



THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND



PARISH NEWSLETTER—NEW YEAR 2025

An occasional newsletter from Holy Cross Parish, Shrewsbury

Issue 14— Jan 2025

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The Bishop of Shrewsbury, the Rt Revd Sarah Bullock, in her December 2024 Christmas message, said:

"The constantly changing landscape of our life as communities and as individuals has been a very real and present experience over the past nearly two years and can leave us feeling uncertain about the future. Reflecting on the challenge of what seems like constant change brought to my mind a prayer from the service of Night Prayer (Compline):

*Be present, O merciful God,
and protect us through the silent hours of this
night,
so that we who are wearied
by the changes and chances of this fleeting
world,
may rest upon your eternal changelessness;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.*

"The concept of something 'changeless', especially at such a time as we are living through, speaks to our hearts. We see that God invites us to put ourselves into his hands, to trust and to rest in him, our constant, loving and faithful God. In the Bible we hear these words from the Psalmist:

Continued over:



Continued:

Whoever dwells in the shelter of the Most High and abides under the shadow of the Almighty, shall say to the Lord, 'My refuge and my stronghold, my God, in whom I put my trust.'

(Psalm 91: 1-2)

"God calls us to look past our fear and anxiety, whether it is about ourselves,

our families, friends, community, work, church, world or countless other possibilities, and to step into this new year with hope. We can know that as we move forward, we are held close to the heart of God, enfolded in his love and that he will walk with us through the times ahead, for he is a faithful God.

"May I wish each and every one of you a blessed and hope-filled new year."

Rt Revd Sarah Bullock
Bishop of Shrewsbury

The Anglican Diocese of Lichfield comprises rolling countryside and vibrant inner city life nestled together in a region taking in Staffordshire, the Potteries of Stoke-on-Trent, most of Shropshire and bustling Black Country centres including Walsall and Wolverhampton. The only thing we don't have is the sea! The diocese has a population of over 2 million people and an area of 1,740 square miles. There are over 540 churches in 424 parishes, around 500 clergy, plus over 200 Church schools and academies.

The Work of Christmas

By Howard Thurman

When the song of the angels is stilled,
When the star in the sky is gone,
When the kings and princes are home,

When the shepherds are back with their flocks,

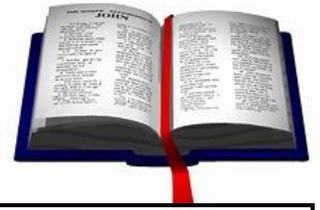
The work of Christmas begins:

To find the lost,
To heal the broken,
To feed the hungry,
To release the prisoner,
To rebuild the nations,
To bring peace among the people,
To make music in the heart.

