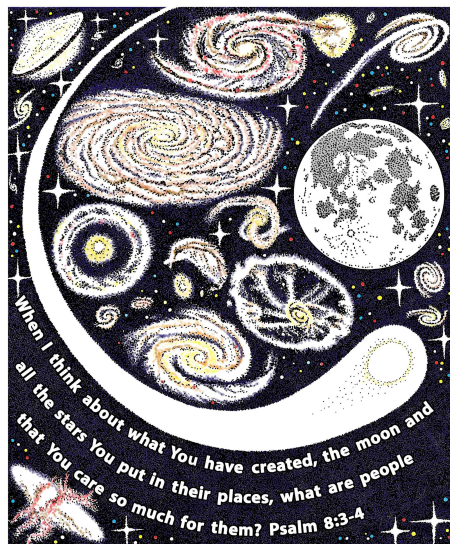


# New Leaves

November 2022



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

*Free*

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# 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](mailto:newleavesnews@gmail.com)**

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

Enjoy this month’s read.

**Although this magazine is free of charge voluntary contributions would  
be gratefully received. This can be done via the wall safes found close to  
the exit of the west and north doors. Alternatively you can give to a  
member of the editorial team, Bill Pattinson or Clive Wilson. Many  
thanks.**

We will welcome critical comments on the magazine

Editorial Team: Bill Pattinson and Clive Wilson

# New Leaves

## From the Vicarage – November 2022

### Looking to the Future of the Country

As I am writing this it appears that Rishi Sunak may be the only candidate to go forward to be leader of the Conservative Party and therefore our next Prime Minister. The past few weeks have been very unsettling for people around the country and really concerning for those trying to get mortgages or to afford rising bills. We now desperately need some stability so that the long-term problems we face, socially, economically and environmentally can be seriously and competently tackled.

Mr Sunak, if he does become Prime Minister, will be the first Hindu Prime Minister of this country. He took his oath as an MP in parliament on the Bhagavad Gita. It will be interesting to see what influence his faith might have on his approach to government. But in any event we should offer our prayers for him and his new government because, wherever we sit on the political spectrum, the challenges of the coming months and years are going to be daunting.

### Looking to the Future of the Parish

Following correspondence with us Bishop Robert has written to the parish reflecting on the journey of discernment that we have been on for the past year with the Archdeacon of Exeter, Andrew Beane. Bishop Robert's letter has already been shared with PCC members. Bishop Robert doesn't believe that it would be appropriate for St Michael's to become an independent parish at a time when the diocese is 'encouraging churches to collaborate, not separate'. He doesn't rule out other options such as becoming a Festival Church. But he does counsel us to bring the matter of the ministry of ordained women to the PCC for appropriate discussion as soon as possible. And as part of the process he has commended Canon Dr Mike Williams to work with us as facilitator. Mike will be meeting with our



Standing Committee early in November to agree parameters for his work with us and I would commend this process to your prayers. Some of you may know of Canon Mike Williams but I will include a short profile of him below this letter so you can know who is involved with us.

### **Some great October Events**

St Michael's Church hosted some great events in October. The first was a "Wellbeing Fair" on Saturday 8 October highlighting local mental health resources which we ran in conjunction with Devon Mental Health Recovery who run regular courses at St Michael's in djembe drumming, ukulele and singing. Patrick the miniature Shetland pony was a star and attracted interest and affection from all age groups. Patrick is involved in wellbeing work in Devon including at the Hospice in Torbay. The day was very well attended and much appreciated as well as being a good networking occasion.

We had two special services with St David's School. Firstly, on 13<sup>th</sup> October, a commissioning for our new school head Alison Bourne at which Deborah Leighton Plom, chair of our Local Governing Body, ceremonially handed the school keys to Alison. Pupils, staff and governors, and representative of the Diocesan Education Department, pledged to work with Alison to support her in providing education within a Christian ethos. It was especially good to have Dr Stuart Burgess, Mrs Bourne's father, with us who was a senior Methodist Minister and who offered a prayer for Alison and the school.

Then the next week on 20<sup>th</sup> October we had a Harvest Festival with all the school present, including the youngest pupils for whom it was their first formal visit to church. The children sang some uplifting harvest songs (including the Harvest Samba which you can find on YouTube if you want to get your foot tapping) and the top class told us all about the humble potato. A good number of parents attended and many gifts were brought to school for the Exeter Foodbank.

## Confirmation

We are delighted that The Bishop of Crediton will be coming to the parish to lead a confirmation service on Sunday 18 December at 9.30am. Later in the morning, at 11.30am, she will be commissioning Anna Chaplains in a Diocesan service also at St David's. Anna chaplains are those who are trained and commissioned to minister with elderly and potentially isolated people in their parishes. We hosted a similar service last year.

If you would like to be confirmed I will be offering some preparation sessions for adults during November. Please let me know soon if this is something you would like to explore.

## Some Dates for Your Diary

**Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> November – 6pm** Sung Requiem at St Michael's for All Soulside with music from Fauré's Requiem

**Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> November – 9.30am & 11am** Remembrance Sunday at both churches

**Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> November** – Last date for bringing along completed shoeboxes for Moldova to St David's. Visiting speaker at St David's Church, Bob Fretton from "Angel Tree"

**Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> December – 6pm** – Advent Procession at St Michael's Church

**Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> December - 9.30am** Confirmation Service with the Bishop of Crediton at St David's Church

**6pm** Carol Service followed by Mulled Wine at St David's Church

With every good wish and blessing

**Nigel**

## **A short biography of Canon Dr Mike Williams from the 3D coaching website**

Dr Mike D Williams started his career as an officer in the Royal Marines before moving into NHS management in 1986. He held numerous posts including being the Chief Executive of hospitals in Oxford and Taunton. From the NHS he moved to Exeter Business School where he researched and taught about leadership, complex organisations and how they influence patient safety. In parallel, since 1992, Mike has exercised a ministry as an Anglican Priest assisting in parishes. More recently he took on the role of Acting Dean at Exeter Cathedral in 2017 and then became Canon Treasurer until 2021. He now devotes his time to coaching work and helping leaders during periods of transition.

He has trained with 3D and Ashridge Management College in coaching, mentoring and organisational consulting. He coaches and mentors leaders and teams in the public sector, charities and the church



# Services & Events for St. Michael's - November 2022

Our thanks to all who have joined us in worship at St. Michael's during the October and special thanks to our visiting organists.

Thanks to Barry Mather for the organisation of the newspaper collections. Please continue to support this venture as it brings in an extra source of income.

At time of writing no further lectures are planned.

I am still looking for a for two or three people willing to read the first lesson on Sunday mornings in order to bring our reading team up to strength again – if you feel confident to try this, please see me or Fr. Nigel after service. It's not as daunting as you might think! Don't forget you are reading among friends and helping with our service to Almighty God, albeit in a small but nevertheless important way.

Below are our regular patterns of worship in Church and on-line:-

**Sundays: 11am Sung Mass & Sermon**

**First Sunday in the month: 6pm Evensong & Benediction (check regular notices for variations)**

**Wednesdays: "Tea and Toast" at 9.00am followed by Matins at 10.00am and Low Mass at 10.30am (during school terms – see weekly notices for other detail on this).**

Plainsong Vespers led by Dr. Richard Parker on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 6pm is public worship, also broadcast to

Friends of St. Michael's Facebook Group - details on the Church website

Choir rehearsal – this takes place immediately after Vespers on Tuesday evenings at 7pm. If you are interested in joining the choir please contact Tasha Goldsworth – Musical Director or speak to a choir member.

