

GOOD NEWS



**The parish magazine of
St John's Church, Preston, Brighton**

October 2026

50p

ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, PRESTON, BRIGHTON

PRIEST-in-CHARGE	Rev'd Canon Emma Ham-Riche	vicar@brightonstjohn.org.uk 01273 536191
ASSOCIATE VICARS	Rev'd Sarah Van den driessche Rev'd Dr Anna Bouch	associatevicar@brightonstjohn.org.uk anna.bouch@live.co.uk
AUTHORISED LAY MINISTERS	Sue Crossfield Linda Nutley Erika Schilsky	
CHURCHWARDENS	Jane Millett Tony Nye	
MUSICIAN	Erika Schilsky	
PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL 2026/2027		
Deanery Synod Representatives	Richard Benton-Stace Sue Seymour Lisa Williamson	
Members	Ivana Coe Alex Harrex Charlie Hughes-D'Aeth Mildred Ruwona Charlie Schofield Graham Warnes <i>Vacant</i> <i>Vacant</i> <i>Vacant</i>	
Safeguarding Officer	Sue Seymour	safeguarding@brightonstjohn .org.uk
Treasurer	Graham Warnes	
Honorary Secretary	Alex Harrex	01273 501758
Parish Giving Officer	Jane Millett	
Electoral Roll Officer	Ivana Coe	
CHURCH OFFICE	Monday & Friday 9.30am to 12.30pm	01273 553311 office@brightonstjohn.org.uk
Church & Halls Administrator	Alex Harrex	07847 352889 halls@brightonstjohn.org.uk

BAPTISMS and MARRIAGES by appointment

From the Revd Canon Emma:

‘For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven . . .’

Ecclesiastes 3:1

As October begins and the season of Autumn continues, the falling leaves may remind us of the changing seasons of our lives too, and especially those things that, like the leaves of the trees, we may need to let go of.

In September’s Good News magazine, Revd Sarah reminded us ‘that sometimes, something new begins precisely when something else is relinquished. As one door closes, another opens.’ For me, after two and a half years, my season as Rural Dean of Brighton ended at the end of September, and the Revd Alice Smith became Rural Dean on 1 October, with the Revd Rich Merrick as Assistant Rural Dean. Please pray for them both, as they use the gifts that God has richly blessed them both with to lead the deanery into a new season. As the leaves of the role of Rural Dean fall for me, I know that the new growth in the deanery in this new season will be strong.

There is, I hope, wisdom in my decision to let go of the role of Rural Dean to enable others to grow in their ministry, as well as for me to grow in mine as I continue to discern God’s will for me. As I relinquish that role, something new has already begun. In September 2025, Bishop Martin appointed me to a newly created diocesan role of Associate Archdeacon for Diversity and Inclusion. As one door closes, this door opens wider as I will now be able to more fully inhabit this role and work with colleagues across the Diocese to ensure that all individuals are treated with dignity, respect, and fairness within the church community.

And of course, I will continue to be Priest-in-Charge of St John the Evangelist, Preston, encouraging others to use the gifts that God has richly blessed them with too. There is new growth at St John’s, which in some cases, has been enabled by others letting go and allowing leaves to fall. Former churchwardens, Cynthia and Judith, for example, wisely discerned that their season as churchwardens was ending, and stood down at this year’s APCM. Having the wisdom to discern those things that we may need to let go of, enables others to grow and flourish in their ministry, and at the same time enables us to grow and flourish in other ways.

‘God . . . has made everything suitable for its time . . .’

Ecclesiastes 3:11

Join us for a Harvest Service of gratitude, conversation and shared food

You're warmly invited to our church's Harvest Thanksgiving on Sunday 18 October at 10am - a special occasion to give thanks, reflect on creation care, and share food and fellowship with one another and with our neighbours in need.

What to expect

- A lovely Harvest service of worship, music and thanksgiving.
- Tea and coffee to enjoy together afterwards.
- Small-group conversations led by Rev Buff Forbes Stone, Diocesan Environment Officer for Chichester, exploring caring for creation.
- A shared Harvest "LOAF" lunch of finger foods (savoury and sweet), brought by everyone to share.

All are welcome—friends, neighbours, families, and those new to church life.

Our Harvest "LOAF" lunch: bring and share

Our lunch follows the LOAF principles for thoughtful, ethical eating:

- **L** – Local: seasonal, locally produced where possible
- **O** – Organic: grown with care for soil and biodiversity
- **A** – Animal friendly: high-welfare or plant-based options
- **F** – Fairtrade: supporting fair wages and safe work for producers

Please bring a finger-food dish to share if you can (savoury or sweet).

As part of our harvest offering, we'll be collecting food to support the food bank at Brighton & Hove City Mission Food Bank as opposite.

We look forward to welcoming you.

The PCC

HARVEST COLLECTION 2026

THIS HARVEST WE NEED YOU...
PLEASE GIVE WHAT YOU CAN TO HELP THOSE WHO
ARE IN CRISIS THIS AUTUMN



**A GIFT OF £35 WILL ENABLE A CLIENT IN
CRISIS TO RECEIVE A FOOD PARCEL**

PLEASE SCAN THIS QR CODE TO DONATE TOWARDS OUR HARVEST APPEAL



FOOD DONATIONS ARE ALSO WELCOME
OUR MOST NEEDED ITEMS ARE:



TINNED MEAT MEALS // RICE // TINNED VEG MEALS //
PASTA SAUCES // TINNED FRUIT // ALL VARIETIES OF SOUPS

WE'VE BEEN BLESSED WITH PLENTY OF PASTA, SO WE KINDLY ASK YOU TO HOLD OFF ON PASTA DONATIONS FOR NOW!



**BRIGHTON & HOVE
CITY MISSION**

— SINCE 1849 —

...BECAUSE JESUS LOVES THIS CITY

CONTACT - 01273 609484 OPT.1 // FOODBANK@BHCM.ORG.UK

A Little About Me – But I'd Love You to Ask Me More!

