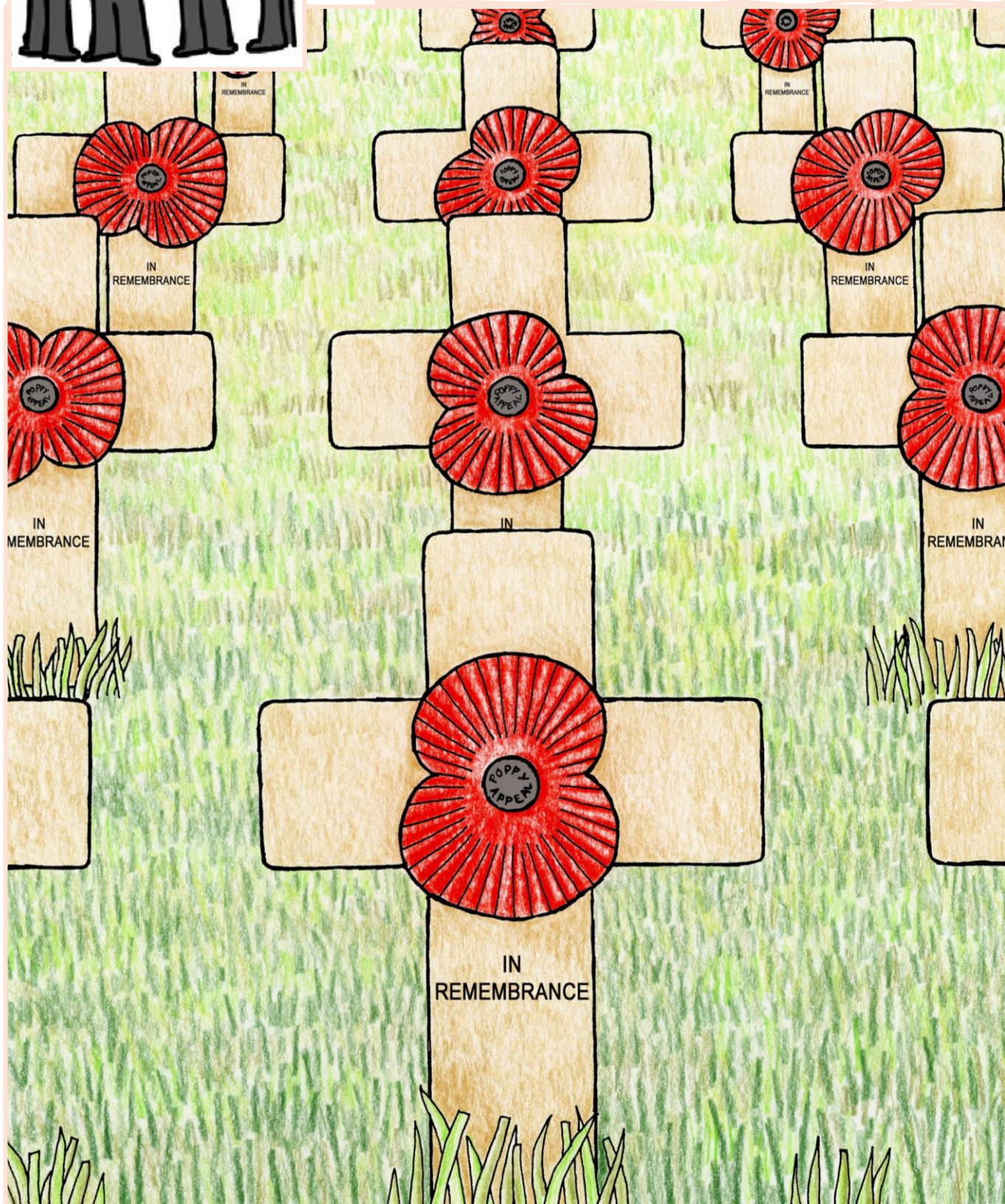




The Magazine for The Parish of Chigwell & Chigwell Row

November 2026



£1

where sold,
online free

St Mary's Church, Chigwell Village
All Saints' Church, Chigwell Row
St Winifred's Church, Chigwell



The Churches in Chigwell and Chigwell Row, open & online

St Mary's Church

High Road, Chigwell IG7 6QA www.stmaryschigwell.org.uk

Churchwardens: Joy Madeiros 07976 803887
Alison Jordan 01992 610717



Sunday Services: 9:15am – traditional CofE service
10:45am – service on a big screen with a blend of informality and liturgy, and our children's group, Treasure Seekers, during term time.

Morning Prayer: 9:00am on Wednesdays

All Saints' Church

Romford Road, Chigwell IG7 4QD www.allsaintschigwellrow.org

Churchwardens: Helen Ellis-Poole 07887 731320
Cindy Barber 07506 387070



Sunday Service: 10:00am
Morning Prayer: 9:00am on Thursdays
Holy Communion: 9:15am, on 19th November, in lieu of Morning Prayer

St Winifred's Church

Manor Road, Chigwell IG7 5PS www.stwinifredschurch.org.uk

Churchwardens: Daniel Forshaw 07591 857657
Bill Darke 07880 751578



Sunday Service: 11:15am with Tiga Club on the 2nd & 4th Sundays

Morning Prayer: 9:00am on Tuesdays



Morning Prayer is online as well as meeting in person as above. It is hosted on the Parish of Chigwell & Chigwell Row Facebook page at 9:00am on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. Watch live or later.

The Parish of Chigwell & Chigwell Row is part of the [Vale of Roding](#) benefice, alongside the parishes of Lambourne with Abridge, and Stapleford Abbots.

Paula writes...

Love Protects

This year November begins with All Saints Day on Sunday 1st and draws to a close on Advent Sunday on 29th. In the middle of the month we will be highlighting Safeguarding and Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes on the same day, Sunday 15th. And of course we will be marking Remembrance Sunday in the usual way on Sunday 8th.

I have borrowed the phrase “Shoebox Sunday” from St Martin’s Church, Cambridge, where I served my curacy from 2012 to 2016. *This photo was taken in 2014, when most boxes were still wrapped by hand!* It was a privilege to play a small part.



As it says in this year’s Operation Christmas Child leaflet, ‘We want every child to know that “*God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.*” Your shoebox will be an expression

of God’s love to a child and may be the only gift he or she receives. So do come along and pray a blessing on the boxes we will be sending.

And as it happens, this year Safeguarding Sunday will be marked on November 15th too. In its simplest terms safeguarding is the protection of those in our care and in St Paul’s first letter to the Corinthians he writes that *love protects*. And this gives us a helpful

perspective. Safeguarding can feel like something imposed on us from the outside – a box ticking exercise to keep the Charity Commission happy. But if we look at it through the eyes of faith, we can see that it isn’t simply about compliance but about the very heart of what it means to follow Jesus.

