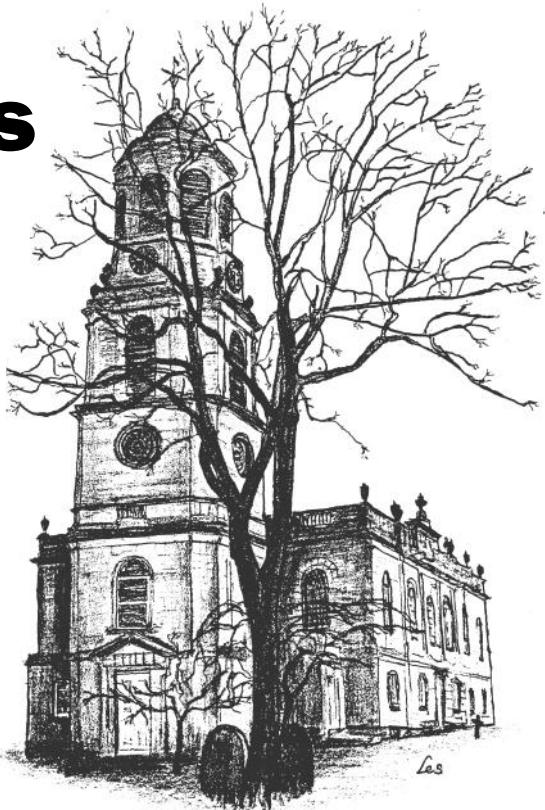
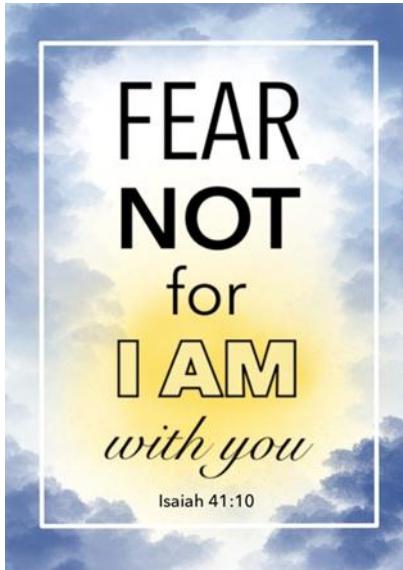


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May 2020

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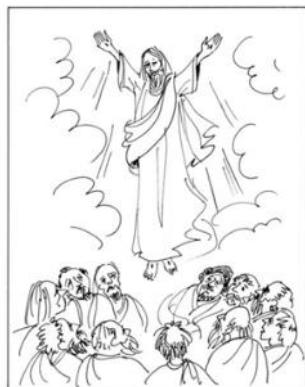
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Journeying with the Disciples

It seems quite appropriate to be writing the magazine editorial for May. After all, it's the word we seem to be using more than any other at the moment. The only thing of which we can be sure is that we're living with uncertainty.

And so we're taken back to experience, in our own way, the life of the disciples in the days and weeks following Easter. Our readings for this time of the year help us to follow them as we journey with them; we are asked to use the readings from Acts as part of our principal services. Jesus has risen, but is not with them in the ways they had grown used to over the previous three years. And so we see them struggling, at times, to understand what 'being a disciple' means in this new world.

And we can journey with them; to the Ascension on 21st May, and then to Pentecost on 31st. There's a little bit of me that says, 'Wouldn't it be wonderful if, at the end of May, we could resume holding services together, as we hear the words, 'The disciples were all together in one place' which led into the gift of the Holy Spirit?' But I suspect that's just wishful thinking. So, just as the first disciples had to discover new ways of



thinking and working, both in the days before and after Pentecost, we are being challenged to discover new ways of ‘being the Church’ in very different times. Some of the changes will be temporary; some may fundamentally challenge what we have previously understood about ‘being the Church’. And it may not be immediately apparent which is which. It was months, if not years, after Pentecost before the first disciples grew to realise that they no longer had to worship in the Temple that had been their spiritual home for the whole of their lives, and was, for a time, a cause of deep division. It’s not just people in the 21st century who don’t like change!

One of the most heart-warming stories of the past few days has been that of Kia Tobin and Ken Benbow. When his wife died after 71 years of marriage, Ken took her photograph to bed with him every night; but the staff of his care home were concerned that, if the glass broke, he might injure himself. The problem was solved when Kia, his personal carer, had a cushion made which carried his wife’s picture.

