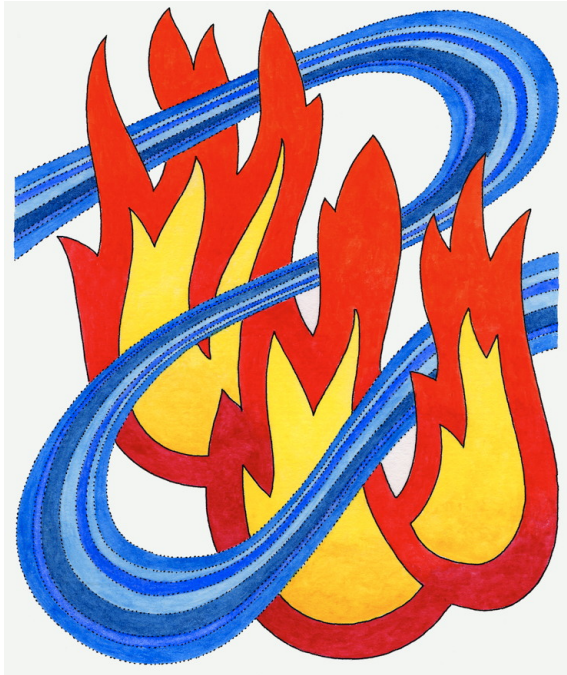


New Leaves

June 2019



**Parish Magazine
of St David with
St Michael and
All Angels,
Exeter**

50p

Parish of St. David with St. Michael Directory (March 2019)

Vicar	Nigel Guthrie	01392 660226
Assistant Curate	Alison Whiting	rev.alisonwhiting@gmail.com
Reader	Bill Pattinson	860 880
	Howard Friend	07733739453
	Charlotte Townsend	01392 660285
Parish Missioner	Simon Harrison	01392 840166
Churchwarden	Emma White	07833453067
Churchwarden	Glynis Harflett	01392 214787
PCC Secretary	Helena Walker	pccsecretary@stdavidschurchexeter.org.uk
Parish Treasurer	Johnathan Johns	07831486987
		electoralrollofficer@stdavidschurchexeter.org.uk
Electoral Roll Officer	Sue Wilson	uk
Safeguarding Rep	Mary Kirkland	07872 626 168

St. David's www.stdavidschurchexeter.org.uk

Treasurer	Barbara Allin	270 162
Asst. Treasurer	Geoff Crockett	468 073
Director of Music	Nigel Walsh	273 237
News Sheet	Helena Walker	notices@stdavidschurchexeter.org.uk
Junior Church	Bill Pattinson	860 880
Servers	Shaun Smith	01626 3670765
Church Bookings	Mary Quest	07792 062 403
Readers & Time of Prayer	Avril Pattinson	860 880

St Michael's www.stmichaelsmountdinham.org.uk

Chapel Warden	Stephanie Aplin	stephaniecaplin@yahoo.co.uk
Chapel Warden		
Treasurer	Paula Lewis	lewispf9@gmail.com
Church Bookings	Jane Bellamy	432 172
		jane-bellamy@hotmail.co.uk
Director of Music	Neil A Page	neil@4victory.net
Secretary		
Organist	Matthew Clark	
Notices	Oliver Nicholson	opn@umn.edu

Magazine

Advertising	Glynis Harflett	214 787
		bissom@icloud.com
Designer	Clive Wilson	437571
		newleaves_mag@btinternet.com
Editorial Team	Richard Barnes	newleavesnews@gmail.com
	Bill Pattinson	



WELCOME



To all Readers of “New Leaves”, the magazine for the Parish of St David’s with St. Michael and All Angels.

The editorial team invites you to submit appropriate articles which reflect Church, Parish or Community interest

Please send as Word documents to: newleavesnews@gmail.com

Please note that all articles will be printed with the author’s name

Enjoy this month’s read.

We will welcome critical comments on the magazine

Editorial Team: Bill Pattinson and Richard Barnes supported by
Stephanie Aplin and Clive Wilson

New Leaves

June 2019

From St Michael and All Angels, Mount Dinham

The Bishop of Truro, Philip Mountstephen, has led a review into persecution of Christians, and was shocked to find that Christians are more persecuted than any other group. The review was published before the attacks on the Sri Lankan churches at Easter, and so is already out of date. It would appear that 'Western secularists, Islamic extremists and authoritarian regimes wrongly assumed the Christian faith was primarily an expression of White western privilege...(when Christianity) is primarily a phenomenon of the global south and the global poor.' (*Western Morning News*, 3rd May 2019) The numbers and types of persecution are truly terrifying. Why has all this been so under-reported? Perhaps the western media has little or no respect for the faith which underpins our cultural heritage; perhaps because governments are desperate to be seen to be on the side of the noisy secular and financial world; perhaps the groups which are so ready to take offence on behalf of others can see little advantage in protecting Christianity in case they are considered to be religious fanatics. Political correctness is sometimes said to be the cause. To speak out for the Jews invites a different social and political response; Jews are not necessarily Israelis. In fact a number of Jews do not favour the political state of Israel, so we cannot equate Israeli action with Jewish belief.

Whenever the Christian faith is diminished or is losing ground, we need only to look to the reports in the media for their ready targets - paedophile priests, cover-ups, the Church always going on about money, the claim that we are a multi-faith nation – to see why the general public has little sympathy. There has been some correspondence recently in the newspaper I read about the loss of hymn-singing in schools. I recall outdoor hymn practice in the early morning sun at my primary school. Flip-charts of brown paper with black poster-painted words, none of the hymns too overtly Christian (we had a sizeable population of Jewish pupils) but

many of the great hymns of praise were sung with some enthusiasm. The words and the atmosphere remain with me after nearly sixty years. Not a phrase that I like, but I guess they're in my spiritual DNA. Christianity has been almost 'disappeared' from daily encounters. Choosing not to talk about religious faith for fear of 'giving offence' to others is tantamount to denying the faith. Not being allowed to wear the cross as the symbol of one's faith, especially as others claim certain items of clothing as a mark of faith, seems to me like discrimination in a country which claims to be Christian, though many would say we are in the post-Christian era.

Whether the Bishop's report will include advice for action to report further persecution and suggest ways of actively supporting those who are the victims of the vicious trend remains to be seen. I hope that there will be advice for us to take to heart. In the meantime, pray for the Christians of China, India, Nigeria, Syria and other Middle Eastern countries, and for those where Christianity is seen as a dated joke.



Stephanie Aplin.

A Big Thank You.

Thanks to all of you who have been praying for Chris as he faced major surgery for kidney cancer in May. After a couple of hitches, he seems to be making a good recovery and is looking forward to being back to regular serving and worship.

The Aplin Family.



St David's Eucharist June

Sunday 2nd June 7th Sunday of Easter/Sunday after Ascension Day

Reading 1	Acts 16:16-34	Dilys Thorp
Reading 2	Revelation 22:12-14,16,17,20-end	Hilary Todd
Gospel	John 17:20-end	
Time of prayer		Bill Pattinson
Junior Church: Sarah		

Sunday 9th June Pentecost

Reading 1	Acts 2:1-21	Sarah Black
Reading 2	Romans' 8:14-17	Lawrence Sail
Gospel	John 14:8-17,25-27	
Time of prayer		David James
Junior Church: Helen		

Sunday 16th June Trinity Sunday Family Communion Service

Reading 1		
Reading 2		
Gospel		
Time of prayer		

Sunday 23rd June Trinity 1

Reading 1	Isaiah 65:1-9	Geoff Crockett
Reading 2	Galatians 3:23-end	Alan Baker
Gospel	Luke 8:26-39	
Time of prayer		Ian Cartwright
Junior Church: Ruth		

Sunday 30th June Trinity 2

Reading 1	1 Kings 19:15-16,19-end	Helen Friend
Reading 2	Galatians 5:1,13-25	Jenny Baker
Gospel	Luke 9:51-end	
Time of prayer		Nigel Walsh
Junior Church: Sarah		

Sunday 7th July Trinity 3

Reading 1	Isaiah 66:10-14	Gabrielle Kirby
Reading 2	Galatians 6:7-16	Hilary Francis
Gospel	Luke 10:1-11,16-20	
Time of prayer		Chris Gill
Junior Church: Ruth		

From your City Councillor representing the Green Party

It is a privilege to be elected to serve St David's, a diverse ward with distinct and friendly neighbourhoods. From St David's train station and St David's Hill it stretches to both sides of the quay to the incinerator on the west side and Devon County Council on the east.