I grew up in Letchworth as part of a large Burmese family, and my journey of faith has taken me through Catholic and CofE churches, as well as experiences of most other Christian denominations. Along the way there has been motherhood, family life, work and, eventually, a growing sense of call to ordination. I have worked in finance, healthcare, teaching, management and business ownership. Looking back, I can see how each stage of my life has helped prepare me for where God is calling me now. I am married to Russell and we have three children, Leo (19), Hugo (13) and Eliza (9). There is plenty more to our story too - including twelve years of prayer, a remarkable journey to faith, and a rather unexpected conversation in our kitchen that became an important part of my own journey towards ordination! We also have a dog and a cat, who are very much part of family life too. I love learning, asking questions and discovering new things. Being neurodiverse means that I am naturally curious and I love to look beyond what is on the surface to explore the deeper meaning and significance of things. I can also become very enthusiastic about the things I am interested in. Thankfully, that is a good thing, because what interests me most is God and His love for all! I love building relationships and having meaningful conversations. I am genuinely interested in people's stories and believe that we can learn something from every person we meet. So, if you see me at St John's, please come and say hello - whether that's now, or sometime down the line. Ask me about my family, my Burmese heritage, my faith, my work, my love of learning, my journey towards ordination, or even what being neurodiverse is like for me. I would love this to be just the starting point of getting to know one another. My hope is to build genuine relationships with each person at St John's, to listen, to learn, to share life together and, above all, to discover where God is already at work in each of our lives.

Lisa-Marie Coomber



Season of Creation

In the church year the *Season of Creation* (September 1st - October 4th) is an opportunity for us to reflect on our responsibility to care for the planet. As the season draws to an end for this year, have you considered:

The world is not ours:

'The earth is the Lord's and everything in it' (Psalm 24:1). The world is not ours, but God's! This means we have a responsibility of caring for God's world: *'The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it.'* (Genesis 2:15). Clearly, we have not done the best job! The effects of global warming have been all too obvious this summer. And 2025 ranked as the third warmest year on record globally, 1.3°C to 1.44°C above pre-industrial levels. This follows the historic peak in 2024, driven by ongoing fossil fuel emissions and high ocean surface temperatures.

Our hope is found in Jesus:

Any hope for the future lies in Jesus Himself. He is the one who sustains creation and will bring everything to completion: *'all things have been created through Him and for Him. He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together.'* (Colossians 1:16,17). God's plan is *'to bring unity to all things in heaven and on earth under Christ.'* (Ephesians 1:10). We can look forward to the climax of history when God through Christ will restore our broken world and make everything new.

In the present, we are empowered by Christ to take our proper place as stewards of the earth. Simple everyday actions can help to sustain our planet, including recycling of waste, energy saving, choosing reusable options, careful diet and a commitment to simple living can help the planet.

However difficult the climate crisis gets, as Christians, we can engage it with faith and not fatalism!



YMCA DOWNSLINK GROUP

**Expanding reach,
deepening impact**

Strategy 2026-2031

YMCA | Here for young people
Here for communities
Here for you

Find out more



Over 50? Join a Bike Tour

part of B&H Ageing Well Festival



CITY TOURS

WED 30 SEP & FRI 09 OCT, 10.30am – 1pm

Gentle 2.5 hour guided bike tour around the city centre and along the seafront to Hove and back, with regular stops at iconic landmarks to learn about the City's history and culture. Enjoy Brighton's quirky vibes. The 7.5 mile route is mostly flat and on cycle lanes.

COASTAL TOURS TO ROTTINGDEAN

FRI 02 OCT & WED 07 OCT, 10.30am – 1pm

Gentle 2.5 hour guided cycle tour along Brighton seafront and the Undercliff path to Rottingdean and back, with stops at iconic landmarks to learn about local history and culture. Enjoy the glorious Sussex coast. The 9 mile route is mostly flat and on cycle lanes.

Bikes & helmets provided

Meet at **UNITARIAN CHURCH, New Rd, BN1 1UF**

£16 (HALF NORMAL PRICE) BOOKING REQUIRED

Book online <https://ageingwellfestival.org/2026-events/>

or book by calling Ageing Well 01273 322948

Call Brighton Bike Tours 07916 752941 for more info

Thank you, Dr Luke!

By David Winter

‘Matthew, Mark, Luke and John, bless the bed that I lie on’ - my grandma taught me that one. At least it meant I never forgot the names of the writers of the four Gospels. This month Luke, the writer of the third of them, has his feast day – 18th October.

He was, we learn from the letters of St Paul, a ‘physician’ - an educated man and probably the only one of the writers of the New Testament who was not a Jew. In modern terms, he was Turkish. Paul took him as one of his missionary team on a long journey around the Middle East, and they clearly became close friends. Under house arrest later in his life Paul could write, ‘only Luke is with me’.

However, it is his Gospel which has established him as a major figure in the history of the Christian Church. Mark’s Gospel may have more drama, Matthew’s more prophetic background and John’s a more profound sense of the mystery of the divine, but Luke offers us a Jesus who is utterly and believably real. This man turned no one away, reserved his harshest words for hypocrites and religious grandees, cared for the marginalised, the poor, the persecuted, the handicapped and the sinful. His Gospel is full of people we can recognise - indeed, in whom we can often recognise ourselves.

He was also a masterly storyteller. Try, for instance, the story of the Prodigal Son (Luke 15:11-32). Read it (this time) not as a sacred text but as a brilliant piece of story-telling: subtle repetitions (‘your son, this brother of yours’), believable characters, drama and profound emotion. There is the older brother, so cynical about his sibling’s alleged reformation, the ‘prodigal’ himself, so hesitant about throwing himself on his father’s mercy after the folly of his earlier behaviour, and there is the father, of course, abandoning the dignity of his role in the family and actually running to welcome his wretched son’s return.

There are more women in Luke’s Gospel than in any of the others, but also more poor people, more lepers, more ‘sinners’ and tax-collectors, more ‘outsiders’ who are shown to be ‘inside’ the love of Christ. This, for many of us, is the great Gospel of inclusion and compassion. Here is a Jesus for the whole world and for every one of us. Thank you, Dr Luke!

October brings Black History Month

"I had no idea that history was being made. I was just tired of giving up." - **Rosa Parks**, who became mother of the American civil rights movement in 1955 when she refused to give up her seat on a bus in Montgomery Alabama just because she was a Black.