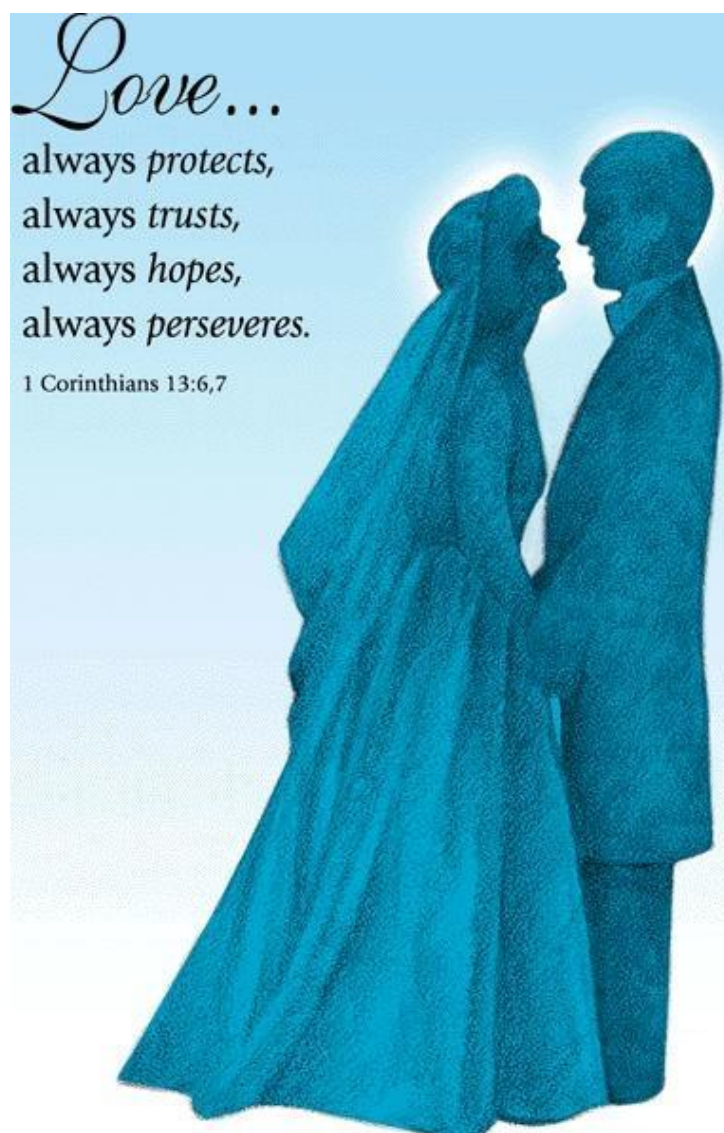


St Paul's letter teaches us about agapé, self-giving love, and he shows us that because of our human state, we are unable to sustain selfless love. In our own strength, we will run out of energy. With our earthly mindsets, we will eventually lose our motivation and focus, growing impatient or even resentful. That is why Paul reminds us often that God must be our source of grace. So as we journey through the Autumn towards Advent, let us stay close to Jesus and invite him to fill us with His life giving and love giving Spirit daily.

With my love and prayers, as ever

Paula

Team Vicar





We welcomed in Baptism ...



Anna-Marie Banford

25th October

All Saints'

Delana Stewart

25th October

All Saints'

We mourned the loss of ...



Valerie Coral
Seabridge

19th October

Burial of
Ashes

All Saints'
Churchyard

Antony Robert
Mansi

23rd October

Funeral

Forest Park Crematorium

Rev'd Toni Smith

23rd October

Burial

St Mary's Churchyard

Prayer for November 2026

Dear Lord,

At this dark and dismal time, when the year is closing down and our lives get busier and the world more confusing, we can sometimes become discouraged and low in spirits.

Help us to adjust our perspective, to turn and look up, to focus afresh on You, to remember that Your name is above all names, above discouragement, above despair, above confusion.

Help us to be thankful for each day that You have made, recognising each one as a gift from You, to be treasured and lived fruitfully.

May we welcome Your powerful, healing light into our hearts and lives – Your light, which no darkness can dim. Help us to remember your words, I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness but will have the light of life.

Help us to follow you and walk in the light, this November and always. In your name, Amen.

by Daphne Kitching

Remembrance Sunday 2026

This year the national service for Remembrance will be held on 8th November and include the annual march past involving up to 10,000 veterans and eligible participants. It will be followed by formal two-minute silence on Wednesday, 11th November.

This year Remembrance marks several significant milestones:

The 110th anniversary of the 1916 Battles of the Somme and Jutland, as well as the introduction of wartime conscription.

The 70th anniversary since the Suez Crisis of 1956.

The 25th anniversary since UK armed forces first entered Afghanistan, following the 2001 deployments.



Remembrance Sunday Services



St Mary's Church

10:45am – beginning at the War memorial outside the church

St Winifred's Church

10:45am – beginning at the War memorial 'rock' outside Montpellier House by the Shell Garage

All Saints' Church

10:50am – at the Church

Armistice Day – to be advised.



Are vicars slowly disappearing?

There are certainly some worrying statistics out there. Such as:

There are 8,368 retired priests holding permission to officiate. But there are only 6,682 clergy in paid (stipendiary) positions, and 2,440 in self-supporting, unpaid roles.

Nearly half of the current 6,682 paid priests are aged over 55. They all retire at 70. But numbers of new entrants in training dropped from 591 in 2020 to 442 by 2025.

Where is this all headed? Worse case, by 2033, there could be only 5,400 full-time priests. That is 40 per cent of what the number was in 2000.

These sobering predictions come in a recent report by the campaign group Save the Parish. It argues that the decline has left the C of E at real risk of no longer being “a Christian presence in every community.”

So, Save the Parish is calling on the C of E to “commit to a model that will support a young person in stipendiary ministry for their lifetime.” It does not want a reduction in full-time paid clerical positions to save money, and it wants to lift the retirement age of 70.

Also, the report says that the Church should measure ministers’ success on the “numbers of lives touched, funeral by funeral, cup of tea by cup of tea”.

Please continue to pray for our own vacancy following Charlie’s retirement as our Rector earlier in the year.

Tell the **Independent Safeguarding Audit**

The INEQE Safeguarding Group is an independent company of safeguarding professionals.

We have been asked to carry out Audits of the Church of England to make sure dioceses, cathedrals and palaces are doing all they can to create environments where everyone feels safe, valued and respected.

Listening to and learning from dioceses is an important part of the Audit.



ineqe
SAFEGUARDING GROUP

You can help us

If you have any information, concerns or worries about something that happened in or is related to your Church body, you can contact us via this webpage.

ineqe.com/churchofengland/chelmsford



Access the webpage by scanning the QR code

Tell us your views

Your participation is critically important and you can help by taking part in an anonymous and confidential survey.