Services and events for late October and November are as follows -

Night of 29<sup>th</sup>/30<sup>th</sup> October – Return to Greenwich Mean Time (CLOCKS GO BACK ONE HOUR)

**Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> October – The Twentieth Sunday after Trinity – Also All Saint Day (Trs.)**

11.00am Sung Mass

Setting: Missa “O Quam Gloriosum” – *Victoria*

Motet: O Quam Gloriosum – *Victoria*

**Monday 1<sup>st</sup> November – All Saints Day**

**Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> November – All Souls Day**

**Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> November – Richard Hooker**

10.00am Matins

10.30am Low Mass

**Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> November – The Twenty-first Sunday after Trinity**

11.00am Sung Mass

Setting: Mass in the Dorian Mode – *Tallis*

Motet: View me Lord – *Lloyd*

6pm – All Souls Requiem Mass

Setting: Requiem – *Faure*

Motet: Ave Verum – *Byrd*

**Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> November**

10.00am Matins

10.30pm Low Mass

**Friday 11<sup>th</sup> November**

Armistice Day

Also St. Martin of Tours

**Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> November – The Twenty-**



### **second Sunday after Trinity**

Remembrance Sunday

11.00am Sung Mass

Setting: Missa Brevis – *Lotti*

Motet: For the Fallen – *Guest*

### **Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> November – Margaret of Scotland**

10.00am Matins

10.30am Low Mass

### **Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> November – Christ the King**

11.00am Sung Mass

Setting: Missa Aeterna Munera – *Palestrina*

Motet: Psalm 93, The Lord is King

### **Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> November – Clement, Martyr**

10.00am Matins

10.30am Low Mass

### **Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> November –**

#### **Advent Sunday**

11.00am Sung Mass

Setting: Mass in F – *Wood*

Motet: O Thou the Central Orb

– *Wood*



### **Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> November – St. Andrew, Apostle**

10.00am Matins

10.30am Low Mass

Looking ahead through Advent towards Christmas make a note of these two important services:

**Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> December at 6pm The Advent Procession in place of Evensong**

**Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> December at 11.30pm Midnight Mass**

On a personal note, looking through the list of commemorations for saints for November I noticed that on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> November Willibrord of York is

remembered. Although born in the north of England, the main part of his life was dedicated to his missionary work in Frisia and what is now northern Germany. He worked with a younger contemporary Boniface, who is known to most people in Devon! Willibrord founded a monastery in Echternach in Luxembourg, where he is buried. On one of my holidays to Luxembourg in the 1990s I visited this town, which is on the border with Germany, purely by chance. It is a lovely town with important Roman remains. The day of my visit coincided with a wonderful celebration – a dancing procession held in honour of Willibrord. I was amazed at the number of people taking part and the devotion and enthusiasm of all the folk present. It is something to be remembered. There are clips of this marvellous event on YouTube. Willibrord is a patron saint of The Netherlands.

### **The DRC Courses continue during for the Autumn/Christmas Term:**

Tuesday Noon - 2pm Ukulele for Your Recovery

3pm – 5pm Taking Your Recovery Further

Thursday 10am – Noon Yes, You Can Sing!

1pm – 3pm Introduction to Rhythms for Recovery with Djembe Drumming

3.30pm – 5.30pm Taking Recovery Further with African Djembe Drumming

Booklets about the DRC Courses are to be found in St. Michael's Church or you can find out more by looking on the website: or simply telephone EXETER (01392) 677067 (between 10am and 2pm Monday to Thursday).



## **Anthony Pugh – 22nd October, 2022**





# Readers and Leaders in Prayer at St David's for November 2022

## Sunday 6th November (3rd Sunday before Advent)

1st Reading: Job 19:23-27a  
2nd Reading: 2 Thessalonians 2:1-5,13-end  
Gospel Reading: Luke 20:27-38  
Preacher: Howard Friend Bible Reader: Gina Redman  
Prayer Leader: Alistair Macintosh

## Sunday 13th November (2nd before Advent/ Remembrance Sunday)

1st Reading: Malachi 4:1-2a  
2nd Reading: 2 Thessalonians 3:6-13  
Gospel Reading: Luke 21:5-19  
Preacher: Bible Reader: Alice Francis  
Leader in Prayer: Chris Gill



## Sunday 20th November (Sunday next before Advent/Christ the King)

1st Reading: Jeremiah 23:1-6  
2nd Reading: Colossians 1:11-20  
Gospel Reading: Luke 23:33-43  
Preacher: Charlotte Townsend Bible Reader: Cathy Knowles  
Leader in Prayer: Bill Pattinson

## Sunday 27th November (Advent Sunday)

1st Reading: Isaiah 2:1-5  
2nd Reading: Romans 13:11-end  
Gospel Reading: Matthew 24:36-44  
Preacher: Jonathan Draper Bible Reader: Sarah Rimmington  
Prayer Leader: Helena Walker



## Sunday 4th December (1st Sunday in Advent)

1st Reading: Isaiah 11:1-10  
2nd Reading: Romans 15:4-13  
Gospel Reading: Matthew 3:1-12  
Preacher: Bible Reader: Keith Postlethwaite  
Prayer Leader: Robert Mitchell

# **The Gathering: Kids**

It took some doing to get a group of kids to TG:K (the Gathering: Kids), starting with plugs in assemblies at local schools, at church, messages sent through church notices and to families through schools, then eventually chasing down the parents I had numbers/emails/Facebook/WhatsApp/etc. details for from conversations at the school gate and through our afterschool club and so on. But we managed to book 8 children, a parent helper, a TA I'm trying to recruit to help lead kids work at Thrive, and myself to attend this first ever TGK, hosted at Belmont Chapel in central Exeter and run by the excellent SWYM (South West Youth Ministries).

The time started with a block of lively worship with action moves, then a kid-friendly sermon on Zacchaeus which majored on the way that people tried to block Zacchaeus from seeing Jesus, but he persevered. This was followed by a reflective activity pondering the things that block us from Jesus, and an opportunity to repent of these blocks, symbolically tying a ribbon to a mesh thrown over a cross.

There was then a diverse time of snacks and drinks, paper aeroplane prayers (these are a thing), conker mindfulness quiet zone, craft with painted crosses, finger painting, and a reflective zone with water, which all culminated in a moving testimony time where kids and leaders shared what God had been doing for them, speaking for example about the electrifying impact of gathering together so many of us from the region for bible, prayer, and worship. The day then finished with a genuinely awesome block of sung praise where kids were dancing like it was the best rock or pop concert in the festival year! With two or three hundred young people present, the day was expertly run by SWYM, and the kids I took are already telling their friends to come to the next session in February – and to come to afterschool club and church in the meantime. And my prospective kids work leader TA is considering the professional development days and other training offered very reasonably by SWYM!

**Ash Leighton-Plom**

October 2022



# Jemima in Brazil 2

Please find below Jemima's letter highlighting her second month's activities in Brazil. Do also take time to watch her YouTube video

Here's the link to the second video highlights:

<https://youtu.be/ugUTS8MeiDo>

Two months in Brazil!

So here I am two months in, still surviving, on the way to thriving! September has really been a time of settling in and finding my inroads, adjusting to routines and connecting with friends.

Thank you for everyone who has been praying for my Portuguese! The Flatman family (British missionaries who live down the road) spent 3 weeks back in England so I spoke only in Portuguese and I would say that I'm understanding about 10x better - thanks be to God! I was even reported to have spoken in Portuguese while sleeping so I guess I'm bilingual ;)

I think we think of the word "missionary" as someone going to help and grow gods work but honestly this experience has really been a huge time of growth for me. I am hugely struck by peoples zeal for evangelism, hunger for theology and radical living for the gospel regardless of circumstances. So yes, I guess you could say that I'm feeling quite convicted about the ways I have obviously fallen short in this regard.