"Change will not come if we wait for some other person or some other time. We are the ones we've been waiting for." - **Barack Obama**, former US President.

"Every great dream begins with a dreamer" - **Harriet Tubman** – Black American abolitionist and Union spy.

"The arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends toward justice." - **Martin Luther King, Jr.** - Black church leader and US civil rights activist.

"I never think about being Black until it is said—I just get on with life." **Bishop Rose Hudson-Wilkin**, the Church of England's first Black female bishop.

"Not everything that is faced can be changed, but nothing can be changed until it is faced." **James Baldwin**, American writer, civil rights activist, critic

"I am not interested in picking up crumbs of compassion thrown from the table of someone who considers himself my master. I want the full menu of rights." - **Archbishop Desmond Tutu**, global icon for his fierce, non-violent opposition to apartheid, Nobel Peace Prize laureate, and first Black African Bishop of Johannesburg and Archbishop of Cape Town.

"Black British history is everyone's history and is all the stronger for it." - **David Adetayo Olusoga OBE**, British Nigerian historian, writer, broadcaster, and BAFTA winning film-maker. Professor of Public History at the University of Manchester.

"You have to do your job so well that nobody can dismiss you because of your race or background." - **Sir Trevor Lawson McDonald**, Trinidadian British newsreader and journalist, best known as a News presenter on ITN (Independent Television News).



Black History in Church Spaces

"Celebrating the stories, faith, witness and history of Black people within the Church and Anglican Communion."

BLACK HISTORY MONTH OPENING EXHIBITION Featured Stories & Exhibits

📍 St Luke's Church, Prestonville, Brighton 📅 Saturday 3 October 2026 🕒 2:00 PM

The SS Mendi

Commemorated at St John the Evangelist Church, Newtimber

Roque Ferdinand

Commemorated at St Mary Magdalene Church, Madehurst

Project Spire

The Church of England's fund for healing, justice, and repair

Olaudah Equiano

Abolitionist, writer, & prominent voice in the struggle against the transatlantic slave trade

The Uganda Martyrs

Remembering their faith, courage, witness, and enduring legacy

Keynote Speaker

kwesi Ochosi

Project Coordinator & Archivist Lambeth Palace Library

Special Guest Poet

Marie-Paul Duwai-Sowa
Poet & Artist

Programme Speakers

Vitalis Manjong Ngwambi

Diocesan Racial Justice Co-ordinator

Flo Sparham

Anti-Racist Education Strategy Co-Lead Brighton & Hove City Council

BLACK HISTORY MONTH CLOSING SERVICE

📍 St Mary's Church, Slindon 📅 Sunday 25 October 2026 🕒 11:00 AM

Worship • Remembrance • Celebration

Commemorating Roque Ferdinand, one of the few surviving 18th-century memorials to a Black man in a Sussex parish church.

Speakers

Professor Alan Lester
University of Sussex

Vitalis Ngwambi
Diocesan Racial Justice Co-ordinator

Marie-Paul Duwai-Sowa
Poet & Artist

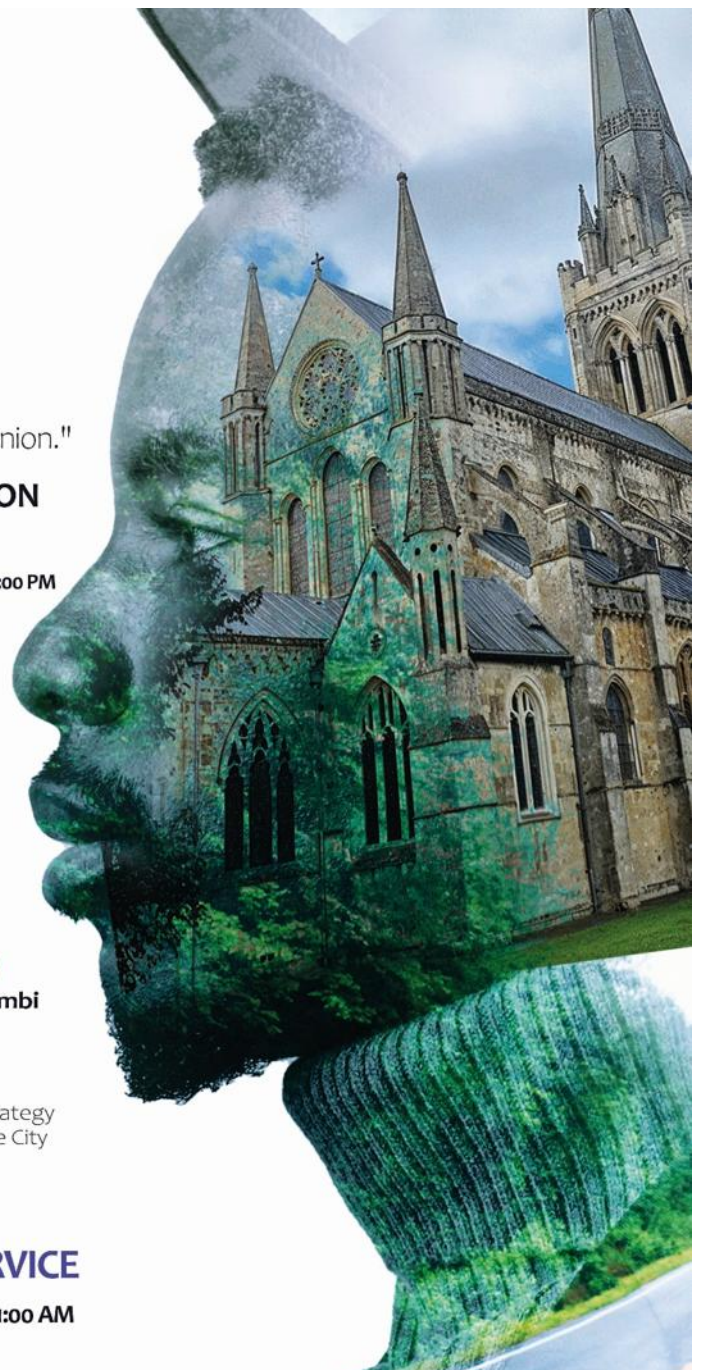
Alysia-Lara

Interim Deputy Director for Racial Justice Church of England

3:00PM

Roque Ferdinand Memorial Interpretation Installation.

