

CROSSROADS
The Parish magazine for



APCM

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

**Sunday 17th May following St George's 10.30am Parish Eucharist
and St Margaret's 5.00pm Parish Evensong**

MAY 2026

75p

BLESSINGS AND THANKSGIVINGS

"I will bless the Lord at all times; his praise shall ever be in my mouth"
Psalm 34 v1 It can sometimes be difficult to recognise the blessings of this life, especially when we look around the world and listen to the news! There can be so much to worry about and feel fearful of for ourselves and our families. And yet, even in these times, when we stop and reflect on our lives, we can usually find much to be thankful for and reasons to praise the Lord. As I write, there are signs of Spring all around; beautiful blossom on the trees, daffodils opening out, blue sky and even some sunshine! Signs of new life and hope in our midst through creation and nature – reminding us, of course, of the hope of our faith – new life through Jesus' crucifixion and resurrection.

During Lent, Holy Week and the Easter weekend, in our parishes, there were indeed many blessings and much to be thankful for – many signs of hope and joy. At the beginning of March, we joined with Roland and Janet to give thanks for their 11 years of marriage, in a service where we asked for God to continue to bless them and their beautiful family. After the service, we experienced such generous hospitality from their wider family and friends, and we were all united in a joyful celebration, including some singing and dancing together!

Another glorious occasion followed shortly afterwards, when we were honoured to host Sister Judi's first profession in vows to the First Order of the Society of Saint Francis. What a delight it was to share in this very special service with Sr Judi and many members of the Community of St Francis. Again, after the service, we enjoyed such generous hospitality and a wonderful atmosphere of joyful celebration and thanksgiving.

As the Church in Tuffley, we once again welcomed many classes into St George's for Explore Easter. Pastor David, from Grange Baptist, enthralled the children and their staff, as always, with his engaging storytelling, and the children has such enthusiasm to participate in the many activities

around the church. We also enjoyed the CiT procession with donkey again on Palm Sunday, with there being over 150 of us at the height of the procession! A real highlight for many of us that day, was the Easter play that members of Harewood Junior Drama Club shared with us – such talent and confidence, with the profound message of, ‘God’s love is stronger than all the hate, violence and destruction of this earthly world’ and how we can all be part of God’s great story of love in this world.

Our Easter weekend celebrations were as joyful as ever, with the beautiful service on Easter Eve at St Margaret’s, where despite Storm Dave, we lit the Paschal Candle from the fire that Malcolm had expertly managed to kindle in the shelter of the porch!

The next morning that same light was used to light the Paschal Candle at St George’s, the Easter Garden (made by children and their families at Easter Family Fun) was blessed and we continued the celebrations of Jesus’ resurrection. It was wonderful to be joined by IGBO people who meet at St George’s once a month, and we were blown away by their amazingly generous donation of useful items to the church – and the presentation method of song and dance (a short video is available, if you missed this!)

Wow – I could mention so many other blessings and thanksgivings of the last few weeks in our benefice, and I’m sorry for all those I’ve not had space to mention!

Most importantly though, Paul and I give thanks for you all – however you are part of church life, whether you’ve been able to be present for some of the above occasions, or whether you are part of the benefice community in more spirit and prayer not able to be physically present – you are all very much valued and a full part of the church family.

With every blessing,
RACHEL

P.S. If you are able to be physically present at events, please do put Sunday 26th July in your diaries – Paul and I would like to say a huge and sincere thank you to you all for the last five years (can you believe, I was inducted on 26th July 2021!) through a celebratory lunch, after the 10.30am service.

New Youth and Families Worker!

Following our successful application for grants to employ a Youth and Families Worker 18 hours a week, we were delighted to have eight applicants for the role. On Friday 20th March four candidates were interviewed. There was an interview panel, advised by the Diocesan Youth Adviser, and a youth panel - with six of our Youth Group members involved! The candidates had to prepare a ten-minute activity on the topic of 'mental wellbeing' (topic chosen by the youngsters) and then there was time for questions from the young people. The candidates also had a tour of St George's. We were delighted to have one candidate that everyone agreed upon - an enthusiastic and very talented young woman, Sophie Waller. Sophie will start on 11th May and will be leading the Monday Youth Group, starting a new Wednesday Youth Group, and supporting Tuesday Fun and Free. Hopefully, Sophie will also have time within her hours to build links with Holmleigh Park School and the wider community. Please pray for Sophie as she prepares to join us, and thank you to you all for your prayers that have got us to this point!

RACHEL



TAKE PART IN CHRISTIAN AID WEEK?

Your support could help mothers in Nairobi, Kenya, facing the devastating reality of urban poverty and the daily struggle to feed their children.

Fridah with her grandson, Quillan, outside their house in Dagoretti, Nairobi.



Most parents wake every single day knowing that they must go and earn money, otherwise their children won't eat that evening. Fridah knows this reality well. But she's determined to protect her Grandchildren from hunger. Through our partner, Beacon of Hope, she's received tools, seeds, and training to grow fresh vegetables in a small city space – food she can cook for her family or sell to earn income.

'Now I can plan. I can buy this; I can buy that. I can help my family.'

Christian Aid Week 10th to 16th 2026

Your faith.