So anyway, my Ps for prayer for this month (that we are now more than halfway through whoopsie) are as follows:

Peace: please pray that I may be filled with God's peace. I'm a worrier and an overthinker and sometimes in the busier weeks I have a lot weighing on my mind.

Project: please pray for the project, for the safety and spiritual development of the children. Pray that I might be continually courageous to try new things with them and talk more about Jesus!

Politics: as many of you might know we are deep in election season here in Brazil and the second round of elections are at the end of this month. Please pray for Brazil and for safety in this very dividing climate.

I think that's all for now!!!

Much love,



**Jemima**

# Practical Suggestions for Threefold Society (3F)

We live in times of great confusion and uncertainty. I find that in our social arrangements 3F alone offers clarity, rationality and long-term practicality. Here are some suggestions as to how we might implement it.

First of all read about 3F : Google, Wikipedia, Read books and New View Magazine and articles.

## **Political Area**

End whipping in the House of Commons – Special Interest Groups control political life by manipulating party politics. Do not vote for either of the main parties.

End First-Past-The-Post voting in General Elections. Government should be for the largest coalition. We need to elucidate the most democratic form of proportional representation.

## **Economic Area**

Partnerisation – companies and business associations should be owned and run exclusively by the stakeholders and workforce. No investors solely with an interest in profits.

For one group to get something 'on the cheap' means that another group is being exploited. Don't aim to get a bargain unless absolutely sure nobody is being exploited.

Discriminatory Consumerism – only buy what you need. Use ethical organisations as far as possible. Buy only the best. The best is the cheapest in the long run. With the best you know that it has not been made by sweated or child labour – if you can't buy the best, buy the good. This should be organic and other ways sustainable. Buy organic food and sustainable clothing. Also Fairtrade.

## **Cultural Area**

a) All sectors need to be professionalised ie. Freed from interference

by political interests or big business. Teachers should be allowed to run schools, and doctors, nurses and carers should run health and care establishments.

b) As parents, educate largely at home or independently. Engage with staff at state-run schools and colleges. As patients, question and largely refuse every product of the drugs industry. Explore healthy living and complementary and alternative therapies.

(There is a fundamental social law which holds that the wellbeing of a community will be greater the more people work for others and not for themselves. And likewise when what they need comes from others, rather than directly from their own efforts.)

(Remember that, when writing to an MP, you are not writing one letter but one hundred. That is the ratio MPs hold exists between actually-written letters and nearly-written letters. Put another way: for every letter the MP receives expressing concern about a particular issue the MP considers there are a hundred more people who nearly got round to doing so.)



**John Hammond – October 2022**



*...love the new notice board, Vicar...  
...just not quite so sure about the wording...*

# **Green Matters**

## **-one year on from Glasgow - another COP**

It hardly seems a year ago that much attention was focused on the UK hosting the COP26 in Glasgow. Cop27 will be held in Sharm El-Sheikh in Egypt, from Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> to Friday 18<sup>th</sup> November. President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi welcoming message reminds us of the urgent need for action:

“The hosting of COP27 in the green city of Sharm El-Sheikh this year marks the 30th anniversary of the adoption of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. In the thirty years since, the world has come a long way in the fight against climate change and its negative impacts on our planet; we are now able to better understand the science behind climate change, better assess its impacts, and better develop tools to address its causes and consequences.

Thirty years and twenty-six COPs later, we now have a much clearer understanding of the extent of the potential climate crisis and what needs to be done to address it effectively. The science is there and clearly shows the urgency with which we must act regarding rapidly reducing emissions of greenhouse gases, taking necessary steps to assist those in need of support to adapt to the negative impacts of climate change, and finding the appropriate formula that would ensure the availability of requisite means of implementation that are indispensable for developing countries in making their contributions to this global effort, especially in the midst of the successive international crises, including the ongoing food security crisis exacerbated by climate change, desertification and water scarcity, especially in Africa that suffers the most impacts.”

I think it's a pity that the UK is not allowing it's head of state to attend. Before he became King Charles he had an admirable record of engagement in environmental and climate matters and his presence would have reinforced the UK's commitment to effective action to mitigate and reduce man-made climate change. Today we have learnt that Prime Minister Rishi Sunak also does not intend to go, citing domestic problems although Alok Sharma as current COP president will.

Today the UN has produced a report on the Global Emissions of greenhouse



gases and the actions taken since COP26. Worryingly it says that there is “no creditable pathway” to keep the rise in global temperature to below the threshold target of 1.5C. It also reports that since COP26 the carbon reduction plans of governments have been “woefully inadequate”. The UN Secretary General, Antonio Guterres, has urged the world to re-focus on climate change. The disruption of the energy markets caused by the Ukraine war has lead to short term attention on alternative supplies of fossil fuels rather than a long term solution to the climate emergency. Let us hope that COP 27 produces a renewed commitment from world leaders to tackle the issue and commit to reduced emissions and compensating finance to those countries worst affected already by climate change. Prof Johan Rockström, director of the Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research, says "It's a really bleak moment, not only because of the reports showing that emissions are still rising, so we're not delivering on either the Paris or Glasgow climate agreements, but we also have so much scientific evidence that we are very, very close to irreversible changes – we're coming closer to tipping points. Despite the fact that the situation is depressing and very challenging, I would strongly advise everyone to act in business or policy or society or science. The deeper we fall into the dark abyss of risk, the more we have to make efforts to climb out of that hole. It's not as if we don't know what to do – it's rather that we're not doing what is necessary." As citizens we too all need to look at what we do and how we can lessen our own impacts by changes in lifestyle and activities.



**Clive Wilson**

27 October 2022



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27 OCT 2022 | PRESS RELEASE | CLIMATE ACTION

## Inadequate progress on climate action makes rapid transformation of societies only option - UNEP



# Green Links- November 2022

## **Queen's Green Canopy** continues

The Queen's Green Canopy is a tree planting initiative which was launched during the Platinum Jubilee 2022. The initiative invited people in the UK to plant a tree to mark the jubilee, from churches, schools, scouts and girl guides, villages and more. Following the death of Queen Elizabeth II, The Queen's Green Canopy initiative will be extended until the end of March 2023. This gives people the opportunity to now plant trees in memory of Queen Elizabeth II.

To get involved, please see further details on

[The Queen's Green Canopy website.](#)

The **Devon Local Nature Partnership** is a collaboration of all those working to tackle the Ecological Emergency and develop a healthy nature recovery network across Devon for wildlife, communities and business.

<https://www.devonlnp.org.uk/>

**Devon Wildlife Trust** is 60 years old this year.

<https://www.devonwildlifetrust.org/events>

## **Exeter Climate Hub**

Opened to the public on Tuesday 21st October in Bedford Street

<https://climateactionhubexeter.net/>

## **New Exeter Plan: Excellent Chance to have an input on Climate Change**

Consultation is open until 5th December 2022

<https://exeter.gov.uk/planning-services/planning-policy/new-exeter-plan/>

List of dates of Public Consultations

<https://exeter.gov.uk/planning-services/planning-policy/new-exeter-plan/public-exhibitions/>

**Exeter Climate Café** every Wednesday upstairs at the Phoenix 10.30am-12.30pm. A space to discuss thoughts and feelings around climate.  
<https://www.exeterclimatecafe.org/>

### **Green Futures**

Thursday 24th and Tuesday 29th November – 6.30pm – 8.30pm – Online  
Final two events in a series of events by Green Futures – University of Exeter in October and November.  
<https://greenfutures.exeter.ac.uk/latest-events/>

**Exeter Greenpeace Group** Sunday 20th November – 2pm – 4pm – Exeter Community Centre

Exeter Greenpeace group came to help with our Green Event in September, providing invaluable assistance in the kitchen.