I’d like to see this as a modern parable from which we can all learn. God can never be contained in the frame we’d often like to keep him in; our challenge and delight is to find ways in which his goodness and love can be released to those among whom we live and work in the new circumstances we are now living through

Brian Morris

DIARY DATES for May 2020

Sunday 3 May EASTER 4

Readings:

Acts 2:42-end John 10:1-10

Friday 8 Bank Holiday to commemorate VE day in 1945

Sunday 10 EASTER 5 Vocations Sunday

Readings:

Acts 7:55-end John 14:1 - 14

Start of Christian Aid Week

Sunday 17 EASTER 6 Rogation Sunday

Readings:

Acts 17:22-31 John 14: 15-21

Thursday 21 ASCENSION DAY

Readings:

Acts 1:1-11 Luke 24: 44-end



The 10 days of **THY KINGDOM COME** begin.

Sunday 24 EASTER 7 / SUNDAY AFTER ASCENSION

Readings:

Acts 1:6-14 John 17:1-11

Sunday 31 PENTECOST SUNDAY

Readings:

Acts 2:1-21 John 7:37-39



Nick Shields and the Royal Maundy Money

Congratulations to Nick Shields, who was one of those chosen to receive Maundy Money from the Queen this year. Sadly the service at St George's Chapel Windsor could not be held, but he has received the money, along with a lovely letter from the Queen.

Psalm 34 – delivered from fear

The Revd Paul Hardingham looks at a psalm which was written in uncertain times.

Amid the current coronavirus pandemic, we all live with fear and uncertainty. How do we deal with fear?

'I sought the Lord, and He answered me; He delivered me from all my fears.' (Ps 34:4).

In this psalm, David expresses real fears. He was on the run from Saul, who was trying to murder him! Yet David points to three simple habits that help overcome fear.

Praising God always: *'I will extol the Lord at all times; His praise will always be on my lips.'* (1).

It was David's pattern of life to praise God daily, whatever his circumstances. He was acknowledging God's lordship over his life. Praise affirms that my circumstances are in His hands and He is with me in all that I am going through.

Seeking God continually: *'This poor man called, and the Lord heard him; He saved him out of all his troubles.'* (6).

David looked to God, who released him from all his fears. It's easy for our fears to overwhelm us and rob us of the assurance that God loves us and wants the best for us. When we seek God, He hears us and responds, as He is not powerless to act.

Finding refuge in God: *'Taste and see that the Lord is good; blessed is the one who takes refuge in Him.'* (8).

David's personal invitation is to taste and see that God is good. Our fears often tell us that the opposite is true for us. Fear tells us that God cannot be trusted and that He will abandon us. We can make God our secure refuge and not be afraid.

This psalm helps us to see fear from a totally different perspective:

'Fear the Lord, you His holy people, for those who fear Him lack nothing.' (9).

The Gathered Church

Doesn't the simple pleasure of going to church and exchanging the peace at Sunday worship seem long ago now? These days, we are not even allowed into our churches!

But we can take comfort when we think back to the Apostles who were commissioned to build God's Church. After the first Pentecost, what did they do? They didn't rush out and build church buildings. No! Rather the people gathered together, in their own homes.

Clearly, we can't physically 'gather' just now, but we have the technology to 'gather' together, both in real time and at a later time. And it is important to do so. There is something powerful when we pray together rather than alone. Try phoning a friend with the same written prayer and saying it together. How does that feel? Any different from saying it on your own?

So, THE Church, which is alive and well in you and me, will find new ways to be together. After all, the early Christians had the added complication of being persecuted, often to death, for their faith. And yet they persisted.

Perhaps we could each sit at our dining table at a set time, with one or two items before us, such as a small glass of wine, a lit candle, stones, and a cross. Indeed, anything that reminds us of our Risen Saviour. We could then 'share' this time in praying the same prayers and knowing that we are part of an eternal fellowship that is only temporarily divided.



What would you use to reflect and encourage your faith? What items in and around your home would bring others to your mind, help you to concentrate and allow your spirit to fly with the Holy Spirit?

Who will you be connecting with to pray?

Rev'd Dr Jo White



Perhaps you could colour this in for this special day
on Friday 8 May.