Make it count.

7 days to make a difference – what will you do?

**The usual bucket will be out at the back of St George's Church
from Sunday 3rd May until Sunday 17th May
Just so you know!**



REFRESH

In the week when 400 school children 'Explored Easter', and learned who Jesus is, Pastor David Crunkhurn hosted 'Refresh' at Grange Baptist Church on Tuesday 17th March. Attended by twelve members of the various Church in Tuffley congregations Pastor David continued the theme GOD LOVES YOU. The meeting opened with prayer and 2 choruses. There followed an open time of praying, followed by the Lord's Prayer.

Pastor David reminded everyone 'This world seeks to define our value.' A process which can leave us feeling insignificant. God's word however views us differently. We are His creation 'fearfully and wonderfully made' (Psalm 131). Pastor David then told how God had blessed his family in unexpected ways. He and his wife Ellie decided to financially support their daughter Rachel as she studies for her master's degree. God blessed their decision as Ellie received a promotion at work. Their son Daniel is an artist who values the work he produces and delights in sharing his creations with his parents.

GOD LOVES YOU despite your (and my) failings. God knows everything about us. King David acknowledged this in Psalms 139 – You have searched me Lord and you know me. A scripture which is reflected in Luke 12 – The hairs on your head are all numbered, don't be afraid. God loves us so much that like the 'lost sheep' he pursues us.

Pastor David shared how God pursued his son Daniel. Whenever Pastor David tried to talk about the scriptures with Daniel, Daniel was dismissive, but God fed scripture into Daniel's dreams and the end result was Pastor David had the joy of baptising his own son, an event which for many family members was an answer to prayer.

Romans 5 – God shows His love for us. While we were still sinners Christ died for us.

Summing up Pastor David quoted Ephesians 2:10 – We were created in Christ Jesus for good works.

We were then released to go and play on any one of 4 tables set up with different crafts before returning to sing once again and closing with 'The Grace'.

Litter Pick

5 souls met on Saturday 21st March at Grange Baptist Church to Litter Pick the local area.

April – Palm Sunday Walk

With an opening prayer Father Gerry Walsh of English Martyrs RC Church started the Palm Sunday walk which featured Daphne, the donkey. Over 50 people followed the procession to Grange Baptist Church where Pastor David Crunkhurn prayed. The procession continued to St George's Church where refreshments were enjoyed before watching a play performed by the children of Harewood Junior School.

Good Friday – Walk of Witness

More than 30 people joined the Walk of Witness with 4 'Stations of the Cross'. The cross was carried from Grange Baptist Church (Station 1) to St George's Church (Station 2) then on to the shops at Holmleigh Parade (Station 3). From there the walk continued to Grange Primary School (Station 4) before moving on to English Martyrs RC church to join in their Good Friday Passion of the Lord service.

REFRESH next meets at St Barnabas Church on Tuesday 19th May at 7.30pm; with the CiT Litter Pickers meeting at the same venue at 11.30am on Saturday 24th May.

PETE BEST

TWENTY BIRDS IN TWENTY MINUTES

If you are a smartphone user (and I realise that plenty of people aren't) then I'm sure you will have discovered many clever apps which are easily installed.

I have been very impressed with Merlin, which identifies birdsong, and which has a high level of accuracy. One Monday in mid-April I had cause to be at St Margaret's twice during the morning, and in each case, I had to wait a little while for someone else to arrive. Perhaps I could have used my time better with some quiet spiritual reflection, but as so often, out came the mobile, and I switched on the Merlin app to tune into the birdsong.

The two sessions were about twenty minutes in total, and the birds recorded were as follows: Robin, Wren, Song Thrush, Chiff Chaff, Pied Wagtail, Blue Tit, Great Tit, Goldfinch, Greenfinch, Blackcap, House Sparrow, Hedge Sparrow, Wood Pigeon, Collared Dove, Rock Dove, Magpie, Jackdaw, Carrion Crow, Firecrest, Swallow.

That's twenty different birds. Strangely enough, the Blackbird wasn't among them, nor the chaffinch. Also, the very scarce Firecrest must be highly questionable in Whaddon. The song is quite similar to the far more common Goldcrest, so maybe that was what Merlin picked up. The Goldcrest is not endangered, but as Britain's smallest bird, they are hard to spot. The adult Goldcrest weighs the same as six paper clips! (The same can be said of the Firecrest: the two birds are very similar).

To give another example of a probable Merlin error, it has twice told me that it heard a Hooded Crow on Robinswood Hill. This is highly unlikely, as they are mostly confined to Scotland and Northern Ireland. I imagine they sound very like our normal carrion crow.

By the way, one thing you learn with Merlin is the sheer volume of the robin and the wren, and the amount they have to say. The wren is now

thought to be Britain's commonest bird, though like the goldcrest, not often seen, being very small and preferring the undergrowth.

To summarise, I think the Merlin app is astonishingly clever, and very useful for someone like me, who is interested in birds, but has very poor hearing.