They will be showing a new Greenpeace short film documenting the impact of the cost of living crisis and showing how immediate investment in green energy could help alleviate people out of poverty, protect against future energy prices and combat the climate crisis. The screening will be followed by a discussion and presentation.

<https://greenwire.greenpeace.org.uk/s/event/a2X4H000000opcuUAA/exeter-the-cost-of-living-and-climate-crisis-what-can-we-do?>

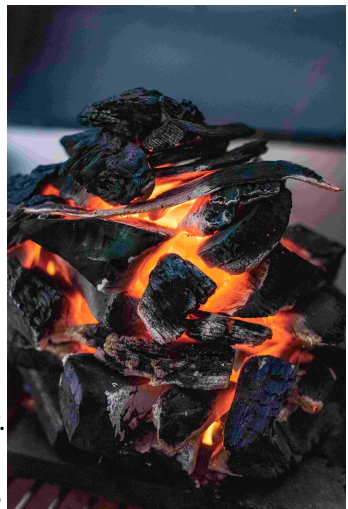


# Early years teaching...

I began my teaching career in February 1945 and retired in July/August 1984. As you can imagine, conditions changed, immensely. In 1945 supplies were in short supply. In one of the schools we used blackboards and chalk in reception class, and, even individual trays of sand to practise letters. You can guess what the cleaners said as they swept up later. When I retired, computers were being introduced. No more making sum cards for hours.

Some of the schools I worked in were old and shabby. Some of the staff were really eccentric. One in particular, in a small Midlands town would horrify present day education experts. The staff consisted of two elderly ladies and three thirty-something married women. When I joined the head teacher had been absent for some months. The deputy head was Miss A, a thin angular lady who ran the reception class. This was a dark room with desks on sort of terraces of steps. We would all go into assembly, run by Miss A. who played piano long after the proper time, so that it would be playtime. This, too, would go on past the appointed time so it was difficult to fit in much teaching. Miss A. would go into the staffroom at 12 noon and sit with a cup of tea until almost 1pm. The afternoon session began then and she would go home and return after 2.

When Miss G. the head took over, it was daggers at dawn – they disliked each other. Miss G. was small and round with a strong likeness to Mrs Noah. She would take her cello into the playground and play it while the children ran around. She would carry hard boiled eggs or pieces of cucumber in her pocket and nibble them as she walked around. She would buy fish and chips to eat next. The staffroom and Miss G.'s room had open fires with a bucket of coal. When her coal ran out she would help herself to the staffroom supply. Whereupon, Miss A. would be seen walking along the corridor with a shovelful of hot coals



to return to the staffroom. Miss G. would make locals let her rent a room. Once, when one lady refused, Miss G. bought a bed and moved into her office. On Friday afternoons she would do some laundry, draping it along



the fireguard. Unfortunately, an unexpected visitor called one Friday and a member of staff was seen rushing along the corridor with an armful of Miss G.'s unmentionables. Us young members of staff and parents would go to see the Director of Education, but we were told that there was little he could do and the ladies would be retiring soon.

I was thankful to leave that establishment and transfer to a more normal (if there is such a place) school. But I sometimes wonder what happened next. Are such eccentricities around now? I doubt it. I like to think that the children made up for their earlier experiences in junior school. I must say it was a one-off , although life in school was never boring and , thankfully, children survive.



**Eileen Jarman**

Oct 5th 2022

# Cr2ee – Christian response to Eastern Europe

## Christmas Shoe Boxes

As a church we have been supporting Cr2ee for a good few years and we are doing so again this year with our **CHRISTMAS SHOE BOXES**.

Moldova is at breaking point after taking in more than 300,000 Ukrainian refugees. The shoeboxes could be the only present the Moldovan Children receive, and although Ukraine was wealthier, the refugees have lost everything and many are totally reliant for support.

There are many children who have very little to look forward to. We can give them memories that will stay with them throughout their lives by filling a shoe box with lovely new things.

These are lovely people born into a life of grinding poverty. These Christmas boxes will make them feel loved and cared for.

Details of boxes and content can be picked up at the back of St David's church.



**Ann Watts**  
22Oct 2022



# Angel Tree

Our collection for Angel Tree will be held on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> November. Ruth and Bob Fretton the Prison Fellowship members who are responsible for distributing the money locally will be here to talk to us during the service.

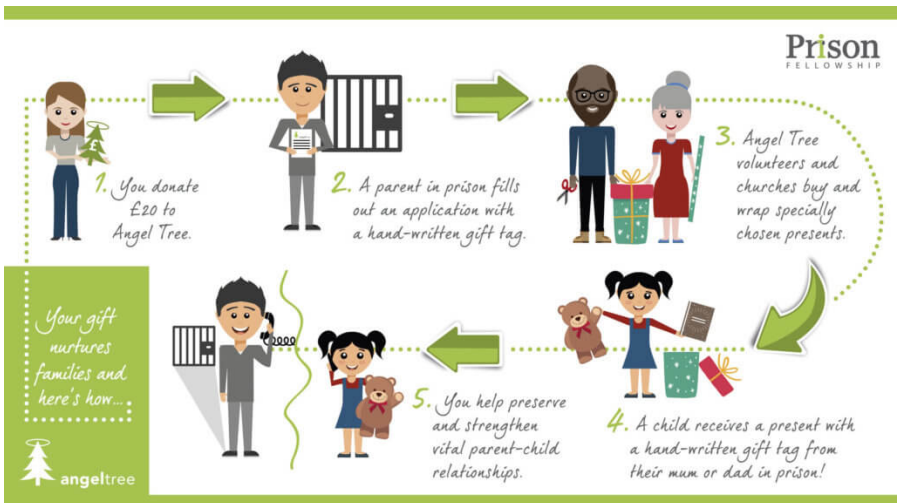
At St Davids we have been involved since 2003, helping prisoners give Christmas presents to their children. It is about enabling families to keep in touch, reassuring children that their father cares for them and helping to reduce reoffending.

If you are unable to attend the service, I can receive moneys any time before the 20<sup>th</sup> November. Cheques should be made payable to Prison Fellowship Angel Tree.

Thank you all



**Margaret Grimsey**





FAVOURITE ANTHEMS

—  
**REQUIEM**  
BY NIGEL WALSH

**Musical Director: Andrew Daldorph**

---

**Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> November 2022**

**7:30pm**

**St Andrew's Church, Tiverton**

Tickets available from choir members or on the door

£10 Adults

Free if in full time education

Further information 01884 253494

Church pews: feel free to bring a cushion!



**East Devon Choral Society**

Registered Charity No.1090156





EXETER UNIVERSITY CHORAL SOCIETY  
WITH EXETER UNIVERSITY SYMPHONY  
ORCHESTRA PRESENT

---

# THE CREATION- HAYDN

CONDUCTED BY MICHAEL GRAHAM

---

NOVEMBER 19TH, 2022 • 7 PM  
ST DAVID'S CHURCH, EXETER

TICKETS: £15 GENERAL, £10 STUDENTS - INCLUDES A  
PROGRAMME AND GLASS OF WINE - AVAILABLE ONLINE AND  
AT THE DOOR

@uoechoeralsoc  
[uoechoeralsoc.co.uk](http://uoechoeralsoc.co.uk)



# *'In His presence'*



## *Wholeness and Wellbeing Day Retreat*

Do you need space to be 'in His presence' this Advent away from all the demands and expectations of the Christmas season? This Christian day retreat offers a place to simply 'be' with God as we meet Christ's vulnerability with our own in this safe space.

Together, we will be reflecting on themes of love and vulnerability through Christian mindfulness, guided meditation and creative spirituality.

And He said, "My presence shall go with you, and I will give you rest."

