

## Parish of St. David with St. Michael Directory 2014

|                        |                 |         |
|------------------------|-----------------|---------|
| Vicar                  | Tom Honey       | 686 000 |
| Assistant Curate       | Andy Atkins     | 277 882 |
| Parish Missioner       | Simon Harrison  | 495 866 |
| Churchwarden           | Avril Pattinson | 860 880 |
| “                      | Dave Allin      | ~       |
| Reader                 | Bill Pattinson  | 860 880 |
| PCC Secretary          | Mary Kirkland   | 980 660 |
| Parish Treasurer       | Adrian Hewitt   | 437 313 |
| Electoral Roll Officer | Jeremy Lawford  | 214 025 |
| Thika Link             | Kate Bray       | 491 116 |

### St. David's [www.stdavidschurchexeter.org.uk](http://www.stdavidschurchexeter.org.uk)

|                               |                   |  |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|--|
| Treasurer                     | Barbara Allin     | 270 162  |
| Asst. Treasurer               | Geoff Crockett    | 468 073  |
| Choir                         | Nigel Walsh       | 273 237  |
| News Sheet                    | Helena Walker     | <a href="mailto:notices@stdavidschurchexeter.org.uk">notices@stdavidschurchexeter.org.uk</a> |
| Toddler Group                 | Julia Spruntulis  | 270 986  |
| Junior Church                 | Bill Pattinson    | 860 880  |
| Servers                       | Christopher Smith | 259 469  |
| Church Bookings               | Mary Quest        | 07792 062 403  |
| Readers & Time of Prayer Rota | Avril Pattinson   | 860 880  |

### St Michael's [www.stmichaelsmountdinhams.org.uk](http://www.stmichaelsmountdinhams.org.uk)

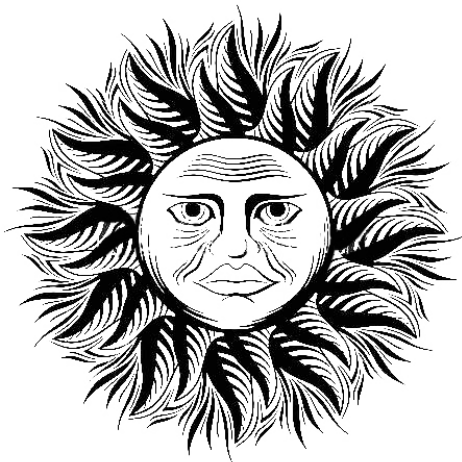
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|-----------------|------------------|--|
| Hon Asst Priest | John Thurmer     | 272 277  |
| Hon Asst Priest | David Hastings   | 498 233  |
| Chapel Warden   | Richard Parker   | ~  |
| Chapel Warden   | George Hexter    | 469 479  |
| Treasurer       | Adrian Hewitt    | 437 313  |
| News Sheet      | Lis Robins       | 239389   |
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### Magazine

|             |                           |   |
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# Dear friends in Christ,

As I write this letter we are enjoying a little mini heat wave. What wonderful weather-- just the kind of weather to convince us that summer is almost here! We are always cautious in Britain about expecting great things of July and August, but we always live in hope, don't we?



June is proving to be a very busy time for me, not least because of Tom being on sabbatical. Your continued prayers for both Tom and I will be greatly appreciated. During June a planning team from St David's are working hard to ensure that the Fete on July 5th will be even bigger and better than last year. We are very pleased to announce that the Fete will be opened this year by the Right Worshipful the Lord Mayor of Exeter, Councillor Percy Prowse. We look forward to welcoming him and we will certainly be hoping for good weather that day. Should anyone be free on Saturday 28th June at 9am to help make the church look even more beautiful for the Fete, your help will be very much appreciated.

The end of May will also see another momentous event. On the 29th May we will submit a bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund for monies which will help in the repair and transformation of our church. Again your prayers will be appreciated as our bid is scrutinised and assessed. As soon as we hear from the HLF we will pass the news on to our con-

gregation.

To help raise funds for the repair and transformation of St David's we are holding a concert on Sunday June 15th at 5pm in St David, by one of the South West's leading chamber choirs 'ExeVox', with a cream-tea which starts at 4pm. Not to be missed!

Things are no less busy at St Michaels with their 'Heritage and Music Festival' commencing on the 4th June and running until mid-July. The team at St Michaels have created a wonderful programme of events to celebrate the 150th year of John Dinham's legacy and also the Installation of their new Pipe Organ. Highlights include a young organist's competition, various lectures, the Torbay male voice and police choir, and a concert by the Exeter Chorale. The centre piece of these celebrations will be the 'Inaugural Organ Recital' by the world renowned Organist David Briggs on the 16th June. I cannot recommend these wonderful events enough, so please do make the most of the events offered to us all.

After writing the above, and seeing all that is going on in our parish in June, I realise that I am in danger of falling into the trap that most Priests find themselves falling head first into at some time or another. The trap of 'doing' and not 'being'. By that I mean I can become so wrapped up in 'doing' the business of the parish; fetes, recitals, concerts and meetings, that I forget to 'be' your Priest and Pastor. This is where I need all of your help, should any of you sense that I am 'doing' more than 'being' send me an e-mail, or call me or even talk to me and tell me to come around for a coffee so that you can simply help me "be".

## A Prayer for Tom's Sabbatical:

Jesus Christ, Lord of love:

in this busy world, we long for a moment of Sabbath rest, a time to feel your grace.

Sustain and support our Vicar, Tom, during his Sabbatical, as he takes time to pause and reflect on the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

Renew the call you gave him when he became our Vicar.

Refresh our hearts and inspire us to see our common life as holy,

so that as members of St. David's and St Michael's and All Angels, we may recognise opportunities to minister to each other and reach out to welcome and serve others in your name.

We ask this in the name of your Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

Amen.

Your friend and Curate,

**Andy** or **Fr. Andy** (depending on how far up St David's hill you worship!)



# June News From St Michael's

First of all, I would like to record belated thanks to all who so generously donated funds for Easter lilies at St Michael's. Many gave in memory of family and friends, and it was indeed a great privilege to arrange the flowers for Easter. The flowers for the Altar of Repose on Maundy Thursday had the assistance of my grand-daughter who was just able to crawl in under the altar to set the daffodils in vases. The Easter Garden was lovingly prepared by Connie Cannon and her daughter and has invited much prayerful observation. It is always good to have the graphic reminder of even on the stick, the notice, etc...

There is a long look back this time! I wasn't able to meet the deadline for May, and I wanted to write a bit about our Easter celebrations and so here we are, nearly to Trinity and I'm still harking back to April.

Tenebrae is one of most dramatic events in Holy Week and this year was no exception. The darkness, the voices, the silences all create a sense of terrifying urgency; I almost want to stop the progress of events, but without them, we are bereft and know nothing of God's saving love. Some people would like



to have Easter as a fixed feast, like Christmas. If some of the proposals about changing school holiday dates really take off, fixing Easter may be the next thing. Or it may be that the House of Bishops will be firm and strong for once, insisting on the moveability of the feast. The links with Passover would then remain, reminding us of our Jewish spiritual heritage and of Jesus's own background. During the week leading up to Passover itself, there were, and still are, Seder meals to prepare for the great pilgrim feast that is Passover. Seder means order, and there are rituals to follow in each one. According to John's Gospel, it is not the actual Passover that Jesus shares with his disciples, but the Seder on the night before it. The Synoptics insist that it is actually the Passover meal, eaten on 15th Nisan after sunset. Prof. Geza Vermes investigates this idea at length, and absorbingly, in his book 'The Passion'. The implications are numerous, of course, especially as it is St Paul who describes the first Eucharistic instruction. It seems more likely that the Last Supper was one of these Seders, not the feast itself: it was illegal and therefore undesirable to have an execution on the feast-day; counting the time in the Jewish way would be (and still is) from the sighting of the first evening star (so 'evening and morning', as In Genesis ch1); the third day would then be as we now know it, actually the first day of the week, Sunday in our counting, and not the Jewish Sabbath, Saturday in the Jewish counting of days. (pace all who wanted to impose Jewish Sabbath practices on the Christian holy day, now Sunday.) Our calendars used to print Sunday as the first day of the week, and in red, as were religious festivals and saint's days. Such calendars are not so easy to find nowadays.