JONATHAN



The Wren: now Britain's commonest bird, and very audible

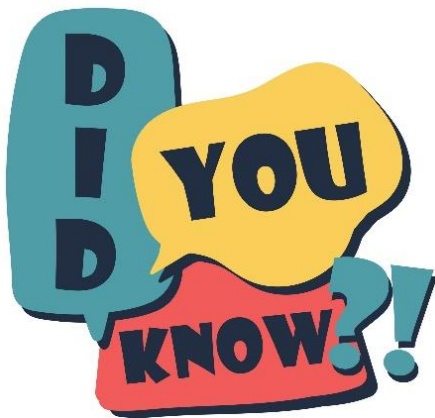
Mothers' UNION

Diocese of Gloucester

Our speaker on Tuesday 14th April was Tony Barker he is president of the Gloucestershire Indoor Bowling Association. We had a most enjoyable afternoon with him as he explained the various aspects of the game of Bowls. He and Sylvia belong to the same bowling club and between them gave us a very entertaining talk. They find the game of bowls both friendly and social and invited anyone who would like to have a try their hand at the game to speak to Sylvia and it can be arranged.

Our speaker on Tuesday 12th May is Mark Siddall, Vicar at St James' Quedgeley, his talk is Bike touring with children. Everyone is welcome to come along at 2.30pm in our small hall and listen to what Mark has to say.

GERALDINE



- A maypole was built in 1543 that was 100 feet high. Isaac Newton later purchased the pole in 1713 and used it to prop up a telescope.
- The two flowers of May are the hawthorn and the lily of the valley – the birthstone is the emerald.
- It was on 1st May in 1931 that the Empire State Building was officially opened.
- Maypoles were actually banned in England in 1644. Those who were found to have erected them were fined five shillings every week it was standing.
- Famous people born in the month of May include Bob Dylan, Adele, John F Kennedy, and Mr T.
- In Old English May was known as the Month of Three Milkings – this was because cows could be milked three times a day.
- May is named after the Greek Goddess Maia, who was the goddess of fertility.

There are so many opportunities to...





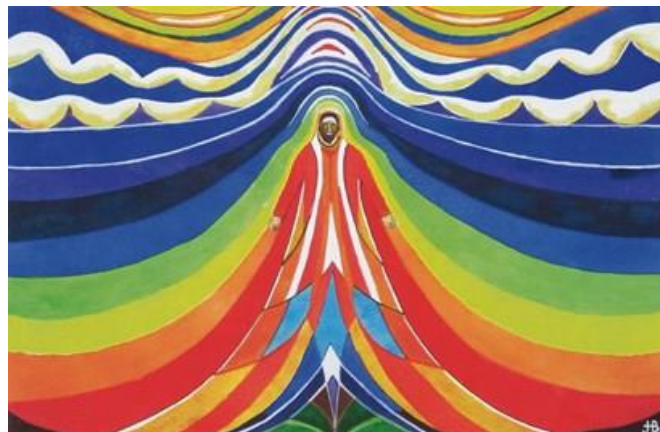
A time of contemplation and prayer in the presence of the blessed sacrament for Pentecost.

St George's Lady Chapel on Sunday 24th May at 3.00pm

Find out more from Rachel and Gioia



There will be a **Benefice Ascension Day Eucharist** at 10.00am on Thursday 14th May at St Margaret's Church, everyone is invited to this and to the **Deanery Ascension Day Eucharist** at 7.00pm at St Lawrence, Barnwood.



Confirmations

SUNDAY 5th JULY

We are delighted that Bishop Rachel will be with us at St George's on Sunday 5th July to lead a Confirmation Service at 10.30am. Confirmation is an opportunity to publicly affirm your Christian faith, especially if you were baptised as a baby or child. If you would like to know more, or are interested in being Confirmed by Bishop Rachel, please do speak to Rachel or Gioia. Usually this would be for people ten years and older. We already have a few youth group members and a few adults who are interested, so you wouldn't be alone! Also, please would everyone put the date in the diary and if at possible aim to be present, as this will be a great celebration in the life of our Benefice.

RACHEL

A DAY IN THE LIFE OF A BISHOP

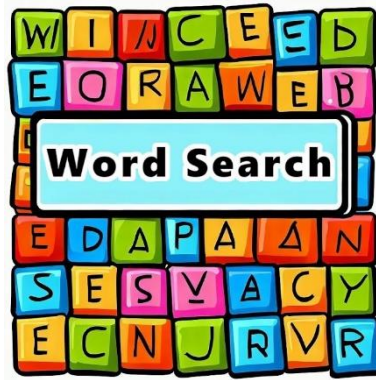


The Gospel Truth

MAY QUIZ

Questions based on the Gospel readings for March

- 1 Name the person who said to Jesus, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God."?
- 2 To whom did Jesus say, "Very truly I tell you no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above"?
- 3 Who lifted up the serpent in the wilderness?
- 4 Scripture tells us, 'Jesus came to a Samaritan city called _____, near the plot of ground Jacob had given to his son Joseph'. Which city did Jesus visit?
- 5 Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by a well. It was about noon. Whom did Jesus meet?
- 6 Who said, "I know that Messiah is coming" (who is called Christ). "When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us."?
- 7 Who said, "This child is destined for the falling and rising of many in Israel."?
- 8 When told 'a certain man was ill', Jesus did not attend immediately. Who was this Man?
- 9 What instructions did Jesus give to this man posed in Q8?
- 10 Scripture tells us, 'When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached _____, at the Mount of Olives'. What is the name of this town?