We encourage you to be open and honest. We will only share information if what you tell us indicates a serious risk of harm.

 ineqe.com/churchofengland/chelmsford

Closing date is **1st December 2026**



Don't forget - If you or someone you know is in immediate danger, it is important that you quickly get the right help – **call the police on 999**

NSPCC Helpline

☎ Helpline - 080 8800 5000
✉ Email - help@NSPCC.org.uk

Childline

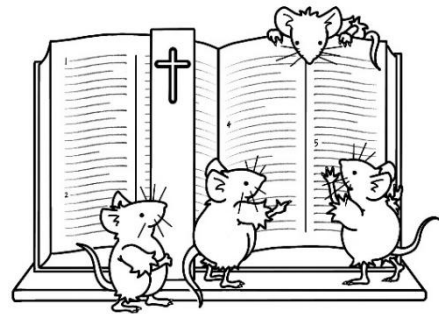
☎ Helpline - 0800 1111
🌐 Web - childline.org.uk

Safe Spaces Support Service

☎ Helpline - 030 0303 1056
✉ Email - safespaces@firstlight.org.uk
🌐 Web - safespacesenglandandwales.org.uk

Canon Paul Hardingham continues his series on the books of the Bible.

What's the Big Idea? - an introduction to 1 Timothy



This month we look again at the books of the New Testament. Paul wrote to Timothy, *'my true son in the faith'* (2), as leader of the church in Ephesus. Timothy had a Greek father and Jewish Christian mother (Acts 16:1). Paul led him to faith during his first visit to Lystra and on his second visit invited Timothy to join him on his travels. He circumcised Timothy so that his Greek ancestry would not be a liability to working with the Jews (Acts 16:3). Although somewhat timid and often unwell, Timothy was a faithful servant of the Lord and Paul.

Paul writes his letter to challenge false teaching and to give instruction on aspects of church life, including worship, the appointment of leaders, and their attitude to money.

Paul gave Timothy authorisation to challenge the false teachers in the church. They taught a strong emphasis on Jewish myths and genealogies and were legalistic about Jewish laws. They also taught that the resurrection had already come and Christians no longer needed to look to Christ's coming, judgment, and resurrection of the dead. They were so immersed in speculative controversies that they neglected the very core of the Christian faith. Not an unfamiliar situation today!

Therefore, like Timothy, we are called to enable the church to bring glory to God: *'But you, man of God, flee from all this, and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance and gentleness. Fight the good fight of the faith. Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called when you made your good confession in the presence of many witnesses.'* (6:11,12)





ST WIN'S CHRISTMAS FAIR

SAT 21st
NOVEMBER 2026
FROM 11AM - 2PM

Festive Stalls • Santa's Grotto • Food • Games
ST WINIFRED'S CHURCH, 115 MANOR ROAD, CHIGWELL, IG7 5PS



Parish Christmas Lunch

**SUNDAY 13TH DECEMBER,
12:30PM
ST MARY'S CHURCHROOMS**

Sign up sheets in church
or contact the
Parish Office

if you are unable to attend, please let us know so
that any last minute guests are not turned away.



The Rev'd Dr Jo White continues her series on aspects of Christianity.

Reflected Faith Series: Bread and wine



Last time we reflected on the time of bringing forward our 'collection' money.

In many churches at the same time the wine and bread are also brought forward by members of the congregation for use during the Eucharist celebration.

This bringing of the bread and wine during the Offertory Procession isn't just a practical matter as these are required, but is a symbolic act representing the people deliberately coming forward to the 'holiest' of places and offering their daily work and lives to God.

In the earliest days of the church, actual food and wine was brought from the peoples' homes for the service and to distribute to the poor afterwards.

In orthodox churches there are often two types of 'bread.' One that is consecrated and given to communicants and another kept within the main body of the church, alongside plastic bags, for folk to take a piece home to share with their family and friends; which mimics this earlier action.

In the Church of England, and in many other denominations, when the bread and wine have been consecrated, they are considered to be set aside explicitly for the purpose of human consumption and therefore all must be consumed, either during or immediately after the service. This is normally done by the priest but can happen by any communicant member that the priest has asked.

Because of this it's important that the priest knows how many communicants there are likely to be. Too much wine consecrated can have a detrimental effect if one has to drive to another church!

For myself, churches have communicated this to me in various ways: in a suburban church we had a board up high at the back of the nave with large numbers placed there by a Churchwarden who had counted folk as they entered. In a large village church the

number was whispered to me by a person bringing up the elements, whilst nowadays in small local village churches you will often see me stop and count!

This month

Next time you attend a communion service have a look at how numbers are communicated and who brings forward the elements. What does the priest do when s/he receives them?

What are you built on?

“Lengthen your cords, strengthen your stakes. For you will spread out to the right and to the left...” Isaiah 54: 2, 3

How strong and flexible are you, as a person? Did you know that the Golden Gate Bridge in San Francisco can move up to 20 feet in either direction as its centre? It’s built to sway – to absorb and accommodate vast daily stresses and heat. But it always comes back to its true centre, because it is built on a vast system of steel and concrete that sinks down, down into a solid rock foundation far below in the Pacific.

Each of us needs to be anchored like that - onto a sure foundation. Without it, we will be at the mercy of the storms and strong tides of life. Burdens and flying debris from other people’s lives will knock us off balance.

That foundation for us is Jesus. How is your relationship with Him? Is it solid? Is it deep enough to hold you steady on your course as

2026 draws to a close? Jesus urges us to ‘abide’ in Him. It takes time to get to know Him. The Bible is His message to us; prayer is our message back to Him, and more: for if we draw close to Him, He promises to draw close to us, too.



Why you should not squeeze your teabag

More than eight million of us drink at least two cups of tea a day. Many of us drink five cups or more. As a nation, we love tea.



George Orwell loved tea. Back in 1946 he even wrote an essay, 'A Nice Cup of Tea' to set out his 11 rules for making the perfect brew. But nowadays, we turn to chemistry professors on the Tea Advisory Panel for their tea-making tips.

Why chemistry professors? Because there are almost 2,000 chemicals in tea, which is a “wildly rich molecular mix”. And everything you do to your tea changes its chemical makeup.

So – some tips:

First of all, use *boiling* water on the tea leaves.

Secondly, warm your mug or teapot. That ensures the water is HOT when it hits your tea leaves.

Thirdly, swirl the bag or pot – swirling releases more of those subtle flavours.

Fourthly, let it mash, steep or brew for three to five minutes, to get the best flavour.

Fifthly, *never* squeeze your teabag! That releases bitter tannic acids.

Sixth – add the milk last, or the water won't be hot enough to brew your tea. Apparently, adding milk first is a historical relic from when boiling tea could break fragile china cups.

Seventh – take a moment to enjoy your tea. Chemists stress that medium to strong tea is really good for you. It increases your

hydration, your cognitive function, and your bone health. It even helps cut the risk of type-2 diabetes and heart disease.

Finally, beware tea in America. They do odd things with it there. They use lukewarm water over indifferent tea bags. Even worse, they sometimes put a teabag in a mug of cold water and then boil it in a microwave. This is sacrilege!

General Synod opens – for the 11th time



There is a new General Synod beginning this month. Its term will run from 2026 to 2031. It is the 11th since the first General Synod began in 1970, following the Synodical Government Measure of 1969.

The new General Synod has lots to debate and decide. Here are just some key issues:

Identity and relationships: Since the conclusion of the formal Living in Love and Faith (LLF) programme, new consultative groups will manage the work regarding same-sex relationship and marriage guidance.