Remembering VE Day

In spite of Covid19, major historical anniversaries still happen! In May we celebrate the 75th anniversary of VE Day, which nothing should stop.

I was 15 in May 1945, when Britain celebrated VE Day. It stood for Victory in Europe and followed an agreement by the Allied powers following the German surrender. Needless to say, although the war with Japan was not over, it was a noticeable moment. No more bombs, missiles and blitz – and the ‘boys’ would come home!

I have two very clear memories of the day itself. The first was the street party which took place in our road on a housing estate in North London. With official permission, the road was closed off, tables were set up, food and drink were served. We spent the afternoon in races and competitions. Dads, mums, teenagers and children then sang the wartime songs, and ‘Jerusalem’ and ‘God save the King’.

The other memory is an image of a sailor kissing a young woman – surrounded by happy laughing people. This iconic photograph was in one of the papers the next day, then on camera newsfeeds and is in just about every journalistic library. Somehow it captures the mood of the day – freedom, warmth, the good things of everyday life.

VE Day did indeed mark a turning point, though not everything was going to be easy in the post-war years. But the hideous shadow of war had gone and 75 years later it has yet to return to these shores, thank God.

David Winter

Victory in Europe Day was celebrated on 8th May 1945 and marked with a public holiday. Many went into churches to give thanks, and to pray for those still involved in the war in the Far East, which only ended on 15th August. At St Paul’s Cathedral there were ten consecutive services giving thanks for peace, each attended by thousands of people.

Severed from Routine

Imagine a world where everything familiar has gone. Your capital city's most famous religious landmark has been destroyed; you have been transported to a foreign country; and have no idea when or if you will be permitted to go home. That's roughly what happened to the Jewish people in what is called the Babylonian Captivity more than 500 years BC. Jerusalem and its Temple had been obliterated.

In exile, the Jews weren't treated too badly, but they were bereft of the land they believed God had given them and where they felt Him to be present. When their captors, quite innocently, asked them to sing one of their religious songs, they bristled, "How can we sing the Lord's song in a strange land?"

But their faith matured during their 70-year exile. Scribes consolidated the Scriptures. New kinds of congregations, called synagogues, sprang up where they could worship and teach the faith. Their somewhat provincial view of God actually got bigger – not only did they find Israel's God was accessible in their foreign surroundings, but their prophets began to see that God was for all people. Here's part of Isaiah, Chapter 45

*'Turn to me and be saved,
all you ends of the earth;
for I am God, and there is no other.

By myself I have sworn,
my mouth has uttered in all integrity
a word that will not be revoked:
Before me every knee will bow;
by me every tongue will swear.
They will say of me, "In the Lord alone
are deliverance and strength."*"

Finally, and after many of the original exiles had died, the Persians conquered Babylon, and gave the exiles the option to go home, which many did.

There must be a lesson here for many people round the world who, because of Covid-19, suddenly found themselves severed from routine and obliged to fashion new habits for an unspecified period. Regular worshippers were banished from their churches. The observance of Holy Week and Easter had to be in a makeshift fashion. Special events were cancelled.

At the same time, on the first Sunday of this ‘exile’ the Church of England attracted its largest ‘congregation’ ever. A recorded service led by the Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, is estimated to have been seen or heard by around five million people. Nearly 30 per cent of those watching online were under the age of 34.

It’s too soon to say what the long-term impact will be, but perhaps, like the Jews in Babylon, we will learn there are other ways to ‘be church’.

The Ven John Barton

A healthy church is a place where you put the things that won’t go anywhere else.

That may mean ... the bits of yourself that won’t go anywhere else – deep disturbance, and trauma, and pain.

Also the bits of inarticulate gratitude that won’t go anywhere else.

A hospitable church is where you take these things and know that they are welcome.

Funerals during the coronavirus restrictions

Funerals have changed almost beyond recognition under the strict new rules to prevent the spread of coronavirus.

Church of England funerals may now take place only at crematoria or at gravesides. Only immediate family may attend, and they must keep their two-metre distance.

To help those who are grieving-at-a-distance at this difficult time, the Church of England has published a simple guide. It provides both prayers and also suggestions of how people can pay their own tribute at home to the person who has died.

These include finding a photograph of the person who has died, writing down memories of them, and lighting a candle in memory of their loved ones.