PICNIC WORDSEARCH

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

Find the following words in the above puzzle. Words can go in any direction. Words can share letters as they cross over each other.

Appetite, Basket, Beverages, Blanket, Butter, Camembert, Can Opener, Cheese, Coffee, Cooler, Country Air, Dish, Folding Chairs, French Bread, Glasses, Heat, Insects, Margarine, Meat, Milk, Park, Pepper, Salad, Sandwiches, Sauces, Sausage, Sheet, Snacks, Spices, Strawberry Jam, Tomatoes, Wine.



YES! There will be a Holiday Club again this year, but as always, we will need your help, so, if you are able and willing to volunteer to help out, we would be so grateful.

This year's dates will be **Tuesday 4th to Thursday 6th August**. We will need enough adult helpers confirmed before we can go ahead and advertise our Holiday Club to families. We will confirm the finer details and logistics including the maximum number of children who can meet across St George's Church and Centre once the planning group is up and running.



It's always coffee time at our **Coffee Pot** on a Tuesday.

Coffee Pot opens at 9.30am

for Tea/Coffee and a light breakfast all provided by Jill

Plenty of chat and laughter

A chance for old friends to meet new friends

What more could you want



10 QUESTIONS ABOUT THIS MONTH: MAY

1. May in the Northern Hemisphere is similar to which month in the Southern Hemisphere?
2. Which sweetly scented, highly poisonous woodland flowering plant is the birth flower of May?
3. Historically, what sort of dancing has been linked to May Day celebrations?
4. Who did Queen guitarist Brian May marry in November 2000?
5. 'The Third of May 1808', is a painting completed in 1814 by which Spanish painter?
6. How long is the lifespan for the adult female Mayfly, *Dolania americana*: 5 minutes, 5 hours, or 5 days?
7. According to a 1732 traditional saying, what should you never cast till May be out?
8. What is the more common name for the Mayflower shrub?
9. In the nursery rhyme 'Nuts in May', on what sort of morning are the nuts gathered?
10. The Mayflower left England for the Virginia Colony with which other ship on the 15th August 1620?



DUSTERS AT THE READY!

Come and join St George's Cleaning Crew



CHURCH CLEANING
WE COULD USE YOUR HELP...

on the first Saturday of each month from 10.00am

Many hands make light work!

Come along and help to keep St George's clean & tidy and looking like the picture at the top of this page.

**We'll be here from 10.00am until 12.00noon
on Saturday 2nd May then Saturday 6th June**

Refreshments available for all cleaners



OVER THE GARDEN FENCE

Oh, hello Maya, have you seen that new pussycat family that live down the alley? What did you say Trixie? You heard me, Maya. Lady had her five babies the other week. Trixie, I didn't even know that Lady was even pregnant. Oh Maya, you do make me laugh sometimes. Of course, you knew that she was expecting. Trixie how would I know if she was expecting? She never said a word. Maya she needn't have said anything she had put on so much weight. Oh, I did notice that she was getting a bit plumper. Sometimes Maya, you really do amaze me, getting a bit fatter, well I went over the fence, and her five babies are so lovely, two black and white ones and three tabbies. Lady said that one of them will stay with her, but her mum and dad have found new homes for the other ones. She will miss them though. She has been a wonderful mum, keeps them clean all the time and plays with them as well. I don't know how she does it all, she told me that the kittens won't be going too far away but that they will all have lovely new homes. I'm glad about that Trixie, you hear such horrible things about new homes that aren't that good.

Oh, oh, here comes Yasmin, I wonder how she managed to get out of the house. You know her mum almost has a fit every time she goes out. I know Maya it's just that she likes to make sure she knows where she is. Trixie her mum is a bigger pain in the proverbial than our mum is. She always has to make such an issue of everything. I know that Maya, but she is her baby and she misses her when she's not in the house. I wonder if she still has to go into those shows, you know the ones where they make her stick her tongue out and make her tail stand up. I know that having to do that every time really got up her nose, she was always very proud of her you know. Trixie, I don't think she goes to those shows

anymore because she only uses that box thing to take her to the doctors and she's away for only a short time not for days on end. Oh well, in for a penny in for a pound. Trixie has Yasmin seen the new family? I think so, her mum was saying that she would love to have a new member of the family. She said that she would talk to Yasmin to see what her reaction would be. You mean to have a baby kitten. That's right Trix but what Yasmin would say I just don't know. Oh well I do think that Yasmin would love to have a little sister. Maya, I think that's a lovely idea. It would please Yasmin, her mum and everyone else. Come on Maya I think that I should say tata to everyone now. Oh yes Trix and the same goes for me. So, cheerio everyone please look after yourselves and stay safe until the next time.

TRIXIE AND MAYA PONTER

APPCM

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

We will hold our annual meetings this year in both parishes on **Sunday 17th May - following the 10.30am Eucharist at St George's, and following the 5.00pm Evensong at St Margaret's.** This will include the annual election of churchwardens (two per church), PCC members, and this year Deanery Synod reps (2 per parish). We will also have a reflective look back at 2025 across the Benefice, celebrating life in all its fullness.