Clergy care: There is a growing concern for the wellbeing of our clergy. It is felt they need stronger support packages, better pensions and improved care for themselves.

Safeguarding is still a top priority. The new General Synod will discuss and implement the strict new Clergy Conduct Measures (CCM) and responses to independent safeguarding recommendations.

Social & Environment: These problems are still growing, and so debates will address achieving net-zero carbon goals, protecting nature on church land, and reducing the polarisation in our society.

Christmas Tree Lighting

5TH DECEMBER, 6:00PM

STATION GREEN,
CHIGWELL VILLAGE

JOIN US, SINGING CHRISTMAS CAROLS, LIGHTING UP
THE CHIGWELL VILLAGE CHRISTMAS TREE,
AND ENJOYING REFRESHMENTS AT VICTORY HALL

DIOCESE OF CHELMSFORD

Course in Christian Studies

*Growing in faith. Deepening understanding.
Living out God's call.*

The Course in Christian Studies (CCS) is an opportunity to explore the Christian faith in a friendly, supportive and thought-provoking way. Open to everyone, it is ideal for those who want to deepen their faith, grow in confidence and explore how Christianity relates to everyday life.



Explore
the Bible



Learn
together



Explore
life and faith



Grow as
disciples

 THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND
Diocese of Chelmsford

ALL
ARE VERY
WELCOME

HAINAULT CLASS



When: Mondays, 7.00pm – 9.00pm
Starting Monday 11 January 2027



Where: St Paul's Church,
Arrowsmith Road, Hainault,
Chigwell, IG7 4NZ



Open to: Anyone who wants to explore the Christian faith, whether you are new to it or have been a Christian for many years.

*"A rich and rewarding course
that deepened my faith and gave
me a new perspective on life."*



Find out more about the Course in Christian Studies
at the Diocese of Chelmsford:

[www.chelmsford.anglican.org/vocations-and-discipleship/
discipleship/course-in-christian-studies/](http://www.chelmsford.anglican.org/vocations-and-discipleship/discipleship/course-in-christian-studies/)

18 per cent of our teenagers are unhappy

So says the Children's Society, following a major report. That means nearly one in five of all our 15- to 16-year-olds.

Children's Society analysed data from the OECD's recent Programme for International Student Assessment, which looked at nearly 200,000 15- to 16-year-olds across 29 European countries, including the UK.

Children's Society found that the UK ranked last for overall life satisfaction. We are still at the bottom of the European table, for the second consecutive time. Close behind came Czechia, Germany, France and Ireland. Croatia's teenagers are the happiest.

The chief executive of the Children's Society, Mark Russell, said: "For the second time running, young people in the UK are telling us they are less satisfied with their lives than teenagers anywhere else in Europe. This isn't a one off. It's a pattern, and it should be a wake-up call."

The survey also suggests that the UK has the widest socio-economic gap in Europe, and that disadvantaged teenagers are affected the most. More than one quarter of the most disadvantaged respondents in the UK (26 per cent) reported low life satisfaction, compared with 11 per cent of the least disadvantaged.

"What's especially concerning," Mr Russell said, "is the size of the gap between the richest and poorest teenagers here. Nowhere else in Europe is a young person's life satisfaction so closely tied to their family's circumstances.

"Young people should not have to reach breaking point before support is available."

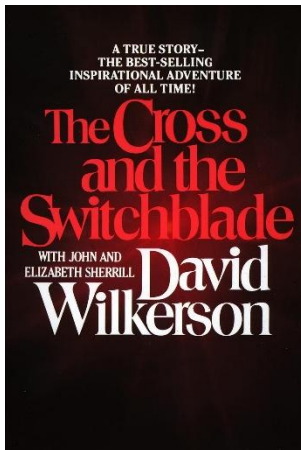
*Our annual Christingle services are a fundraiser
for the Children's Society.
At each church, Christmas Eve at 4:00pm.*



**Book Review by the Hycliffe Gardens
house group**(who meet at St Mary's Church)



The Cross and the Switchblade
by David Wilkerson.



Genre: Biography, Christian Literature.

Overview.

A Christian classic written in the 1960's about life and death in New York's street gangs.....and the God who reaches out to the unreachable with his transforming love.

Into this world stepped David Wilkerson, a country preacher, armed only with the message of God's love and the promise of the Holy Spirit's power.

Likes and dislikes.

Some people found that the American words and phrases made it less accessible, but all agreed that it was a gripping, fast moving story, quite brutal at times and not easy to put down.

Conclusion.

We felt that many Christians would enjoy this book and also anyone working with and supporting young people would find it an inspiration.

The faith and trust in God displayed by Wilkerson and his team was amazing.

We were reminded of Street Pastors who work with young people, showing them love and respect and Mill Grove, a local Christian charity who support families and young people and have the

words: HAVE FAITH IN GOD emblazoned across the front of their premises. They have never asked for donations but have always had faith in God.

We discovered that the Teen Challenge charity is still helping many people, all over the world, recover from addiction.

Wilkerson House
Uphill Road.
Ilford
IG1 2JJ

see tclondon.org.uk to discover more.

Burnham wants to approve bishops

The Prime Minister, Andy Burnham, wants to advise the King on the appointment of bishops and archbishops in the Church of England and Church of Scotland.

The practice of the King being involved dates way back to the Reformation, when the monarch was head of the Church, and so took responsibility for appointing clergy.

Burnham is currently barred because he is a professing Roman Catholic. But he has called the Roman Catholic Relief Act 1829 an “antiquated and archaic anomaly” and is determined to change it.

These days, of course, the Prime Minister’s approval of such appointments is symbolic. The Church puts its candidate forward, who will be approved. In the meantime, there are nine current or upcoming vacancies for diocesan bishops.



Sunday Services & Readings for November

Sunday 25th October Bible Sunday	Nehemiah 8:1-12 Matthew 24:30-35
St Mary's: All Saints': St Mary's: St Winifred's:	9:15 Matins 10:00 Morning Worship & Baptism 10:45 Morning Worship 11:15 Holy Communion
Sunday 1st November All Saints' Day	Revelation 7:9-17, 1 John 3:1-3 Matthew 5:1-12
St Mary's: All Saints': St Mary's: St Winifred's: St Mary's, St Winifred's: All Saints':	9:15 Holy Communion BCP 10:00 All Age Holy Communion 10:45 All Age Morning Worship 11:15 All Age Morning Worship 3:00pm 'In Loving Memory' 3:30pm 'In Loving Memory'
Sunday 8th November Remembrance Sunday	Matthew 25:1-13
St Mary's: St Winifred's: All Saints':	10:45 Morning Worship 10:45 Morning Worship 10:40 Morning Worship
Sunday 15th November 2nd Sunday before Advent	1 Thessalonians 5:1-11 Matthew 25:14-30
St Mary's: All Saints': St Mary's: St Winifred's:	9:15 Holy Communion 10:00 Holy Communion 10:45 Morning Worship 11:15 Morning Worship
Sunday 22nd November Christ the King	Ezekiel 34:11-16 Matthew 25:31-45
St Mary's: All Saints': St Mary's: St Winifred's:	9:15 Matins 10:00 Morning Worship 10:45 Holy Communion 11:15 Holy Communion
Sunday 29th November Advent Sunday	Isaiah 64:1-9 Mark 13:24-37
St Mary's: All Saints': St Mary's: St Winifred's:	9:15 Holy Communion 10:00 Holy Communion 10:45 Morning Worship 11:15 Morning Worship
Sunday 6th December 2nd Sunday of Advent	Isaiah 40:1-11 Mark 1:1-8
St Mary's: All Saints': St Mary's: St Winifred's:	9:15 Holy Communion BCP 10:00 All Age Holy Communion 10:45 Toy Service 11:15 Toy Service