The Revd Canon Dr Sandra Millar, Head of Welcome and Life Events for the Church of England, said: “It’s so difficult when you can’t go to a funeral... to say your last goodbye and know that your special person’s life has been honoured, prayers offered, and God’s love experienced.”

More details at: <https://www.churchofengland.org/Life>

What is the best way to talk about death?

A leading terminal illness charity, Marie Curie, advises that euphemisms are not helpful, and that using direct language about death is the best approach when in a hospital or while talking to children.

The euphemisms include: ‘popped their clogs’, ‘kicked the bucket’, ‘passed away’, ‘pushing up daisies’ and ‘leaving this mortal coil.’

Matthew Reed, Marie Curie’s chief executive, says research

has found that the nation “has at least 50 completely different ways of talking about death, which suggests society still has some way to go to feel comfortable about talking about dying, death and bereavement.

“While most of us say we are comfortable talking about dying and death, the reality is that many of us are not making any preparations, as it feels a long way off or something that will cause unnecessary upset, both for us and the people around us. But we need to plan more for the end of life, while there is still time to do so.”

God of mission,
You give fresh life to St John’s.
Send your Holy Spirit
 to give vision to our planning,
 wisdom to our activities,
 and power to our witness,
that we may grow
 in love and commitment to you
 in number of disciples
 and in loving service to our neighbours
 through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen

In one sense, Pentecost can never happen again. In another sense, it may always be happening, since we live in the age of the Spirit.

Arthur Skevington Wood

This article was written nearly 20 years ago, but as we deal with the current coronavirus situation it may have wisdom for us today, and for our future.

I've recently had a major clearing out session at home. It's amazing what I found lurking at the back of drawers and cupboards! No treasures for the Antiques Roadshow, but one odd find was a container full of teapot lids

Spring cleaning is a very healthy exercise in many ways, and not just because of the physical exertion involved. We need to get rid of things we no longer find useful, and sort out those which are still of benefit and value to us. Clearing space also allows us to acquire new things which make our homes more welcoming to ourselves and to others.

I realised I also needed to do a spiritual 'spring cleaning' and sort through some of the clutter in my life. Am I clinging on to attitudes, ideas, relationships which I really need to let go? Do I need more space in my life for other people, and for God? Do I need to explore new ideas and relationships in order to grow and move forwards? A spiritual 'spring clean' could help me see my priorities more clearly: what do I really value in life, which relationships are the most important and how is my relationship with God?

I was struck recently by Jesus' words to Mary Magdalene in the garden, 'Do not cling on to me.' At the resurrection that temptation to hold on to Jesus must have been so strong for her and for all the disciples – but they had to let him go. Jesus' promise to be with them always could only be fulfilled by his returning to his Father and sending the Holy Spirit as his living inner presence to his followers.

So we need to learn when it is right to 'let go' of possessions and people, of attitudes and ideas, so that God's good purpose in our lives might be fulfilled.

Ann Bunce

Sunday Services at St John's are TEMPORARILY SUSPENDED DUE TO COVID19 RESTRICTIONS

EVERY SUNDAY

8.00am Holy Communion

A traditional, peaceful said communion service, without music.

The service lasts about 45 minutes.

1st, 3rd, 4th & 5th SUNDAY EACH MONTH

10.00am Parish Communion

A traditional service with a contemporary edge, with both hymns and modern worship songs. Lasts 60-80 minutes.

JJs (St John's Juniors, children 4-11 years) meet in the Samaritan Room at this time.

During communion the Laying on of Hands is offered on the 3rd Sunday

2nd SUNDAY EACH MONTH

10.00am Family Service

Relaxed, all-age worship with songs, and a thought for the day. Lasts 50-60 minutes
Baptisms often take place at this service

The entrance door to the church is on the city centre / High School side of St John's Square. There is a ramp access for wheelchairs and pushchairs up to this door.

There is a fully accessible toilet at the church, and a baby-change facility.

There is an induction loop for those who use a hearing aid.

Parish Activities / Organisations TEMPORARILY SUSPENDED DUE TO COVID19 RESTRICTIONS

Parish Morning Prayer 9.30am Mondays. Side chapel
(not bank holidays)

A short service of readings and prayer to start the week

Toddler & Baby Playgroup 9.15-11.30am Friday in church
(during term time)

A time for babies, toddlers and their carers to play and share.

Lunches (Weekly) Wednesdays Noon to 1.00pm
Lunches served. See overleaf

A chance to meet friends and chat.

