- 16 'Do not leave Jerusalem, but __ for the gift my Father promised' (Acts 1:4) (4)
- 17 Clambers (Jeremiah 48:44) (6)
- 18 Peter's response to questioning by the Sanhedrin: 'We must __ God rather than men!' (Acts 5:29) (4)
- 20 Christian paraplegic author, artist and campaigner, __ Eareckson Tada (4)
- 21 Bird partial to the nests of other birds (6)
- 22 'Such large crowds gathered round him that he got into a boat and sat __ '(Matthew 13:2) (2,2)
- 23 Infectious tropical disease (4)
- 25 Tree (3)
- 28 'No fear of me should __ you, nor should my hand be heavy upon you'(Job 33:7) (5)
- 29 For example, to Titus, Timothy or Philemon (7)

30 Week beginning with Pentecost Sunday, according to the Church's calendar (11)

Down

- 2 'O Jerusalem _ how _ I have longed to gather your children together' Matthew 23:37) (5)
- 3 Way out (4)
- 4 Exhort (Romans 12:1) (4)
- 5 Done (anag.) (4)
- 6 Highest of the four voice-parts in a choir (7)
- 7 Concerning the study of God (11)
- 8 Uniquely, it has Abbey, Cathedral and Chapel (11)
- 12 Admonish (Matthew 16:22) (6)
- 14 Frozen (3)
- 15 Established form of religious ceremony (6)
- 19 Inscription often found on gravestones (7)
- 20 See 1 Across
- 24 Behaved (Joshua 7:1) (5)
- 25 Time (anag.) (4)
- 26 Lists choice of meals (4)
- 27 'For the wages of sin is death, but the _ of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord' (Romans 6:23) (4)



**Crossword Solution
October 2022**

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




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



ARTICLES FOR THE DECEMBER PNE



If you have an article for inclusion in the December PNE, please make sure that I have received a copy by **Thursday 10th November**. Please note that any articles received after that date will be included in the January 2023 edition. My contact details are on page 19.

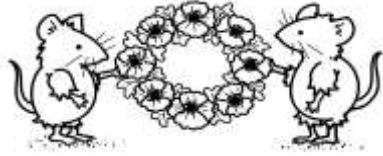
Thank you.

Janet Kimber

Time for a Smile

Bible story

The minister called all the children up to the front for the weekly Bible story. She said, "The man named Lot was warned to take his wife and flee out of the city, but his wife looked back and was turned to salt." Very concerned, one youngster asked, "What happened to the flea?"



God bless

A little girl saying her prayers: "God bless Mummy, God bless Daddy, God bless my brother Tommy, God bless Granny – and God look after Yourself, 'cos if anything happens to You, we've had it!"

Wife

A Sunday School teacher was teaching how God created everything, including human beings. One little boy seemed especially intent when she explained how Eve was created out of one of Adam's ribs. Later in the week his mother noticed him lying down as though he were ill. The little boy explained worriedly: "I have a pain in my side. I think I'm going to have a wife."

Where?

A rather long-winded preacher was dealing with the Old Testament prophets, one by one. "And now," he propounded, "we reach Isaiah. Where shall I put Isaiah?" At that, a little man in the front row stood up. "He can have my seat. I am going home!"



What happens then?

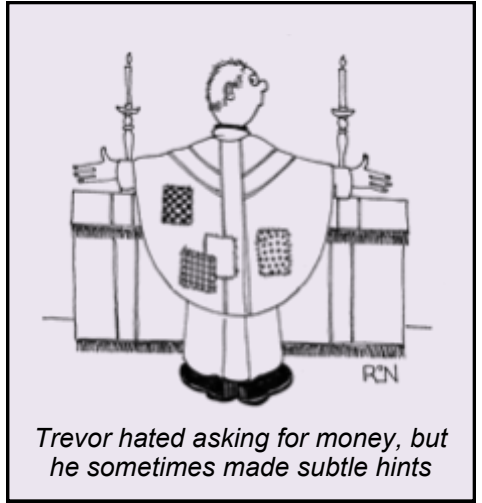
A little boy was taken Christmas shopping by his mother. He watched the escalator going down for several minutes, and then asked with concern: "What happens when the ground floor gets full of steps?"

Border control

Flying home after visiting her daughter in England, a woman arranged to have her husband meet her plane in Vancouver. This meant a stop at the border crossing between the United States and Canada, where her husband was asked, "What is your reason for entering the country?" and "How long are you planning to stay?"

He replied that he was picking his wife up at the airport after her trip to England and would come straight home again.

Without missing a beat, the guard asked two more questions in the same business-like tone: "And is the house clean? Are there fresh flowers on the table?"



AUTUMN

Mouse

You can't teach a new mouse old clicks.

More real-life notes left for milkmen...

- ~ Please knock. My TV's broken down and I missed Coronation Street last night. Maybe we could talk about what happened over a cup of tea?
- ~ My daughter says she wants a milkshake. Do you do this before you deliver, or do I have to shake it at my end?
- ~ Please leave no milk today. When I say today, I mean tomorrow, as I wrote this note yesterday.

Purring

Little George was visiting his aunt. He found the cat in a sunny window purring cheerfully. "Oh Auntie, come quick," cried George. "The cat has gone to sleep and left his engine running."

Wanna do

When I was young my parents told me what to do. Now I am old, my children tell me what to do. When will I be able to do what I want to do?



**Winter
Craft & Gift Fair
2022**

Quality gifts and handmade crafts
by local designers.

at
**St Paul's Church Hall, Lake Road North
Ansdell & Fairhaven, FY8 1AG**

on
Saturday 19th November

10.30am – 3.30pm

Entrance Free

Refreshments Available

In aid of Girlguiding Kilgrimoel Centre Building Fund Registered Charity Number 511895

Church Hall Hire

We have vacancies on Monday and Thursday Evenings and Saturday afternoons. The hall is ideal for children's parties and other activities requiring large space

Enquiries and further information:

Email: stpaulsoffice2@gmail.com

**Telephone: 01253 732939 (and leave a message)
or via our Facebook page**

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
Organist	Mrs Linda Carrington



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>

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, 3rd & 4th Sundays - Holy Communion
Sunday Club meets on the 2nd & 4th weeks for 3-11s

4:00pm Our 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. Followed by refreshments.

5:30pm Our sung service of Evensong from the Book of Common Prayer to mark selected Christian festivals six times a year.

Wednesday

10:00am Our mid-week Holy Communion service from the Book of Common Prayer; followed by refreshments.

Thursday

3:30pm Our weekly service of Evening Prayer from the Book of Common Prayer, alternating between said and sung forms.

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.