"Peace Is The Only Battle Worth Waging" Albert Camus



**From the Lectionary—Sunday readings,
generally the ‘related’ list [Year C]
January to April 2025**



Sunday / date	1st reading	Psalm	2nd reading	Gospel
5 January Epiphany	Isaiah 60:1-6	Ps 72:1-15	Ephesians 3:1-12	Matthew 2:1-12
12 January Baptism of Christ	Isaiah 43:1-7	Ps 29	Acts 8:14-17	Luke 3:15-17, 21-22
19 January	Isaiah 62:1-5	Ps 36:5-10	1 Corinthians 12:1-11	John 2:1-11
26 January	Nehemiah 8:1-3,5-6,8-10	Ps 19	1 Corinthians 12:12-31a	Luke 4:14-21
2 February Candlemas	Malachi 3:1-5	Ps 24: 7-end	Hebrews 2:14-end	Luke 2:22-40
9 February 4 before Lent	Isaiah 6	Ps 138	1 Corinthians 15:1-11	Luke 5:1-11
16 February	Jeremiah 17:5-10	Ps 1	1 Corinthians 15:12-20	Luke 6:17-26
23 February	Genesis 2:4b-9,15-end	Ps 65	Revelation 4	Luke 8:22-25
2 March	Exodus 34:29-end	Ps 99	2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2	Luke 9:28-43a
4 March Shrove Tuesday	Ecclesiasticus 35:1-12 / James 4:1-10	Ps 50:1-6 / Ps 55:7-9,24		Mark 10:28-31
5 March Ash Wednesday	Joel 2:1-2,12-17 / Isaiah 58:1-12	Ps 51:1-18	2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10	Matthew 6:1-6,16-21 / John 8:1-11
9 March Lent 1	Deuteronomy 26:1-11	Ps 91:1-11	Romans 10:8b-13	Luke 4:1-13
16 March	Genesis 15:1-12,17-18	Ps 27	Philippians 3:17-4:1	Luke 13:31-end
23 March	Isaiah 55:1-9	Ps 63:1-9	1 Corinthians 10:1-13	Luke 13:1-9
30 March	Joshua 5:9-12	Ps 32	2 Corinthians 5:16-end	Luke 15:1-3,11b-end
6 April Passiontide begins	Isaiah 43:16-21	Ps 126	Philippians 3:4b-14	John 21:1-8
13 April Palm Sunday	Isaiah 50:4-9a	Ps 118:19-24	Philippians 2:5-11	Luke 19:28-40
18 April Good Friday	Isaiah 52:13-end 53	Ps 22:1-21	Hebrew 10:16-25 / Hebrews 4:14-16, 5:7-9	John 18:1-end of 19
20 April Easter Sunday	Acts 10:34-43	Ps 118:14-24	1 Corinthians 15:19-26	John 20:1-18 / Luke 24:1-12
27 April Easter 2	Acts 5:27-32	Ps 150	Revelation 1:4-8	John 20:19-end

Prayer pages

May these prayers uplift you and support you in this New Year and beyond, come what may.



Litany of Reconciliation

All have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God.

The hatred which divides nation from nation, race from race, class from class,

Father forgive.

The covetous desires of people and nations to possess what is not their own,

Father forgive.

The greed which exploits the work of human hands and lays waste the earth,

Father forgive.

Our envy of the welfare and happiness of others,

Father forgive.

Our indifference to the plight of the imprisoned, the homeless, the refugee,

Father forgive.

The lust which dishonours the bodies of men, women and children,

Father forgive.

The pride which leads us to trust in ourselves and not in God,

Father forgive.

Be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving one another,

as God in Christ forgave you.

Coventry Cathedral 2024

Prayers for your day

As my day begins,

Be my light, Lord.

As my day progresses,

Be my purpose.

As my day ends,

Be my comfort. Amen.

**Today, my God, reassure me,
may I be aware of You.**

**Today, my God, comfort me,
may I rely on You.**

**Today, my God, help me, may I
honour You. Amen.**

Grant me, Lord, times today,

Times of stillness,

**Spreading like ripples on wa-
ter.**

Times of calm,

Soothing wavelets of peace.

Grant me times today,

That transform today

And bless today,

**That I may bless others
in return. Amen.**

Prayer Group meets in St Peter's Church at 7pm on Thursday evenings for about an hour. Members pray for those we know who are unwell, world issues, our concerns and for the life of the parish. All are welcome.

Do ask one of the clergy or the churchwardens if you want someone or something prayed for.

**God, grant me the courage to
experience life,**

**The energy to seek out the
new,**

**And the patience to learn from
the past. Amen.**

Prayer pages

May these prayers uplift you and support you into this New Year and beyond, come what may.



God of peace,

As we remember those for whom
peace is a far-off memory,
Whose daily bread is conflict,
uncertainty, and fear,
Grant us the courage not just to
speak peace, to keep peace,
But to build peace, wherever we are.
Strengthen our hearts to act in
service of those living through
violence and conflict.

Amen.

hope

Hope is the breath you didn't know you held,
the space between, where silence hums.
It's the pulse beneath the noise,
a quiet rhythm, steady and unbroken.

God's love isn't a shout;
it's the warmth in your chest,
a hand on your shoulder when you feel
alone.
It lingers in the corners,
filling the gaps we don't see.