As you can imagine, people readily talk to me about environmental issues – the need for a weekly food waste collection, how air pollution affects their lives, their concerns about the climate and loss of trees. Others tell me their personal stories, and how the system needs to change to help them meet their everyday needs. Residents also tell me of their hopes, ideas and their work for their community, from cultural, faith or community activities, to caring or even a bit of 'gorilla' gardening.

So many people have spoken to me about how Exeter is changing. Was it ever thus? Since late 18th century road building, and the construction of the Iron Bridge in the 1830s, which encouraged use of St David's Hill as a route to Tiverton, traffic and development has continued to increase. The recent pace of development has increased significantly: more cars but less ease of movement; loss of local shops and pressures on heritage, biodiversity and green spaces - all of which makes many feel sad, excluded or frustrated. These pressures Exeter faces reflect global challenges – how to use our economy to enable us to live a decent life within the environmental limits of one planet – or the city boundaries in our case.

I expect you all know, far better than I do, about the philanthropic work of Flay, then Dinham and Gibbs. The latter two founding the charitable 'village' that became Mount Dinham, an expanded 'Institution for the Blind', an Episcopal Charity School, 40 'Free Cottages', a new and ambitious Anglican church and a new National Boys' School. A few centuries on charities and community enterprises continue to thrive across the South West to meet the urgent needs in our communities. In my work, providing business support for the community sector, I never fail to be amazed by such

community-led action, often as equally ambitious, that is dedicated to changing lives and our environment.

Solutions to St David's needs cannot be solved by the Council alone. One of my goals is to encourage the Council to better recognise and work with the skills, local knowledge, contributions, creativity and hope that residents have to offer to address local pressing needs and help our communities to thrive. I look forward to learning more about the work you do. Please don't hesitate to contact me on 07930932214 or diana.moore@greenparty.org.uk

Diana Moore

19.05.2019



Attending church with a hearing loss

Jesus said; "...though hearing, they do not hear or understand" (Matthew 13:13).

This was surely intended to convey that people did not understand what He said in the way that He meant it.

However, how right He was in the literal sense too!

Many of us do hear someone speaking, pick up some of the words and fill in the gaps with likely guesses. Unfortunately, the brain can be too clever, and supplies a perfectly logical sentence, but not the right one. We have not heard, nor have we understood...

A lady (in another parish) told me that she goes to church every Sunday, but has not heard a word of any sermon for years. This is very sad. Since about 75% of people over 70 have a hearing loss of some degree, and a fair % of congregations are getting on in years, this must be a pretty common experience. Below is an explanation of difficulties we face, not a challenge or criticism.

Sermons are hardest because the content is different every time. Different preachers present more of a struggle, with their unfamiliar voice, accent and intonation. Some churches provide a transcript of the sermon, a very good try, but one cannot read whilst looking up to lipread, and it does not have to be delivered verbatim. On the plus side, the pulpit is closer than the altar!

It is much easier to participate in worship, if the traditional "script" is followed. We can be flummoxed by a new version. I find the modern vernacular harder than the majestic language remembered from my childhood in church. I realise the intent is to make the words clearer to the congregation of today, but one's memory still delivers what it knows. There is then no need to read every word. This is why I am more comfortable in an Anglo-Catholic Church like St. Michael's.

Hymns are another challenge. Many churches choose new hymns; often I know only one and others have agreed it is difficult. Knowing the hymn by heart makes it possible to look up and lipread the choir or clergy, follow the varied singing speed and try not to start on the wrong line or verse...so

embarrassing!

I must say, with enormous gratitude, that clergy and church people everywhere are all very kind and helpful in making sure that the hearing loop and microphones are working, etc. I have found that sitting in front of the pulpit and close to the aisle, I can compensate for what I do not hear by picking up visual clues. Everyone at St. Michael's is very kind and accommodating.

I do think this should, however, work both ways - we ourselves have some responsibility to try to cope with our own hearing loss. I have realised over almost 50 years of getting deafer, that the world cannot entirely change for me. Some difficulties may be exacerbated by not wearing one's hearing aids, or not having been shown how to turn the aids to the T-coil (which enables the loop to send sound directly to the aid). Also, English people seem still reluctant to sit near the front, with all those parental instructions "not to put ourselves forward" ringing in the ears like tinnitus!

So, a word to the wise: let us admit to our hearing loss and say so; sit in the best place to hear and see; put in our hearing aids and turn on the T-coil; use a hymn book with music; try new technology to help us hear. Unstiffen the upper lip!

Failing all else, of course we can always experience the spiritual communion with the congregation and with God. I find myself that the spirit of place in St. Michael's always offers that for me, when my ears and brain are just too exhausted to hear and understand. I give thanks for this.

Vivien Finnigan



May Musings

Writing this mid-month, I've been struck by the abundant growth of plants & trees as May puts on her coat of many colours.

It all starts with May Poles, May Queens and Madrigals fa-la-lahing. In the Church of England May 1st is still Saints Philip & James AA (motoring saints?) but in the Roman calendar it has become a day for St Joseph the Worker, Mary's spouse most chaste (or as I saw in one tweet, most chatty – not sure if that was down to a spell-checker, typo or new insight).

For Catholics, May is traditionally Mary's month with Processions and Devotions. Locally this seems to have morphed into the secular Feast of Exeter Pride, when hundreds of LGBT+ people & supporters parade joyfully & colourfully to Northernhay Gardens (stewards in hi-vis jackets fading into the background).

"Pride" is a strange word. Pride, the self-obsessed hubris, is one of the 7 deadly sins. And yet, pride in the gifts and achievements of others and oneself is an affirming emotion. Perhaps it is pride as opposed to shame, or pride versus prejudice. Whatever the origin, gay pride has become so mainstream that now it's just Pride.

I'm not sure what John Dinham looking down from his plinth would have made of it. But thankfully Pride now has a visible Christian presence proclaiming God's inclusive love for all; both in the procession lifting high the Cross and in the pre-Parade Service held in St Petrock's this year, organised & led by Fr Nigel, Rev Hannah Alderson and others.

In his Sermon Canon Chris Palmer from the Cathedral preached on Matthew 15:21-28 using an insight of Rachel Held Evans (who died tragically young earlier in May) that the Canaanite woman, the despised, vulnerable outsider, caused Jesus to rethink his view of the extent of God's love.

As well as every vibrant shade of green, May's colourful growth brings memories to the garden of the mind.

Wisteria's wistful mauve memories of college quadrangles, croquet hoops thrusting through the sward like blanched asparagus spears, while liturgically coloured balls are struck by the opponent into the long grass.

The spreading Chestnut tree, holding aloft romantic candles for a merry

swain and their lass, daisies punctuating the grass.

Laburnum's golden cascades, blue lobelia clinging to wall & bank, violets picked for lonely Eeyore short-changed by the author. The first blush of roses taking over from fading camellia.

My father was a great gardener – roses, vegetables, specimen shrubs grown with care – Harvest Festival his Feast of Feasts. My passion is church music – 50-odd years in the choir-stalls of a dozen churches & chapels, and three dozen Cathedrals, just a day or a week with visiting choirs, but such a privilege and joy.