Parish Diary

Keep up to date with the Parish Calendar on GCal: bit.ly/3H5LXS7



Date	Time	Event	Venue
Mondays	8:00pm	Hour of Prayer	(circulates around the parish)
Tuesdays	9:00am	Morning Prayer	St Win's Church
Wednesdays	9:00am	Morning Prayer	St Mary's Church
	6:00pm (open 5:30)	Rest & Refresh	All Saints' House
Thursdays	9:00am	Morning Prayer	All Saints' House
	9:00am	Women's Group	Limes Centre
	10:30am	'Open House'	St Mary's Church

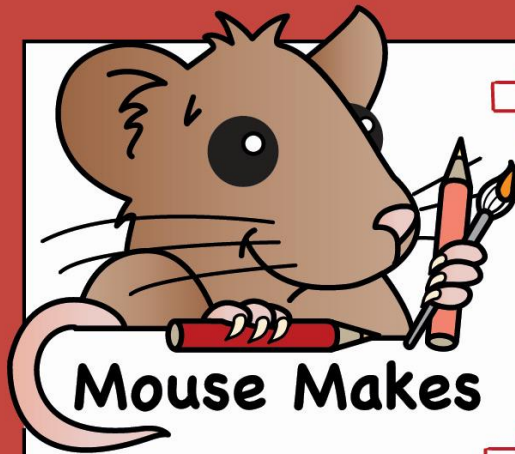
Sunday 1 st Nov	3:00pm	'In Loving Memory'	St Mary's, St Winifred's
	3:30pm		All Saints' Church
Monday 2 nd	8:00pm	Hour of Prayer	St Mary's Church
Wednesday 4 th	7:30pm	Autumn Course	Zoom
Monday 9 th	8:00pm	Hour of Prayer	St Winifred's Church
Wednesday 11 th	10:55am	Armistice Day – tbc	St Mary's War Memorial
Thursday 12 th	7:00pm	Thursday Club	All Saints' House
Monday 16 th	8:00pm	Hour of Prayer	All Saints' Vicarage
Tuesday 17 th	2:30pm	Time 4 Tea	All Saints' House
Thursday 19 th	9:15am	Parish Holy Communion	All Saints' Vicarage
	7:30pm	Men's Group	All Saints' Vicarage
Saturday 21 st	8:00am	Men's Breakfast	All Saints' House
	11:00am	Christmas Fair	St Winifred's Hall
Monday 23 rd	8:00pm	Hour of Prayer	St Mary's
Tuesday 24 th	2:00pm	Time 4 God	All Saint's House
	7:30pm	PCC	St Winifred's Church
Sunday 29 th	5:30 for 6:00pm	Advent Sunday: Lighting Up Chigwell Row	All Saints' Church
Monday 30 th	8:00pm	Hour of Prayer	St Winifred's Church
Saturday 5 th	8:30am	Ladies' Breakfast	St Mary's Churchrooms
	6:00pm	Lighting the Village Christmas Tree	Station Green, Chigwell Village

Carol Singing – dates for your diary:

Thursday 17th December – 7:00pm at The Two Brewers, Chigwell Row

Tuesday 22nd December – 7:30pm at The Three Jolly Wheelers, Woodford Bridge





Mouse Makes

Remember
the words Jesus said:
*"It is more blessed to give
than to receive."*
Colossians 3:25

Remembrance Sunday is the day
we remember the sacrifice of those
who gave their lives so that we
could live in peace, it mirrors what
Christ did for us when he gave his life
so that we could live in peace with God.

Jesus said:
*"No one can have
greater love than
to give his life for
his friends."*
John 15:13

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



REMEMBRANCE • PROTECT • DEFEND • SACRIFICE • SELFLESS • SERVICE
 BRAVERY • VALOUR • HONOUR • COURAGE • HEROISM • LOYAL • REGARD
 RESPECT • THANKFUL • MEMORIAL • TRIBUTE • COMMEND • ARMISTICE • PEACE



St. Winifred's Nursery - a story of friendship, love, support and teamwork



A group was first set up at St Winifred's Church Hall in 1959 for young children to come to play and make friends, while their family adults were able to leave them with the kind, caring staff team.

In 1976 the Nursery group was handed over to Diane H – her children attended and she was able to keep Nursery running so providing continuity of care for the children of local families.

I first came to St Winifred's Church Hall in 1988 with my son Stuart (now 40 years old) to attend the Church Toddler Group – there I met Lorraine C and Gregory (we are fellow Northerners and have remained friends since then). Mrs H and her Nursery staff team were on hand to introduce the toddler families to the Nursery and this made the transition very smooth as the children had already made a few friends. Through this early time at Nursery, I met Michelle N with her four children who all attended Nursery – Michelle continues to be a very important part of both my and my Mum's lives. Also we met Caroline and Andy with Mel and Edward – at 4 years old Mel designed our Nursery logo – then later on Mel's daughter was also a Nursery pupil – we have had the great privilege of welcoming many children-of-children through Nursery over the years.

When Stuart started Nursery in 1989, part of Mrs H's staff team was Pauline G – her children had attended Nursery and as with all the staff team she was kind, caring and supportive as we settled in. One

of Pauline and Martin's children, Louise later became a much-loved member of my staff team and was my very much appreciated Deputy. Of course, Louise and Rick's four sons also attended Nursery. Louise's dad Martin and brother Johnathan were very important seasonal visitors to Nursery every year and their kind, caring, loving generosity was always greatly appreciated.

These are examples of so many instances of the Nursery friendship, love, support and teamwork over the years and generations. So many friendships have been made when children attended Nursery that continue today.

As well as welcoming Stuart to Nursery in 1989, all the staff supported me to become a parent volunteer and then to become a member of staff. When Stuart moved onto Reception class at Limes Farm Infant School I stayed at Nursery – until 2026!

In 1993 my husband Dean and I became Beaver Scout Leaders and joined the scouting family of the 15th Epping Forest Scout Group at St Winifred's – we got great support from Janice who was Cub Scout Leader (then Group Scout Leader) along with Bill B and Malcolm P. Later we were joined by Sue and Barry L and Rev'd Andy Neale. This was another example of the friendship, love, support and teamwork within the St Winifred's family.

