

# LOOKING FORWARD

Newsletter for the Parish churches of the Long Stratton and Pilgrim Team Ministry  
Aslacton, Bunwell, Carleton Rode, Great Moulton, Stratton St. Mary, Stratton St.  
Michael, Tibenham and Wacton

**Working Together Growing Faith**

**22<sup>nd</sup> March 2020**

**BIBLE READINGS FOR SUNDAY 15<sup>th</sup> MARCH**

Psalm 34:11-20      Exod 2:1-10      Luke 33-35

**COLLECT FOR MOTHERING SUNDAY**

God of love, passionate and strong, tender and careful: watch over us and hold us all the days of our life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

**All services are currently suspended**

**From Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March pattern of daily office (Heather alone) but please pray at these times wherever you are, whenever you can.**

There is a Church of England Daily Office App for phones/i-pads etc

<b>Mondays</b>	8.30am Stratton St. Mary	7.00pm All Saints', Wacton
<b>Tuesdays</b>	9.00am Stratton St. Michael	7.00pm Stratton St. Mary
<b>Wednesdays</b>	9.45am Stratton St. Mary	7.00pm Stratton St. Michael
<b>Thursdays</b>	9.00am All Saint's, Wacton	7.00pm Stratton St. Mary
<b>Saturdays</b>	9.00am – Hour of silent prayer (12noon on last Saturday of month)	

**HOUSE GROUPS ARE CURRENTLY NOT MEETING: but continue to study**

Tuesday	10.30am	97 St. Michael's Road
Wednesday	10.30am	The Rectory
Wednesday	7.30pm	31 Jermyn Way

If you would like more information please speak to Heather



**PRAYER CHAIN**

If you have a prayer request for yourself, or for someone else, please contact **Heather** in the first instance who will initiate the prayer chain (01508) 530238 or 07503151715

If you would like to join the prayer chain please speak to Heather.



**We may not have regular services at the moment but we are striving to keep our churches open for quiet prayer and reflection. Please check with your churchwarden if you are unsure if your church is unlocked during the day**

**PRAYER POINTERS**

- Pray for Jean Bosco and all that he and the team are doing transforming the lives of young people at Kimbilio. During Lent some of our churches focus their giving on supporting Jean Bosco, aiming to raise £1000 or more. Please pray we will be generous and the money to be used wisely to support young lives.
- Pray for the family and friends of Bob Quint and Michael Shelmadine
- This Lent we have a focus on the climate and the environment through the Housegroup material. Pray that we will know how we can respond appropriately to protect the environment.
- Pray for our communities, particularly pray for our doctors surgeries at this time as they respond to peoples anxieties over the coronavirus threat.
- Pray for all in our communities who are particularly vulnerable, lonely and afraid at this time. Pray that we can find ways to reach out in new ways to the people around us, sharing the love of Christ.

**DIARY DATES FOR MARCH –**

**all events and services are currently suspended**

**CMS SOUP LUNCH** – Will no longer be taking place in St. Mary's church on the 29<sup>th</sup> March. Why not instead, make yourself/your family a bowl of soup and pray for Jean Bosco and all that is taking place in Kimbilio. We will try and provide some resources next week for you to read and think about and please continue to make your life changing donation to CMS (cheques/cash can be posted through the Parish office door.

**HOLY WEEK CHALLENGE – SOMETHING TO GET THE CREATIVE JUICES FLOWING.**

During Holy Week, I would like to have in our churches some Stations of the cross for prayer and reflection and for everyone to get involved. The challenge is to somehow capture one/or all of the stations of the cross reflecting a modern day or traditional event. This can be done through creating a piece of artwork, poetry, prayer, pottery, needlework. Be as creative as you like. During Holy week you will be encouraged to bring your masterpieces into the churches for display 😊

**Please use the following Stations of the cross:**

1. Jesus is condemned to death (Matt 27:1-2)
2. Jesus accepts his cross (John 19:16-17)
3. Simon of Cyrene helps Jesus carry the cross (Luke 23:20)
4. Jesus speaks to the weeping women (Luke 23:27-31)
5. Jesus is stripped of his garments (Matt:28-29)
6. Jesus is nailed to the cross
7. Jesus dies on the cross (Luke 23:44-46)
8. Jesus is taken down from the cross (Matt 27:57-60)