Julian Meeting Fourth Tuesday each month
7.45pm in Church

All are welcome to share in Christian contemplative prayer.

Taizé Service Last Friday in the month. (usually)
7.00-8.00pm + coffee / tea

A reflective ecumenical service

Church Choir Practice after the 10.00am
service on Sunday

Join us in helping to lead Sunday worship

Conversation Café 10.00am - Monday

Non-English speakers can develop their language skills in a relaxed environment

*You could remove these centre pages to keep for reference,
or give to someone who might be interested.*

UNIFORMED ORGANISATIONS

Purposeful activity in a structured, fun environment.

25th Wakefield Scout Group For boys and girls, held in the Scout Hut by St. John's Parish Centre at the following times.

Beaver Scouts (6-8 years) Tues & Thurs 5.45 - 6.45pm

Cub Scouts (8-11years) Mon.& Tues 7.00pm-8.15pm

Scouts (11-14 years) Wednesday 7.30pm-9.00pm

Details: Group Scout Leader Laura Stephenson 07772869561

Girl Guiding UK www.girlguiding.org.uk

Rainbows (Girls aged 5-7) Thursdays 6.00-7.00pm in church

Contact: Ann Coulson a.coulson@leedsbeckett.ac.uk

Brownies (Girls aged 7-10) Tuesdays 6.15-7.30pm in church

Contact: www.girlguiding.org.uk/registeryourinterest

Girl Guides (Girls 10 – 14 years) Thursday 7.15-8.45pm in school

Contact: Rachel Gibbs www.girlguiding.org.uk/registeryourinterest

We take bookings for the Church, the café area, the Samaritan Room, or the whole building.

Please contact Lorraine Hanson on 01924 257376 for details of prices etc. See page 28 for photos

Mission Statement

St John's is here to be a living, loving and serving witness to Christ; worshipping, learning and growing in our faith together, reaching out to share God's love in the community and bringing His Word to all

Come for Lunch at St John's

**CANCELLED UNTIL
FURTHER NOTICE**

**DUE TO
CORONAVIRUS**

**From 12 noon to 1.00pm
every Wednesday
Enjoy a 3 course meal
+ coffee / tea for £4.00**

A man felt he was overloaded in the ‘trouble shooting department’ of his office, until he found this memo on his desk. “Be thankful for the problems, for if they were less difficult, someone with less ability would have your job.”

Gods retirement plan

Why is it vital to be open to something new that God may be doing in your life?

Archaeologist Dr Warwick Rodwell was preparing to retire when he made an amazing discovery at Lichfield Cathedral. Builders were carefully excavating part of the floor to make space for a retractable base. As they dug down they found a sculpture of the archangel Gabriel, dated to 1,200 years ago.

Dr. Rodwell put his retirement plans on hold, as this find launched him into an exciting and busy new season. His original plans had been quite different!

At this time in your life, what might God be calling you to do for His greater purpose? What new plans has He put in your path? What might He put your way in the coming months?

As Christians we all need to be open to something new that God might be planning for us?

Ruth O'Reilly-Smith

“What is your kitten’s name, James?” asked the visitor.

“Ben Hur,” said James.

“That’s a funny name for a cat. Why did you name it that?”

“Well, we just called him Ben – until he had kittens.”



Could You Cheque Out With Us?

We are living through difficult times, including being excluded from our church buildings. But the church - the people of God - is still doing His work out there in our community and supporting individuals and organisations in many ways.

We may not be paying out money to heat or light the church building, but it must still be insured and maintained. Income from lettings and parish activities has also ceased, but we still need to pay the Parish Share, so that the Diocese can pay for our Vicar, while we pay her expenses.



With no services being held in church we no longer have the income from the loose change or envelopes that people put in the offertory basket, and this is much missed. Thankfully many people make their giving to church by standing order at

the bank, so we do have some regular income to rely on. But if you normally put your donation in the basket at the offertory, could you consider making an occasional payment to us in lieu of this? Several people have already done so, and it is heartening to have this monetary support during this time of isolation.

The simplest way, if you use a smart phone, is to donate via the QR code on the back page of the magazine. You could otherwise send a cheque to our treasurer. Cheques need to be made payable to 'St John's PCC' and should be sent to Brian Morris, 263 Park Lodge Lane, Wakefield WF1 4HY. If you are sending a cheque for money that you would otherwise be giving using the envelope scheme, please include one of your envelopes, as it gives us your reference number.