In 1995 our son Duncan was born and with the loving care and support from my Mum (June) and Marianne looking after him as a



baby, I was able to continue at Nursery. Marianne was to become part of my staff team (their daughters had previously attended Nursery too) and Marianne and Jim have always been loving and supportive to me and my family – again, friendship, love, support and teamwork.

In 1999, after ten years at Nursery, I was invited by Mrs H to take over as Supervisor. I was very appreciative of the trust that was put in me but I definitely didn't appreciate straight away the level of commitment that would be needed to provide the caring, kind, loving environment where children could come to play and make friends. That happened because of all the people who have dedicated part of their working lives to be part of the staff team over the years that the Nursery has been at St Winifred's and I certainly could not have managed without each and every one of them.

Nursery became even more my second home and second family, and my own family have been very involved in many aspects of Nursery life over the years – they always knew that Nursery came first.



I cannot emphasise the importance of the support from the staff team and my family over all my years at Nursery and thank them all most sincerely – most recently we even had Bugzy the dog join our team and his daily contribution to the fun and friendship at Nursery cannot be underestimated.

So here we are in 2026 and it was a very sad and sorry decision I had to make to close the Nursery – unfortunately numbers dropped as the childcare needs of families changed so not enough children attended to continue. We have welcomed 625 children since I took over in 1999 – some may have been with us for only one term, others up to 2½ years but all of them and their families benefitted from the kind, caring, loving support of Nursery.

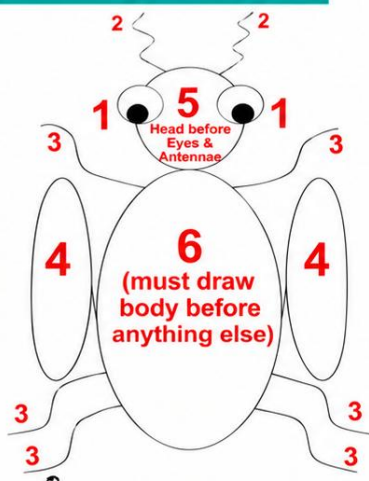
(Oh, also, ten Ofsted Inspections – no comment on that!!)

The point I have hopefully made is that through Toddler Group, Nursery and Scouting I have found friendship, love, support and teamwork and so many families have formed friendships that have lasted many, many years.



Through the St Winifred's Church Family so many people and Groups have benefitted – I give grateful thanks for the Members of the Church Family over many, many years who have supported the Nursery and all the other Groups who have used the Hall and found friendship, love, support and teamwork.

Alison Sheppard



The Thursday Club Beetle Drive

Tremendous fun guaranteed!

Thursday
12th November
7:00pm

All Saints' House
Chigwell Row

allsaintschigwellrow.org

WORDSEARCH – 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.

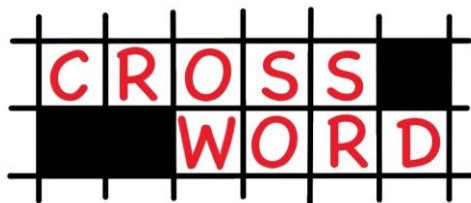
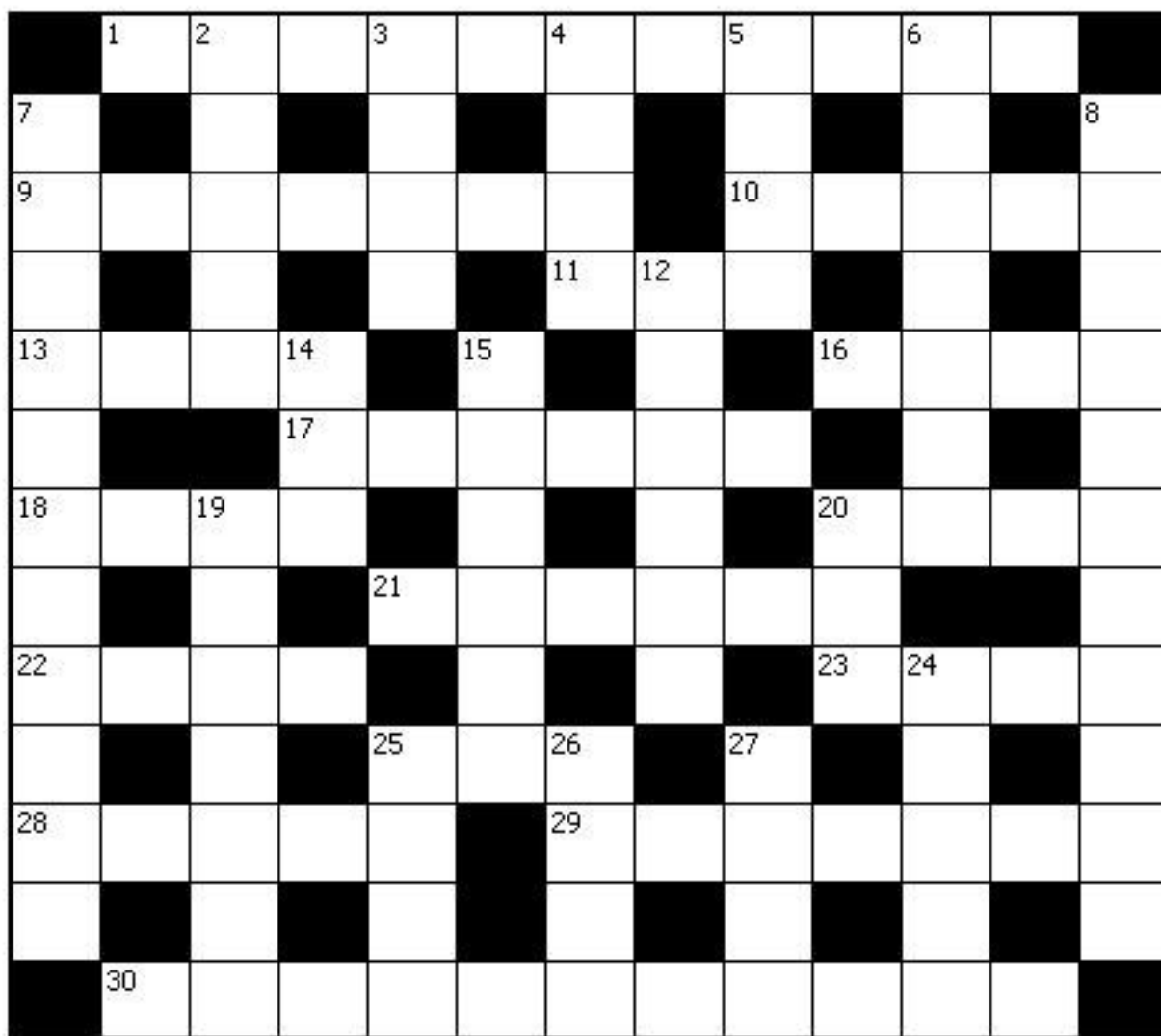
But then in the Spring of 1915, something beautiful began to come out of all the destruction. Tens of thousands of bright red Flanders poppies began to put out tentative shoots across the endless vistas of mud. These resilient little flowers had actually flourished in the middle of so much chaos and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

Those endless fields of cheerful poppies, growing in the midst of such horror, were what inspired the Canadian doctor, Lieutenant Colonel John McCrae, to write the now famous poem 'In Flanders Fields'.

