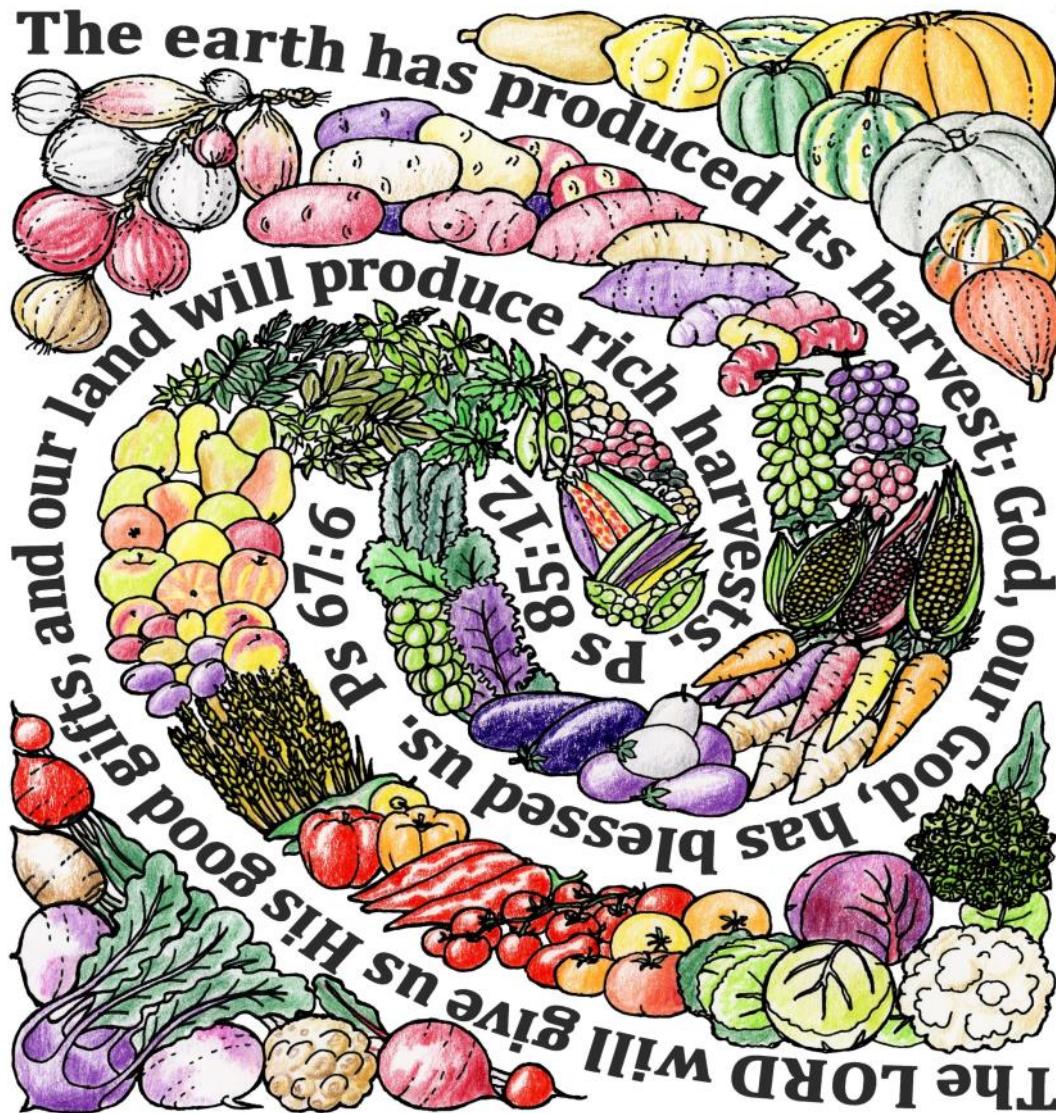


# Trinity Times

The Parish of Holy Trinity Church , Barkingside

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**Our Church is OPEN for Worship on**  
**Sundays at 10:30am**                      **Wednesdays at 9:45am,**  
(also on Facebook)

**Please join us for refreshments after our Services.**

**Church is open for Private prayer on**  
**Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays: 10am —12 noon.**

**Facebook Services:** Sundays - 10:30am. Parish Communion  
<https://www.facebook.com/Holy-Trinity-Barkingside-126325346912/>

## Dear all,

I hope that you are well. We have had such an eventful month, that I am now yearning for a period of more peace and stability even though that seems rather unlikely at the moment... At least the 3:3 draw between England and Germany at Wembley reminded us that some things have not changed: England can play outstanding football – for 15 minutes per match; Germany have the best midfield around – and Werner up front.