No promises of gold or glory,
just a presence—here, now.
In the pause between thoughts,
in the heartbeat that carries on.

Hope is the light that bends,
God's love, the reason it shines.



Good Friday

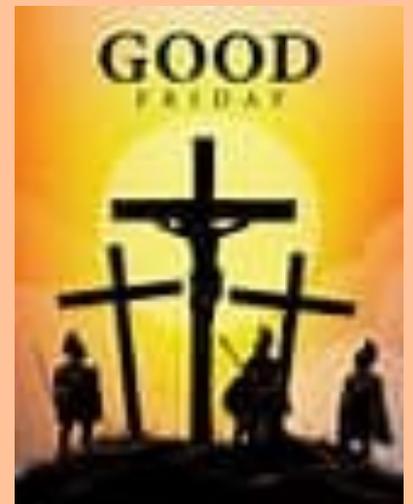
– Joy Cowley [from *Psalms Down-Under*, 1996]

We do not call it Bad Friday
although, for the One who lived and died
the torture of that day
there would have been nothing good
about it.

It was death by dishonour,
death by a pain so sever
that it filled all the spaces of thinking,
wrenching forth the cry,
“My God! My God! Why have you forsak-
en me!”

This One, this Christ who used the nature
to describe eternal truths,
who spoke of the cycle of the seasons
with images of grains of wheat,
fields, lilies, sparrows, grapes, figs,
fishes, sheep and flowing water,
this One was too steeped in agony
to remember that even the rarest flower
must die to produce a seeding.

But we who bear the gift
of this life and death and life,
call it Good Friday
and carry with us
the knowledge that in Him,
all of our crucifixions
are but resurrections unborn.



A Holy Cross Parish Update— Shrewsbury Abbey & St Peter's, Monkmoor Road

The Parish of the Holy Cross remains intact as we write. Even though it is the overwhelming will of the PCC and of the majority of members of both congregations, a single objection to the Church Commissioners' consultation is further delaying the creation of two separate and distinct parishes.

That consultation process ended at the beginning of July. The separation process has been delayed by the diocese, taking three months to reply to the single objector, and only in mid-October were the Commissioners requested by the diocese to start the next formal steps in the process. The Commissioners have now written to the diocesan bishop of Lichfield +Michael Ipgrave, forwarding the letter of objection as well as the letters in support of the restructuring and seeking his views. Following the bishop's response, and circulation of all items of correspondence to all those who have written to the Commissioners, there will be further opportunity for the corresponders to write further to the bishop, to which he can reply before the case goes back to the Commissioners for a decision. This might require a public hearing. The very earliest anything could be resolved is February, but even that is looking unlikely.

Both 'new' parishes look forward to being able to finalise parish profiles and, dare we say, to drafting advertisements for clergy to take up the leadership reins. This will alas, still be some way off.

For very different reasons neither of us churchwardens have been around much in person in the parish for some months, but thanks to email, the telephone and considerable help from the deputy wardens, PCC officers, the office staff and others, life in the parish goes on.

Their efforts are very much appreciated by us.

In the meantime, at both churches, the Abbey and St. Peter's, worship, hospitality, and a very wide variety of events continue. We are immensely grateful to the non-stipendiary and retired clergy and others who, week by week, are conducting services for us during this extremely long interregnum. Also, to those whose work is more behind the scenes, organising refreshments those involved with outreach and welcome, cleaning brasses, laundering linens and so much more, to say nothing of the Abbey choir, organists and serving team, we offer grateful thanks to them all.

It was wonderful to welcome a record number of worshippers to both churches for the Christmas services; over 1200 in total (exceeding 10% of the parish's population). There were a further over 700 at carol services for various organisations hosted by the Abbey in December. This, taken with growing regular congregations at both churches, gives us real optimism for the future of both parishes.

We would ask for your continued prayer for the life of this parish and our two churches. Please pray too for all Christians in Shrewsbury that collectively we should work to God's praise and glory, showing His love of all people in this wonderful town where we are privileged to live.