St Mary Magdalene Church, Madehurst.



Black History Month



A time to honor the spiritual heritage, leadership, history and cultural contributions of Black people.

Readings & Collects

Sunday 4 October – 18th Sunday after Trinity

Readings Isaiah 5: 1-7 Philippians 3: 4b-14 Matthew 21: 33-end

Collect

Almighty and everlasting God,
increase in us your gift of faith
that, forsaking what lies behind
and reaching out to that which is before,
we may run the way of your commandments
and win the crown of everlasting joy;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
Amen

Sunday 11 October – 19th Sunday after Trinity

Readings Isaiah 25: 1-9 Philippians 4: 1-9 Matthew 22: 1-14

Collect

O God, forasmuch as without you
we are not able to please you:
mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit
may in all things direct and rule our hearts;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
Amen

Sunday 18 October – Luke the Evangelist

Readings Acts 16: 6-12a 2 Timothy 4: 5-17 Luke 10: 1-9

Collect

Almighty God,
you called Luke the physician,
whose praise is in the gospel,
to be an evangelist and physician of the soul:
by the grace of the Spirit
and through the wholesome medicine of the gospel,
give your Church the same love and power to heal;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
Amen

Sunday 25 October – Last Sunday after Trinity

Readings Leviticus 19: 1-2, 15-18 1 Thessalonians 2: 1-8
Matthew 22: 34-end

Collect

Blessed Lord,
who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning:
help us so to hear them,
to read, mark, learn and inwardly digest them
that, through patience, and the comfort of your holy word,
we may embrace and for ever hold fast the hope of everlasting life,
which you have given us in our Saviour Jesus Christ,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
Amen

Sunday 1 November – All Saints’ Day

Readings Revelation 7: 9-end 1 John 3: 1-3 Matthew 5: 1-12

Collect

Almighty God,
you have knit together your elect
in one communion and fellowship in the mystical body of your Son Christ our Lord:
grant us grace so to follow your blessed saints
in all virtuous and godly living
that we may come to those inexpressible joys
that you have prepared for those who truly love you;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
Amen

Sunday 8 November – Remembrance Sunday

Readings Wisdom 6: 12-16 1 Thessalonians 4: 13-end Matthew 25: 1-13

Collect

Almighty Father,
whose will is to restore all things
in your beloved Son, the King of all:
govern the hearts and minds of those in authority,
and bring the families of the nations,
divided and torn apart by the ravages of sin,
to be subject to his just and gentle rule;
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
Amen



A free phone line of hymns,
reflections and prayers

0800 804 8044



www.faithinlaterlife.org

XX



Messy Church at St John's

is on the second Sunday of the month from 4.00 to 5.00pm in the church

Each month there is a bible story, crafts and activities,
and afternoon tea with sandwiches & cake!

Sunday 11 October

Sunday 8 November



Autumn 2026 Roadshow

This autumn, Christian Aid is bringing together churches, supporters and communities across the UK for a special series of supporter gatherings to hear the impact you are having in South Sudan.

Join us at a regional gathering near you:



Brighton

13 October | 7.00-9.30pm

Lewes Road URC, Saunders Park Rise, Brighton, BN2 4EU



Salisbury

14 October | 7.00-9.30pm

St Francis Church, 3 Beatrice Rd, Salisbury SP1 3PN



Coventry

15 October | 7.00-9.30pm

Queens Road Baptist Church Coventry, CV1 3EG



Derby

15 October | 2.00-4pm

Meynell Langley Hall, Ashbourne, Derby, DE6 4NT



Lancaster

16 October | 7.00-9.30pm

Lancaster Priory Priory Close, Lancaster LA1 1YZ



Sign up here:
caid.org.uk/Roadshow

Christian Aid is a key member of ACT Alliance. Eng and Wales charity no. 1105851 Scot charity no. SC039150 Company no. 5171525 The Christian Aid name and logo are trademarks of Christian Aid. © Christian Aid August 2026

From Sue's kitchen ...

Pumpkin Soup

2 onions, chopped

1kg pumpkin, peeled, deseeded and chunked.

700ml vegetable stock

150ml double cream

2tbsp olive oil

Heat the olive oil in a large saucepan.

Gently cook the chopped onions for 5 minutes, or until soft but not coloured.

Add the chunks of pumpkin and carry on cooking for 8 to 10 minutes, stirring occasionally until it starts to soften and turn golden.

Pour the vegetable stock into the pan and season with salt and pepper.

Bring to the boil and simmer for 10 minutes until the pumpkin is very soft.

Pour the double cream into the pan and bring back to the boil.

Take the pan off the heat and purée with a hand blender.

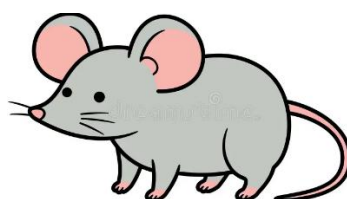
For an extra velvety consistency, you can pour the soup through a fine sieve.

When cool, the soup can be divided into portions and frozen for up to 6 months.



... it's strange to me
How very full the church can be
With people I don't see at all
Except at Harvest Festival

From The Diary of a Church Mouse by John Betjeman



St John the Baptist Catholic Church
2 Bristol Road, Kemptown, Brighton
BN2 1AP

Imperial College Chamber Choir

Patrick Allies Director

Featuring works by Saint-
Saens, Tallis, Balfour
Gardiner and Sarah
Macdonald

Saturday 14th November
3:00pm
Free entry, donations welcome

*Post-concert refreshments
will be available in the
Fitzherbert Community Hub*

Afternoon Concert



icchamberchoir.org



[@icchamberchoir](https://www.instagram.com/icchamberchoir)



How Tyndale affects what you say – today

It is 500 years since William Tyndale printed the very first English translation of the New Testament.

And hundreds of millions of people today are still quoting him, though they don't know it. For in 1526 Tyndale invented what would become some of the most famous idioms in the English-speaking world.