However, gardening and singing are rather similar – the cycle of the seasons and the church year, the spade-work and note-bashing, the tending and rehearsing, one can photograph or record, but the joy of the bloom, the performance, is ephemeral, of the moment.

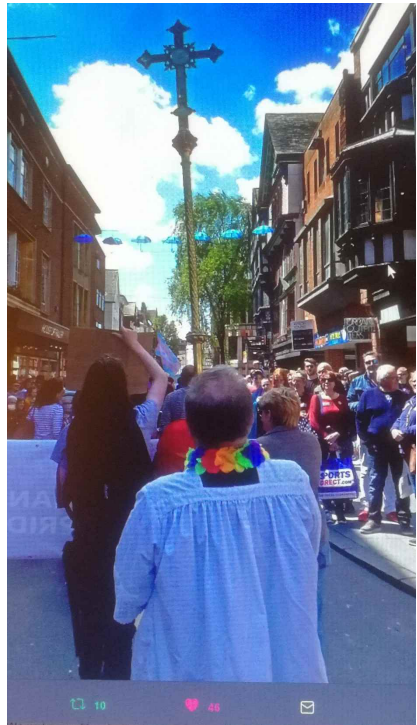
We are blessed at St Michael's by dedicated and talented musicians and gardeners.

My comments in “A Green April” on Climate Change last month proved more topical than I expected, with several new reports, both encouraging and worrying, appearing early in May, and with Diana Moore of the Green Party being elected our new local Councillor for St David's Ward.

I think we need leaders with more knowledge of forestry than hedge funds, but ironically the amoral investment banking system that caused the Crash of 2008 and the Decade of Austerity may have done as much temporarily to limit CO2 emissions as politicians and protesters. The climate system is complicated, and so is flawed humanity.



**Richard Barnes – 19/5
/19.**



Crime Reduction

In *New Leaves* for April 2019, Stephanie mentions an interesting paper about the origins of religion. If I am right this paper is the letter* on pages 226-9 in the issue of *Nature* dated 11 April 2019. This letter entitled "Complex societies precede moralizing gods..." seems consistent with the view that human groups have sometimes been able to reduce criminal activity by embracing traditional religions. But, if it is true that spreading religion was once a good way to reduce crime, is the same true today?

The growth of science has made it harder for traditional religions to thrive because they can now be challenged scientifically. For example a scientist might say "since theism is a matter of faith, it is not a belief that is provably true: it is only possibly true hence possibly false" and add "not everyone is happy to accept possibly false beliefs, so a common creed that is theistic (or atheistic) is divisive rather than unitive."

However, a way around the divisiveness problem is offered by non-credal churches: instead of having a common creed, these churches have aims which include encouraging us all to discuss and if necessary amend what we (as individuals) actually believe. An example of such a church is that of the Unitarians who were once a non-Trinitarian Christian sect but are now more like a unitive church that imposes no common creed.

*For a free download, please find [Online Reference](#) at a Devon public library; then pick [Access to Research](#) and look for the title.



Charles Argall



Art and Craft in War Time

"Here sonny have a packet of gum," said the American officer as he sat in his jeep.



That morning in 1942 I was playing outside the cottage where my family was living on Luscombe Castle Estate near Dawlish . The heavy drone of engines had drawn me to the end of the lane, watching lorry after lorry winding its way slowly up Luscombe Hill and coming to a stop. "What is the town we have just gone through?" asked the officer "Dawlish" I replied . He nodded and then the convoy of lorries moved on up the hill and disappeared from sight. Their destination was the South Hams .

In 1949 I was sitting in the back of a lorry with Harry Steer and Jack Palmer making our way to the South Hams to visit churches from which all the valuable woodwork had been removed, prior to the Americans taking over the area for training. Alan Pile, armed with his little Red Note Book, guided the lorry down the narrow lane ,first to one village, then to another and so on. Our job was to find the crates which contained the medieval screens ,which had been packed in straw and stored either in the church towers, or in behind the last row of seats at the back of the church. Having found the crates, we had to inspect them and bring back the most damaged pieces of woodwork to the workshop for repair and restoration. Some were in a pretty bad state but the three men were undaunted.

Going back to early 1942 , about the time I was given my American gum, it had been Herbert Read who had been given the task of removing the screens and storing them until after the war. It had been a mammoth task and Alan Pile had spent weeks away from home carrying out this work . When the Americans arrived he had not finished, and so a detail of troops was assigned to help. The story of events which took place while Alan was there with the Americans, and

his brief return after they left, I will recount later as "The man with the Little Red Book"

Returning once more to 1949, I spent the next 12 to 18 months after picking up the damaged woodwork, going backwards and forwards to the South Hams with Alan Pile as the screens were repaired and restored.

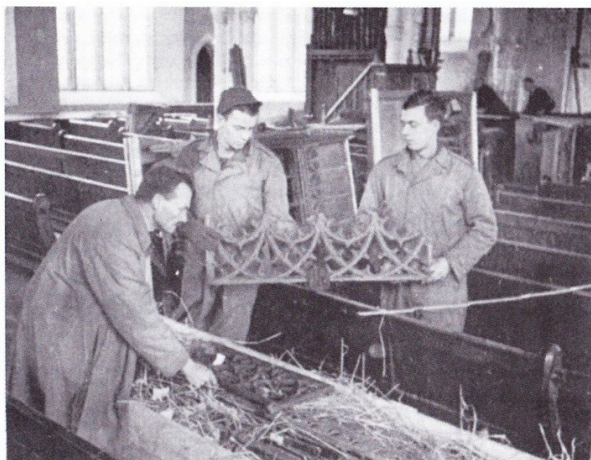
Who would have thought that a small lad accepting a packet of gum from an American Officer would be so connected to one of the biggest events of the War

D. DAY JUNE 6th 1944



John Wakley

14.05.2019



G.I.s help with the packing of a very delicate rood screen in one of the churches. Many of these screens were riddled with wood worm and were extremely fragile.

Transformation Progress Report

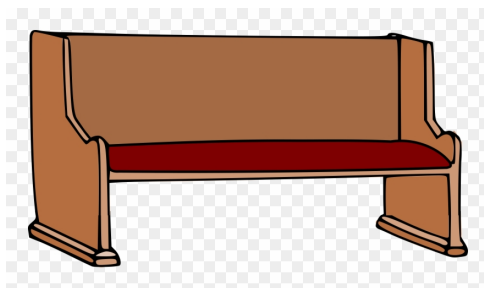
I was recently asked by Bill Pattinson when the jobs at the back of the church would be finished. The answer is now we have the material we can start to put together the finishing touches. We did not have timber long enough in length to make the corner scribing boards. Now we have the seats from Swindon, things can move on again. Timber has already been cut and planed for this, together with other pieces which are required. The kitchen hatchway is nearly completed. Roger has made six striking plates to hold the bolts for the doors and two have already been fitted.

For the record, it took four and a half days of heavy work for the Three Musketeers, going to Swindon to get the seats, unloading them at St Davids, and then taking them apart and storing them. Many thanks to the gentlemen of the Breakfast Club who assisted us on their breakfast Saturday morning.



John Wakley

14.05.2019



June Events mainly at St Michael's

Do come and enjoy the Feast Days, Concerts and Lectures happening this month from Ascension Day (Thurs 30th May) through to Exeter Chorale's Concert (Sun 30th Jun), particularly our Corpus Christi Procession (Thurs 20th Jun).

As we hoped, our Peregrine Falcon pair hatched 2 chicks on Thursday 9 May. They should fledge after just 6 weeks of rapid development from bundles of fluff to strong juveniles. We are estimating 20 June onwards for them to fly the nest.