Sylvia Evans has served as churchwarden at St George's for 8 years, and this year has wisely decided to step down, allowing more time for family. We give huge thanks to Sylvia for all that she has given to St George's over the last 8 years as churchwarden and are heartened to hear she will still be around many Sundays and actively involved across the life of St George's parish.

This means we will definitely be looking for a new churchwarden at St George's - if you are interested in what being churchwarden means, please do speak to Helen or Sylvia (or Rachel).

Electoral Roll?

This is our register of electors. In the same way that being on the civic Electoral Roll allows you to vote in parliamentary and local elections and referenda, joining the Church Electoral Roll means that you can vote on Church matters, attend the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) and stand for election to the PCC.

Who can be included on the Electoral Roll?

To be entitled to be included on the Electoral Roll, a lay person must have: been Baptised, and attained their sixteenth birthday on or before the date of the annual parochial church meeting, and submitted a signed application form for enrolment, and must be one of the following:

- a member of the Church of England, or of a Church in communion with the Church of England, and resident in the parish; or
- a member of the Church of England and, not being resident in the parish, to have habitually attended public worship in the parish during a period of six months prior to enrolment; or
- a member in good standing of a Church which subscribes to the doctrine of the Holy Trinity (not being a Church in communion with the Church of England) and prepared to declare himself to be a member of the Church of England having habitually attended public worship in the parish during a period of six months prior to enrolment.

The electoral roll is fully renewed every 6 years (everyone needs to reapply). The current cycle started in 2025.

ST MARGARET'S JOTTINGS



Well, here I am again, that moaning Minnie that does the cleaning with her mates Dianne and Marilyn.

We have had to do a big clean without Marilyn as she had an appointment, but we did it between us just Dianne and myself. We were quite happy to do that clean for Marilyn, we wanted the church to be beautiful for everyone to see. Marilyn said she would get the flowers for Easter but until then we would have to make do with just a blank space where the flowers were meant to be. We have been wondering what we should do, we are only a tiny band that does the cleaning, but we do like to make sure that when we clean it looks and smells really good.

The Easter season is to me so much holier than Christmas as Easter is all about looking forward to a brighter future, from walking the witness walk on Good Friday and then witnessing the Easter Vigil at St Margaret's. On Saturday 4th April the service started at 8 o'clock in the evening, the lights of the church were turned off after we made our way into the lobby. We all had a candle to light after the Easter candle has been lit, we had such an enjoyable service that Saturday is so moving and we had a truly wonderful family service on Easter Day. The whole of the Easter season means so much to many people, for me it is always

the start of new beginnings of renewing our commitment to God and to our church. We have wonderful clergy and we have wonderful friends in our congregation. Here we all know that wherever we are God is with us all the way. So, here's looking forward to seeing you in the future and all the very best to you and your families.

Best Wishes

JILL PONTER



THROUGH THE WINDOW

Well, here we go. I will try to get something down on paper. My puss cat has just come down from my bed and if she thinks I'm going to let her out, she can think again because it's dark outside and I don't allow her out at night. You never know what is lurking out there and I don't want anything to happen to her. When she comes to bed with me, I know she will be safe until I let her out in the morning. She can be a bit of a pain sometimes, but I love her to pieces, and I know it sounds a bit soppy, but I do. She drives me nuts sometimes especially when she keeps meowing at me and I don't know what she's trying to tell me. In the end I just open the back door and let her out then I can get a bit of peace. She does make me smile sometimes. She's as mad as a hatter as she races up and down the stairs like a mad thing. I always say she's got the wind under her tail. It doesn't happen often, but when it does it's comical to watch. Now she's getting older she doesn't do it so often. I had her when she was 3 months old and she was so tiny she would sit in the palm of my hand but so adorable and still is.

Mind you she rules the house and I often wonder who's in charge, me, or her, usually her. When the weather is sunny and warm I don't see very much of her as she likes to lounge around in the outdoors. When she's hungry, she lets me know then she swans off out again. Luckily, she doesn't go very far so I don't have to search the neighbourhood for her. She does love her home comforts. When it's cold and wet, she won't leave the house. I open the door, she looks out, looks at me as if to say, "You've got to be joking." I can't say I blame her because I wouldn't go out either.

You never know with Jo Jo, she can be very contrary. She does like her own way. Anyway, I'll close now until the next time. Say 'bye 'bye Jo Jo, byeee.

MARGARET



Wild Worship at Tewkesbury Abbey, Church Street, Tewkesbury on 3rd May, from 3.00pm until 4.00pm. An informal, family-friendly outdoor service giving thanks for the beauty of creation. All ages are welcome. <https://www.tewkesburyabbey.org.uk/eco-church/>

APCMs date for St George's and St Margaret's is **Sunday 17th May 2026.**

Confirmations at St George's with Bishop Rachel has been arranged for Sunday 5th July at 10.30am. See Rachel's article in this Crossroads for more information.

Summer Fun Day 2026: Saturday 11th July 2026. From 12.00noon until 3.00pm, in the Church, in the Centre and in the grounds of St George's.