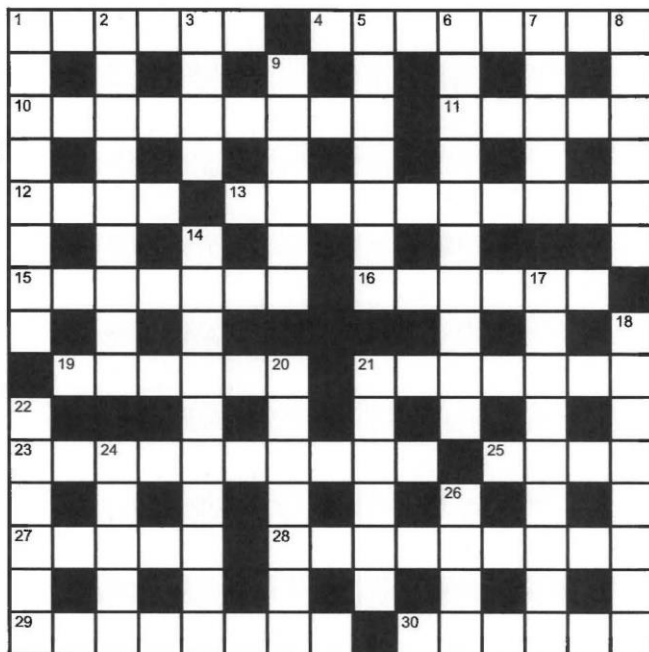
# BIBLE CROSSWORD I

## Across

- 1 An ancient weight (6)  
 4 Seemed (8)  
 10 New Testament book (9)  
 11 Unit of length (5)  
 12 '...it is a \_\_\_ thing the king requireth' (Dan 2:11) (4)  
 13 Contemplation (10)  
 15 Abigail supplied David with one hundred clusters of these (7)  
 16 A son of King David (6)  
 19 Concurred (6)  
 21 Light sources (7)  
 23 Propitiations (10)  
 25 A false god (4)  
 27 Gather (5)  
 28 Abimelech was hit by this (9)  
 29 Instructors (8)  
 30 Hastily (6)

## Down

- 1 Skilled animal workers (8)  
 2 Inspiring (9)  
 3 Compass point (4)  
 5 Intense emotion (7)



by Philologus

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- 6 The words of Jeremiah said not to listen to these (10)  
 7 Jewish leader (5)  
 8 'He is proud, knowing nothing, but \_\_\_\_\_ about questions and strifes of words...' (1 Tim 6:4) (6)  
 9 Bread makers (6)  
 14 In this year of King Nebuchadrezzar's reign, Nebuzaradan arrived in Jerusalem (10)  
 17 Ancient city of Og, King of Bashan (9)  
 18 Stringed instrument (8)  
 20 Joseph, perhaps? (7)  
 21 Tiny amount (6)  
 22 Jesus did this with authority (6)  
 24 Last letter of the Greek alphabet (5)  
 26 Province of the Roman Empire (4)

We may no longer be able to go to church services, but we can still worship God. Over the coming days the Ministry team will be developing resources to help us all to worship in our own homes. Please bear with us as we try to respond to a rapidly changing situation and as we try to work out how we can 'do church differently'.

## A prayer for Mothering Sunday

Motherly God,  
 thanks to you for life and living, even when we are weary and worn-out.  
 Thanks to you for challenge and change, even when we seek safety and security.  
 Thanks to you for playfulness and pain, even when we seek moderation and mild-living.  
 Thanks to you for companionship when we are lonely.  
 Thanks to you for calling when we are settled.  
 Thanks to you for creativity when we are uninspired.  
 Bring us to newness of life as your people.  
 Bring us to wholeness of life from out of its fragments.  
 Bring us to fullness of life from your communion in and with us.  
 Motherly God, to you we pray,  
**Amen.**

## Light a candle of hope: A national call to prayer



This Sunday, 22nd March, we are calling all churches to a National Day of Prayer and Action. At such a time as this, when so many are fearful and

there is great uncertainty, we are reminded of our dependence on our loving Heavenly Father and the future that he holds.

At 7pm this Sunday, light a candle in the windows of your homes as a visible symbol of the light of life, Jesus Christ, our source and hope in prayer.

**DID YOU KNOW? – If you are on email, you can receive the looking forward via email.** If you would like to get Looking Forward electronically, please email Heather.

### MINISTRY TEAM DETAILS

Team Rector: The Revd. Heather Wilcox 01508 530238  
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