For instance –

"The salt of the earth"; "Go the extra mile"; "The powers that be"; "Eat, drink and be merry"; "A city on a hill"; "The apple of his eye"; "In the twinkling of an eye"; "Signs of the times"; "My brother's keeper"; "Fight the good fight"; "Broken-hearted"; "Fallen flat on his face."

These phrases were all invented by Tyndale, during his translation from the original Greek of the New Testament.

As a young Catholic priest in England, Tyndale had been inspired by Martin Luther's groundbreaking translation of the Bible into German, and he went to work doing the same for English speakers. No wonder that the Bible Society describes Tyndale as a 'background radical' during Henry VIII's reign (he's mentioned in *Wolf Hall* but doesn't get involved in the action).

Tyndale invented words, too, when he couldn't find a direct English equivalent for a Greek or Hebrew concept. Here are just some:

Scapegoat: To describe the goat burdened with the sins of the people and sent into the wilderness.

Atonement: Literally "at-one-ment", created to describe being at one with God.

Passover: Coined to describe the Jewish holiday where the angel of death passed over the homes of the Israelites.

Busybody: Invented to describe someone who meddles in other people's business.

Tyndale's work has survived multiple revisions of the Bible down the centuries. It is found in the Authorised Version of the Bible, the RSV, the ASV or the ESV, among others.

More at Bible Society's website: <https://www.biblesociety.org.uk> Just type 'Tyndale' into its 'search' box.



Baby & Toddler Playgroup

Inclusive, relaxed and friendly — in a spacious hall.

- D** **When:** Thursdays, 10:00–12:00 (term times)
- W** **Where:** Knoyle Hall, BN1 6RB
- £** **Price:** £2 per adult · £1.50 per child · under 6 months free
- P** **Parking:** Free nearby after 10am · large buggy parking



What's On

Ball Pit

Toys

Little Tikes Cars

Books

Singing

Bubbles

Parachute

Craft Activities

11am

Snack time & story time

Homemade Vegan

Cakes

Just 50p a slice

Hot Drinks

Included for grown-ups —
bring your own mug!

Everyone Welcome!

Drop-in playgroup — no booking needed, just come along

CALENDAR

OCTOBER

Thursday 1	8.00 am	Morning Prayer
	12.00 pm	Community Garden Working Party
Friday 2	2.00 pm	Friday Club <i>Hove Museum ~ Dan Cox</i>
	7.00 pm	Concert ~ Pelynt Male Voice Choir & Hove Harmony
Sunday 4	10.00 am	Parish Eucharist Ministry of prayer for healing
Tuesday 6	8.00 am	Morning Prayer
Wednesday 7	8.00 am	Morning Prayer
	10.00 am	Said Eucharist
	10.45 am	Preston Coffee Pot
Thursday 8	8.00 am	Morning Prayer
Saturday 10	12.00 am	Community Garden Working Party
Sunday 11	10.00 am	Parish Eucharist
	4.00 pm	Messy Church
Tuesday 13	8.00 am	Morning Prayer
	2.30 pm	Bible Study <i>in the Vestry</i>
Wednesday 14	8.00 am	Morning Prayer
	10.00 am	Said Eucharist
	10.45 am	Preston Coffee Pot
Thursday 15	8.00 am	Morning Prayer
Friday 16	2.00 pm	Preston Friday Club <i>ABC Fund ~ Anne Bickmore</i>

Sunday 18	10.00 am	Harvest Thanksgiving
	12.00 pm	Harvest Bring & Share Lunch
Tuesday 20	8.00 am	Morning Prayer
Wednesday 21	8.00 am	Morning Prayer
	10.00 am	Said Eucharist
	10.45 am	Preston Coffee Pot
Thursday 22	8.00 am	Morning Prayer
Saturday 24	12.00 am	Community Garden Working Party
Sunday 25	10.00 am	Parish Eucharist <i>with Children's Group</i>
Tuesday 27	8.00 am	Morning Prayer
	2.30 pm	Bible Study <i>in the Vestry</i>
Wednesday 28	8.00 am	Morning Prayer
	10.00 am	Said Eucharist
	10.45 am	Preston Coffee Pot
Thursday 29	8.00 am	Morning Prayer
Friday 30	2.00 pm	Friday Club
		<i>A Victorian Teacher ~ Sarah Helen Snow</i>

NOVEMBER

Sunday 1	10.00 am	Parish Eucharist
		Ministry of prayer for healing
Tuesday 3	8.00 am	Morning Prayer
Wednesday 4	8.00 am	Morning Prayer
	10.00 am	Said Eucharist
	10.45 am	Preston Coffee Pot
Thursday 5	8.00 am	Morning Prayer
	12.00 pm	Community Garden Working Party

Saturday 7	12.00 am	Community Garden Working Party
Sunday 8	10.00 am	Parish Eucharist <i>with Children's Group</i>
	4.00 pm	Messy Church



UPCOMING events

Saturday 28 November

11.00am – 2.00pm

CHRISTMAS FAYRE

If you are able to help in any way, please speak to Sue Seymour.



STANDING TALL

Standing Tall is a friendly, physio-led class for people aged 65 and over. Our sessions are designed to help improve fitness, balance and strength, whilst reducing the risk of falls in a safe, supportive and welcoming environment. Classes take place on Thursdays and Fridays at Crowhurst Community Centre, behind St John's Church on Knoyle Road. As we return from our summer break, we would be delighted to welcome new and returning participants. For more information about joining, please contact Julie on 07736 122941 or visit our website at www.standingtall.net.

SATURDAY SANCTUARY 11:00am to 12:45pm

A morning of fellowship, reflection, prayer and silence.

3rd Oct - **An Introduction to Spiritual Direction** - the Arundel & Brighton

Diocesan Spiritual Directors Team

7th Nov - **Living with Loss** - Fr Peter

5th Dec - **Advent** - Fr Aidan

QUIET DAY at Compass House, Worth Abbey, RH10 4SB

Sat 31st Oct, 10am to 4pm. (**Booking required**)

Suggested Donation: £15-25. Optional Transport (£5) from St John the Baptist, Kempdown at 9am.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Sun 22nd Nov, 4pm: Ecumenical Vespers (Evening Prayer) for Christ the King
with Abbot Mark preaching, followed by light refreshments.