FUNERALS

*We commit to the Lord's
eternal care*

30 March Kirsten Monkman (crematorium)

24 April Jessie Adams Rankin
(known as Ada) (crematorium)

*The views expressed in this Magazine
are those of each writer and are not necessarily held
by the Editor, Vicar or PCC.*

Magazine Contributions

The Editor is always pleased to receive news of events, to come or which have taken place; reports of church activities; original articles, stories, etc. We cannot guarantee that they will be included, and they may be edited before inclusion.

**Please send contributions for the
June 2020 issue**

by 10 May 2020

All copy should be sent to the editor:

Deidre Morris at
263 Park Lodge Lane, Wakefield WF1 4HY

Or e-mail to: **bandmorris@btinternet.com**

St John's School Page

Our world now!

Since the end of March we have been in lockdown because of the coronavirus. It seems like the world is upside-down. Some things I have been enjoying so far: spending more time with my family and being able to do schoolwork at home with mum as my teacher. Some things I couldn't do, which has been hard, is not spending time with my extended family and I miss going to school to see my teachers, friends and classmates. I have kept busy doing lots of fun things like video-calling my grandparents. Over facetime we did an Easter bonnet competition and played games - this was exciting and fun! I really enjoyed making rainbows and signs to put in our windows supporting the NHS and keyworkers and making all the people who walk past our house smile. Every Thursday we all stand outside our houses to clap and cheer the NHS. I find this fun and kind. I clap extra loud for my Grandma Karen who is a nurse. This has been a really strange time for us, but we can get through this together. Stay safe! Alesha (Year 6)



My Isolation

5 weeks 35 days 840 hours. Isolation is challenging for us all. I do feel like I am repeating every day over and over. In my house we've done baking, reading, BBQs, garden games and much more - anything to cure our boredom. My brother and I have been very fed up but trying not to complain. Luckily Joe Wicks (The Body Coach) has done daily half hour work-outs for kids on YouTube. My teacher will be happy that I've been doing school work such as: stories, online lessons, maths sheets and art. So, I am trying to keep up. Despite all of this effort I would still prefer to be at school. Anyway, all the best

and stay safe. *Digby* (Year 6)

Lockdown

The schools are closed because of Covid 19. We are spending lots of family time and watching movies together. We go for walks and bike rides every day and play football in the garden. We are home schooling with mum. On Thursdays we clap for the NHS and key workers to show our appreciation. *Kieran* (Year 6)

5 of us have been staying safe at home. It is sad that we can't see other family members, like my Nonna and I miss her. It is nice to spend so much time together at home but we have to be more patient and understanding with each other. We play lots of board games and do jobs like gardening - I have planted carrots, rhubarb, beans, lettuce and radishes. They have just started to sprout. *Seth* (year 6)

We are currently in isolation, going stir crazy! This is how I'm handling my days...

My dad is a keyworker which means he has an increased danger of being infected, he works in food logistics. Every day when he gets home he must decontaminate everything he carries, boil wash his clothes and shower - which means I cannot touch him until he's finished.

I get my exercise by going for a 30 min walk every day, I'm quite fortunate because I have field right next to my house. When I go for a walk I usually take something with me, for example my bike, a Frisbee, my football or some tennis racquets and ball. We always go as a family and I am enjoying us all spending time together.

After my 'school day' at home, I usually play a board game which is great fun (if no one argues), because it means I get to have some more family time, We have also been watching films together.

During my 'school' hours I try to follow my rota and do a good

St John's School page continued

amount of quality work. Most of the time I get good marks and am happy with myself but the only time I'm not happy with myself is when I rush and miss things. I feel I do well at home and I try not to be grumpy or stir crazy. But sometimes I do and then I get in trouble! Alex (year 6)

Acrostic Poem

Rainbow hunting through my window

And so I stay hiding

Inside from the rain

Now the slow raindrops gliding

Blue the sky turns as the

Orange sun brings glad tidings

Wind blowing the clouds away

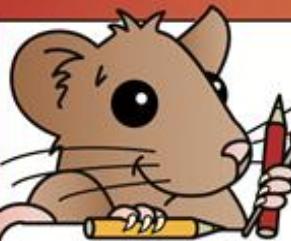
If you want the rainbow,
you've got to
put up with the rain!