Bernice Firmin and Brian Newman
Churchwardens



**Dementia
Friendly
Church**

Dear Friends,

As you read this, the New Year, 2025 will have begun and Christmas is just over our shoulders behind us.

Forget Me Not Tea has been themed on travel during 2024 and we have journeyed month by month around the globe, the highlight for me being our taste of Uganda, brought to us by Roger and Wendy Ford who dressed up so beautifully to enhance their talk on the trip they took there in April. Earlier we enjoyed a 'visit' to New Zealand courtesy of Katherine and David May and another month had a walk-through Edinburgh with them, too. Thank you everyone who shared memories, travel experiences and photos with us this year.

What a wonderful, beautiful, varied place our world is, in early December we woke to our own world being transformed

with a blanket of snow. The trees suddenly becoming bare overnight following storm Darrah, opening up new vistas until the seasons change and the bulbs and budding leaves bring new life once again.

At Forget-me-not Tea this coming year, following a party on New Year's Day, we will be celebrating our pastimes and leisure activities, old and new.

Meanwhile the darkest and shortest day has passed, we joyously celebrated and marvelled anew at the birth of Christ, Son of God on Christmas Day, the light to the world. Belated, may I extend warmest Christmas greetings and happy New Year wishes to all readers.

If you are free to join us for our monthly Forget Me Not Tea held the first Wednesday afternoon of the month at 3pm, in St Peter's Church Hall, we would be delighted if you were to come and share with us, home-made tea, and possibly something of your pastime and leisure activities too.

Bernice Firmin – Dementia Champion

Toilet Twinning – You can do it too!

In our parish, as well as others, our toilets are 'twinned' – and help save lives, providing personal safety and better sanitation in countries in Africa, South America and Asia.

<https://toilettwinning.org/>

Every day, over 700 children under 5 die from diarrhoea linked to unsafe water, sanitation and poor hygiene.

Twin your toilet and fund a project in a community that helps families to build their own basic toilet, access clean water and learn about hygiene – a vital combination that saves lives.



**'The light
shines in the
darkness, and
the darkness
did not
overcome it.'**

(John 1:5)



Each year the Forget-me-not Tea team agrees an overarching theme which, this year 2025, happens to be HOBBIES AND PASS-TIMES.

We invited readers to share their aspirations and resolutions for HOBBIES AND PASS-TIMES in this New Year edition. It is not surprising to receive some similarities and yet variety too. If you have contributed to this page, thank you! What shall you do to enhance life?

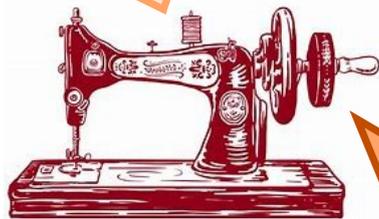
Charlotte plans to do more knitting, discovering more music. She wants to learn how to play the keyboard better, more flute playing and more reading.

Tess reminds us that *'whatever is good and perfect is a gift from God.'* That includes good hobbies – water-colour painting, quilting, reading and, most importantly, her music with her church choir.



CJ has little time for hobbies at the moment. But he'll try to listen to more podcasts!

Sue sews vestments for clergy friends! Such a rewarding hobby.



Alison has lots of ideas but is not sure any will eventuate! Ha!



Maureen has recently cleared the home of her mother following that dear woman's death. She now has a very large stock of craft and fabric resources – and plans to get creative during the next year and beyond.

Zoe plans to resume running with her dog. She likes walking and exploring up hill. Re-joining the gym ... she liked it a lot. She might get back to some painting. [*She should, she is a fab artist! Ed.*]



New for David in 2025 is being a volunteer reading mentor with Readeasy charity. He attends **Indoor Bowls** weekly, part of the Parkinson's Disease Support group activities. He enjoys it and is not a little competitive! You have to keep to the straight and narrow path and the goal is to getting as close to the jack as possible. ***It's rather like the Christian life—drawing closer to God!***

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Sally plans to get involved in Park Run and ensure a long walk weekly. She also wants to rejoin the library to use for Book Club – cheaper! Some travel to see family in Europe already booked in.