MONK TALKS: Series on 'The Prayer of the Church'

6pm Evening Prayer; **6.30pm** simple supper; **7pm** Talk followed by Night Prayer

15th Sep - **An Introduction to Monastic Prayer** - Fr Patrick

13th Oct - **An introduction to the Psalms** – Fr Aidan

17th Nov - **Seasons and Cycles; Creating Sacred Time** – Fr Peter

PRAY WITH US Join the monks for their daily monastic prayer:

Mon – Sat 9am: Monastic Morning Prayer (Lauds)

Mon – Thu 6pm; Sat - Sun 4:~~30~~pm: Monastic Evening Prayer (Vespers)

LECTIO DIVINA every Wednesday Morning from 30th Sep 2026 from 10am to 11am.

A weekly *in person* session hosted by Monks in the City.

FRIDAY STILLNESS - Every Friday from 18th Sep to 18th Dec between 12noon and 1pm.

A time of music, prayer and reflections with a monk. Stay as long as you like.

STILLNESS (New!) Follow-up from the Contemplative Prayer Monk Talks.

Mondays Monthly: 7:30-8:30pm: 24th Aug, 28th Sep, 26th Oct and 23rd Nov.

For more details, please use the QR code to visit our website:

m: **07444 802368**

e: **monksinthecity@worth.org.uk**

w: **www.monksinthecity.uk – or use this >>>**



With gratitude, your support keeps Monks in the City going; please scan this to give. 

PRESTON FRIDAY CLUB



Crowhurst Community Centre,
Knogle Road, Brighton BN1 6RB
[behind Knogle Hall]

Alternate Friday afternoons in term time
2.00pm to 4.00pm

Talks, activities, tea & chat with friends



Friday 2 October
Hove Museum ~ Dan Cox

Friday 16 October
ABC Fund ~ Anne Bickmore

Friday 30 October
A Victorian Teacher ~ Sarah Helen Snow

IT'S NOT JUST POLICY, IT'S PERSONAL

Building confidence in reporting
safeguarding concerns

*"Act justly, love mercy and walk humbly with
your God."*

- Micah 6:8

We know that
reporting
safeguarding
concerns can feel
difficult

[Scan here for
resources to help
you](#)



*When someone shares a concern, it is important they are listened to and taken seriously. You are not expected to investigate.
Keeping people safe and ensuring concerns are recorded and referred appropriately is all of our responsibility.*



Recognise

Be alert to signs or disclosures
of abuse.



Respond

Listen carefully and take
what is being said
seriously.



Record

Make a written record of
what has been shared.



Refer

Share the concern with the
Safeguarding Officer and
relevant authorities.

Happily, the Church of England still retains some singular parish clergy. Take the parish of St James-the-Least in the county of C- for example. Here the elderly Anglo-Catholic vicar, Eustace, continues his correspondence to Darren, his nephew, a low-church curate recently ordained...

On how long a sermon should last ...

The Rectory

St James the Least of All

My dear Nephew Darren

I am afraid we will never agree about the appropriate length of sermons. Your 50-minute exposition on the theology of St Paul concerning women wearing hats in church is, I am sure, of real interest to you. But as your sermon slowly unfolds, I suspect it will prompt quite a different concern among your congregation. Have they set the oven timer to come on too early?

Whenever I even hint that a matter of theological importance may be about to appear in one of my sermons, an expression of benign incomprehension comes over my congregation. You know the look – you see it on golden Labradors whenever they try and work out what their owners are telling them.

There are certain sure signs that should warn you when you have preached for long enough. One is when members of the congregation reach for their prayer books to try to work out for the umpteenth time how the date for Easter is calculated. The organist turning on the blower when you say “and finally” is another.

Most members of the congregation will count the number of dead flies on the windowsills during your sermon. But when you can see members of the congregation counting the numbers in the congregation counting the numbers of dead flies, that is absolute proof that it is time to stop.

There has only been one occasion when I preached for longer than my standard eight minutes. Our former organist was in the habit of taking his dog for a walk during the sermon. I knew I had to carry on preaching until I heard the latch on the vestry door for the second time. That meant he was back, and ready to play the last hymn. Unfortunately, one Sunday, his dog ran away.

While he searched for it over every field in the parish, I spent the intervening two hours reading the greater part of Leviticus, discussing the food laws set forth in Deuteronomy, and arguing for a Deutero-Isaiah. I was headed for the Babylonian exile when we all heard the vestry door re-open.

After the Service, the congregation left looking as though they had just been rescued from a major shipwreck. And at the next church council meeting, we unanimously voted to buy our organist a stronger lead.

Your loving uncle,
Eustace



4pm Sunday 8th November Open Table launch in Brighton & Hove

St. Luke's Prestonville is planning on hosting a Christian worship community that genuinely welcomes and affirms people who are Lesbian, Gay, Bi, Trans, Queer/ Questioning, Intersex, Asexual (LGBTQIA) + allies, as part of the Open Table Network.

This will be an intentional and ecumenical space for any LGBTQI+ church or non-church folk to join together to worship, pray, share, socialise and network and will meet monthly on the second Sunday of each month from November onwards.

St. Luke's Prestonville, 64 Old Shoreham Road, Brighton, BN1 5DD, 01273 557772
www.stlukesonline.co.uk info@stlukesonline.co.uk

every 2nd Sunday of the month!