Summer Holiday Club: Tuesday 4th to Thursday 6th August 2026 at St George's. see article on page **15** of this issue.

CiT Mission weekend with Bishop Rachel from 11th to 13th September we will be joined by eight curates (not Gioia sadly!) – likely to be a celebratory community event on Saturday 12th and joint worship on Sunday 13th.

Christmas Fayre will be on Saturday 5th December 2026. From 12.00noon until 3.00pm, in the Church, and in the Centre of St George's.

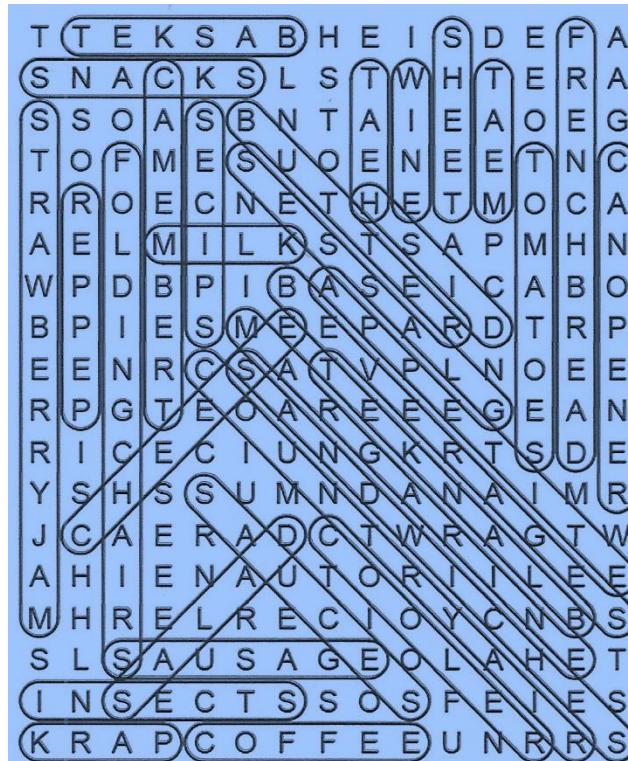
THE GOSPEL TRUTH QUIZ ANSWERS

1 Nicodemus: 2 Nicodemus: 3 Moses: 4 Sychar: 5 A Samaritan woman: 6 The woman at the well: 7 Simeon: 8 Lazarus: 9 Lazarus come out: 10 Bethphage:

MAY QUIZ ANSWERS

1 November: 2 Lily of the Valley: 3 Morris Dancing: 4 Anita Dobson: 5 Francisco Goya: 6 5 minutes: 7 A clout (an old word for a piece of clothing): 8 Hawthorn: 9 On a cold and frosty morning: 10 The Speedwell:

PICNIC WORDSEARCH SOLUTION



What's
going
on?
IN THE BENEFICE

April

- | | | |
|--------------|----------------|--|
| Sunday 26 | 9.00am | Parish Eucharist at St Margaret's Church |
| | 10.30am | Parish Eucharist at St George's Church |
| | 4.00pm | IGBO Meeting in small hall |
| Monday 27 | 10.30am | Say Aphasia meet in small hall |
| | 5.00pm | Brownies meet in main hall |
| | 5.00pm | Evening Prayer on Zoom |
| | 6.00pm | Rainbows meet in small hall |
| | 7.15pm | Guides meet in main hall |
| | 7.15pm | Youth Group meets in small hall/Softley Lounge |
| Tuesday 28 | 9.30am | Coffee Pot meets in small hall |
| | 10.00am | Parish Eucharist in St George's Lady Chapel |
| | 1.30pm | Fun & Free meets in main hall |
| | 5.00pm | Evening Prayer in St George's Lady Chapel |
| | 6.30pm | Cubs & Beavers meet in main hall |
| | 7.00pm | PCC meets in small hall |
| | 8.00pm | Karate meets in main hall |
| Wednesday 29 | 8.15am | Morning Prayer on Zoom |
| | 9.30am | Phonics with Robot Reg in main hall |
| | 3.30pm | Slimming World in main hall 5.00 and 6.30pm |
| | 5.00pm | Evening Prayer in St George's Lady Chapel |
| Thursday 30 | 10.30am | Thursday Club meets in small hall and Softley Lounge |
| | 10.30am | Parish Eucharist at St Margaret's Church |
| | 2.00pm | Art Group meets in small hall |
| | 5.00pm | Evening Prayer in St George's Lady Chapel |
| | 6.30pm | Clubbercise meet in main hall |