TMM is interested in learning about making computer games and would like to give that a go!

Julie is starting as a school governor at the local CE primary school. A new venture!



Grace plans to keep a “reading diary” to jog her memory later on. She resolves to practice her small pipes three times weekly! She’s also interested in ***Nobody Dies Alone*** organisation – offering to sit with someone in hospice or hospital who is dying and has no relatives or friends around them.

Katherine wants to plan her weekly commitments to include more ‘downtime’ so that she can read or sew—or (gasp!) even keep her home less messy and cleaner! Ha! She also hopes to see more of close family.



With his first panto performed in January, Robin looks forward to writing another! He’s enjoyed the writing process, coming up with new jokes and funny characters.

If her mobility allows and she can travel by public transport, Helen would like to attend French conversation classes. An alternative might be a local library-based knit-n-natter group. [*Gone are the days when librarians chastised us for talking! Ed.*]



Some regular dates for your Diary



Daily:

- ♦ **Morning prayer** (Monday to Saturday) 8.30am in Shrewsbury Abbey choir stalls;
- ♦ **Midday prayer** (Monday to Saturday) 12.00 noon (5-10 minutes), Shrewsbury Abbey from the Lectern

Weekly:

- Sunday: **Holy Communion**, 10.00am at St Peter's, Monkmoor Road
Sung Eucharist, 11am at Shrewsbury Abbey
Evensong, 3pm at Shrewsbury Abbey
- Monday: **Get Moving**, 10.00am-11.00am, gentle exercise to mobilise your body, in the Parish Hall, behind St Peter's, Monkmoor Road
- Tuesday: **Coffee & Chat**, 10.00am—11.45am, in the Parish Hall, behind St Peter's, Monkmoor Road
- Wednesday: **Midweek Communion**, 12 noon, Shrewsbury Abbey
Homegroup, 7-8.30pm—please ask for the address
- Thursday: **Coffee & Chat**, 10.00am—11.45am, in St Peter's Church Monkmoor
Prayer Group, 7.00pm—8.00pm, St Peter's Church Monkmoor
- Friday: **Homegroup**, 10.30-12 noon—please ask for the address

Monthly:

- Wednesday: **Forget-Me-Not Tea**, 3.00pm-5.00pm, first Wednesday of each month, in the Parish Hall, behind St Peter's Church, Monkmoor Road.

UP AND COMING EVENTS AT THE ABBEY

Monday 27 January	10:30	Professor Jean Boase-Beier—Poetry & Readings to mark Holocaust Memorial Day
Tuesday 28 January	20:00	Dan Owen (postponed from 17 Dec)
Wednesday 29 January	20:00	Dan Owen (postponed from 28 Dec)
Saturday 08 February	19:00	Cutting Crew
Saturday 15 March	19:30	Russell Watson (postponed from 22 November 2024)
Thursday 27 March	19:30	Bye Bye Baby – The Music of Frankie Valli & The Four Seasons
Friday 11 April	20:00	China Crisis
Saturday 12 April	19:30	Shrewsbury Choral - Bach B minor Mass
Saturday 26 April	18:00 & 20:30	London Concertante – Music of Radiohead
Friday 09 May	19:30	Hot Jazz Biscuits

SATURDAYS AT NOON—MUSICAL EVENTS AT SHREWSBURY ABBEY —*FREE!*

With a retiring collection in aid of the Abbey organ Fund.
See notice boards for all details.

Provisional dates for Messy Church at St Peter's Monkmoor Ears open for news via Toddle-In and the Facebook page.