Exodus 33:14

10am – 4pm on Saturday 3rd December 2022

at Stockleigh Pomeroy Village Hall

(between Exeter and Crediton)

£40 including homemade vegetarian lunch and refreshments

Beyond self retreats are led by Abigail Hardiman, a qualified counsellor (MBACP) and accredited local (lay) preacher.

To book your place or for more information contact Abigail on 07300 106560 or [abigailhardiman@protonmail.com](mailto:abigailhardiman@protonmail.com) or find Beyond Self on Facebook or at <https://abigailhardiman6.wixsite.com/beyondselfretreats>



**Programme – October 26<sup>th</sup> to December 14<sup>th</sup>, 2022**

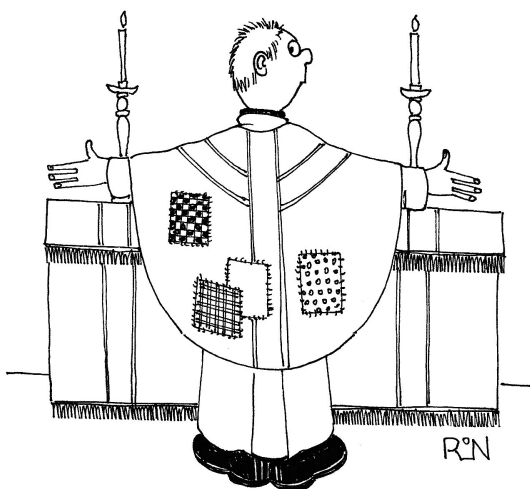
The weekly programme of Exeter Forum talks from Wednesday 26 October to Wednesday 14 December is listed here. Meetings take place in the Mint Methodist Church, Fore Street, Exeter, EX4 3AT, the talks starting at 10:45am, coffee being available from 10:15am.

Full descriptions of talks and speakers appear in the weekly newsletter sent to Forum members.

Visitors are welcome subject to a small charge of £3 for each talk. Any programme changes will be shown on the Exeter Forum website at [www.exeterforum.org](http://www.exeterforum.org).

Date	Speaker	Title
Wednesday 26 October	Geoff Pettinger	<p><b>A romp through a lifetime of domestic appliances - have they really benefited us?</b></p> <p>Geoff will give an entertaining talk on the familiar and less familiar domestic appliances that we have come to rely on and will show their benefits and some drawbacks.</p> <p><i>Please note that Mike Richards talk on <b>A History of Exeter Hospitals</b> has been postponed until early 2023</i></p>
Wednesday 2 November	Bob Ball	<p><b>A walk through the history of World War One</b></p> <p>Bob will present a walk through history of World War One, as we approach Remembrance Sunday. Bob produced this talk to inform people about the way WW1 developed and evolved. It looks at the importance of some aspects and events that do not always feature in today's summaries. Bob talked to the Exeter Forum earlier this year about King Arthur.</p>
Wednesday 9 November	Rebecca Nesbit	<p><b>Tickets to the Ark</b></p> <p>Ecologist, writer and artist Rebecca Nesbit will present a stimulating talk looking at the issues currently facing our wildlife and the risk of mass extinctions the world is facing. She will particularly consider questions such as what the point of conservation is, what species should we try and save, and how can we afford to do what it may take to protect our wildlife. Rebecca's will illustrate her talk with examples from her book, <i>Tickets to the Ark</i>.</p>
Wednesday 16 November	Thomas Cadbury	<p><b>The Dawlish Bronze Age Hoard and other treasures of the RAMM</b></p> <p>The Dawlish Bronze Age Hoard of gold, bronze and tin nuggets was discovered in 2017 in a boggy field near Dawlish, having lain underground for around 3000 years. It is now on display at the Royal Albert Memorial Museum. The RAMM's Assistant Curator Thomas Cadbury will tell the story of the Dawlish Hoard, and what we have learnt from it. He will put it into the context of other finds that can be seen in the RAMM and the role the museum plays in</p>

		advancing our understanding of the past.
Wednesday 23 November	<b>Clare Maudling</b>	<b>The wildlife and ecosystems of Coral Reefs</b>  Clare Maudling will make a welcome return to the Forum to talk about her research experience looking at the marine wildlife of coral reefs in East Asia. She will show some of the threats facing these fantastic ecosystems and the different ways that they may be protected from damage in the future.
Wednesday 30 November	<b>Rosemary Grigg</b>	<b>A Tudor Christmas</b>  Author Rosemary Grigg will provide a seasonal talk on Christmas in Tudor times. She will look at the customs, foods, drinks and festivities that featured in the times of Henry VIII and Elizabeth 1. Rosemary will draw on her knowledge of Katherine Raleigh, mother of Sir Walter Raleigh, who was the central character in her novel "A Woman of Noble Wit"
Wednesday 7 December	<b>Professor Jeremy Black</b>	<b>The World of James Bond – the life and times of 007</b>  Historian and well known author Professor Black will make a welcome return visit to the Exeter Forum to give his popular, entertaining and topical talk on James Bond
Wednesday 14 December	<b>To be confirmed</b>	<b>Christmas related event - details to follow</b>
Wednesday 21 December	<i>No meeting</i>	<b>Christmas break</b>
Wednesday 28 December	<i>No meeting</i>	<b>Christmas break</b>
Wednesday 4 January	<i>Exeter Forum restarts after Christmas break</i>	<i>Spring 2023 programme will be published in November 2022</i>



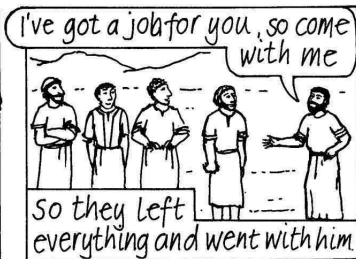
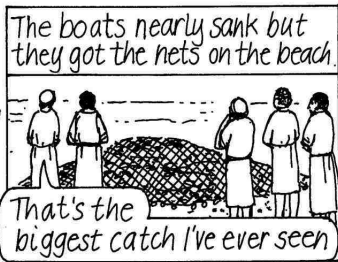
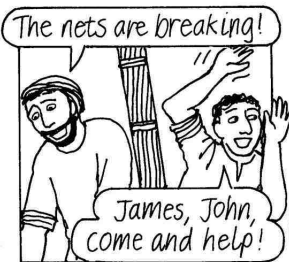
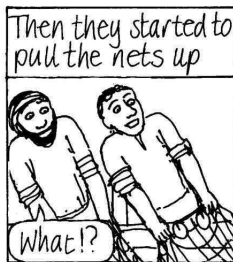
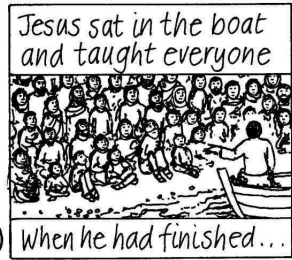
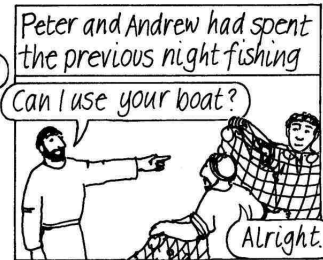
*Trevor hated asking for money, but he  
sometimes made subtle hints*

# Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in  
Lk 5:1-11, Mt. 4:18-22, Mk 1:16-20

On the shore of Lake Galilee, Jesus was trying to teach people but there were so many that he couldn't be heard.



# The Doctor and the Patient



JESUS HAD MANY FRIENDS



BUT SOME WERE EXTRA SPECIAL. THESE WERE HIS 'DISCIPLES'.

JESUS ONCE ASKED A TAX-COLLECTOR CALLED 'MATTHEW' TO BE ONE OF HIS TEAM



YES!