The "Exeter Pride" Service in St Petrock's Church, devised and led by Fr Nigel Guthrie with Rev Hannah Alderson, was very successful with about 40 people in total attending – thanks to all from St Mike's and St David's who supported it.

We pray for Fr Christopher Durrant, being instituted as Rector of the Upper Itchen Benefice in the Diocese of Winchester on Wednesday 29th May.

Diary.

Thursday 30 May, Ascension Day. 7.30am, Sung Matins.

7.30pm Sung Mass of the Ascension. Hymns 130, 332, 134. Missa Brevissima, Casciolini. Motet: God is gone up, Hutchings. Ven David Gunn-Johnson.

Sun 2 June, Sunday after Ascension. 11am. Hymns 352, 355, 388. Mass in E, Darke. Come Holy Ghost, Attwood. Fr Nigel Guthrie. Bountiful Table of Baking, Preserves & Produce. The Vicar is also hoping to hold a short Congregational Meeting after Mass.

6pm Choral Evensong & Benediction. Led by Rev Alison Whiting & Fr Nigel. Reading Responses. Psalm 68. Hymn 63. Brewer in D. Lift up your heads, O ye Gates – Mathias. O salutaris 269, Tantum Ergo 268.

Tue 4 June, 7.30pm at St David's Church. Heritage Lecture – YMCA Exeter; Christian voices across 170 years – Dr Tom Browne.

Sat 8 June, in Exeter Cathedral at 7.30pm, Exeter Chamber Choir sing J S Bach's awesome B minor Mass. Ticket range from £26 to £7.

Sun 9 June, Pentecost/Whitsunday. 11am Sung Mass. Hymns 139, 137, 408. Missa Inter Vestibulum, Guerrero. Listen sweet dove, Grayston Ives. Ven David Gunn-Johnson.

Sun 9 June, in Exeter Cathedral at 6.30pm, #ThyKingdomCome Diocesan Prayer & Worship Event.

Sun 16 June, Trinity/Music Sunday. 11am Sung Mass. Hymns 146, 159(Stanford), 336. Spatzenmesse/Sparrow Mass, Laudate Dominum, both by Mozart. Fr Dominic Cyrus.

Sun 16 June, 4pm. 'Duo Lirico' Piano & Violin Recital – Faure, Ravel, Franck. £10 including Refreshments (under 18s free).

Tue 18 June, 7.30pm at St David's Church. Heritage Lecture – Can we blame weather & climate for the church cracks? - Dr Clive Wilson.

Wed 19 June at 7.30pm Sophia Engel and Georgia Bauer will give a St Michael's Lecture on “How relevant is peace and reconciliation work in Europe today”.

Thurs 20 June, Corpus Christi. 7.30pm Sung Mass & Procession. Hymns 333, 271, 305. Mass for 4 voices, Ave verum corpus, both by William Byrd. We thank Tina Guthrie and Peter King for leading our music tonight.

Sat 22 June, 9am. Men's Breakfast at The Imperial.

Sun 23 June, Trinity I. 11am Mass. Hymns 205, 225, 70. Mass in the Dorian mode, Blessed are those that be undefiled in the way, both by Thomas Tallis. Fr Nigel.

Sat 29 June, 11.30-2.30, at St David's Church, The Summer Fête – Grand Draw tickets available, help on St Michael's stalls welcomed – please see Paula.

Sat 29 Jun, 7pm. Benefit Concert – Music for Palestine. Piano quartets & folk music. £10 (£5 children).

Sun 30 June, Trinity II. 11am Mass. Hymns 86, 465, 387. Little Organ Mass, Achieved is the glorious work, both by Haydn. Sermon Bill Pattinson & Celebrant Fr Nigel.

Sun 30 June at 4.30pm. Exeter Chorale's Tea-time Concert of popular Madrigals & Part-songs on the theme of "Time" directed by John Draisey. £10 including Refreshments.

Sun 7 July, 11am Sung Mass with Charity Bountiful Table in aid of Mission to Seafarers, and 6pm Choral Evensong & Benediction.

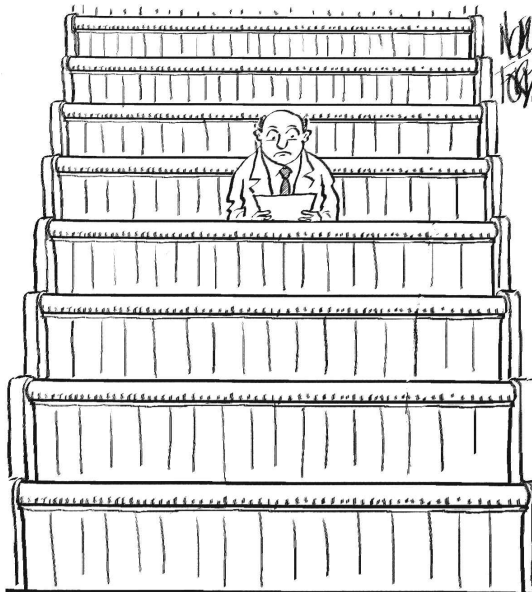
At St Michael's, worship is traditional, music is excellent, people are friendly, and all are welcome. Please join us. Pray for our continuing life & mission, and support your church with time, talents and giving.

The website www.stmichaelsmountdinham.org.uk/events/ also lists Events or follow @StMikes_Exeter on Twitter.

Enjoy Sundays and Feast Days at St Michael's.



Richard Barnes – 19/5/19.



With the congregation depleted by the bug that was going around, it suddenly dawned on Roy that he wouldn't be able to get away with just miming to the hymns this week

PARISH FETE 2019

Saturday 29th June 11.30 - 2.30 at St David's Church

The City of Exeter Railway Band

Grand Draw

Stalls and Games

Refreshments

CAN YOU HELP?

Are you able to

Bake or make something for the cake and produce stall

Grow some plants for the plant stall

Set aside some books, or nearly new items for the stalls

Buy as many draw tickets as you can

Donate some bottles

Run a stall, help set up or clear up

CONTACT: Sam Wellbelove or sign up at the back of Church on Sunday.

The Pick Up

My husband and I were members of a local rambling club. Alan would plan walks for Sunday outings. Occasionally I would drop him at the beginning of the walk and collect him later. Unfortunately this did not always go to plan.

One Saturday, I left him and a friend, John, at the end of a lane in Shropshire, about thirty or forty miles away from our home. We organised pick up details of the lane where I could collect them. Later I drove to the spot and settled down to read in the car. Getting out to stretch my legs, I accidentally locked myself out. What to do? No mobile phones, not even a nearby phone box to call for help. I noticed I was at the end of a lane with three or four houses. I had an idea. Going to the nearest house, I asked the elderly lady if I could use her phone. I then rang Jean, John's wife, and asked her to drive the few miles to my neighbour's house. She, Mrs Jones, had a key and could let Jean in to collect our spare keys, then drive out to me. All went as planned. As I waited the friendly householder offered me tea and scones and we settled down to a cosy chat.

Meanwhile Mrs Jones, our neighbour, had been suspicious of Jean's request for the keys to my house. She reluctantly however handed them over and Jean eventually joined me for more tea and scones. I was expecting the men to pass the house to the car. Suddenly I noticed that it was getting dark and there were no sign of our husbands. I asked Jean what we should do. Remember no mobile phones with which to make contact. As a loyal wife I refused her suggestion that we panic in the nearest pub and insisted that we go along the road in search of them.



Eventually they emerged from a lane further along the main road. I explained about my earlier predicament and was proud of the way I had solved it. Unfortunately my husband took the view that it was my fault. I was excused further pick up duties. I'm sure there is a moral to this tale, but I will leave it to you, readers to find it.



Eileen Jarman

14.05.2019

Smilelines

One who boasts of being a self-made person relieves the Lord of a lot of responsibility.

If you can't be kind, at least have the decency to be vague.