Day	Date	Event
Wednesday	19 February, 10.00-12.30	Messy Church near Shrove Tuesday / Ash Wednesday
Wednesday	16 April, 10.00-12.30	Messy Church for Holy Week



Toddle-in
at St. Peter's Church Hall

Term times | **Stay and Play**
Wednesday Morning
10-11.30

for babies or toddlers
and children Mums,
Dads and Carers

*£1.50 Voluntary Contribution

Mental Health Helplines - UK

Samaritans - 116 123 (free 24 hour helpline)

SHOUT - Text SHOUT to 85258 (free, confidential, open 24 hours)

CALM (for men) - 0800 58 58 58 (open from 5pm to midnight every day)

Papyrus (below 35) - Call 0800 068 4141 (young suicide prevention open 9am to midnight every day)

YoungMinds (young people & parents) - Crisis Messenger text YM to 85258 (available 24/7)
Parent Helpline 0808 802 5544 (Mon-Fri from 9.30am to 4pm)

Would you share? It could save a life.



Getting to know you better! With **THREE QUESTIONS**

1. What is your favourite hymn?
2. What's a pastime or hobby that you currently enjoy?
3. If you could travel anywhere, irrespective of cost or visas etc, where would you want to go?

June's favourite hymn is
"I, the Lord, of sea and sky";

A pastime she enjoyed in Advent was making Christmas decorations, but she also likes reading (and that is all year round!) She'd like to travel to Vancouver, Canada, anytime – seeing close family of course!

Kiwi Christine says that her favourite hymn is
"Amazing Grace";

A current pastime is photography; and she'd like to travel (back), if it were possible, to Shrewsbury!

Bernice has several favourite hymns, one of them being
"Dear Lord and Father of mankind," but also *"Love divine, all loves excellent"* and *"Guide me O thou Great Redeemer"* best sung, of course, by a male voice choir!

As a life-long lover of sport, badminton being a favourite, but she is more of a spectator than player these days. Bernice did particularly like the Olympics motto last year of *"Go faster, higher and stronger!"*

One of David's favourite hymns is *"Just as I am, without one plea";*

David tells us that indoor bowls is a fairly new-to-him and enjoyable pastime – a Parkinson's Support Group activity;

He'd like to go to Lake Garda in northern Italy.

Lucia does not have a favourite hymn; She does enjoy reading detective stories and she'd like to go to India!

Jono's favourite hymn is *"How great Thou art!"*; He does enjoy relaxing by the sea and he'd like to go to Nepal in the Himalayas, specifically to Kath-

Megan shares a favourite hymn, *"Thine be the Glory";* A particularly enjoyable pastime is volunteering as a room guide at Wightwick Manor; and she would like to visit Iceland and the Nordic States.



Margaret Junior School, Uganda —an update

December sees the end of the school year in Uganda. This means National Primary Leaving Exams for all those in Year P7 and celebrations for all leaving Nursery to join primary school (see right photograph). It has been another busy year in which the new Vocational Training Centre has come into its own.

Our Christmas Appeal is to increase the number of sewing machines so that the pupils do not have to share all the time. Each machine costs about the equivalent of £150



and we would like to buy 6 new machines for the new term starting in 2025.

Any help would be gratefully received.

Either by

- ◆ Bank transfer to 30-97-62 ac 02754575 or
- ◆ cheque payable to ***The Friends of the Margaret Junior School*** at 2 Whitehall Terrace, SY2 5AA.



Safer ways to School—local school successes!

🎉 Congratulations to the below 10 Shropshire primary schools. They've become the first in the county to apply for accreditation from a national scheme that helps schools to create, develop and implement school travel plans.

🚲 The ten schools include all five in the Severn Bridges Academy Trust – marked with a ●

- Clee Hill Community Academy
- Greenfields Primary School
- Burford C of E Primary School
- Mount Pleasant Primary School
- Harlescott Junior School
- Sundorne Infant School

- Market Drayton Junior School
- Radbrook Primary School
- Greenacres Primary School
- Oxon CofE Primary School

The schools have submitted their applications to the Modeshift STARS Travel Plan programme.