We are the ones who have put a construct on time so we can manage its vastness. It was one of the ideas the Jeffrey John established in the 21st Anniversary lecture when he spoke about 'Real Bible Study'.

I found the lecture riveting, because these were ideas that find refuge in my mind but often frighten other people. My initial degree was in Biblical Studies at Witwatersrand University, under the benign guidance of Professor Albert Geyser, who had been de-frocked by the Dutch Reformed Church in South Africa, and had immediately been asked to create the Chair of Divinity at Wits. Eight of us were the first to study with him; we also had a couple of mature Jewish attendees and one or two who were seeking approval of extreme evangelical ideas. I recall quite vividly a challenge by a student during a lecture on the structure of the Creation myths in Genesis. If the Prof. could not categorically say that the Creation Story (sic) was absolutely true, then the student would have to leave and not listen to any more, in case his faith was destroyed. Well, where to start? Which Creation Story? What is a myth? On what is faith built? What does an academic study allow? And of course, we have Pilate's question, What is Truth? We lost the opportunity to explore Christian Biblical writing in schools, in order to establish sound foundations, a long time ago. Even suggesting that the Bible is a library of books written over a period of about a thousand years by many different writers and schools of writers still causes some to raise eyebrows, and as Jeffrey John explained, to claim some of the murderous mayhem in the Old Testament or Apocrypha as the Word of God can be seen as ludicrous.

On reflection, I don't think it's too long since our celebration of Easter to remind ourselves that we recall the events of those days long ago every time we celebrate the Eucharist, when Our Lord is both Host and Victim at the altar and we compress time for moment to share with those first disciples the instructions given by Christ Himself.

**Stephanie Aplin**

# St. David's Concert Sunday June 15th 2014

## *“Exevox in Concert”*

Moderato q = 76

Viola I  
*f (2da volta p)*

Viola II  
*f (2da volta p)*

Viola III  
*f (2da volta p)*

Viola IV  
*f (2da volta p)*

Exevox Chamber Choir are delighted to be performing once again in St David's Church on Sunday 15th June 2014. On this occasion the concert will be at 5.00 p.m. and will be preceded by tea from 4.00 p.m., which is included in the ticket price of £10.00 (£8.00 for students, £3.00 for under 16s).

Once again Exevox will be hoping to raise funds for the repairs to the west end of the church and for the invigorating practical and sentient 'renovation' programme established at the Vision Day.



Exevox is a small, award-winning, local Chamber Choir who will be starting the concert with J.S. Bach's stunning funeral motet "Jesu Meine Freude" (Jesus, my Joy). This is acclaimed as one of Bach's most sophisticated choral works and is also reputed to be his favourite composition. We will finish the concert in the usual way with lighter pieces by Gershwin, Flanders and Swann among others and the haunting Eli Jenkins' Prayer from Dylan Thomas' 'Under Milk Wood'.

Exevox has a fine track record of high-quality performances in concerts raising money for a range of charities, as well as providing tailor-made entertainment for private functions and stirring accompaniment to weddings around Devon. Among forth-coming concerts is a single-day "church-crawl" of three Churches on Sunday 14th September and a concert in St John's Church, Torquay, on 20th September 2014.

Exevox is directed by Peter Adcock, a multi-talented concert pianist, accompanist, performer, musician, teacher and coach, Organ scholar, flautist and inspirational choir director.

For more information on Exevox please visit [www.exevox.org.uk](http://www.exevox.org.uk) or Peter Adcock's web-site on [www.peteradcock.com](http://www.peteradcock.com).

June 15th is Fathers' Day so why not bring your dad out for a treat?

For tickets call Simon on 01647 252298 or e-mail [info@exevox.org.uk](mailto:info@exevox.org.uk) or buy at the door. We will also have tickets for sale after church on a Sunday nearer the time.

Please try and support us if you can. All profits made will go towards our desperately needed repairs.

| <b>St David's Eucharist      June</b>  |                          |                  |
|--|--------------------------|------------------|
| <b>Sunday 1st June : 7th Sunday of Easter</b>  |                          |                  |
| Reading 1  | Ezekiel 36: 24-28        | Cyrus Moghtadaai |
| Reading 2  | Acts 1: 6-14             | Julia Spruntulis |
| Gospel   | John 17: 1-11            | Glynis Harflett  |
| Time of prayer   |                          |                  |
| Junior Church:   |                          |                  |
|  |                          |                  |
| <b>Sunday 8th June: 8th Sunday of Easter</b>   |                          |                  |
| Reading 1  | Numbers 11:24-30         | Jenny Baker      |
| Reading 2  | Acts 2:1-21              | Richard Johnson  |
| Gospel   | John 20:19-23            |                  |
| Time of prayer   |                          | Chris Gill       |
| Junior Church:   |                          |                  |
|  |                          |                  |
| <b>Sunday 15th June : Trinity Sunday <i>Family Service - Something different</i></b> |                          |                  |
| Reading 1  | Isaiah 40:12-17, 27-31   |                  |
| Reading 2  | Matthew 28:16-20         |                  |
| Gospel   | ~                        |                  |
| Time of prayer   |                          | ~                |
| <i>No Junior Church</i>  |                          |                  |
|  |                          |                  |
| <b>Sunday 22nd June :</b>  |                          |                  |
| Reading 1  | Jeremiah 20:7-13         | Paula Lawford    |
| Reading 2  | Romans 6:1b-11           | Jeremy Lawford   |
| Gospel   | Matthew 10:24-39         |                  |
| Time of prayer   |                          | Nigel Walsh      |
| Junior Church:   |                          |                  |
|  |                          |                  |
| <b>Sunday 29th June : Confirmation Service</b>                                       |                          |                  |
| Reading 1  | Zechariah 4:1-6a, 10b-14 |                  |
| Reading 2  | Matthew 16:13-19         |                  |
| Gospel   |                          |                  |
| Time of prayer   |                          |                  |
| Junior Church:   |                          |                  |
|  |                          |                  |

# A Month of Heritage & Music at St Michael's, Mount Dinham June 2014



The HLF Project at St Michael's  
has been gathering pace.

Hopefully many of you have been watching our Peregrine chicks, live on the internet thanks to generous sponsorship of the streaming costs by Devon Birds ( [www.devonbirds.org](http://www.devonbirds.org) ). Three of the eggs hatched on Low Sunday, but the fourth has failed to hatch. By the time you read this, the juveniles should be in full feather and due to fledge at or shortly after Pentecost.

This June is when we bring most of the Project together with a wonderful variety of entertainment, education and worship.

Please come and enjoy this exciting month with us at St Michael's.

Here is a diary of events; look out also for posters, blogs and the re-launch of the website

[www.stmichaelsmountdinham.org.uk](http://www.stmichaelsmountdinham.org.uk).

Don't miss David Briggs on Monday 16th June; he is one of the world's most exciting and entertaining concert organists.



### **Sunday 1st June, Easter VII 10.45am Mass**

Setting: Missa Dixit Maria, Hassler. Motet: Ascendit Deus, Philips.

### **Sunday 1st June, 6pm Evensong and Benediction.**

Responses: Sumsion. Psalm 47. Canticles: Stanford in G. Anthem: To My Request and Earnest Cry, by S S Wesley. (A substantial Bach-like piece, written in Exeter in 1836, setting the last 8 verses of Psalm 119 from Tate & Brady's metrical "New Version".) O Salutaris Hostia & Tantum Ergo: Plainsong.

### **Wednesday 4th June, 7.30pm Heritage Lecture.**

Dr David Oates on the Colourful Arms of Devon's colourful Gentry.