Living on Earth is expensive, but it does include a free trip around the sun every year.

Try Jesus. If you don't like Him, the devil will always take you back.

As long as there are exams, there will be prayer in schools.

Go to church this Sunday – and avoid the Christmas rush.

Conversion or Restoration

Not an Article about Home Improvements, but the words that came to mind with the Readings for the first Sunday in May – Acts 9 and John 21 – Paul on the Damascus Road and Peter's rehabilitation (as Fr Dominic Cyrus called it in his Sermon) with the Risen Christ on the lakeside.

Some Christians have had a Damascus Road conversion. For others, faith has been a long and winding road. Though no doubt Saul/Paul had been affected by the witness of Stephen in his martyrdom, and needed Ananias to remove the scales from his eyes. Some have a mountaintop experience like the Transfiguration. C S Lewis apparently had a bus top conversion moment.

These are just examples of journeys of faith – as Ven David Gunn-Johnson said at a recent Cathedral Evensong, each of us has a unique encounter with the Risen Christ, one just right for you.

A couple of months ago there was debate in the Church Times and online, whether every Christian had to have a 'personal relationship with Jesus'? My observation of this was that no one actually described what a 'relationship with Jesus' involved or was like. Perhaps this is inevitable; it's not easy to describe a relationship. So I won't try to either.

My other observation was that some people find 'relationships' difficult to form or sustain, and not just those 'on the autistic spectrum' or in other vulnerable minorities.

My worry was that some Christians, evangelical in particular, use the 'relationship with Jesus' phrase almost as a mantra to suggest they are closer to God than the rest of us. Some writers thought a relationship with God through Jesus in the Holy Spirit was more accurate, but felt peer pressure to use the 'personal relationship' label.

On further reflection I decided that, without using that particular mantra, all flavours of Christianity enjoy a relationship with Jesus in one way or another. So perhaps:-

Evangelicals - in a strong prayer life and deep knowledge of Jesus in the Scriptures.

Catholics - in being with Jesus through the Liturgical Year and in the Sacraments receiving and adoring His Presence.

Progressives & Liberals - in working with Jesus in service to his world – Christ has no body now on Earth but ours – as St Teresa of Avila put it.

It's probably just coincidence that the mosaic-style reredos behind the High Altar at St Michael's has the Apostles John, Peter, Thomas & Matthew nearest the central figure of Christ in glory. But these 4 can be used as examples of 4 flavours of Christian practice, threads woven into a fabric of faith where each of us has a unique place and beauty.

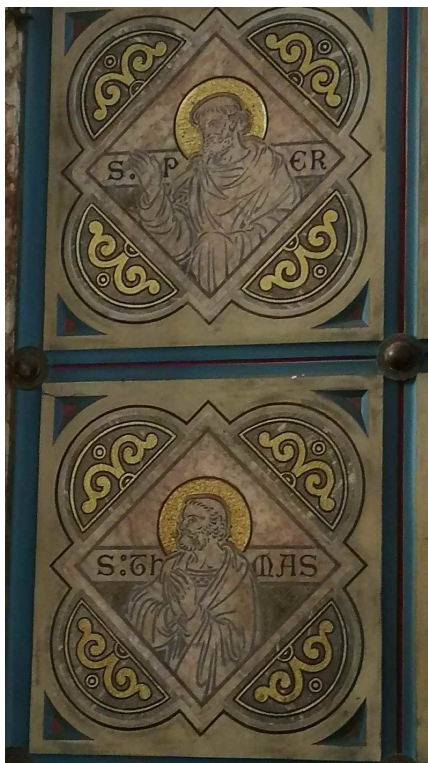
John - the Artist, contemplative evangelist and lover of Christ, supporting Mary by the Cross.

Peter – the Activist , impulsive, shepherd of the flock, but able to change his viewpoint at Joppa.

Thomas – the Thinker, arriving late, questioning, physical, but confessing my Lord & my God.

Matthew – the Professional, following the rules, knowing the history, and seeing prophesies of the Messiah fulfilled in Jesus in his Gospel.

At St Michael's, Benediction, after Choral Evensong on Sunday 2nd June, can be a moment of special encounter with Jesus, in the most holy sacrament of the Altar. And our Corpus Christi Procession on Thurs 20th June will show that Presence to the community in a beautiful visible way.



**Richard Barnes –
19/5/19.**

St Michael's Lecture

Wednesday 19th June 7.30pm. Sophia Engel and Georgia Bauer will give a St Michael's Lecture on **"How relevant is peace and reconciliation work in Europe today?"**

During the 1958 synod meeting of the Protestant Church in Germany, two thirds of its member signed an appeal which started the work of Action Reconciliation. The appeal stated the following: "We Germans started the Second World War and for this reason alone, more than others, became guilty of causing immeasurable suffering to humankind. Germans have in sinful revolt against the will of God exterminated millions of Jews. Those of us who survived and did not want this to happen did not do enough to prevent it." and it became the first official but tentative acknowledgement of the German Protestant Church' involvement in the Nazi Regime crimes.

In West Germany, Action Reconciliation started its work in 1959 with the construction of a holiday camp for working-class families from Rotterdam in Ouddorp in the Netherlands. During the course of the 1960s, the organisation's projects, initially mainly construction projects, shifted their focus to voluntary services for peace in Germany and abroad. In 1968, the organisation changed its name to Action Reconciliation Service for Peace (ARSP). Since then, each year, ARSP has sent over 300 young people on two



week long summer working camps as well as 180 young Germans on 12 months voluntary service to 13 different countries, where they donate their time and work as signs of atonement for the crimes committed by Germans and to work toward reconciliation and peace, as well as fighting racism, discrimination and social exclusion.

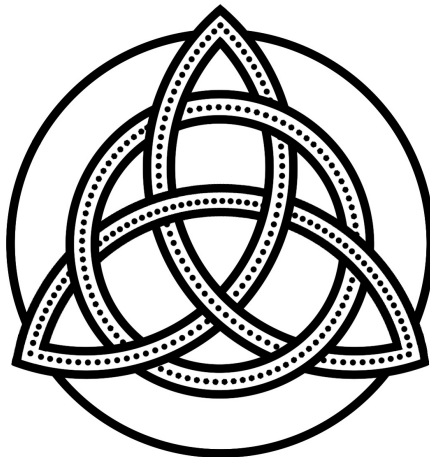
The volunteers work with Holocaust Survivors and other groups of people who would have been persecuted by the Nazis, for example Roma and Sinti, homeless people, homosexuals and people with disabilities. 74 years after the end of the Second World War and three generations later the question arises whether the work of ARSP is still necessary and whether the current generation of young Germans should still feel a collateral guilt for the actions of their great-grandparents. Georgia Bauer and Sophia Engel will share their experience of being German volunteers working with Holocaust survivors in the UK and why they believe doing a voluntary peace service is more important today than it has ever been, especially given the changing political landscape in Europe.

Action Reconciliation Service for Peace



Pfarrerin Sabrina Gröschel

19/5/19.



Lunch Club Dates- Summer 2019

June 6th Exeter College

July 4th

August 1st

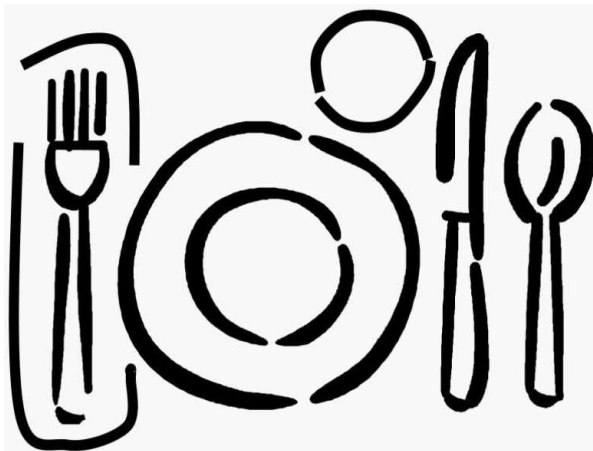
September 5th

All on a Thursday at 12 noon at The Farmers' Union apart from Exeter College's @34 Restaurant on June 6th.