	7.30pm	Charter Band meet in small hall
May		
Friday 1	6.00pm	Christ Mandate Fellowship meet in main hall
	7.30pm	Entertainers meet in main hall
Saturday 2	10.00am	St George's Church Cleaning
	10.00am	Karate meet in main hall
Sunday 3	10.30am	Parish Eucharist in St George's Church
	5.00pm	Parish Evensong in St Margaret's Church
Monday 4		MAY BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY
	5.00pm	Evening Prayer on Zoom
Tuesday 5	9.30am	Coffee Pot meets in small hall
	10.00am	Parish Eucharist in St George's Lady Chapel
	1.30pm	Fun & Free meets in main hall
	5.00pm	Evening Prayer in St George's Lady Chapel
	6.30pm	Cubs & Beavers meet in main hall
	8.00pm	Karate meets in main hall
Wednesday 6	8.15am	Morning Prayer on Zoom
	9.30am	Phonics with Robot Reg in main hall
	3.30pm	Slimming World in main hall 5.00 and 6.30pm
	5.00pm	Evening Prayer in St George's Lady Chapel
Thursday 7	10.30am	Thursday Club meets in small hall and Softley Lounge
	10.30am	Parish Eucharist at St Margaret's Church
	2.00pm	Art Group meets in small hall
	5.00pm	Evening Prayer in St George's Lady Chapel
	6.30pm	Clubbercise meet in main hall
	7.30pm	Charter Band meet in small hall
Friday 8	6.00pm	Christ Mandate Fellowship meet in main hall
	7.30pm	Entertainers meet in main hall
Saturday 9	10.00am	Karate meet in main hall
Sunday 10		CHRISTIAN AID WEEK starts
	9.00am	Parish Eucharist in St Margaret's Church
	10.30am	Parish Eucharist in St George's Church

- 12.30pm Interment of cremated remains of Joan Chapman in St Margaret's Graveyard**
- Monday 11 **Sophie Waller commences her work as Youth and Family Worker in the Parish**
- 10.30am Say Aphasia meet in small hall
- 2.00pm Foundation Safeguarding Training in Lady Chapel
- 5.00pm Brownies meet in main hall
- 5.00pm Evening Prayer on Zoom**
- 6.00pm Rainbows meet in small hall
- 7.15pm Guides meet in main hall
- 7.15pm Youth Group meets in small hall/Softley Lounge
- Tuesday 12 9.30am Coffee Pot meets in small hall
- 10.00am Parish Eucharist in St George's Lady Chapel**
- 1.30pm Fun & Free meets in main hall
- 2.30pm Mother's Union meet in small hall
- 5.00pm Evening Prayer in St George's Lady Chapel**
- 6.30pm Cubs & Beavers meet in main hall
- 8.00pm Karate meets in main hall
- Wednesday 13 8.15am Morning Prayer on Zoom
- 9.30am Phonics with Robot Reg in main hall
- 3.30pm Slimming World in main hall 5.00 and 6.30pm
- 5.00pm Evening Prayer in St George's Lady Chapel**
- Thursday 14 **ASCENSION DAY**
- 10.30am Thursday Club meets in small hall and Softley Lounge
- 10.30am Parish Eucharist at St Margaret's Church**
- 2.00pm Art Group meets in small hall
- 5.00pm Evening Prayer in St George's Lady Chapel**
- 6.30pm Clubbercise meet in main hall
- 7.00pm Foundation Safeguarding Training in Lady Chapel
- 7.00pm Deanery Ascension Day Eucharist**

at St Lawrence, Barnwood

- Friday 15 7.30pm Charter Band meet in small hall
6.00pm Christ Mandate Fellowship meet in main hall
7.30pm Entertainers meet in main hall
- Saturday 16 10.00am Karate meet in main hall
1.00pm Private let of main hall
- Sunday 17 **CHRISTIAN AID WEEK ends**
10.30am Parish Eucharist in St George's Church followed by APCM
5.00pm Parish Evensong in St Margaret's Church followed by APCM
- Monday 18 5.00pm Brownies meet in main hall
5.00pm Evening Prayer on Zoom
6.00pm Rainbows meet in small hall
7.15pm Guides meet in main hall
7.15pm Youth Group meets in small hall/Softley Lounge
- Tuesday 19 9.30am Coffee Pot meets in small hall
10.00am Parish Eucharist in St George's Lady Chapel
1.30pm Fun & Free meets in main hall
5.00pm Evening Prayer in St George's Lady Chapel
6.30pm Cubs & Beavers meet in main hall
7.30pm CiT Refresh at St Barnabas
8.00pm Karate meets in main hall
- Wednesday 20 **8.15am Morning Prayer on Zoom**
9.30am Phonics with Robot Reg in main hall
3.30pm Slimming World in main hall 5.00 and 6.30pm
5.00pm Evening Prayer in St George's Lady Chapel
- Thursday 21 10.30am Thursday Club meets in small hall and Softley Lounge
10.30am Parish Eucharist at St Margaret's Church
2.00pm Art Group meets in small hall
5.00pm Evening Prayer in St George's Lady Chapel
6.30pm Clubbercise meet in main hall