Words to search for:

world	war	France	Flanders
green	fields	bombed	barren
bleak	destroyed	spring	destruction
bright	red	poppies	mud
chaos	seeds	grow	soil
cheerful	growing	horror	doctor
poem			

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



- 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)

Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

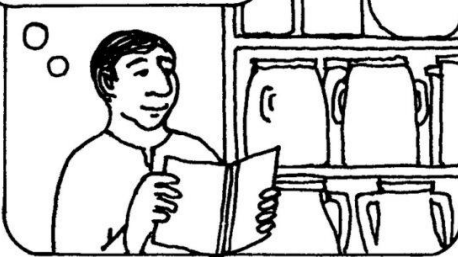
It can be read in the Bible in
Matthew 24:44-51, Luke 12:40-46

Jesus warned his disciples to be always
ready for his return at the end of time
by telling the story of two servants

The good servant



My master could be away
a long time; I will work as
if he was here.



When the servants came
for their food, he had it
ready



He made sure everyone
got their full amount.
every day



Then his master came back



I am putting you in
charge of everything I
have



The bad servant



My master could be away
a long time; I can do what
I want!



When the servants came
for their food, he chased
them away!



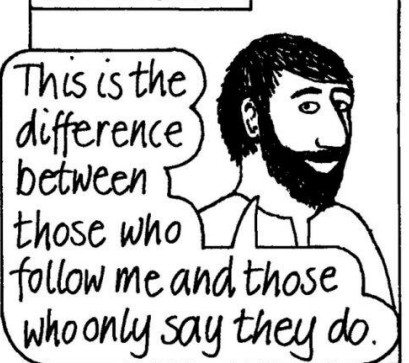
He had friends come
round, and they ate and
drank as much as they
liked.



Then his master came back



Jesus said



Rest & Refresh

30 minutes of peace, meditation,
and spiritual refreshment

**6:00pm, Wednesdays at
All Saints' House**
Romford Road
Chigwell Row, IG7 4QD

**Church open from 5:30pm for
personal quiet time,
all welcome, no charge**

Information from Rev'd Paula Preston
Tel: 020 8501 5226/WhatsApp: 07743 534647
Email: revpaulapreston@gmail.com

allsaintschigwellrow.org

Time 4 Tea

*For the over 50s,
Afternoon Teas,
an enjoyable
afternoon with
friendly chat, for
all faiths or none,
for a small charge.*

**3rd Tuesday of every
month, 2:30-4:00pm**
at All Saints' House,
All Saints' Church,
Romford Road, Chigwell Row.

More info from
Rochelle 07817 862053
(Chigwell Row Parish
Councillor), or
Hazel 020 8500 0355
(All Saints' Church)

*Time 4 Tea is an initiative supported
by Chigwell Parish Council and
All Saints' Church, Chigwell Row.*



Thursday 19th November
7:30pm at All Saints' Vicarage
"Daniel's Travels"



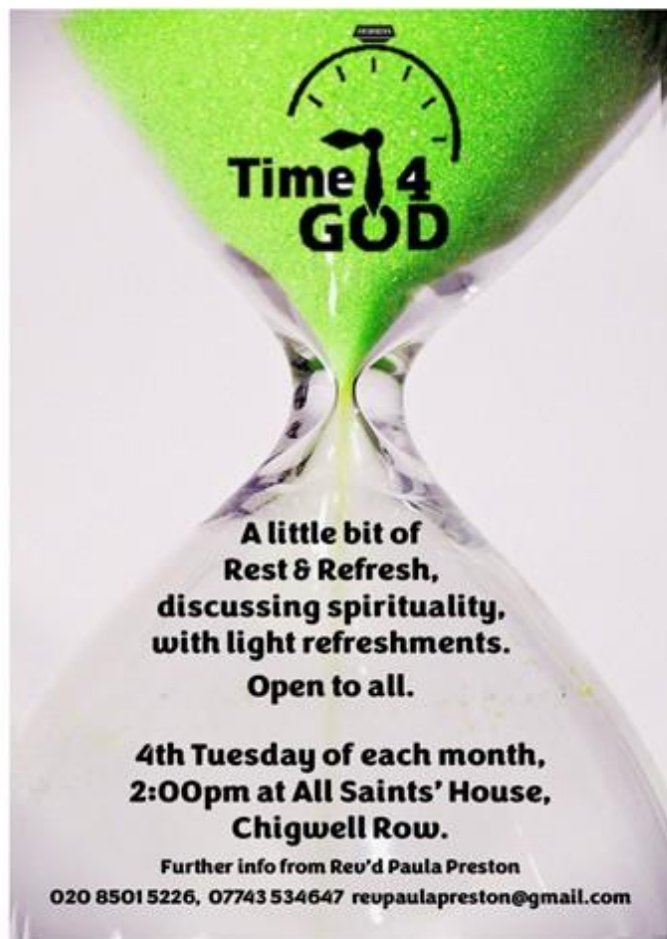
Saturday 21st November
Men – 8:00am at
All Saints' House



**A little bit of
Rest & Refresh,
discussing spirituality,
with light refreshments.
Open to all.**

**4th Tuesday of each month,
2:00pm at All Saints' House,
Chigwell Row.**

Further info from Rev'd Paula Preston
020 8501 5226, 07743 534647 revpaulapreston@gmail.com



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From 9:15 to 12:15,
Mondays to Fridays during term time
for children aged 2 to 5 years

St Mary's Church Rooms
High Road, Chigwell IG7 6QQ

☎ 020 8559 9574



Women's Group

Term time Thursday mornings
9:00 – 10:30

Drinks.. chat.. prayer.. learn about Jesus..

No charge

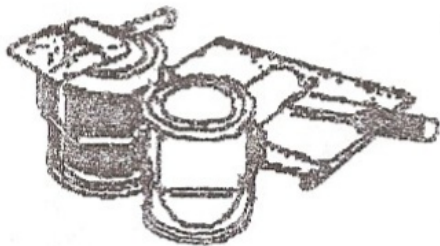
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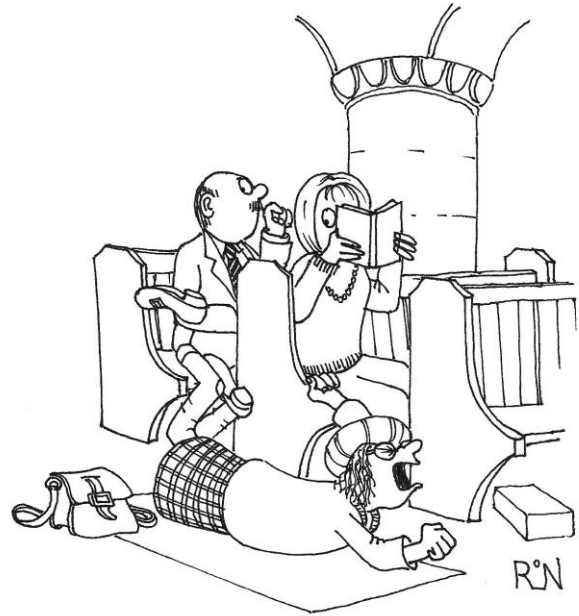
24 HOUR PERSONAL SERVICE FROM
PEOPLE WHO GENUINELY CARE FOR EACH FAMILY.