Do join us for a tasty and reasonably priced meal with friends from St David's and St Michael's.

Details and booking sheets can be found at the back of both churches. Please contact Sue Wilson on 01392 437571 if you have any questions.



St. David's Singers sing for Hospiscare

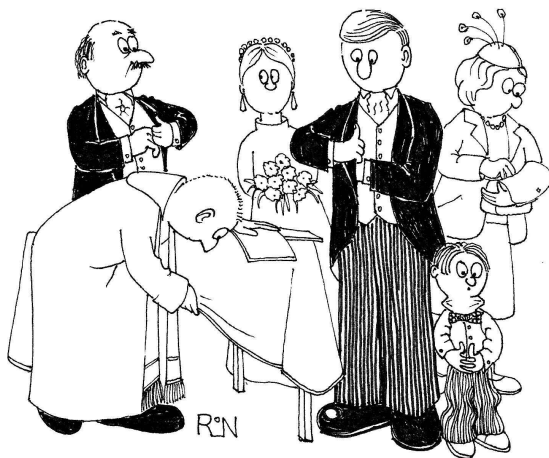
St David's Singers choir was formed by Sylvia Pritchard when she was organist and choir mistress of St David's Church in the early 1970s. The founder members were members of the church choir and friends. Sylvia directed the choir until Autumn 1994 when the baton was passed to Mark Perry. In those early days we had many a concert and musical evening at the church, more often than not to raise money for a church project, including the refurbishment of the organ.

The choir consists of about 30 singers who enjoy singing challenging music from a wide range of composers, periods and styles. We sing sacred and secular music, normally a cappella, in and around Devon, usually for charities.

We are thrilled to be returning to St David's, although only a couple of founder members remain, and are delighted to offer our services to raise money for Hospiscare, such a great local charity. We do hope you will join us for an evening of easy listening and perhaps a glass of wine on June 15th at 7.30pm

Nicky Hobbs

20.05.2019



*There was a hold up while they looked
for the pen*

You are invited to

Music for a Summer's Evening

The St David's Singers return to St David's

Saturday, 15 June 2019 7:30pm

Tickets from 01392 688020 or on the door

**St David's Church, Queen's Terrace,
Exeter EX4 4HR**



Because every day matters

www.hospiscare.co.uk

Registered charity no: 297798



PILGRIMAGE TO SICILY

Led by Bishop Martin Shaw

Tuesday 10th to Saturday 21st September 2019

- The pilgrimage will be travelling to and from Bristol airport.
- The cost is £1699.
- Extra single room supplement of £434.

Sicily is the largest and most populated island in the Mediterranean. Lying close to the mainland of Italy and just 90 miles from the African coastline, it retains Arab as well as Greek and Roman influences in its architecture and culture. Sicily is dominated by the dramatic landscapes around Mount Etna, Europe's most active volcano.

Our pilgrimage will include tastes of the birth of Christianity in the Western World, beginning with St Paul and the architectural story of Christianity's artistic relationship with the Arab world.

The pilgrimage will include visits to Catania, Syracuse, Palermo, Cefalu, Monreale. There will be plenty of free time and opportunities to enjoy the local cuisine.

For further detail please contact Martin and Elspeth Shaw either by email:

amartinshaw@gmail.com

or telephone

07980 191251

or

01392 663511

To book, contact Pax Travel:

Pax Travel

2ND FLOOR ,102 BLUNDELL ST
LONDON

N7 9BL

TELEPHONE: 020 7485 3003

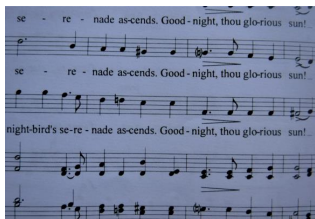
E-mail: info@paxtravel.co.uk



SUNDAY 30TH JUNE

Exeter Chorale Summer Concert

Madrigals & Part Songs



Sunday 30th
June
4.30pm

St Michael & All
Angels Church,
Mount Dinham,
Exeter
EX4 4EB

Directed by
John Draisey

£10 (children
free)

Ticket includes
home made
refreshments

BENEFIT CONCERTS

MUSIC FOR PALESTINE

'Music enriches the lives of those who make it and those who hear it. Music builds bridges between people.'

Two benefit concerts will be held in support of the **Edward Said Music Programs** for youth in Palestine. The musicians are graduates and performed with **Nigel Kennedy** and the **Palestine Strings** at the **BBC Proms**.

Programme will consist of piano quartets by Mozart and Mahler, string quartet and Arabic folk music composed for ensemble.

Exceptionally gifted, the musicians are presently continuing their studies at Music Conservatories in the UK supported by **PALMUSIC**, a charitable organization based in London with links to the **Edward Said Music Conservatory**.



IYAD SUGHAYER – PIANO



LOURDINA BABOUN



OMAR SAAD – VIOLA



TIBAH SAAD – CELLO, VOICE

FRIDAY 28TH JUNE
at
**CREDITON CONGREGATIONAL
CHURCH, HIGH ST., CREDITON**

7:00pm*

*** DOORS OPEN 6:30 PM**

With the support of
The Music Makers'

Tickets available from:

- <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/date/649143>
- Crediton Community Bookshop, High Street, Crediton EX17 3AH
- At the door

Adult £10 Child (16 and under) £5

For more information please contact: Joy Moore joyemoore40@gmail.com

SATURDAY 29TH JUNE
at
**ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH
MOUNT DINHAM, EXETER**

7:00pm

With the support of
Reverend Nigel Guthrie

Tickets available from:

- <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/date/649069>
- At the door

♪ French Favourites at Four ♪

"Duo Lírico"

Carina Smith-Violin Alex Wilson-Piano



Sunday 16th June 2019 4pm

St. Michael and All Angel's Church,

Mount Dínham, Exeter

Franck-----Faure-----Ravel



*Tickets on the door £10 (under 18's free)
to include Tea and Carina's fruity flapjack*

"Duo Lírico" perform lyrical music for any occasion

alexwilsonpianist.com



EXETER SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

with the combined choirs of Exeter Philharmonic Choir,
University Chapel Choir & St David's Singers

THE DREAM OF GERONTIUS

EDWARD ELGAR

Tenor: **Thomas Hobbs**

Mezzo Soprano: **Madeleine Shaw**

Bass: **Tim Murfin**

Conductor: **Brian Northcott**

Exeter Cathedral

7.30pm

6 July 2019

Tickets from Exeter Visitor
Information (01392 665700)
or through our website



CliftonEmerydesign



Supporting
The Lord Mayor's Charity

St David's Church[®]
Exeter
Heritage Lottery Fund



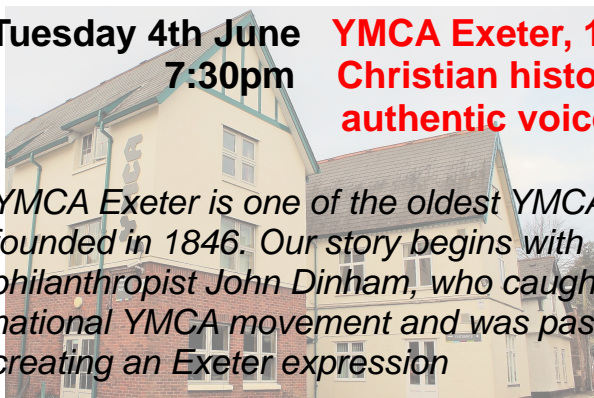
A series of lectures connected to St.
David's Church and area and to support
the Transformation Project