[Thanks to BBC Shropshire news online]

Periodically on the BBC News App photographs taken by resident of the West Midlands including Shropshire are shared. Here are some photographs from 2024. We hope you enjoy the scenery and appreciate the photographic skill.



Left: The National Trust was given 198 acres of Kinver Edge in 1917 and today cares for nearly 600 acres.



Below: Luke Bennett crouched low in a field at Claverdon, nr Warwick, to focus on the hare.



Periodically on the BBC News App photographs taken by resident of the West Midlands including Shropshire are shared. Here are some photographs from 2024. We hope you enjoy the scenery and appreciate the photographic skill.



Above: The rolling hills near Church Stretton, Shropshire



Above: Northern Lights captured in Shropshire—October 2024

Look after yourself!

DOPAMINE MENU

Starters

Sunshine
Meditation / prayer
Breathwork



Main

Movement
Time in nature
New experiences



Dessert

Dance
Quality sleep
Practice gratitude

AND look after others!

**Love your neighbour—
no one said that was
easy
to love your neighbour**

who doesn't

 **Look like you**

 **Think like you**

 **Love like you**

 **Speak like you**

 **Pray like you**

 **Vote like you**

Love your neighbour

No exceptions

Fairtrade

The Shrewsbury Fairtrade stall in the Market is now also open on Thursdays between 10:30 and 2:30pm.



Use **Fairtrade!**

Wendy & Roger Ford

COFFEE AND CHAT

Weekdays, 10-11.45am

***Tuesdays in the St Peter's Hall
and**

***Thursdays in St Peter's Church**

Hope to see you there! No charge and all welcome. There's a rota for serving; new helpers welcome, speak to Steph Fahie



**Coffee
Morning**

59ers Club

The 59ers has been running for several years and the money raised is put towards the Abbey Restoration Fund. Members pay £5 per month and choose a number between 1 and 59. The winning number of the monthly draw is that selected by the computer in the National Lottery on the last Saturday of the month. The winner receives £50 and there is an additional Summer Prize Draw of £100.

There are plenty of unallocated numbers and membership forms are available from Roger Ford (01743 246352).

Your recent reading —thanks for these contributions!

On searching for a Book of Stamps

check in wallet
check once more
hunt through bag
look in drawer

Feel coat pockets
peer in pot
rifle desk
find them not

Shake out shoes
lift up hat
inspect fridge
ask the cat

Scour the shelves
peek in purse
turn out cupboards
swear and curse

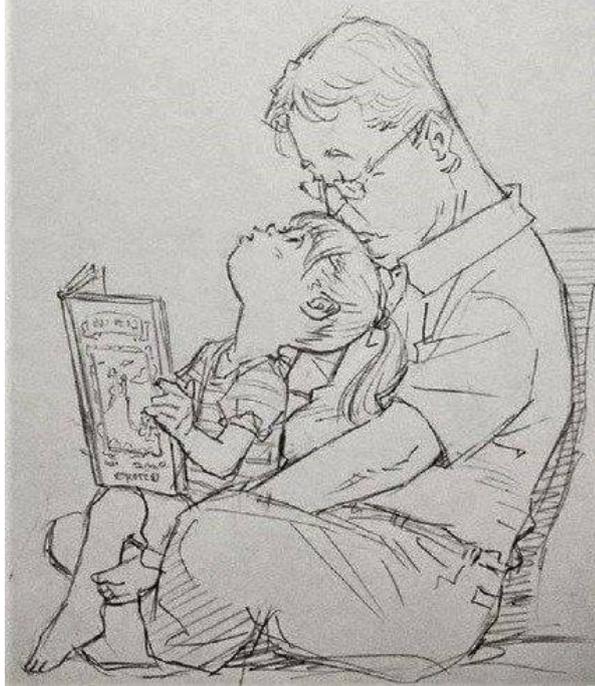
go to shop
buy new stamps
put in wallet
next to stamps

Brian Bilston
[thanks for social media for this]

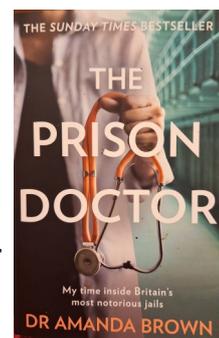


We shouldn't teach great books; we should teach a love of reading.