Messy

Club

16:00 - 17:30

outdoor area	activities	Dinner
• little pond	• fun	• Sandwiches
• picnic (when hot)	• colouring	• cake
• flowers	• creating	• crisps

A Quiz of Firsts

1. Outside which building were the first Gas Lamp Traffic Lights installed?
a) Buckingham Palace b) Houses of Parliament c) Tower of London
d) Westminster Abbey
2. Who was the person heralded for the first crossing of the Pacific Ocean in 1520?
a) John Cabot b) James Cook c) Ferdinand Magellan d) Amerigo Vespucci
3. Which blockbuster was the first feature-length computer-generated imagery film?
a) Chicken Little b) Ice Age c) Kung Fu Panda d) Toy Story
4. Who was the first man to run a mile in less than 4 minutes?
a) Roger Bannister b) Chris Chataway c) John Landy d) Jack Lovelock
5. Who was the first man to sail single handed *non-stop* around the world?
a) Francis Chichester b) David Dicks c) Robin Knox Johnston d) Bertie Reed
6. Who was the first British Prime Minister?
a) William Cavendish b) Henry Pelham c) William Pitt d) Robert Walpole
7. Who is the First Lord of the Treasury?
a) Chancellor of Exchequer b) Home Secretary c) Reigning Monarch
d) Prime Minister
8. Who was the first person to play Golf on the Moon?
a) Buzz Aldrin b) Neil Armstrong c) Alan Shepard d) John Young
9. What was the first Name of Mrs Beeton (*author of a famous cookbook*)
a) Emily b) Isabella c) Sophia d) Violet
10. In which decade were the first *Oscars* awarded?
a) 1920s b) 1930s c) 1940s d) 1950s
11. Which was the first country to employ the Metric system?
a) Belgium b) France c) Italy d) Sweden
12. Which country was the first to grant women the vote?
a) Australia b) Denmark c) New Zealand d) Portugal
13. Who was the first American president to be assassinated whilst in office?
a) James Garfield b) Ulysses Grant c) Abraham Lincoln d) William McKinley

14. Who was the first Prime Minister in the reign of Queen Elizabeth II?
a) Clement Attlee b) Winston Churchill c) Anthony Eden
d) Harold Macmiilan
15. In which decade did the first Wheel Clamps arrive in Britain?
a) 1960s b) 1970s c) 1980s d) 1990s
16. What was the first *Talkie* movie?
a) Dance of Life b) Desert Song c) Hearts in Dixie d) Jazz Singer
17. Which country was the first to get its flag to the South Pole?
a) Great Britain b) Norway c) Sweden d) USA
18. In which year did the first passenger train service in the Channel Tunnel begin?
a). 1992 b) 1994 c) 1996 d) 1998
19. When was the first Eurovision Song Contest?
a) 1956 b) 1960 c) 1964 d) 1968
20. Who was the first football player to be sent off while playing for England?
a) Alan Ball b) Trevor Cherry c) Alan Mullery d) Ray Wilkins

And now some Lasts – can you add the missing last word to these book or film titles?

21. Murder on the Orient
22. One flew over the Cuckoo's
23. Close Encounters of the Third
24. The Day the Earth stood
25. Bridge over the River
26. It's a Wonderful
27. 2001: A Space
28. Lark Rise to
29. The Count of Monte
30. Far from the Madding

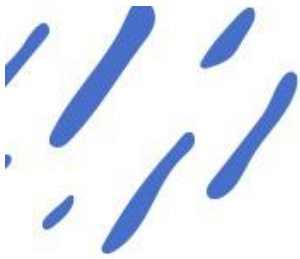
And the answers to last month's Victorian Quiz ...

- 1 Which prime minister was in office when Queen Victoria came to the throne?
a) Lord Melbourne
- 2 Which food store first opened at 173 Drury Lane, London, in 1869?
b) Sainsbury's
- 3 What was Charles Dickens' first novel? **c) Pickwick Papers**
- 4 Which British postage stamp was issued in 1841 as a replacement for the Penny Black?
b) Penny Red
- 5 What is the name of Isambard Kingdom Brunel's ship now moored in Bristol?
c) SS Great Britain
- 6 Which company made the first Easter Eggs in 1873? **c) Fry's**
- 7 Which tax was first introduced for the first time during peacetime in June 1842?
a) Income Tax
- 8 In which royal residence did Queen Victoria spend her final days?
b) Osborne House
- 9 The Vaccination Act of 1853 made it mandatory for children to be vaccinated against which disease?
c) Smallpox
- 10 Which mining magnate founded the diamond company De Beers in 180?
a) Cecil Rhodes
- 11 What did William Fox-Talbot pioneer? **b) Photography**
- 12 How old was Queen Victoria when she came to the throne? **c) 18**
- 13 in 1868 which Liberal politician defeated Conservative Benjamin Disraeli to become prime minister, a position he held for four terms?
a) William Gladstone
- 14 During the Crimean War, the siege of which city lasted from October 1854 until September 1855?
c) Sebastopol

- 15 Which debtor's prison became famous through the novels of Charles Dickens?
b) Marshalsea
- 16 Who wrote *The Tenant of Wildfell Hall*? a) Anne Bronte
- 17 Where was Queen Victoria born? c) Kensington Palace
- 18 Which famous Victorian play features the characters Jack Worthing and Algernon Moncrieff? a) *The Importance of Being Earnest*
- 19 In which London park was the Crystal Palace, site of the Great Exhibition of 1851? c) Hyde Park
- 20 How many children did Queen Victoria have? And how many of them can you name? b) 9
Victoria, Albert, Alice, Alfred, Helena, Louise, Arthur, Leopold, Beatrice

Do you know what all these letters stand for?

- | | | |
|----|--------|--|
| 21 | NSPCC | National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children |
| 22 | PIN | Personal Identification Number |
| 23 | RADAR | Radio Detecting and Ranging |
| 24 | SIM | Subscriber Identity Module |
| 25 | NATO | North Atlantic Treaty Organisation |
| 26 | RAM | Random Access Memory |
| 27 | UNESCO | United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation |
| 28 | GIF | Graphics Interchange Format |
| 29 | PDF | Portable Document Format |
| 30 | RoSPA | Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents |



PARTICIPANTS NEEDED!

**We're looking for children aged 5–9 to take part
in a fun online study.**

What is this about?

We want to learn how kids choose what to focus on and how they tackle fun little challenges.

What's involved?

A 40-minute online video call that you and your child will join. Your child will solve a computerised puzzle task and answer some questions. The study is playful and designed to be engaging for children.



Want your child to become an honorary scientist?

See the link below or scan the QR code to learn more and sign up.

Nb. We can run sessions on weekends!

Payment & Prize draw

To show our gratitude, every child who takes part will receive a **£5 VEX voucher** AND be entered into a prize draw to **win one of two £50 Amazon vouchers**.

The research has been reviewed and approved by the University Research Ethics Committee, Oxford Brookes University [UREC registration number: 241858].



https://brookeshls.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_cumFaXxh66RdQDc

100 years of Winnie-the-Pooh

One hundred years ago, on 14th October 1926, the children's book *Winnie-the-Pooh*, by A A Milne, was published.