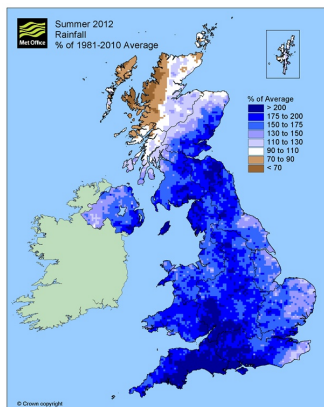
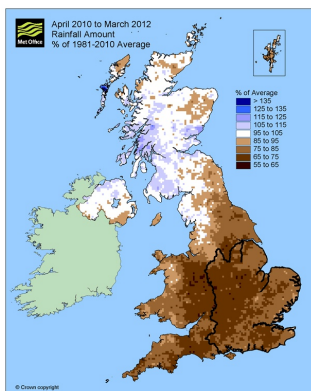
LOTTERY FUNDED

Tuesday 4th June 7:30pm **YMCA Exeter, 173 years of
Christian history, told in
authentic voices**

YMCA Exeter is one of the oldest YMCAs in the world, founded in 1846. Our story begins with local Exeter philanthropist John Dinham, who caught the vision of the national YMCA movement and was passionate about creating an Exeter expression



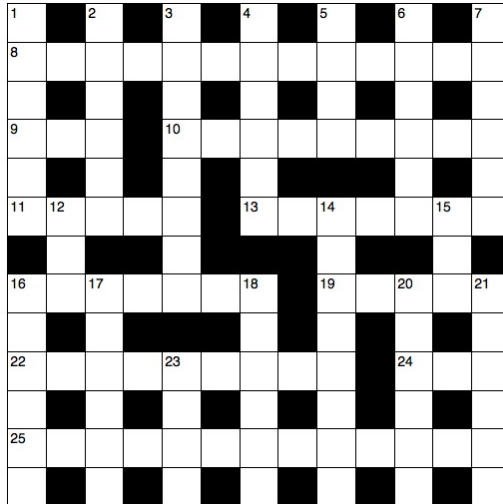
Dr Tom Browne



Tuesday 18th June 7:30pm **Can we blame the weather &
climate for the church cracks?**

Dr Clive Wilson, Met Office

June crossword



Across

8 Laban complained he had not been allowed to kiss them when Jacob fled with his family (Genesis 31:28) (13)

9 In favour of (3)

10 'The child's father and mother — at what was said about him' (Luke 2:33) (9)

11 Swagger (Psalm 12:8) (5)

13 'Terrors — him on every side and dog his every step' (Job 18:11) (7)

16 Bay bits (anag.) (7)

19 Preach, address an audience, speak in public (5)

22 Holy Communion (9)

24 'On their way to — out the land, Joshua instructed them, "Go and make a survey of the land"' (Joshua 18:8) (3)

25 Joseph advised Pharaoh to appoint these to administer his grain storage plan (Genesis 41:34) (13)

Down

1 'Assyria's pride will be brought down and — sceptre will pass away' (Zechariah 10:11) (6)

- 2 'And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in — with God and men' (Luke 2:52) (6)
- 3 The descendants of Esau (Genesis 36:9) (8)
- 4 The components of the crown that Jesus was made to wear before his crucifixion (John 19:2) (6)
- 5 Colour of cloth which was to cover holy objects in the tabernacle when moving camp (Numbers 4:6–12) (4)
- 6 One of the gold articles plundered from the Midianites offered to the Lord by the Israelite army 'to make atonement' (Numbers 31:50) (6)
- 7 'The fathers have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set — ' (Jeremiah 31:29) (2,4)
- 12 Ate (anag.) (3)
- 14 'We ourselves... groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our — as sons' (Romans 8:23) (8)
- 15 Abram's nephew (Genesis 14:12) (3)
- 16 Rupture (Job 30:14) (6)
- 17 'Yet to all who received him... he gave the right to — children of God' (John 1:12) (6)
- 18 'I... asked him the true meaning of all — . — he told me and gave me the interpretation of these things' (Daniel 7:16) (4,2)
- 20 Military units (Exodus 14:20) (6)
- 21 'Joseph her husband was a righteous man and did not want to — her to public disgrace' (Matthew 1:19) (6)
- 23 Diva (anag.) (4)

June Sudoku - Medium

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

Days of Note - June

4th June St Petroc, the founder of Padstow

If you are going to Cornwall this summer in search of peace and quiet, Petroc is the saint for you. Especially if you find Padstow a bit too crowded for your liking! He would have sympathised.

This 6th century abbot is Cornwall's most famous saint. Petroc set sail from South Wales, landed at Haylemouth, and founded a monastery at Lanwethinoc – now called Padstow, after him (Petroc's Stow).



Stained Glass window at Truro

Padstow must have been popular even in those days, because about 30 years later Petroc, in search of some peace and quiet, moved on to build another monastery at Little Petherick (Nanceventon). Here he must have decided to try some 6th century equivalent of 'Fresh Expressions', because he engaged with his local community by building a mill and a chapel.

In time, Petroc began feeling crowded again. So he tramped off to the remote wilds of Bodmin Moor, where he lived as a hermit – until some 12 monks turned up to join him. Firmly, Petroc kept them all housed in a monastery on a hilltop, while he enjoyed his private space in a cell by the river.

But even here Petroc was not alone. One day a terrified stag came rushing through the woods, pursued by the hunt. Petroc flung open the door of his cell, and the panting animal took refuge. When the huntsmen arrived on the scene, they did not dare to argue with the famous holy man, and went their way. The stag's gratitude made him tame, and Petroc would come to be portrayed with a stag as his special emblem.

Petroc was buried in the monastery in Padstow but in c.1000 his shrine and relics, including his staff and bell, were translated to Bodmin. Here they have stayed ever since, except for a short, unplanned trip to Brittany in 1177, when they were stolen and carted off by a naughty Canon of the Church. Henry II intervened, and everything but a rib of Petroc was eventually returned.

6th June St 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.

9th June Not a Ghost but a Gift

By Canon David Winter

We used to call it Whitsun - White Sunday because long ago children marched to church in white on that day. No processions nowadays, and we’ve even changed its name. It’s now ‘Pentecost’, which is more accurate but needs explaining.

This year Whitsun/Pentecost is on Sunday June 9th. Pentecost marks a vital event in Christian history. It is a celebrated 50 days after Easter. On the year Jesus was crucified (which took place at the Passover), the remnant of His followers, just 120 of them, were together in an upper room in Jerusalem. They were afraid to show their faces in case the authorities arrested them. But on the day of Passover they had an amazing collective experience.

They described it in terms of wind and fire, a great surge of spiritual energy and confidence. Afraid no longer they burst out on to the streets where crowds were gathering for the festival, led by Peter they began to tell them about Jesus and His resurrection. As they did so, although many of the people in the crowd were foreigners who spoke other languages, everyone heard them in their own tongue. Peter told them that what they were seeing was the fulfilment of an old prophecy when God would pour out His Spirit on the human race, men and women, young and old.



As a result of His words and the extraordinary spectacle, 3000 people believed and were baptized in the name of Jesus. They were the nucleus of what in 100 years would be a Church that would turn history upside down. For Christians Pentecost is in effect the birthday of the Church.

I realise many people find the whole idea of the Holy Spirit mysterious and elusive. It wasn't helped by the earlier title 'Holy Ghost'. The spirit is not spiritually a 'ghost' but a precious gift.

13th June Antony of Padua, friend of St Francis of Assisi

Antony of Padua knew St Francis of Assisi. Both men were true followers of Christ in a time of great religious confusion and social turmoil.