### **Sunday 8th June, Pentecost, 10.45am Mass.**

Setting: Missa Brevis Laetatus Sum by Browne. Motet: Exultate Deo by Palestrina.

### **Sunday 8th June, 7.30pm Heritage Lecture.**

Nick Dixon (Raptor expert) on 20 years with Exeter's Peregrine Falcons at St Michael's, including new video footage from the nest box camera. Indeed, the young Peregrines should be on the threshold of fledging.

### **Wednesday 11th June, 7.30pm Charity Concert.**

Exeter Rotary presents Torbay Police Male Voice Choir in a programme of Gilbert & Sullivan and popular songs. (Admission £6.50 on the door.)

### **Friday 13th June, 7.30pm St Michael's Recital.**

Exeter Chorale, conducted by Dr Nigel Browne and accompanied by Dr Paul Evans & Alex West (piano duet), return with a summer programme of Madrigals, Partsongs & Glees. (Admission £7.50/£4 on the door; children free.)

### **Sunday 15th June, Trinity Sunday, 10.45am Mass.**

Setting: Missa Papae Marcelli by Palestrina. Motet: Duo Seraphim by Guerrero. (Two Seraphim, from Isaiah 6, with 3 intertwining 4-part choirs representing the Holy Trinity)

### **Sunday 15th June, 7.30pm Heritage Lecture.**

Richard W Parker (our own Architectural Historian) on the long History of Mount Dinham and St Michael's.

### **Monday 16th June, 7.30pm Inaugural Organ Recital.**

David Briggs (International Organ Recitalist, Artist-in-Residence at Toronto Cathedral, and Organist Emeritus of Gloucester Cathedral) will perform a varied programme on our newly installed, restored pipe organ. David will include 3 pieces played by his grandfather when the organ was re-dedicated after a re-build in 1952 at St Jude's Church, Birmingham. Don't miss this exciting Concert; see [www.organrecitals.com](http://www.organrecitals.com) for details. (Admission £10/£8 on the door.) David's Finale will be an improvised Symphony, from themes submitted by the audience!

**Thursday 19th June, Corpus Christi, 7.30pm Mass with Procession around Mount Dinham.**

Setting: Mass in F by Rheinberger. Motet: Panis Angelicus, Cavalli/Leppard

**Sunday 22nd June, Music Sunday, 10.45am Mass.**

Setting: Little Organ Mass. Motet: Insanae et Vanae Curae. (Unhealthy and vain cares invade our minds; What profit, O Mortal, in worldly things, if you neglect the heavens? But all things are favourable to you, if God is for you.) Both by Franz Joseph Haydn.

**Sunday 22nd June, 6pm Evensong & Dedication of the new Organ.**

With Bishop Richard Hawkins – special order of service. We hope to include prayers used by Bishop Ernest Barnes from the 1952 Re-dedication Service at St Jude's, Birmingham.

**Wednesday 25th June, 7.30pm Heritage Lecture.**

Paul Morgan (Exeter Cathedral Organist Emeritus) on the Life and Achievements of Samuel Sebastian Wesley.

**Friday 27th June, 7.30pm Requiem Mass.**

In memory of the 150th Anniversary of the death of John Dinham, Exeter Tea Merchant, Philanthropist and Founder of the Mount Dinham development. (See below)

**Sunday 29th June, SS Peter & Paul, 10.45am Mass.**

Setting: Mass in E by Harold Darke. Motet: Tu Es Petrus, Palestrina.



As usual at St Michael's, virtually every event will have Refreshments afterwards, with voluntary donations. Unless otherwise stated, entrance

is free with a voluntary collection as you leave. This celebratory month of diverse events is the climax of our 18-month Heritage Lottery Funded project (with other donors) to make Heritage, Music, Education, and indeed Religion, lively on Mount Dinham, now and for the future, in the spirit of our Victorian forbears, John Dinham, Rev Theophilus Toye and William Gibbs.

I'm not sure what John Dinham would make of a Requiem in his memory; he seems to have been of a more puritan, evangelical persuasion than those who built this church to his memory. What all had in common, though, was a fervent Christian faith demonstrated in the worship of God and the welfare of their fellow citizens.

I conclude with an account of the Funeral of John Dinham, from the Exeter Times of July 3rd, 1864.

“THE funeral of John Dinham took place on Saturday last. There was no pageant for the vacant eye to gaze at - none of the mockery of woe - all was plain, there being not even a hearse or a mourning coach. The body, which had been brought from Dawlish on Tuesday, was placed in the Board Room of the Lodge, at the Free Cottages, Mount Dinham. The funeral was at twelve o'clock, when more than five hundred people formed a procession, the corpse being preceded by nearly three hundred citizens, headed by the Mayor of Exeter, members of the corporation, and a number of the clergy. It was followed by the mourners and men employed at the London Tea Company establishment, trustees, and members of institutions and societies. The entire space visible from the iron-bridge was covered with spectators as the funeral moved to the cemetery, where other mourning multitudes crowded

the grounds. The good man was carried to the grave on the shoulders of his own servants, and buried in a vault where the remains of his second wife were interred about five years ago.”

## **Richard Barnes**



# The Lent Group 2014

For a number of years now I have been attending the Lent groups which were previously held in someone's house. Though I have always appreciated them, for me the idea of holding the group in the church itself, worked rather better. There were disadvantages, of course, in that the time and place were fixed, which meant that some flexibility was lost, but I felt that there was a gain in 'atmosphere'. The difficulty with a friend's house is that the focus of the group can easily be disturbed by the natural activity of hospitality, the tea-making, the delicious cake eating and the conversation!

The church provided a less comfortable space, but one that encouraged silence and concentration. We began our Lenten journey in the wilderness, centred around an arrangement, or perhaps disarrangement of stones, old cans, sand and bottles. Each of the Monday evenings had a theme which was demonstrated by a construction. I particularly liked the huge sail of a boat which illustrated the storm on the Sea of Galilee. As well as the music there were readings and talks to illustrate the theme of the evening, and participation from everyone there. I have to say that my heart sank when I realised that I was expected to make and decorate a paper boat, because I very much dislike making things, but it was quite satisfying to actually complete the task and see the all the multi-coloured boats on the altar.

A particular delight was the singing of the choir and the music. which in the darkened church at night was quite simply magical. I personally would have liked much more music.

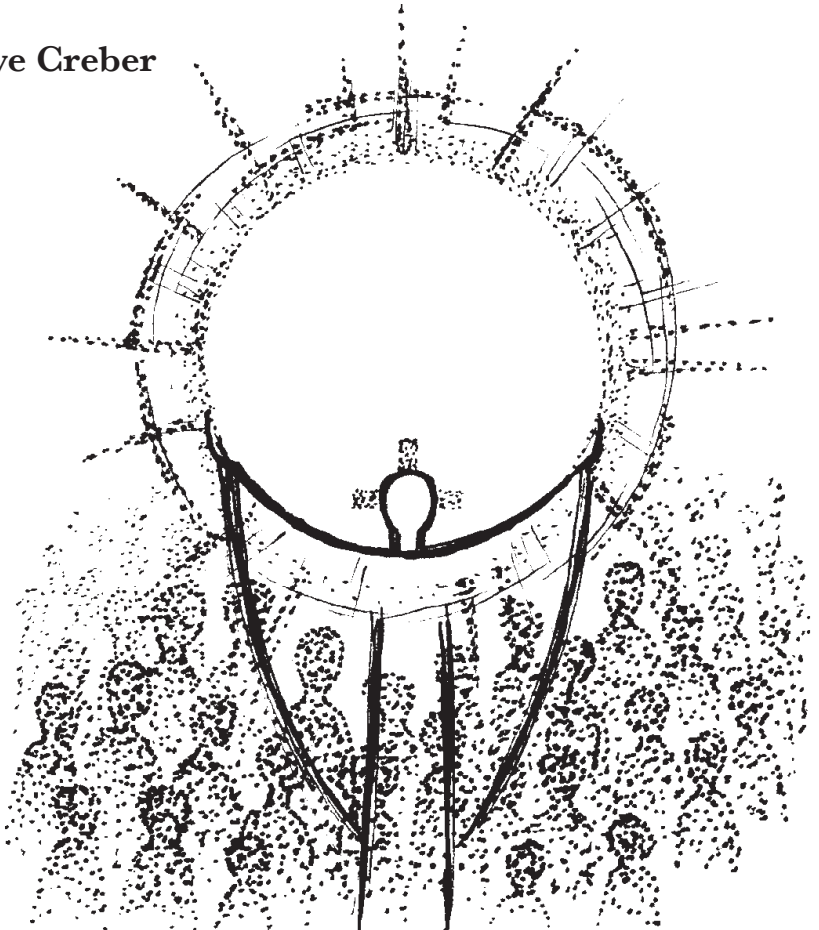


I suppose over-all what impressed me most was the amount of preparation, rehearsal and sheer hard work that must have gone on, by a dedicated team to produce these wonderful evenings throughout Lent.