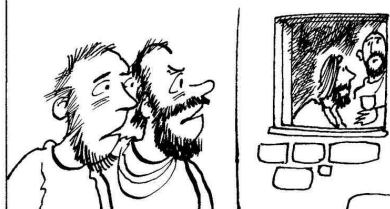


MATTHEW AGREED TO FOLLOW JESUS

JESUS WENT TO HAVE A MEAL AT MATTHEW'S HOUSE

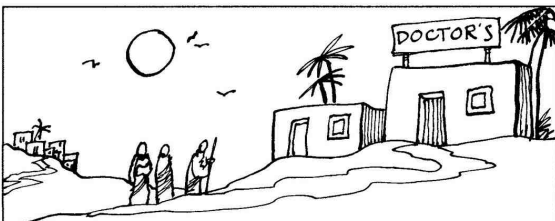


BUT MANY PEOPLE COMPLAINED ABOUT THIS. THEY THOUGHT MATTHEW WAS A BAD MAN - AND JESUS SHOULD IGNORE HIM.



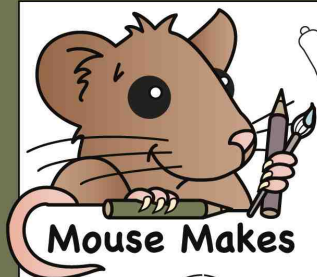
JESUS' REPLY WAS VERY STRAIGHT FORWARD.

HE EXPLAINED THAT MATTHEW NEEDED HELP, NOT CRITICISM,



"IT'S NOT THE WELL THAT NEED A DOCTOR - BUT THE SICK!"  
see Luke 5:27-32





## THE COMING OF A KING

The birth of Jesus is told



God sent a messenger to Mary  
What was the angel's name?

\_\_\_\_\_  
Luke 1:26-28

Mary was frightened,  
what did the angel say?

\_\_\_\_\_  
Luke 1:30

What was Mary to  
name her child?

\_\_\_\_\_  
Luke 1:31

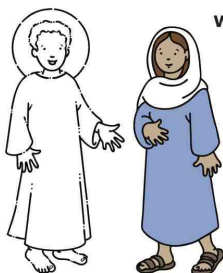


What is her son  
going to be?

\_\_\_\_\_  
Luke 1:32-33



**READ**  
the story  
in *Luke*  
1:26-55

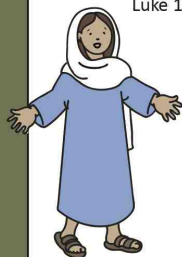


What does the angel  
say about God?

Luke 1:37  
(LEARN this verse)

Mary praises God, what does  
she say God has done?

Luke 1:46-55



Find the words  
in the word  
search and  
the \_\_\_\_  
words too.



What happened  
to Elizabeth  
when Mary  
went to  
visit her?

Luke 1:41



ETHOLYSPIRITOTJSKS  
MBHCBIGTWLBZLORDA  
ELOHPRAISEOJESUSV  
SELIZABETHTRONEPDI  
SSYLKWREIGNETPMEO  
ASCDIKINGDOMPHABU  
GESONREJOICEWORDR  
EDANGELZDOABABYLU

ANGEL • MESSAGE • GOD • JOSEPH • MARY • BABY • SON • BORN  
CHILD • THRONE • KING • REIGN • KINGDOM • HOLYSPIRIT • LORD  
HOLY • WORD • ELIZABETH • BLESSED • SAVIOUR • REJOICE • PRAISE

# Smilelines

## Original

He's an original preacher, our new curate. He makes a lot of mistakes, and they are different every time.

## Life and death

The vicar was preaching a powerful sermon concerning death and judgment. In the course of the sermon, he said: "Just think – all of you living in this parish will one day die." At this, a man in the front pew began to laugh quietly. After the service the vicar demanded sternly what he had found so funny about his sermon. The man replied: "I was just so happy that I don't live in this parish!"

## More real-life notes left for milkmen...

~ Please knock. My TV's broken down and I missed Coronation Street last night. Maybe we could talk about what happened over a cup of tea?

~ My daughter says she wants a milkshake. Do you do this before you deliver, or do I have to shake it at my end?

~ Please send me a form for cheap milk, as I have a baby two months old and did not know about it until a neighbour told me.

~ Milk is needed for the baby. Father unable to supply it.

~ Please leave no milk today. When I say today, I mean tomorrow, as I wrote this note yesterday.

## Chicken rules

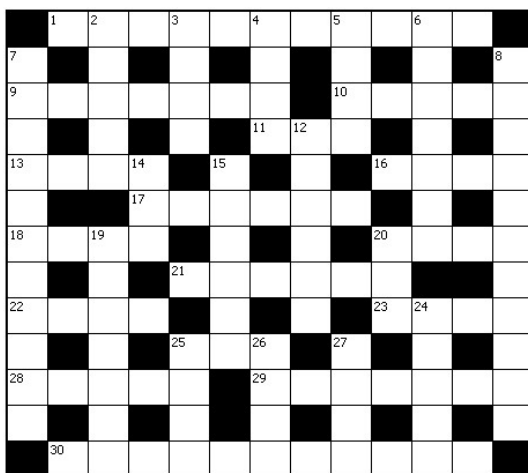
One day a new chicken was introduced to the farm. The duck, who was in charge, showed the new chicken around. "This is where you go to get fed, this is the water trough and that is the coop. Chickens hang out near the fence, us ducks near the pond and the geese near the gate. We're friendly, but we keep to our own. Oh, and whatever you do, DO NOT cross that road. You'll never hear the end of it."

## Mouse

You can't teach a new mouse old clicks.

## When I grow up

A small boy returned from Sunday School in floods of tears. When questioned by his mother about his distressed state, he sobbed: "We sang 'Jesus wants me for a sunbeam', but I want to be a train driver!"



### Across

1 and 20 Down 'Lord of all \_ , Lord of all \_ , whose trust, ever child-like, no cares could destroy'(11,3)

9 Mosesí question to a fighting Hebrew labourer: 'Why are you \_ your fellow Hebrew?' (Exodus 2:13) (7)

10 Acclaimed cellist who contracted multiple sclerosis at the height of her fame, Jacqueline \_ (2,3)

11 'At even \_ the sun was set, the sick, O Lord, around thee lay'(3)

13 A descendant of Gad (xNumbers 26:16) (4)

16 'Do not leave Jerusalem, but \_ for the gift my Father promised' (Acts 1:4) (4)

17 Clambers (Jeremiah 48:44) (6)

18 Peter's response to questioning by the Sanhedrin: 'We must \_ God rather than men!'(Acts 5:29) (4)

20 Christian paraplegic author, artist and campaigner, \_ Eareckson Tada (4)

21 Bird partial to the nests of other birds (6)

22 'Such large crowds gathered round him that he got into a boat and sat \_ \_ '(Matthew 13:2) (2,2)

23 Infectious tropical disease (4)

25 Tree (3)

28 'No fear of me should \_ you, nor should my hand be heavy upon you'(Job 33:7) (5)

29 For example, to Titus, Timothy or Philemon (7)

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

### Down

2 'O Jerusalem \_ how \_ I have longed to gather your children together'  
Matthew 23:37) (5)

3 Way out (4)

4 Exhort (Romans 12:1) (4)

5 Done (anag.) (4)

6 Highest of the four voice-parts in a choir (7)

7 Concerning the study of God (11)

8 Uniquely, it has Abbey, Cathedral and Chapel (11)

12 Admonish (Matthew 16:22) (6)

14 Frozen (3)

15 Established form of religious ceremony (6)

19 Inscription often found on gravestones (7)

20 See 1 Across

24 Behaved (Joshua 7:1) (5)

25 Time (anag.) (4)

26 Lists choice of meals (4)

27 'For the wages of sin is death, but the \_ of God is eternal life in  
Christ Jesus our Lord'(Romans 6:23) (4)