Like Francis, Antony (1193 – 1231) was born into a wealthy family. Antony's father was a nobleman of Lisbon, Portugal, who sent his son at 16

to study the Bible at Coimbra. It was important study: the early 13th century was a time of many heresies, and also when the Christians of Portugal and Spain felt threatened by the Moors. When in 1220 Antony heard of the martyrdom of several Franciscan friars in Morocco, he sailed to Ceuta, a Spanish city beside Morocco, to take their place. But ill-health soon forced him to return home.

A failed plan is not always a disaster in our lives. It was soon apparent that God had other work for Antony to do. His superiors sent him to take part in the General Chapter of Assisi in 1221, where he met St Francis of Assisi. Francis was so impressed with Antony that he sent him to teach theology to the friars at Bologna and Padua, and later at Montpelier, Toulouse and Arles; where Antony earned the name 'the hammer of heretics'.

Antony was elected as Provincial of northern Italy in 1227, and spent hard weeks on the roads each year, visiting the friaries under his charge. Antony also wrote 'Sermons for Sunday', which became greatly loved. When he was sent to Rome to discuss the Rule and the Testament of Francis, his preaching at the papal court was hailed as a 'jewel case of the Bible'. But Antony's real heart was as a Christian pastor: he spent the final months of his life at Padua, preaching, hearing confessions and helping poor debtors to pay their debts.

His preaching was so popular that Antony filled the market places with listeners.

The cult of Antony has always been strong. He seems to have been an outstanding representative of the Franciscan pre-scholastic period, very close in spirit and outlook to Francis himself. The most usual representations of Antony show him with a book and a lily, and the infant Jesus. Antony's care for the poor is remembered by the 19th century's charity: Saint Antony's Bread, which devoted itself to feeding the poor.

15th June Evelyn Underhill, mystical writer of the 20th century

For anyone interested in Christian mysticism, Evelyn Underhill may be a good place to begin. She died on 10th June 1941 after a life full of remarkable achievements: author of more than 30 books that explored the intersection between the spiritual and the physical, the first woman ever to lecture to the CofE clergy, the first woman to conduct spiritual retreats for the Church, the first woman to establish ecumenical links

between churches, and one of the first women theologians to lecture in English universities. Evelyn was also an award-winning bookbinder.

Born in 1875, the daughter of a barrister from Wolverhampton, and then wife to a childhood friend, also a barrister, Evelyn moved in cultured, educated circles, and travelled widely each summer along the Mediterranean – both her father and husband were keen yachting enthusiasts.

Evelyn's inner, spiritual journey was more complex: from agnosticism to theism, on to Neoplatonism and then Roman Catholicism she went, until in 1921 she became an Anglican - with a later fascination for the Greek Orthodox church. Her daily life was one of reading, writing, and doing various forms of religious work, from visiting the poor to counselling people in trouble.

Her spiritual search began in childhood, after a number of "abrupt experiences of the peaceful, undifferentiated plane of reality—like the 'still desert' of the mystic—in which there was no multiplicity nor need of explanation". Trying to understand these mystical experiences sparked her passion and lifelong quest.

Evelyn became one of the most widely read writers on mysticism in the first half of the 20th century. Her greatest book, *Mysticism: A Study of the Nature and Development of Man's Spiritual Consciousness*, was published in 1911, and is romantic, engaged, and theoretical rather than historical or scientific. While writing it she came into contact with Baron Friedrich von Hugel, who became her spiritual mentor for many years. He gradually steered her away from mysticism and towards a more Christocentric view of reality.

During World War I Evelyn worked in naval intelligence, but in later years became a Christian pacifist.

24th June John the Baptist, preparing the way for the Messiah

John the Baptist is famous for baptising Jesus, and for losing his head to a woman.

He was born to Zechariah, a Temple priest, and Elizabeth, who was a cousin of Mary, the mother of Jesus. John was born when his mother was advanced in years, and after the foretelling of his birth and the choice of

his name by an angel, we hear nothing more of him until he began his mission of preaching and baptising in the river Jordan c27.

John was a lot like an Old Testament prophet: he lived simply on locusts and honey in the wilderness, and his message was one of repentance and preparation for the coming of the Messiah and His Kingdom. He went on to baptise Jesus, at Jesus' firm request.

When John went on to denounce the incestuous union of Herod Antipas with his niece and brother's wife, Herodias, he was imprisoned and eventually beheaded at the demand of Salome, Herodias' daughter.

John is the only saint to be remembered three times in the Christian calendar, in commemoration of his conception, his birth (June 24), and his martyrdom. When John saw Jesus he said that Jesus was the "Lamb of God", and he is the only person to use this expression of Jesus. In art John is often depicted carrying a lamb, or with a lamb near him.



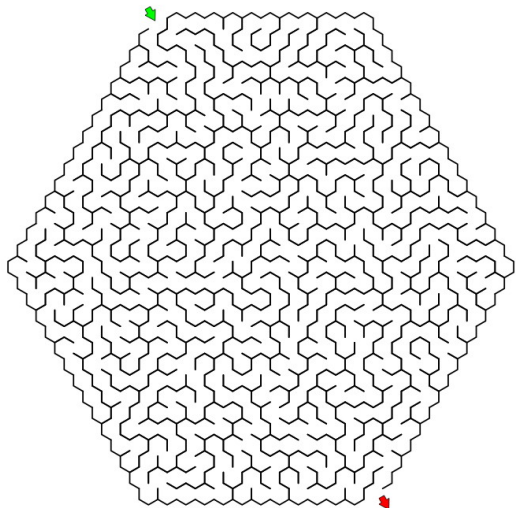
Hieronymus_Bosch - Saint John the Baptist in the Desert

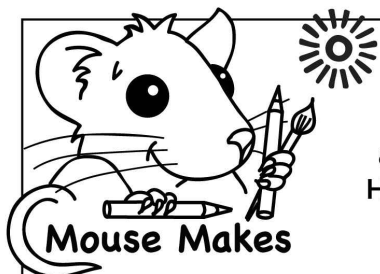
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e	g	l	o	w	e	r	e	d	i	k	s	h

thinking	man	forgive
Capernaum	lowered	wrong
friends	thoughts	anything
streets	Pharisees	praising
crowd	sins	knew
paralysed	impressed	never
walk	Jesus	mat
house	authority	home

Maze





Mouse Makes

"May the *grace* of
the Lord **JESUS CHRIST**
and the *love* of **GOD**
and the fellowship of the
HOLY SPIRIT be with you."

2 Corinthians 13:13



A Trinity window
for you to colour



The Bible teaches us that God is three persons in one:
GOD = FATHER and SON and HOLY SPIRIT



Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in
Mt 2:1-12, Mk 9:1-8, Lk 5:17-26

The Pharisees had come to Jesus' home in Capernaum to make sure he wasn't breaking any of their religious rules...

So many came to hear Jesus speak that they filled his house...



and the streets outside.

Four men brought their paralysed friend to Jesus for healing



But the crowd wouldn't let them get close



so they climbed up to the roof and took off some tiles.

They lowered their friend down, right in front of Jesus



Jesus was so impressed by their faith, he said to the paralysed man



Your sins are forgiven.

The Pharisees were shocked!



Only God can forgive sins...so this fellow is insulting God!

But Jesus knew what they were thinking.



Why are you thinking such wrong thoughts?

Is it easier to say 'Your sins are forgiven' or 'Get up, take your mat, and walk'?



But I want you to know that I do have the authority to forgive sins...

Get up, take your mat and go home!



He got up, picked up his mat and walked home, praising God



The crowd was amazed...



We have never seen anything like this!

Puzzle solutions

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

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

The deadline for inclusion of articles for the July/August issue of New Leaves is *Thursday 20th June*

If you have images of any events of interest to the Parish community please send them to us. Any information and articles you'd like to submit for inclusion in future issues should be sent to the new editorial team at:

newleavesnews@gmail.com

Please send digital files via email 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.