On the final evening of the course we celebrated Communion, followed by rather generous glasses of wine, and fresh bread which came, I was assured from the Real Food Shop!

My own feeling was that the preparation, co-operation and the location of the Lent Course 2014 made it particularly inspiring.

**Maeve Creber**



# Seeing the wood for the trees...

We look down into a well 2,000 years deep, and at the bottom see our own reflection. This is a way of saying that each of us, and every age, creates its own interpretation of the Bible. Jeffrey John, the Dean of St.Alban's gave an outstanding talk in Exeter this April. He suggested we make the effort to try and hear the words of Scripture as the first disciples did all that long ago. This means crossing over huge chasms of history, culture and even language. The reward can enrich our understanding and faith. The 84 books and documents of the Bible were not written with us in mind. Matthew, Mark, Luke and John would have been astonished to know we were reading the words they wrote on parchment so long ago.



Before the Reformation the bishops of the Church insisted they alone had the authority to interpret the Bible. When the printed text in English first appeared from 1526 the translator, William Tyndale believed everyone, even the 'ploughboy', should be able to hear or even read and interpret Scripture for themselves. Jeffrey John's inspired and engaging lecture asked: Do we need the Church, its scholars and its commentaries to guide us today, or can we still read the Bible just as it stands?

In Britain today, many dismiss the possibility of the Bible having any further relevance. Those children who still hear Bible stories at home or in school all too often still rely upon their child's understanding into their adult lives. When growing up in a secular and scientific world Bible

stories make little sense. Unfortunately many of us have lost the ability to see truth in myth and story.

Jeffrey John pointed that we sit in the pews on a Sunday to be fed with 'chunks' from the Bible; the classic problem of not being able to see the wood for the trees. How could you come out to the Lectern to read Numbers 15.31+ to everyone ?

“When the Israelites were in the wilderness, they found a man gathering sticks on the sabbath day. Those who found him gathering sticks brought him to Moses, Aaron, and to the whole congregation. They put him in custody, because it was not clear what should be done to him. Then the LORD said to Moses, “The man shall be put to death; all the congregation shall stone him outside the camp.” The whole congregation brought him outside the camp and stoned him to death, just as the LORD had commanded Moses.”

“This is the Word of the Lord” ? Similarly, how can we make sense of this passage from Psalm 109 ?

“Do not be silent, O God... wicked and deceitful mouths are opened against me... and attack me without cause... When he is tried, let him be found guilty; let his prayer be counted as sin. May his days be few... May his children be orphans, and his wife a widow. May his children wander about and beg... May the creditor seize all that he has; may strangers plunder the fruits of his toil. May there be no one to do him a kindness, nor anyone to pity his orphaned children. May the iniquity of his father be remembered before the LORD, and do not let the sin of his mother be blotted out... may his memory be cut off from the earth... let curses come on him...” Astonishingly followed by: “With my mouth I will give great thanks to the LORD; I will praise him in the midst of the throng. For he stands at the right hand of the needy, to save them from those who would condemn them to death.”

He went on to quote from the pastoral epistles. Elsie read a passage

in his church which was written long before women were accorded any equality with men. She could only end with: “This is not the Word of the Lord” adding, it was just Paul being silly! Jeffery pointed out that the letters to Titus and Timothy were written long after Paul had died. Paul himself expressed things differently, writing in Galatians 3.28: “There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus.”

To take each word of the Bible literally does not make sense. We have to at least begin to imagine what the first listeners understood and then see if this understanding is still relevant today. Sometimes it won't be, most of the time it will. We must ask questions and if necessary buy a commentary or ask someone who has been asking questions for some time.

We will find many contradictions and need to understand why. Jeffrey John cited the Lenten penitential Psalm 51. First used during the Exile period when animal sacrifices in Jerusalem were not possible we read:

“O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare your praise. For you have no delight in sacrifice; if I were to give a burnt offering, you would not be pleased. The sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.” However this same Psalm ends with these extraordinary contradicting words, obviously added once the people had returned to Jerusalem: “Rebuild the walls of Jerusalem, then you will delight in right sacrifices, in burnt offerings and whole burnt offerings; then bulls will be offered on your altar.”

You and I can discern just how texts were originally put together by the priestly writers who had several accounts to work with. See this easily by comparing chapters 1 and 2 of Genesis. There are two quite different stories of creation. How and why do they differ?

Turning to the New Testament, the differences in the four Gospels are worth examining. Each was written for a distinct community which had had different experiences. There is a huge difference between the deep

simplicity of Mark's account and the theological treatise which became John's Gospel. A starting point could be to compare the Resurrection accounts and the words attributed to Jesus many decades after the event. It is interesting to see how Matthew omitted or changed passages of Mark when he wanted to write for a Jewish Christian community. Mark Chapter 7 has Jesus clearly saying that all foods can be eaten, whereas Matthew still holds that only kosher food may be consumed. Each author had looked down the well, so to speak, and tried make sense of the story of Jesus for the Christian community they belonged to.

Take the miracle stories. Jeffrey John's most read book is "The Meaning in the Miracles" published in 2001 (Canterbury Press). The child in us sees Jesus healing the sick and performing wonders, but the Gospel writers wanted to focus on Jesus breaking through the prejudices and taboos of his time. He wanted to proclaim that the sick, the poor, the lame, deaf and blind were not sinners who could be treated as outcasts. Jesus was obviously a wonderful healer, but more importantly he wanted to make us turn away from prejudice, hatred and violence. He wants us to serve the poor, the widow and the orphan in the best ways we can.

You can read the Bible without any background study, but if you do you will miss so much. Even the numbers we hear about have symbolic meaning: What is so special about 7, 12, 40, 4,000, 5,000, even the 153 fish mentioned in John 21, all these can wash over us. Without some effort to leap over the 2,000 year chasms, much of the meaning of Scripture will be lost to us. In the end many Christians give up the effort and simply decide to take every word literally. The 'fundamentalist' route is sincere but easily ridiculed, especially by those younger than us.

We are in a hostile secular world so we need to bring together the stories of the Bible which speak truth through poetry and, at the same time, recognise the truths and wonders of science. There is no need for conflict between the two. Truth is truth.

Jeffrey John said that above all in such a secular world we need to have greater courage to proclaim the Gospel. He exposed many misunder-

standings in his talk, many contradictions and problems, but, in fact, exploring these should help us to become ever more committed disciples of Jesus the Christ.



Withycombe Raleigh's three church communities have an abundance of priests and lay people who have journeyed a long way down the pilgrim Way of the Gospel. Ask them which books and commentaries are worth reading.

Once again I recommend Marcus Borg's "Evolution of the Word". Here you will have the full NRSV version of the New Testament with the books set out in the order in which they were probably written. Each book has a short revealing and brilliant introduction. You can buy it in hardback, paperback or cheaply if you search for it on Kindle and read it on any tablet or laptop. It could be the best £6 you will spend this year!