## Sudoku - Medium

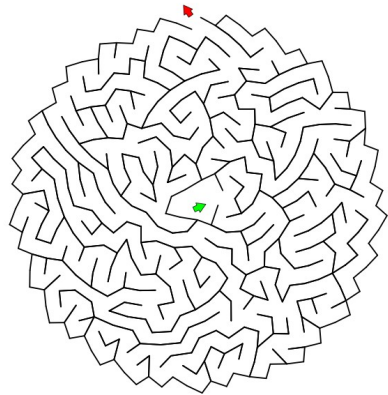
	3	8			9			
			1		6	2		
				2			5	
	4							6
		2	3		1	7		
5							9	
	6			5				
		9	2		4			
			8			9	1	

## Word search

k	v	f	f	h	t	i	d	i	o	t
g	a	l	i	l	e	e	c	y	s	p
n	d	l	s	s	h	v	a	o	m	e
b	a	s	h	s	h	e	m	c	m	t
o	y	a	i	g	e	r	a	e	h	e
a	t	n	n	o	l	y	z	g	b	r
t	i	k	g	d	p	o	i	j	e	j
f	m	v	m	c	r	n	n	o	a	o
j	e	s	u	s	v	e	g	h	c	b
a	c	a	t	c	h	t	w	n	h	h
j	a	m	e	s	y	s	v	y	g	g

catch	come	idiot
sank	Galilee	James
Jesus	Peter	fishing
God	nets	daytime
teach	help	John
night	job	beach
fish	Andrew	amazing
boat	finished	everyone

## Maze




---

## Days of Note - November

**1<sup>st</sup> November: All Saints' Day – the feast day of all the redeemed**

All Saints, or All Hallows, is the feast of all the redeemed, known and unknown, who are now in heaven. When the English Reformation took place, the number of saints in the calendar was drastically reduced, with the result that All Saints' Day stood out with a prominence that it had never had before.

This feast day first began in the East, perhaps as early as the 5th century, as commemorating 'the martyrs of the whole world'. A Northern English 9th century calendar named All Hallows as a principal feast, and such it has remained. Down the centuries devotional writers have seen in it the fulfilment of Pentecost and indeed of Christ's redemptive sacrifice and resurrection.

The saints do not belong to any religious tradition, and their lives and witness to Christ can be appreciated by all Christians.

## **2<sup>nd</sup> November: All Souls' Day – a time of reckoning with the past**

The early Church was slow to dedicate a liturgical day to offering prayers and masses to commemorate the faithful departed. But in time prayers were offered on behalf of dead monks, that they might attain 'the Beatific Vision' through purification, which the Church later described as Purgatory. Odilo, the powerful abbot of Cluny, (d 1049) decreed that All Souls' Day should follow the feast of All Saints' Day.

At least four ancient English dedications are known, the most famous of which are All Souls College, Oxford and the church in Langham Place in London.

In bygone centuries All Souls' Day was certainly uncomfortable for anyone who had wronged a person who had then died. For it was believed that souls in purgatory could appear on earth on this day, in the form of ghosts, witches or toads, to haunt anyone who had wronged them in life.

On a more cheerful note, it was also believed that you could help the dead on this day by almsgiving in cash or in kind. Some of these beliefs seem to have been caught up in the popular customs of Hallowe'en.

When the Reformation came, the Protestants disregarded the idea of Purgatory, and this feast day remained with the Roman Catholic Church.

## **6<sup>th</sup> November: William Temple - Archbishop of Canterbury**

During the Second World War, Winston Churchill was Britain's Prime Minister. At the same time, William Temple was Archbishop of Canterbury. While Churchill led the country against Germany, Temple encouraged the British people to trust the Lord for their deliverance and strength. Like Churchill, Temple was a great leader, a gifted orator and a prolific writer. He was also a theologian and social activist.

Temple was born on 15<sup>th</sup> October 1881 in Exeter, Devon. He was educated at

Rugby School and Balliol College, Oxford, from 1900 to 1904. He loved the music of Bach; the poetry of Browning and Shelley, and Shakespeare. He was an avid reader and possessed a near-photographic memory.

He became president of the Oxford Union and after graduation, was a lecturer in philosophy at Queen's College, Oxford. He was a member of the debating society and was a skilled and balanced debater. Following his ordination in 1909, and priesting in 1910, Temple was headmaster of Repton School for four years. He married Frances Anson in 1916. They were childless.

From 1921-29 Temple was Bishop of Manchester. During this time he was seen as a pioneer of the Ecumenical Movement and gradually became a national figure. In 1926 he urged the British government to seek a negotiated agreement to the General Strike.

Temple excelled as a moderator; a teacher and a preacher and his appointment as Archbishop of York (1929-40) was a popular one. His influence also led to the formation of the British Council of Churches and the World Council of Churches. During the 2<sup>nd</sup> World War he jointly founded the Council of Christians and Jews to combat anti-Semitism and other forms of prejudice in Britain.

As Archbishop of Canterbury (1942-44) Temple became an outspoken advocate of social reform and became involved in the campaign against unemployment, poverty and poor housing. He believed in the rights of all people, whether rich or poor, and was a leading force for social justice. He was grounded in the problems of the working man and in his book *Christianity and Social Order* (1942) he shared his vision for all to have access to healthcare, education and decent housing. His radical thinking and activism played a foundational role in the formation of the British Welfare State.

Temple died aged 63 at Westgate-on-Sea, Kent on 26th October 1944. He was the first Primate of All England to be cremated and his ashes were buried in the cloister garden of Canterbury Cathedral. He is the last Archbishop of Canterbury to have died while in office.

## **13      The poppies of Remembrance Sunday**

In late 1914, WW1 erupted across Northern France and Flanders. Great swathes of previously green fields and forests were blasted and bombed, leaving them bleak and barren, with seemingly every living thing destroyed.

But then in the Spring of 1915, something beautiful began to come out of all the destruction. Tens of thousands of bright red Flanders poppies began to put out tentative shoots across the endless vistas of mud. These resilient little flowers had actually flourished in the middle of so much chaos and destruction, because their seeds grow when exposed to sunlight, through disturbances to soil.

We all know that these endless fields of cheerful poppies, growing in the midst of such misery and destruction, were what inspired the Canadian doctor, Lieutenant Colonel John McCrae, to write the now famous poem 'In Flanders Fields'.

And it was McCrae's poem which inspired an American academic named Moina Michael to adopt the poppy in memory of those who had fallen in the war. She got it adopted as an official symbol of Remembrance across the United States, and worked with others who were trying to do the same in Canada, Australia, and the UK.

A French woman, Anna Guérin who was in the UK in 1921, caught the same vision, and planned to sell the poppies in London. There she met Earl Haig, the founder of the Royal British Legion, who was persuaded to adopt the poppy as its emblem in the UK.

The Royal British Legion, which had been formed in 1921, ordered nine million poppies and sold them on 11 November that year. Ever since then, the red poppy has been a symbol of Remembrance, of support for the Armed Forces community, and also of hope for a peaceful future.

## **16<sup>th</sup> November St Margaret of Scotland**

Some women have power, and some women are good. When a woman with power is also good, she can achieve an astonishing amount.



Margaret of Scotland has been called 'The Pearl of Scotland', but she began life in Hungary about 1045. She was born to the expatriate English prince Edward the Exile, and so was an English princess. The family returned to Wessex in 1057, when she was 13, and following the death of King Harold II at the Battle of Hastings in 1066, her brother Edgar Aetheling should have been King of England, but he was never crowned. Instead, the family fled north, to Scotland, where she was married to Malcolm III of Scotland by 1070. As a Scottish queen she went on to become mother of three kings of Scotland, and of a queen consort of England.