Died in the services

Little Alex was staring up at the large brass plaque that hung on the side wall of the church. The plaque was covered with names, and they seemed to fascinate the youngster. "All those names," he said to the minister. "Who are they?"

"Well, they were people who used to go to this church," explained the minister. "This is a memorial to all the young men and women who died in the services."

Soberly, they stood together, staring at the large plaque. Little Alex's voice was barely audible when he asked, "Which service, the 9 o'clock, or the 11 o'clock?"



Somebody sat in Minnie Hyssop's pew

What bishops do

We were celebrating the 100th anniversary of our church, and several former pastors and the bishop were in attendance. At one point, our minister had the children gather at the altar for a talk about the importance of the day. He began by asking, 'Does anyone know what the bishop does?'

There was silence. Finally, one little boy ventured: "Isn't he the one who moves diagonally?"

Home alone?

The bishop needed to call one of his clergy about an urgent problem within the diocese. But when he rang the vicar's number, he was greeted with a child's whispered, "Hello?"

Feeling impatient, the bishop asked, "Is your Daddy home?"

"Yes," whispered the small voice.

"May I talk with him?" the bishop asked. To his surprise, the small voice whispered, "No."

"Well, is your Mummy there?" asked the bishop. The small voice said "Yes."

"May I talk with her?" Again, the small voice whispered, "No."

"Well, who else is in your house?" the bishop demanded.

"A policeman," whispered the child. Startled, the bishop asked to speak with him.

"No, he's busy," whispered the child. "He's talking to Daddy and Mummy and the search team."

"What is going on there? Who are they searching for?" demanded the bishop, now thoroughly alarmed.

Still whispering, the young voice replied, along with a muffled giggle: "Me."

Answers



Crossword

ACROSS: : 1, Hopefulness.

9, Hitting. 10, du Pre. 11, Ere.

13, Ozni. 16, Wait. 17, Climbs.

18, Obey. 20, Joni. 21, Cuckoo.

22, In it. 23, Yaws. 25, Elm.

28, Alarm. 29, Epistle.

30, Whitsuntide.

DOWN: 2, Often. 3, Exit. 4, Urge.

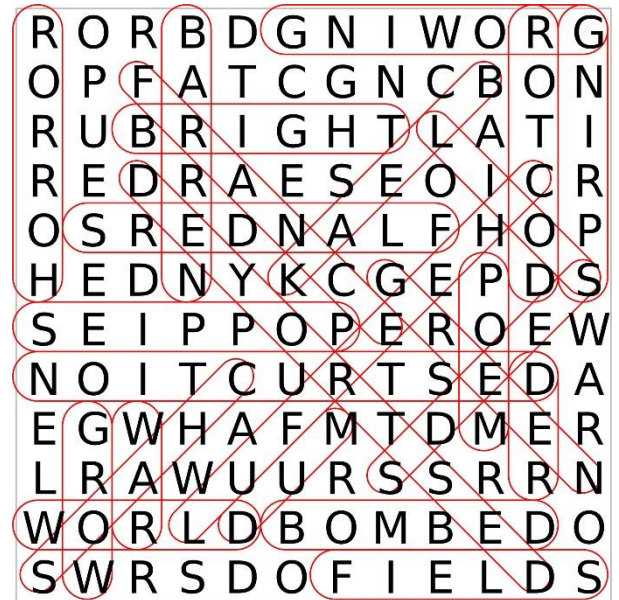
5, Node. 6, Soprano.

7, Theological. 8, Westminster.

12, Rebuke. 14, Icy. 15, Ritual.

19, Epitaph. 20, Joy. 24, Acted.

25, Emit. 26, Menu. 27, Gift.



...I haven't the heart to tell her the bishop went home 20minutes ago!

St Mary's Stapleford Abbots Christmas Market

St Mary's Church
is holding a Christmas Market
in the village hall
Stapleford Road, Stapleford
Abbots RM4 1EJ
on Sunday November 15th
from 10am to 2pm.

Stalls will include home made
cakes and preserves, jewellery,
books, and a
variety of Christmas goods.

Plus a Christmas Raffle.
Refreshments available all day

"the Big Christmas Sing with band, soloists
and chiefly yourselves"



*Join in with your favourite Christmas music
and listen to some new ones*

Friday 4th December 2026- 7.30pm

At

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Ongar Road
RM4 1UH

Nibbles provided; Bar available

Tickets £10 adults, £5 Children

Available from 01992-523849

Or Email: rogergayler@btinternet.com

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Breakfasts etc	Men's Breakfast & Group - Paul Preston 07546 656659 Ladies' Group (The Thursday Club) - Cindy Barber 07506 387070		
Bookstall	n/a	Cindy Barber 07506 387070	n/a
Brownies, Guides & Rainbows	Email: chigwellgirlguiding@gmail.com or website: girlguiding.org.uk		
Cubs	Geoff Dunk 020 8500 2375		
Electoral Roll	Alison Jordan 01992 610717	Helen Ellis-Poole 07887 731320	Janice Randall 07512 085546
Flowers	c/o Parish Office 07835 721815	Cindy Barber 07506 387070	c/o Parish Office 07835 721815
Gift Aid	Philip Gittins 01992 814519	John Barber 020 8500 4085	Daniel Forshaw 07591 857657
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Magazine	Alison Jordan 01992 610717	All Saints' Office 020 8500 0914	Daniel Forshaw 07591 857657
Magazine	Advertisements: c/o Parish Office - 07835 721815 Editorial: Sandie Forshaw - 07749 258616		
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Scouts	Tom Emmett 07799 335815 Anthony Fautley 07903 291452		
Explorer Scouts	Dan Greaves 07891 652492 Michael Greaves 07890 400987		
Safeguarding	Vanessa Watling 07810 120877	Emma White 07984 187590	Olivia Murton 07939 135669
Secretary	Alison Jordan 01992 610717	Sandie Forshaw 07749 258616	Sandie Forshaw 07749 258616
Sunday Children's Groups	Andrew Barnes 020 8501 4792	Rev'd Paula Preston 020 8501 5226	Juliet Smith 07966 244472
The Children's Society	Rosemary Sweet 01992 846028		
Tower & Bells	Graham & Maxine	Jill Leftwich 07967 820688	n/a
Treasurer	Philip Gittins 01992 814519	John Barber 020 8500 4085	Daniel Forshaw 07591 857657
Worship Group	Janet Stanton 020 8501 1629	Zoe Sims 020 8500 5787	Andy Lambell 07738 664177

The magazine is available online from our church websites.