**David Ireson**

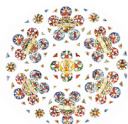
david-ireson@outlook.com

07786 943 967

# THE MOUNT DINHAM HERITAGE & MUSIC FESTIVAL

4 JUNE - 14 JULY 2014

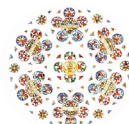
- CELEBRATING 150 YEARS OF JOHN DINHAM'S LEGACY -  
AT ST MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS CHURCH  
MOUNT DINHAM, EXETER, EX4 4EB



## DAVID BRIGGS THE INAUGURAL ORGAN RECITAL · 16TH JUNE ·

Monday, 7.30pm

Tickets £10/£8 available on the door



## MUSIC

· 11TH JUNE ·

Wednesday, 7.30pm

### TORBAY MALE VOICE POLICE CHOIR

From Gilbert & Sullivan  
to modern popular songs  
Tickets £6.50 available on the  
door, or call 01392 221546

· 13TH JUNE ·

Friday, 7.30pm

### EXETER CHORALE

A Concert of Madrigals,  
Partsongs and Gleees  
Tickets £7.50 /£4 (children free)  
available on the door

· 14TH JULY ·

Monday, 7.30pm

### YOUNG ORGANISTS' COMPETITION

Celebrating the Installation  
of our Victorian Pipe Organ



## FESTIVAL SERVICES

· 22ND JUNE ·

Music Sunday - Evensong, 6.00pm  
with Bishop Richard Hawkins  
to bless the new organ

· 27TH JUNE ·

Requiem Mass - Friday, 7.30pm  
for John Dinham, Founder of  
Mount Dinham & St Michael's

## LECTURES

· 4TH JUNE ·

Wednesday, 7.30pm

### DR DAVID OATES

The Colourful Arms of  
Devon's Colourful Gentry

· 8TH JUNE ·

Sunday, 7.30pm

### NICK DIXON

Exeter's Peregrine Falcons at  
St Michael's with new video footage

· 15TH JUNE ·

Sunday, 7.30pm

### RICHARD W PARKER

The History of Mount  
Dinham & St Michael's

· 25TH JUNE ·

Wednesday, 7.30pm

### PAUL MORGAN

The Life and Achievements of  
Samuel Sebastian Wesley



Supported by  
**The National Lottery**<sup>®</sup>  
through the Heritage Lottery Fund



# Exeter Central Library

Exeter Central Library run several groups on a variety of topics.

Please use this link for more information

**[www.devon.gov.uk/index/cultureheritage/libraries/yourlocal-library/exeter\\_libraries/exeter\\_central\\_library/events\\_at\\_exeter\\_central.htm](http://www.devon.gov.uk/index/cultureheritage/libraries/yourlocal-library/exeter_libraries/exeter_central_library/events_at_exeter_central.htm)**

Here are a few examples of what's on offer.

## Woolly Wonders Knitting Group

Date: Every month - Tuesdays

Time: 14.00 - 15.30

Description: Knitting is being touted as “The new Yoga”. It can help to relieve stress and take your mind off your aches and pains, as well as keeping your mind active and reducing the risk of memory loss. All this and the added bonus of enjoying the company of other knitters.

Audience: Everyone welcome

Cost: Free

Bookings: Drop in - no need to book

.....

## Exeter Audio Book Group

Date: Once a month meeting

Time: 10:00 - 11:30

Description: A new reading group for blind and visually impaired people being launched at Exeter Central Library, The Hoskins Room Castle Street. This is a chance to get together and discuss and recommend books in large print or audio format.

Audience: Blind and Visually Impaired people with or without helpers including guide dogs.

Cost: Free



Bookings: Just turn up  
Organiser: Ask for Liz Cordin 01392 384 209

.....

## **IT Drop -in Sessions**

Date: Every Wednesday

Time: 10:00 - 12:00

Description: We can help you with: how to set up an email account and how to open and send attachments. How to use a scanner. How to upload photos to your computer. How to find what you want on the web. How to use social housing sites. How to use Ebay. How to book things online. How to use ereaders and ebooks.


Audience: Anyone who would like help sorting out their basic computer needs.

Cost: Free

Bookings: Just drop in

Organiser: Mike Mills & James Knight 01392 384 209



St David's Church   
Exeter

Seeking God through welcome, prayer and  
loving service.



# ***Summer Fete***

**City of Exeter Railway Band**

**Bouncy Castle**

**Hot & Cold food - Hot Dogs - Refreshments**

**Cakes - Books - Plants - Games**

**Good as New Stall - Tombola**

**Grand Draw**

***Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> July***  
***12noon – 2.30pm***

**St David's Church**

**Hele Road**



**Free Entry**  
**Everyone Welcome**

  
**Come rain or shine!**

# WALKING IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF JESUS

Is the thought of visiting and experiencing some of the places familiar to us through the Gospels where Jesus and His disciples walked appealing to you? Is this something which maybe you have wondered about doing? If so, then why not join a wonderful Pilgrimage to the Holy Land from TUESDAY 21st. APRIL to THURSDAY 30th. APRIL 2015 which I shall be leading.

Bookings have already started trickling in but there are still places available. The overall cost will be £1525 which includes return flights from London Heathrow to Tel Aviv, hotel accommodation in Jerusalem and Galilee, a qualified guide, entrance fees, taxes and so on. The whole tour is being organized through Worldwide Christian Travel based in Bristol and who have organized previous pilgrimages that I have led in the past.

If you [or a friend] would be interested in making what has sometimes been described as “the journey of a lifetime”, then please complete one of the enquiry forms available in both churches and to return it to me as soon as possible and a full brochure about booking and the itinerary will be sent to you. This pilgrimage is open to both churches and any others who would be keen to join us.

Should you want any further information then please get in touch with me.

**Fr. David**



# Read any good books lately?

We would like to introduce a review section to our magazine and invite all you readers, film goers, music fans to write a short recommendation of something that you have seen or heard recently and really enjoyed.

It can be on any subject, not necessarily religious although we would especially welcome those.

It's just a way of sharing and enjoying things together and fostering our feelings of community.

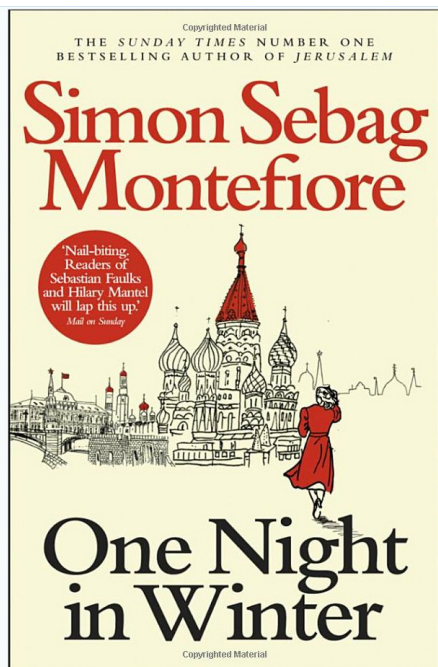
Go on -be brave! All you need to do is to include the author, composer or performer and a short piece about it and why you enjoyed it.

Books, CDs DVDs Films.



# ‘One Night in Winter’

by Simon Sebag Montefiore



This story is set in Moscow in 1945, involving several families of the highest Russian leaders. Although victory is being celebrated, it is clear, when some of the children are caught up in a tangled investigation into the death of two of their peers (which occurs by accident when their romantic obsession with Pushkin gets out of hand), that Stalin continues to control all those around him and that life is not valued, only dedication to the communist rule.

However, throughout the fear, uncertainty and horrors of abuse during the insistence of the Stalin puppets that the children confess to trying to overthrow the government,, love flows in all sorts of relationships and wins through. Not only does it sustain the characters during their ordeal, but it provides the bedrock for them to go on to lead fulfilled lives and be proud to acknowledge their heritage.

A good tale to get caught up in with enough real historical placement, to see how it really could have happened!