Margaret was a Christian, and became a good friend of Lanfranc, a future archbishop of Canterbury. Her biographer tells of how she read narratives from the Bible to her husband, thus helping to 'civilise' him. He was illiterate, but so admired her reading, that he had her books decorated with gold and silver. She was also credited with helping her youngest son, the future King David I of Scotland, towards becoming a just and holy ruler.

Margaret introduced the worship and practise of the Church of Rome into Scotland. She also wanted to help the many pilgrims travelling in Scotland, and so she established a ferry across the Firth of Forth, which is where the towns South Queensferry and North Queensferry got their names.

Margaret performed many charitable works for the poor, and she interceded for the release of English exiles who had been forced into serfdom following the Norman conquest. She also began the restoration of Iona Abbey.

In private life, Margaret spent much of her time in prayer, using a cave on the banks of the Tower Burn in Dunfermline as a place of devotion and prayers. St Margaret's Cave is still there today, covered beneath a municipal car park.

Margaret died in 1093, and in 1250 Pope Innocent IV canonised her. Her relics were dispersed after the Scottish Reformation, but at one time Mary, Queen of Scots, owned her head.

### **19<sup>th</sup> November: Hilda - Abbess of Whitby**

Hilda played a key role in the early English Christian church, and she may even have been the first to encourage the writing of Christian poetry.

She was born a princess, into the Deiran (Northumbrian) dynasty, and her sister became Queen of the East Angles, with whom the Deiran had connections.

In those days East Anglia had close ties with the Gallic Church, and because of her sister, Hilda came under that influence. She was actually on her way to take her monastic vows near Paris when the Bishop of Lindisfarne, Aidan, called her back to Northumbria.

Back home, she went into seclusion for a time, before being sent to be abbess of a religious house in Hartlepool in 649.

Eight years later, Hilda felt moved to establish a religious community at Streasnaeshalch (later renamed Whitby). Her community was a royal establishment, a double monastery (both men and women) and became famous for its learning, with even five bishops trained there.

Whitby was also, of course, the venue for the famous Synod of Whitby in 664. With Hilda acting as hostess, the Synod met to decide upon the date of Easter. The issue at stake was greater than that, though, for the decision would sway the Church in Britain to adapt either the Celtic or Roman traditions. Although Hilda defended the Celtic church customs, she accepted with grace the decision of the Synod to accept the Roman date for Easter, and she then worked to unite the Church throughout the land.

## **22<sup>nd</sup> November: St Cecilia - patron saint of musicians**

If you are going to any concerts before Christmas, spare a thought for St Cecilia - the patron saint of musicians.

Cecilia is one of the most famous of the Roman martyrs of the 2<sup>nd</sup> century. As far as is known, she was born a noble lady of Rome who, despite her vow of virginity, was forced to marry an older pagan nobleman named Valerian. During the wedding, as the musicians played, Cecilia sat apart singing to God in her heart, and for that she was later declared the saint of musicians.

When the time came for her marriage to be consummated, Cecilia told Valerian that watching over her was an angel of the Lord, who would punish him if he sexually violated her but would love him if he respected her

virginity.

Understandably startled by this, Valerian then asked to see the angel for himself. Cecilia replied that to do so, he must go to the third milestone on the Via Appia and be baptised by the Bishop of Rome. Valerian seems to have been a good-natured husband, because the story goes that he followed her suggestion, was baptised a Christian, and sure enough, saw the angel protecting his wife.

Being a Christian in those days was dangerous, and when the next wave of Roman persecutions began, Valerian and Cecilia were among those arrested. It is said that they died at the hands of the Roman prefect Turcius Almachius, perhaps in Sicily sometime between 176 and 180 AD.

One story goes that Cecilia was struck on the neck with a sword, and as she lay dying, asked that her house be converted into a church. Certainly, an early Roman Christian church, Santa Cecilia, was founded in the fourth century in the Trastevere section of Rome, reputedly on the site of the house in which she lived.

In the centuries since then, a number of musical compositions have been dedicated to her, and her feast day has become the occasion for many concerts and musical festivals.

St Cecilia is frequently depicted playing a viola, a small organ, or other musical instrument.

## **25<sup>th</sup> November: Catherine of Alexandria – patron saint of young girls and nurses**

Catherine is thought to have been a noble girl who lived in the 4<sup>th</sup> century. She was persecuted for her Christianity, and despised marriage with the Emperor because she was a 'bride of Christ'. According to the legend, Catherine was no push-over intellectually, either: she disputed successfully with 50 philosophers who were called in to convince her of the errors of Christianity.

Catherine protested against the persecution of Christians by Maxentius, and

then she herself was tortured: broken on a wheel (later called Catherine wheel), but the machine then broke down itself, injuring bystanders. Catherine was then beheaded.

This legend strongly appealed to the Middle Age imagination. Catherine became the patron of young girls, students, philosophers, nurses and craftsmen such as wheelwrights, spinners and millers.

In England 62 churches were dedicated to her, and 170 medieval bells still bear her name. 'Lives', poems, miracle plays, stained-glass windows, panels and paintings have all been done in Catherine's honour.

### **30<sup>th</sup> November: Andrew - first disciple of Jesus**

Andrew, whose feast day ends the Christian year on 30<sup>th</sup> November, is probably best known to us as the patron saint of Scotland, though his only connection with the country is that some of his bones were reputedly transported in the 8<sup>th</sup> century to Fife and preserved at a church in a place now named St Andrews.

In fact, there are so many legends about him all over Europe and the Middle East that it's safest to stick to what the Gospels tell us - though the strong tradition that he was martyred by crucifixion is probably true and is perpetuated in the 'St Andrew's Cross', the 'saltyre' of Scotland.

The Gospels record that he was one of the first disciples of Jesus, and the very first to bring someone else to Christ - his own brother. Like many fervent Jews at the time Andrew and an unnamed companion had been drawn to the desert, to be taught by the charismatic prophet known to us as John the Baptist. Many thought that he was the long-promised Messiah, but John insisted that he was not. 'I am the voice crying in the wilderness,' he told the crowds. 'Prepare the way of the Lord! One comes after me who is greater than I am.'

So when one day John pointed out Jesus to Andrew and his friend and described Him as the 'Lamb of God', the two young men assumed that the next stage of their spiritual search was about to unfold. So, as Jesus made off, they followed Him.

All the more strange, then (though, on reflection, very true to human nature) that when Jesus turned and asked them what they were 'seeking', all they could come up with was a lame enquiry about his current place of residence: 'where are you staying?' Or, perhaps, they were hinting that what they were seeking could not be dealt with in a brief conversation. If they could come to His lodgings, perhaps their burning questions might be answered.

The reply of Jesus was the most straight-forward invitation anyone can receive: 'Come and see'. Come and see what I'm like, what I do, the sort of person I am. What an invitation!

The results of their response were in this case life-changing - for themselves, and for many other people. Andrew brought his brother, Peter, to Jesus. The next day Jesus met Philip and called him to 'follow'. Philip then brought Nathaniel. The little apostolic band who would carry the message of Jesus to the whole world was being formed. They came, they saw, they were won over! And right at the front of the column, as it were, was Andrew, the first disciple of Jesus.



## Puzzle solutions

	H	O	P	E	F	U	L	N	E	S	S	
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9	5	4	1	3	6	2	7	8
1	7	6	4	2	8	3	5	9
8	4	3	7	9	5	1	2	6
6	9	2	3	4	1	7	8	5
5	1	7	6	8	2	4	9	3
4	6	1	9	5	7	8	3	2
3	8	9	2	1	4	5	6	7
7	2	5	8	6	3	9	1	4

## The deadline for inclusion of articles for the December/January issue of New Leaves is Sunday 27th November

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](mailto: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.