Teacher:

"What is the difference between results and consequences?"

Bright pupil:

"Results are what you expect; consequences are what you get."



Mouse Makes

How many other words can you find using the letters from:

FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT?



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

Which symbol goes with which fruit?



LOVE • CARE • CHERISH • JOY • DELIGHT • PEACE • ACCORD
AGREEMENT • UNITY • CALM • CONTENTMENT • REST
PATIENCE • TOLERANCE • KINDNESS • COMPASSION • HELP
GOODWILL • GENEROSITY • GOODNESS • HONESTY • INTEGRITY
FAITHFULNESS • LOYALTY • TRUST • GENTLENESS • CONSIDERATE
SELF CONTROL • RESTRAINT • FRUIT • SPIRIT • LIVE • SERVE



"The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness gentleness and self control.

If we live by the Spirit, let us also behave in accordance with the Spirit"



Read
Galatians 5:13-26



WE BELIEVE

We believe in one **World**, full of riches meant for everyone to enjoy; and one race, the family of mankind, learning to live together by way of common enterprise, mutual esteem and sacrificial care.



We believe in one **Life**, exciting and positive, which enjoys all beauty, integrity and science; uses the discipline of work to enrich society, harmonises with the life of Jesus, and perfects body, mind and spirit.

We believe in one **Morality**, love, which means sharing - sharing the joys and sorrows of others, bringing people together as true friends, working to overcome the causes of poverty, injustice, ignorance, fear and loneliness; love, which is partially seen in the care of our friends and families, generously portrayed in the lives of saints, and supremely revealed in our Lord Jesus Christ.



We believe in one **God**, witnessed to in the Bible; experienced in many cultures; revealed simply and unforgettably in the life and death of Jesus, and present with us still as the spirit of forgiveness, compassion, renewal and hope.

We believe in one **Consummation**, the final defeat of sin and disease through a constructive revolution in society, nations and individuals, and the uniting of all things in Christ. Amen

(As used at an inter-denominational ecumenical service)

Sad News

Sadly our dear friend, Kirsten Monkman, died just before the lockdown. Her funeral took place on 30th March 2020 at the Crematorium and our prayers are with David and the rest of the family at this very sad time. Kirsten and David have been longstanding members of our congregation and it has been hard not to be able to say goodbye to Kirsten because of the

lockdown. However, Kirsten's family are planning to hold a Thanksgiving Service for Kirsten in St John's Church once the current pandemic is over, when we can all give thanks for Kirsten and say goodbye to her.

We are also sad to learn of the death of Shelley Hayes and our prayers are with her husband, Paul, and son, Matthew, and the rest of the family.



Thy Kingdom Come Ascension to Pentecost 21st - 31st May 2020

Thy Kingdom Come is a global prayer movement . Christians around the world are invited to pray for 10 days from Ascension to Pentecost for more people to come to know Jesus.

Plans are in train for a **Wakefield 24/7 Wave of Prayer** from **Ascension to Pentecost**

Bishop Tony will introduce it with a video from Sandal Castle on Ascension Day morning. It will soon be possible for individuals to sign up to pray for an hour at home during the Wave of Prayer. See the weekly newsletter for more details.

Prayer Resources for Thy Kingdom Come are available from the website <https://www.thykingdomcome.global/>

The free **Thy Kingdom Come App** has daily videos, Bible readings, reflections and podcasts from N. T. Wright (Tom Wright) and will soon be available on the Thy Kingdom Come website.

The Prayer Journal is now available on the website. If you'd like to order a hard copy booklet, please let Stephanie know.

The Family Prayer Adventure map is available to download now and an app to go with it will be available soon.

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Tel: 01924 371029

e-mail: stephanie.buchanan@btinternet.com

Assistant Clergy

The Rev'd Paul Ellis

Tel: 01924 367976

Churchwardens

Martyn Lawson 01924 378101

Reader

Brian Morris 01924 369437

To book any of the following:

Church, Church Reception Area, Samaritan Room

Lorraine Hanson 01924 257376

Magazine Editor, and Advertising Manager

Deidre Morris

263 Park Lodge Lane, Wakefield WF1 4HY

01924 369437

e-mail: bandmorris@btinternet.com

Our Website: www.achurchnearyou.com/church/7365

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