Devon Home Library Service -  
bringing books and more to people in their homes

The Devon Home Library Service works in partnership with the WRVS (Women's Royal Voluntary Service). It aims to provide library books, (including audio books on CD, and large print books) to those people in the community who through ill health or disability can no longer visit the library.

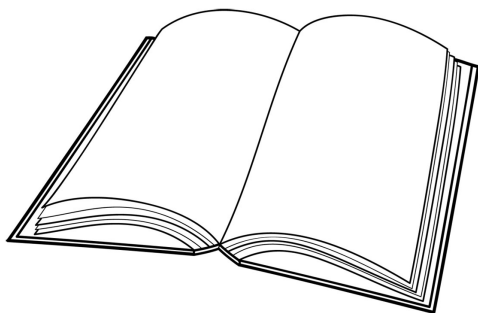
After discussing with the clients the sort of books they like, (eg romantic fiction, travel books, particular authors), WRVS volunteers choose books for their clients which they deliver to them from once a fortnight to once every six weeks, depending on the needs of the client, at a mutually convenient time. There is **no charge** for the service and there are **no fines** on books!! Clients may keep the books for as long as needed and may order books they particularly want to read.

Large print books, cassette tapes and audio CDs as well as ordinary print books are available. Some clients prefer non fiction such as biography and travel books, other prefer romantic novels or murder mysteries!

*For those people who love reading or just browsing through books, but are confined to their home, this service offers a chance to have access to the library as well as a visit from a friendly face on a regular basis. Often clients and volunteers make lasting friends so there is satisfaction on both sides.*

**We really want to promote and extend the service to reach as many people as possible!**

If you would like to use the service, or know of someone who would, please contact Julia on 01392 757725 or email [crichton-smith9@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:crichton-smith9@hotmail.co.uk)



# The Soup Kitchen at St. David's

As many of you will know, Thursday evening is the time we receive a number of homeless folk at St. David's and provide soup and refreshments to sustain them through the cold nights.

They need warm clothing and shoes, so if you have fleeces, sweaters, coats, jeans, or trousers you would like to pass on, they will be gratefully received.

We also like to have paperbacks they can take to read, so if you are parting with books please think of leaving them with us.

Thank you.

Contact Mary on:- 07872 626 168 if you need to leave donated goods





every Wednesday  
Exeter Community Centre  
17 St Davids Hill  
Exeter

## **Affordable Community Acupuncture**

**£15 - £30 per treatment session**  
**pay what you feel you can afford**

**We are a friendly team of qualified acupuncturists**  
**offering treatment for pain and many other**  
**conditions to help improve your quality of life**

**contact us to find out more about how acupuncture could help you**

**[www.peoplesacupunctureproject.com](http://www.peoplesacupunctureproject.com)**  
**07834 160906 or 07910 453794**

## **St. Sidwell's Church of England Primary School and Nursery**

**York Road, Exeter, EX4 6PG**

**Headteacher: Mrs. Anne Hood**

**Tel: 01392 255551 Website: [www.st-sidwells-ce.devon.sch.uk](http://www.st-sidwells-ce.devon.sch.uk)**



**For children aged 3 to 11 years**

**Come and visit our successful school**  
**which includes a purpose built Nursery/Foundation Stage**  
**Breakfast and After School Clubs available**

We have a long-standing tradition of high quality education  
within a caring, Christian ethos.

"St Sidwell's is a good school where teaching is good and pupils' achievement is high"

"An outstanding feature of the school is the care, guidance and support it gives pupils."

"The personal development of pupils is also outstanding."

"Spiritual development is excellent." "Behaviour is exemplary."



# FANCY A WEEKEND AWAY FROM IT ALL?

If so, then the PARISH RETREAT may be an answer.

How about drinking in the atmosphere of The Abbey House at Glastonbury from the afternoon of **FRIDAY 5th until SUNDAY 7th SEPTEMBER 2014?**

Following the Retreat held last November at Abbey House, this weekend will provide an opportunity for you to have a time of quiet reflection interspersed with addresses and worship in the beautiful surroundings of Glastonbury Abbey.

Booking for the Retreat is now open and members of St. David's and St. Michael's [and any others] are invited to join this event. The cost of the weekend which includes accommodation and all meals will be £140. Booking forms [on a bright yellow leaflet] are available in both churches.

Those wishing to book are asked to do so by 30th. JUNE together with a deposit of £40 [or the full amount]. The remaining amount of £100 must be made by 1st. AUGUST. Cheques should be made payable to "The Revd. D. K. Hastings" and delivered or sent to him at 26 Hoopern Street, Exeter, EX4 4LY

If you would like to know any more about the Retreat weekend then please do not hesitate to contact me.

**Fr. David**



# St. David's Parent and Toddler group

If you're walking past the Parish Room on a Thursday morning around midday you may well hear several voices singing out the Okey Cokey and wonder what's going on. In fact this song has become the informal signature tune of the Toddler Group thanks to the enthusiasm of the children and their parents/carers.

The weekly session is 10:00am to midday, all year (except August and Christmas).

We charge £1 per child plus 50p for a sibling and this funds the cost of our art and craft resources, snacks, milk and Christmas party. We usually have ten to twelve children in the age range from new born up to four. There is a rota of helpers; Barbara, Freya, Julia and myself, who are all CRB checked.

As soon as they come in the children get stuck in to playing with the many toys which have been donated to us over the years. By far the most popular is the sandpit, but the children also love the mini-slide, the ride-on toys, painting on the easel and shopping for plastic fruit in the tent. There is usually a simple activity on the table such as play-dough, puzzles, drawing or glueing. We have even managed cooking on occasions.

The adults have a tea or coffee and then at about 11:00am it's snack time and the children sit down to fruit, milk and rice cakes. The fact we offer a healthy snack is an important issue for many parents.

When it's tidy up time, we wind down the play and get the children involved in clearing up. They love to join in putting the toys away in the cupboards and getting the musical instruments out ready for our nursery rhyme singing and the grand finale of the Okey Cokey.

Our thanks go to the Church for letting us use the Parish Room for the last seven years, thereby supporting what is a very necessary resource for parents of young children. Over the years we have had several parents who have made lasting friendships through the group and given each other a lot of practical and moral support in child-rearing. This can be a really good way of combatting the sense of isolation that some parents of toddlers may experience, especially, for example when people are new to the area, if they don't have family living nearby or their partners have come to work/study at the university for short periods of time. Toddler groups are also a great way of introducing young children to some of the activities that they will encounter in pre-school.

Toddlers is great fun for children and a nice break for adults. The St. David's group is (so we are told by current parents) one of the friendliest in Exeter. If you know anyone with pre-school children or grandchildren, then please do recommend us.

They are welcome to pop in any Thursday.

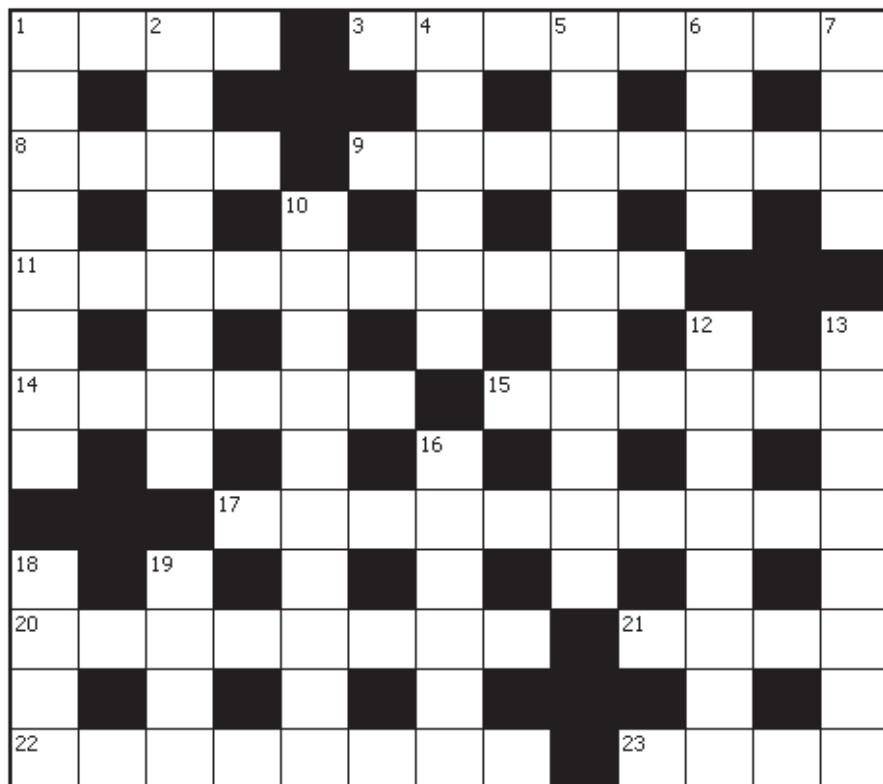
Contact:

[toddlers@stdavidschurhexeter.org.uk](mailto:toddlers@stdavidschurhexeter.org.uk)

or ring Julia on 07729 068 567

**Sam Wellbelove**

# June crossword



## Across:

- 1 See 23 Across
- 3 Where the thief on the cross was told he would be, with Jesus  
(Luke 23:43) (8)
- 8 Invalid (4)
- 9 Blasphemed (Ezekiel 36:20) (8)
- 11 Adhering to the letter of the law rather than its spirit  
(Philippians 3:6) (10)
- 14 Shut (Ecclesiastes 12:4) (6)
- 15 'This is how it will be with anyone who — up things for himself but is  
not rich towards God' (Luke 12:21) (6)
- 17 Mary on Isis (anag.) (10)

- 20 Agreement (Hebrews 9:15) (8)
- 21 Native of, say, Bangkok (4)
- 22 Deaf fort (anag.) (5-3)
- 23 and 1 Across 'The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of — to work it and take — of it' (Genesis 2:15) (4,4)

## **Down:**

- 1 Struggle between opposing forces (Habakkuk 1:3) (8)
- 2 James defined this as 'looking after orphans and widows in their distress and keeping oneself from being polluted by the world' (James 1:27) (8)
- 4 'The one I kiss is the man; — him' (Matthew 26:48) (6)
- 5 'Be joyful in hope, patient in — , faithful in prayer' (Romans 12:12) (10)
- 6 St Columba's burial place (4)
- 7 Swirling current of water (4)
- 10 Loyalty (Isaiah 19:18) (10)
- 12 'God was pleased through the foolishness of what was — , to save those who believe' (1 Corinthians 1:21) (8)
- 13 Camp where the angel of the Lord slew 185,000 men one night (2 Kings 19:35) (8)
- 16 'There is still — — — Jonathan; he is crippled in both feet' (2 Samuel 9:3) (1,3,2)
- 18 David Livingstone was one (4)
- 19 Driver and Vehicle Licensing Authority (1,1,1,1)

***Solutions later in the magazine***



All this happened a long time ago but St Alban is remembered today in the name of the place where he lived and died: Verulanium was renamed the city of St Albans.

# THE FIRST

All the answers to this Bible quiz are the first: either the first thing in a list or the first person to do or be something.

1. The first man
2. The city where Jesus' followers were first called Christians
3. The first bird Noah sent out of the ark
4. The first woman
5. The first person to see Jesus on the first Easter Sunday
6. What happened on the first day of creation
7. Israel's first king
8. The first of the four Gospels

**11111111111111111111**

1. Adam 2. Antioch 3. Raven 4. Eve  
5. Mary Magdalene 6. God made  
light and dark 7. Saul 8. Matthew

## Answers:

# Days of Note

## 1 Justin Martyr (c. 100 – 165)

- first ever Christian philosopher

Justin Martyr is regarded as the first ever Christian philosopher. He was born at Nablus, Samaria, of parents of Greek origin, and was well educated in rhetoric, poetry and history before he turned to philosophy. He studied at Ephesus and Alexandria and tried the schools of the Stoics, the Pythagoreans, and the Platonists. Then in c 130 Justin became a Christian, and never looked back. His long search for truth was satisfied by the Bible, and above all by Christ, the Word of God.

This apologist and martyr is known as the most important early ‘apologist’. He went on to offer a reasoned defence for Christianity, explaining that it was the fulfilment of the Old Testament prophecies. Justin’s aim was evangelism: he thought that pagans would turn to Christianity if they were made aware of Christian doctrine and practice.

Justin’s martyrdom took place in the reign of Marcus Aurelius, along with six other believers. At his trial, whose authentic record survives, he clearly confessed his Christian beliefs, refused to sacrifice to the gods, and accepted suffering and death. As he had previously said to the emperor: “You can kill us, but not hurt us.”

## 2 Erasmus (d. c. 300)

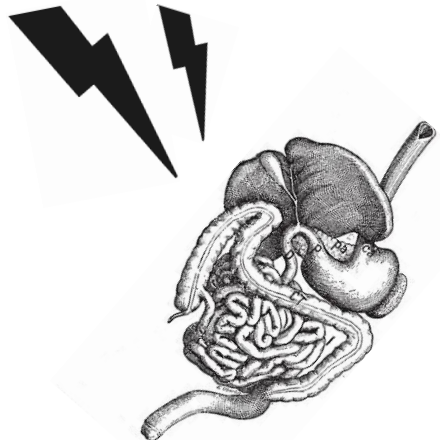
— a good saint for when you're all at sea

Do you like messing about in boats? If so, then you'll have heard of St Elmo's Fire. It is the light that is sometimes seen on mastheads of boats after storms at sea.

St Elmo is another name for St Erasmus, a fourth century Syrian bishop who was not afraid of violent storms. Legend has it that one day when Erasmus was preaching outside, a thunderbolt hit the ground right beside him. That might have distracted many modern bishops, but not Erasmus — he just kept on preaching. His courage won him the respect of sailors, who also had to brave the elements of nature in their daily work.

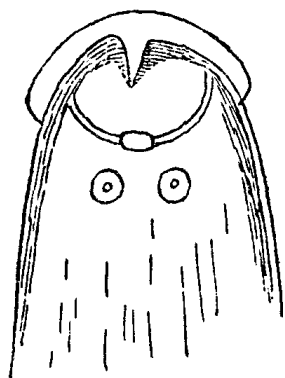
But when Erasmus was made the patron saint of sailors, it led to a curious confusion. His emblem became the windlass, a kind of hoist used by many sailors at sea. So far so good, but many medieval Christians, seeing the windlass emblem, assumed it was some sort of torture instrument. They knew that Erasmus had died in the persecution of Diocletian, and concluded that a windlass had been used to hoist out his intestines (which it hadn't).

But no matter - Erasmus was still adopted by another set of suffering people. Not only did sailors remember the thunderbolt, and look to him, but soon, anyone with gut ache as well!





## 6 Gudwal – the first Christian in Brittany?



If you choose Brittany for your holiday destination this summer, then spare a thought for Gudwal, because this obscure 6th century Celtic abbot got there before you did. Indeed, Gudwal seems to have liked Brittany so much that he decided to stay on.

When you visit Brittany today, you will find Catholic churches everywhere. Not so in the sixth century – when only the extraordinary range of megalithic monuments dominated the landscape. There were (and still are) passage dolmens, stepped pyramids and stone circles. The best known site is Carnac, where remains of a dozen rows of huge standing stones run for over ten kilometres. Some of the megalithic ruins in the gulf of Morbihan date back to at least 3300 BC – that is 200 years older than Stonehenge.

Religion was certainly plentiful in Brittany, back then. But Gudwal was one of the earliest pioneers of Christianity in the region. He did a bit of 6th century ‘church planting’, too - when he decided to build a hermitage in the middle of all that paganism – probably at Locoal. In time, 188 monks came to join him, and they built a little monastery – probably at Guer.