- 7.30pm Charter Band meet in small hall
- Friday 22 6.00pm Christ Mandate Fellowship meet in main hall
- 7.30pm Entertainers meet in main hall
- Saturday 23 10.00am Karate meet in main hall
- 11.30am CiT litter Pick meet at St Barnabas
- Sunday 24 **PENTECOST**
- 9.00am Parish Eucharist in St Margaret's Church
- 10.30am Parish Eucharist in St George's Church
- 3.00pm Pentecost Reflect in Lady Chapel
- Monday 25 **SPRING BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY**
SCHOOL'S HALF TERM HOLIDAY WEEK
- 10.30am Say Aphasia meet in small hall
- 5.00pm Evening Prayer on Zoom
- Tuesday 26 9.30am Coffee Pot meets in small hall
- 10.00am Parish Eucharist in St George's Lady Chapel
- 5.00pm Evening Prayer in St George's Lady Chapel
- 8.00pm Karate meets in main hall
- Wednesday 27 8.15am Morning Prayer on Zoom
- 3.30pm Slimming World in main hall 5.00 and 6.30pm
- 5.00pm Evening Prayer in St George's Lady Chapel
- Thursday 28 10.30am Thursday Club meets in small hall
and Softley Lounge
- 10.30am Parish Eucharist at St Margaret's Church
- 2.00pm Art Group meets in small hall
- 5.00pm Evening Prayer in St George's Lady Chapel
- 6.30pm Clubbercise meet in main hall
- 7.30pm Charter Band meet in small hall
- Friday 29 6.00pm Christ Mandate Fellowship meet in main hall
- 7.30pm Entertainers meet in main hall
- Saturday 30 10.00am Karate meet in main hall
- Sunday 31 9.00am Parish Eucharist in St Margaret's Church
- 10.30am Parish Eucharist in St George's Church
- 12.30pm Baptism of Jenson in St Margaret's Church
- 1.00pm Private let of main hall

	4.00pm	IGBO Meeting in small hall
June		
Monday 1	10.30am	Say Aphasia meet in small hall
	5.00pm	Brownies meet in main hall
	5.00pm	Evening Prayer on Zoom
	6.00pm	Rainbows meet in small hall
	7.15pm	Guides meet in main hall
	7.15pm	Youth Group meets in small hall/Softley Lounge
Tuesday 2	9.30am	Coffee Pot meets in small hall
	10.00am	Parish Eucharist in St George's Lady Chapel
	1.30pm	Fun & Free meets in main hall
	5.00pm	Evening Prayer in St George's Lady Chapel
	6.30pm	Cubs & Beavers meet in main hall
	8.00pm	Karate meets in main hall
Wednesday 3	8.15am	Morning Prayer on Zoom
	9.30am	Phonics with Robot Reg in main hall
	3.30pm	Slimming World in main hall 5.00 and 6.30pm
	5.00pm	Evening Prayer in St George's Lady Chapel
Thursday 4	10.30am	Thursday Club meets in small hall and Softley Lounge
	10.30am	Parish Eucharist at St Margaret's Church
	2.00pm	Art Group meets in small hall
	5.00pm	Evening Prayer in St George's Lady Chapel
	6.30pm	Clubbercise meet in main hall
	7.30pm	Charter Band meet in small hall
Friday 5	6.00pm	Christ Mandate Fellowship meet in main hall
	7.30pm	Entertainers meet in main hall
Saturday 6	10.00am	St George's Church Cleaning
	10.00am	Karate meet in main hall
Sunday 7	10.30am	Parish Eucharist in St George's Church
	5.00pm	Parish Evensong in St Margaret's Church



I know that you won't forget but...
...to make sure that your contribution for
our JUNE 2026 CROSSROADS is included
...ARTICLES NEED TO BE WITH THE EDITORS' PREFERABLY BY EMAIL
BEFORE, BUT NO LATER THAN...

...Wednesday 13th May 2026

In order that Crossroads is ready for publication on
SUNDAY 31st MAY 2026

**It will be printed during week commencing 25th May 2026
With or without your contribution**

Articles for Crossroads can be received by the editors at any time and
will appear in the first Crossroads after receipt.

Please send your articles to
Darrell and Glenda at ds52604@gmail.com

**May you
always
be blessed**

**with walls for the wind,
a roof for the rain,
a warm cup of tea
by the fire,
laughter to cheer you,
those you love near you
and all that your heart
may desire.**

HUMOUR



Jack sold his guitar to a man with no arms recently, then asked how he was going to play it, the man replied, "I'm going to play it by ear of course!"

Jack's mate Charlie came out of hospital several week ago with a neck brace fitted, apparently Charlie hasn't looked back since.

Whilst sat round the dinner table, Jack and Jill were chatting away when Jill said that she had had an argument with the seven dwarves on the bus that day. Jack asked, "Which one." Jill replied, "I don't know, but he wasn't happy!" She went on to ask, "Did you know that butterflies only live for one day." Jack said, "That's a myth!" Jill replied, "No, it's definitely a butterfly!"

Jack spent ages trying to cross a very busy road that day, in the end a driver stopped, rolled down is car window and said, "You do know that there's a Zebra Crossing 50 feet down the road!". "Well," said Jack, "I hope he's having better luck that me!!"

Jack, Jill, and Charlie were in their local when two strangers walked in and went up to the bar. "Hello" said the barman, "I haven't seen you in here before." One of them said to the barman, "No, were on holiday from Germany, could we have two martinis, please." The barman said, "Dry?" To which the customer replied, 'Nein! Only two!''.

In Jack's local that same evening two chaps were sitting on bar stools. One of them starts to insult the other one. He screamed loudly, "I slept with your mother!" The bar went quiet as everyone listened to see what the other man would do. The first chap yelled even louder, "I SLEPT WITH YOUR MOTHER!" The other chap clapped him on the shoulder and says, "Go home, Dad. You're drunk."