B. F. Skinner



The Prison Doctor - Dr Amanda Brown (Harper Collins, 2019)



Dr Brown's book about her work in three very different prisons is grimly fascinating. "The Doc" sees her role as a listener and a comforter.

I recommend this book for all its grisly details and heart-warming episodes which keep you cheering along from the sidelines.

David May

The Blitz Detective—Mike Hollow

Quite by accident, on a reduced bookstand in a well-known local garden centre, I came across a crime novel by author Mike Hollow, who writes a series 'The Blitz Detective'. Having purchased others, I romped through the six novels, easy reads yet well crafted and expressed. I've enjoyed the plots and main recurring characters. Available on loan should you be interested.

Katherine May

PUZZLES

SUDOKU FOR YOU

Medium difficulty

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

Hard level difficulty

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

To make you laugh or at least smile ...

Q: What is the best present in the world?

A: It's a broken drum.
You just can't beat it!!



Q: Why did the bald man paint rabbits on his head?

A: From a distance they looked like hares!



Q: Why did the golfer bring two pairs of trousers to the game?

A: In case he got a hole in one!

One for those who love their coffee machines!



Q: When is a piece of wood like a king?

A: When it's a ruler.



PUZZLES



FAMOUS ARTISTS—WORDSEARCH

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

BELLINI BLAKE BRUEGEL CARAVAGGIO
DONATELLO DURER HILLIARD HOLBEIN MANET
MONET PICASSO REMBRANDT REYNOLDS RUBENS
TITIAN TURNER VANGOGH VANDYKE VELAZQUEZ
VERONESE

And finally

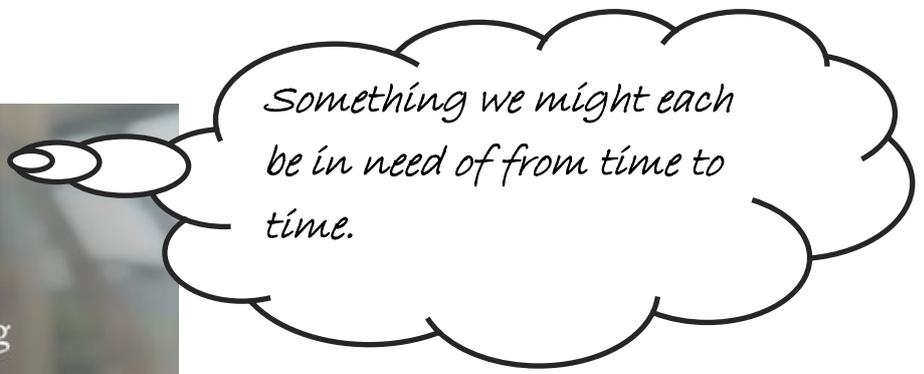
hurkle-durkle

hur · kle - dur · kle

A 200-year-old Scottish term meaning to lounge in bed long after it's time to get up.

Happiness is hurkle-durkling.

It's been a long week, I think I'll just hurkle-durkle today.



"I believe churches are meant for praising God. But so are coffee shops, the gym, conversations with friends, strangers etc. Don't let a building confine your faith, because we will never change the world by just going to church. We need to be the Church!"

*Mothers' Union Aotearoa
New Zealand & Polynesia*



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Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ShrewsburyAbbey/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Friends who like Saint Peter's Church/>

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

The Parish Office is open from 9.00am to 4.00pm on Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, and usually on a Tuesday morning. Staff have to move around a fair bit, so please look in the Abbey if we don't answer the buzzer or, better still, phone in advance if you are planning to visit .

Disclaimer:

The contents of this newsletter in no way reflect the views of the Church of England or the clergy or churchwardens of this parish. They are purely the personal opinions &/or comments of those who