But it was the man himself – his holiness and kindness – that drew people’s attention more than the buildings. A man of deep spirituality and prayer, Gudwal willingly spent himself on helping the local people – it was said that he healed many by his prayers for them.

# 15 Trinity Sunday

– celebrating our God who is Three Persons

Trying to explain the doctrine of the Trinity has kept many a theologian busy down the centuries. One helpful picture is to imagine the sun shining in the sky. The sun itself – way out there in space – unapproachable in its fiery majesty – is the Father. The light that flows from it, and which illuminates all our lives, is the Son. The heat that flows from it, and which gives us all the energy to move and grow, is the Holy Spirit. You cannot have the sun without its light and its heat. The light and the heat are from the sun, are of the sun, and yet are also distinct in themselves, with their own roles to play.

The Bible makes clear that God is One God, who is disclosed in three persons: Father, Son (Jesus Christ) and Holy Spirit. For example:

**Deuteronomy 6:4** ‘Hear O Israel, The Lord our God, the Lord is one.’

**Isaiah 45:22** ‘Turn to me and be saved... for I am God, and there is no other’

**Genesis 1:1-2** ‘In the beginning God created.... And the Spirit of God was hovering...’

**Judges 14:6 etc** ‘The Spirit of the Lord came upon him in power...’

**John 1:1-3** ‘In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made.’

Luke 24:49 actually manages to squeeze the whole Trinity into one sentence. Jesus tells his disciples: ‘I am going to send you what my Fa-

ther has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power (the Holy Spirit) from on high.'

In other words, the sun eternally gives off light and heat, and whenever we stand in its brilliant light, we find that the warmth soon follows.



# Crossword solutions

## June answers

**ACROSS:** 1 Care, 3 Paradise, 8 Null, 9 Profaned, 11 Legalistic, 14 Closed, 15 Stores, 17 Missionary, 20 Covenant, 21 Thai, 22 Trade-off, 23 Eden

**DOWN:** 1 Conflict, 2 Religion, 4 Arrest, 5 Affliction, 6 Iona, 7 Eddy, 10 Allegiance, 12 Preached, 13 Assyrian, 16 A son of, 18 Scot, 19 DVLA

*Crosswords reproduced by kind permission of BRF and John Capon,*

*originally published in Three Down, Nine Across, by John Capon (£6.99 BRF)*



# Pilgrimage to **ASSISI**

Led by *Bishop Martin Shaw*  
2<sup>nd</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> October 2014

## DAY ONE – THURSDAY 2<sup>ND</sup> OCTOBER

*Bristol - Assisi*

We fly from Bristol on a scheduled direct flight to Rome. On arrival in Rome, we transfer by coach to Assisi where we check into our guesthouse, the Casa S Brigida, situated just outside the town walls, for a 6-night stay. Dinner will be in the guesthouse on each evening of our stay.

## DAY TWO – FRIDAY 3<sup>RD</sup> OCTOBER

*Assisi*

This morning, we walk through the streets of Assisi as Saints Francis and Clare would have known it. Visit the Cathedral of San Ruffino, the church of Santa Maria Maggiore and the Chiesa Nuova (New Church), built on the site of Francis' house. Afterwards we visit St Clare's Basilica, which now houses the Crucifix that called to Francis and the tomb of St Clare. This afternoon we travel the short distance into the valley below Assisi and visit the Porziuncola and the Basilica of Santa Maria degli Angeli. We are welcome to stay for the Solemn Commemoration of the death of St Francis (Transitus di San Francesco) in the Basilica. Afterwards return to our guesthouse.

## DAY THREE – SATURDAY 4<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER

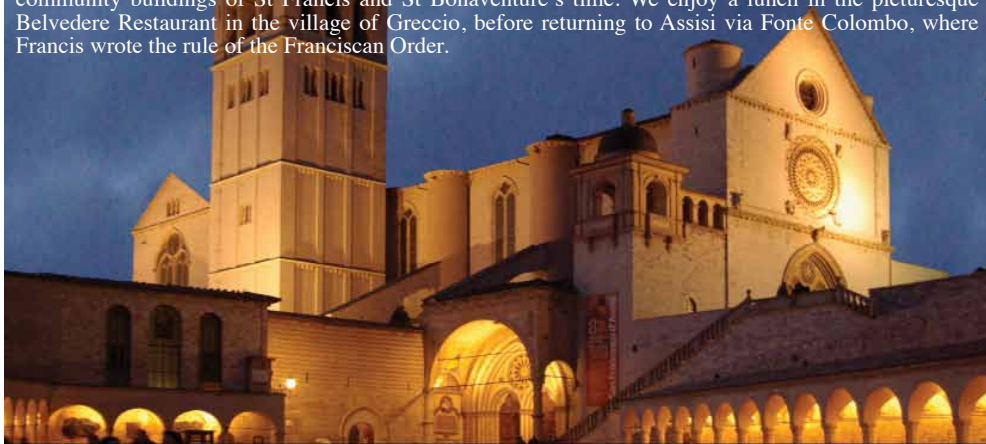
*The Feast of St Francis*

This morning will be free to attend services to celebrate the Feast of the Saint. There will be many festivities in Assisi to mark the Feast Day. This afternoon there will be the opportunity to attend Vespers in the Lower Basilica.

## DAY FOUR – SUNDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER

*Greccio and the Rieti Valley*

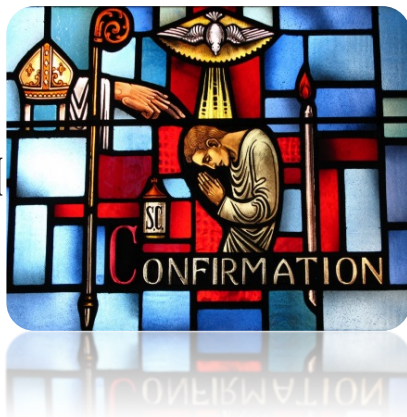
After breakfast we leave Assisi by coach and head south into the province of Rieti and the area called 'Holy Valley' because of the particular attention that St Francis paid to this particular region. We stop mid-morning at the sanctuary of Greccio, where Francis brought home the mystery of the Incarnation by portraying a live nativity scene in 1223 and we see the grotto where this occurred and the early community buildings of St Francis and St Bonaventure's time. We enjoy a lunch in the picturesque Belvedere Restaurant in the village of Greccio, before returning to Assisi via Fonte Colombo, where Francis wrote the rule of the Franciscan Order.



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Tel: 020 7485 3003 Fax: 020 7485 3006 E-mail: [info@paxtravel.co.uk](mailto:info@paxtravel.co.uk)  
[www.paxtravel.co.uk](http://www.paxtravel.co.uk)



# JUNIOR CONFIRMATION CLASSES 2014



The Confirmation service will be on Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> June at  
9:30am.

For more information please contact  
Rev. Andy Atkins, 01392 277882



# Women's Group

Dear All

Following the 'xmas' dinner at the Imperial, and with your suggestions, we have put together a programme for the Women's group.

**Thursday 10th July**      *Barbecue*

**Thursday 9th October**      *Colour me Beautiful*

All events cost £9.00

We do hope as many as possible will come.

Look forward to seeing you.

Best wishes

**Mary Kirkland**

07872 626 168



# Barbara's Edible Stall

Please keep bringing and buying.  
We need you!

NEXT DATE:

**SUNDAY 15th June**

Many thanks.  
**Jane Woodman**





**The deadline for inclusion of articles for  
the July issue of the parish  
magazine is Sunday June 15th 2014**

Any information and articles you'd like to submit for inclusion in future issues should be sent to Ashley and Johanne via St David's Church or our email: [thedairy@btclick.com](mailto:thedairy@btclick.com)

**If you have images of any events of interest to the  
Parish community please send them to us.**

**Please send digital files via email if at all possible and please  
make the subject header fit the content of the email - thanks!**



**Thank you** to Graham Lerwill for organising the printing of this magazine - his hard work is much appreciated.