It was set in the Hundred Acre Wood, an innocent world described as “largely Edenic” but based on Ashdown Forest in East Sussex, which the Milne family often explored from their home in nearby Hartfield. It came about through the encouragement of E H Shepard, Milne's colleague on the humorous magazine *Punch*, who provided the beguiling illustrations.

Alan Alexander Milne was firstly a playwright and occasional mystery story writer who, again with Shepard, wrote the book of children's verse *When We Were Very Young*, which contained the seeds of *Winnie-the-Pooh* and its sequel, *The House on Pooh Corner*, all of which proved extremely popular.

It was apparently during a family visit to London Zoo, where Christopher Robin encountered a tame bear called Winnipeg, that the book was conceived. Winnie's literary friends, such as Piglet and Eeyore, were originally toys of the real Christopher Robin.

Sadly, the book eventually had an adverse effect on the Milne family. The author said that he felt “amazement and disgust” at the fame his son had had thrust upon him: “I do not want C R Milne to ever wish that his name was Charles Robert.” Nevertheless, the son did become estranged from his parents, especially following his marriage to his mother's niece.

The effect of the book on others has been happier. A plaque at Ashdown Forest declares that Milne and Shepard “captured the magic of Ashdown Forest and gave it to the world”.

Despite creating a kind of Eden, Milne, who was a pacifist, said little about religion. But he did say on joining the Home Guard that “in fighting Hitler we are truly fighting the Devil, the Anti-Christ ... Hitler was a crusader against God.”

The four Winnie-the-Pooh books went on to sell more than 50 million copies worldwide. The first book became the first-ever foreign-language book on the *New York Times* bestseller list.



Safe Spaces

Church-related Abuse Service

0300 303 1056

Safe Spaces is a free, independent service for adults who have experienced abuse by someone in the Church.

This includes abuse linked to:

- The Church of England
- The Catholic Church in England and Wales
- The Church in Wales

Safe Spaces offers emotional support, practical help, and advocacy to adults aged 18 and over, whether the abuse happened recently or many years ago.

Support may include

 Emotional support

 Space to be heard

 Support and advise you

 Be non-judgmental

 Keep everything confidential

 Advocacy on your behalf

 Online support with meetings or appointments

 Information about compensation

 Signpost for other services

 Help understanding safeguarding, reporting, or criminal justice



SCAN TO LEARN MORE

or visit
www.safespacesenglandandwales.org.uk/

**You are believed, and you stay
in control of every step.**



And finally ...

Thank you everyone for supporting the **100 Club**. We sold the maximum number of shares which enabled the dividends to be more attractive.

The draw results were: No 53 - £100; No 68 - £25; No 24 - £5.

Profit to the church energy bills was £370.

The next sale of shares will start on Sunday 15 November. Let's make someone have a good Christmas bonus by selling all 100 shares.

Thank you.

Judith

SOUTHERN DIOCESES NET ZERO CONFERENCES 2027

HOPE for all creation

Inspirational, interactive and practical conferences to help you and your church on your creation care journey

**Saturday 16th January
10am to 4:30pm
St Andrew's Church, Burgess Hill**

Guests & Speakers include:
Diocesan Bishops and other senior clergy
Ruth Valerio, Climate and creation theologian
Vitalis Ngwambi, Racial Justice Coordinator
Local NZC/environment organisations and groups,
including A Rocha, Climate Stewards, Christian Aid, and
Hazelnut Community

Diocese of Portsmouth | Diocese of Guildford | DIOCESE OF CHICHESTER | UNIVERSITY OF SUSSEX | ecclesiastical | AROCHA | Net Zero Carbon 2025 | THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

SOUTHERN DIOCESES NET ZERO CONFERENCES 2027

HOPE for all creation

SAVE THE DATES:
Saturday 16th January, 10am to 4:30pm, Burgess Hill
Saturday 13th February, 10am to 4:30pm, Winchester

CHURCH ORGANISATIONS

MESSY CHURCH	Every second Sunday (except August & December) in the church 4.00 - 6.00 pm	
HALLS/CHURCH for HIRE	Halls Administrator	07847 352889 halls@brightonstjohn.org.uk
PRESTON COFFEE POT	Every Wednesday after the 10.00 am service	
PRESTON FRIDAY CLUB	Crowhurst Community Centre alternate Fridays in term time 2.00 - 4.00 pm	Sue O'Malley 01273 700150
THE CHILDREN'S SOCIETY	Judith Lawson	

6th / 7th PRESTON PARK GUIDES - Crowhurst Community Centre

Rainbow Guides	Tuesday in term time 5.30 – 6.30 pm	Ms Jo Mander girlguiding.org.uk
	Wednesday in term time 5.30 - 6.30 pm	Mrs Jackie Vidler girlguiding.org.uk
Brownie Guides	Tuesday in term time 6.15 - 7.45 pm	Ms Jo Mander girlguiding.org.uk
Guides	Wednesday in term time 6.45 - 8.45 pm	Miss Helen Emerson girlguiding.org.uk

For more information about activities at St John's please see our website
www.brightonstjohn.org.uk



If you're able to contribute to St John's on a regular basis, please consider signing up to the Parish Giving Scheme.

<https://www.parishgiving.org.uk/donors/find-your-parish/preston-st-john-the-evangelist-brighton/>



St John's is registered with easyfundraising Over 7,000 brands will donate to us when you use easyfundraising to shop with them – at no extra cost to yourself!

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/brightonstjohn/>

Using your smartphone this QR code enables you to support St John's via a debit or credit card:



Parish Church of St John the Evangelist
Knole Road Brighton BN1 6RB
www.brightonstjohn.org.uk
www.facebook.com/prestonstjohn

Parish Office opening times: Mondays & Fridays 9:30am-12pm

Parish Safeguarding Officer: Sue Seymour
safeguarding@brightonstjohn.org.uk

CCL Licence no 2199043
Registered Charity Number: 113510



St John the Evangelist
Knoyle Road
Brighton BN1 6RB

www.brightonstjohn.org.uk
www.facebook.com/prestonstjohn