No seriously: Thank you so much for continuing to make me and my family feel welcome, and being a wonderful family with a heart to serve others. I am genuinely enjoying all of our three key events during the week: The relaxed and welcoming atmosphere at the Tuesday drop-in; the Wednesday Mass which is very peaceful and intimate; and of course the Sunday service where we all come together in wonderfully diverse worship and as one community. There is so much good here – I feel very encouraged and blessed.

### Getting to know me

I have been using my sermons to share with you some of the things that God has put on my heart – things that touch me deeply. I think that this is a really important part of getting to know one another. So I want to use this opportunity to share again how scripture spoke to me over the first three weeks:



I felt that 'The Parable of the Lost Sheep' was an encouragement to (1) join in with 'God's reign' in the here and now: I think that Jesus tries very hard to focus us on beautiful and life-giving things going on around us in every day ordinary things. So this is all about becoming aware of God 'Being in our Midst', in particular in our relationship with other people, and us being open to being transformed by it. And following from this (2), I sensed how important it is that we learn to accept and embrace, and tell others, about God's wonderful Grace. God's Grace is a gift that he gives freely and with no conditions whatsoever – a gift we cannot earn. He disposes of all our shortcomings and things we are not proud of, and raises us up to a new life. In the power of Jesus' resurrection, he puts all of us on his shoulders rejoicing, and he brings us home.

'The Parable of the Shrewd Manager' reminded and encouraged me that (3) our first priority is Jesus Christ, and that we make an effort to daily set afresh our compass on him to guide our life. Whilst this can be very challenging, hopefully we are strengthened by the wonderful experience that the more love we give, the more we are given in return. And in all this we (4) might understand better and deeper that God's Kingdom trades in a different currency than the economy we are used to: it's not built on money that tends to corrupt and damage us in so many ways if it becomes an end in itself – but it's built on the grace of God's Kingdom that focuses on building healthy relationships and being generous – this is where we find endless abundance and real life.

'The story of the Rich Man and poor Lazarus' reminded me (5) to take serious The Gospel's central proclamation of a new order in which the poor & lowly are given a proper place; (6) encouraged me to pray for myself, and for all of us, that we are filled by Jesus's deep compassion for others, in particular for those most in need; and highlighted to me (7) that the painful separation between humans – here between the rich and the poor – can be overcome by joining God's totally inclusive community and welcoming others with life-giving love and compassion.

I do hope that your hearts connect with some of this.

### Looking ahead

So we are starting to look ahead full of expectation what God's plans are for us, our neighbourhood and its people. As I said before, it is on my heart to listen to each one of you very carefully before we move forward together. And my sense is that this listening process will take a while before we start consulting in a more formal way, potentially in early 2023 with a survey and workshops, to then agree





on changes and implement them (maybe after Easter?). And by then I sincerely hope that you will also have some confidence and trust in my judgement and discernment.

Of course this is just a rough idea how things might develop. Meanwhile we are implementing smaller changes, such as updating the website or tidying up a few things. The important thing is that we start sharing an exciting vision for Holy Trinity going forward. And here again the key questions I am particularly interested in: What brings you joy and life and feeds you? Where and when do you encounter God? What makes you anxious? What pain and hurt do you carry? What are your dreams and vision going forward? Where would you like to serve? Who would you like to train up and empower? And who is on your heart to share about Jesus Christ?

### Finally

How are you coping with various things, including the cost of living crisis? Please be assured that you are all in my prayers – and I know that there are many in our family who care for you deeply. But please do contact me if there is anything I can do, or if there is anything on your heart to share.

Thanks so much for who you are, and for all you do,

All my blessings,  
Fr Chris

## Dioceses concerned for farming communities in drought

Diocesan authorities in rural areas across Britain are increasingly concerned over the welfare of their parishioners, especially among the farming communities.

In many farms across Cornwall, for example, the drought is so severe that springs have dried up, leaving farmers dependent on boreholes to water their stock. The summer crops were poor, and now it is difficult to re-plant or sow crops for the coming season. As one farmer explained, “the ground is like concrete – you can’t plough a dust bowl.”

The parched grass has forced farmers to feed their winter silage early, and meanwhile the cost of winter feed is rocketing. Added to that is fuel poverty, with spiralling prices meaning that where it used to cost £500 to fill an oil tank for the winter, it now costs up to £3,000



### From the Clockface of Chester Cathedral:

When a child I laughed and wept.  
When a youth I dreamt and talked.  
When I became a full-grown man, Time ran.

When older still I daily grew, and Time flew.  
Soon shall I find in travelling gone, Time gone.  
O Christ will thou save me then?  
Amen  
(submitted by Mary Fabb)

## Trip to the Holy Land – 6/2/23 to 17/2/23

### 12 days based in Bethlehem, Jerusalem & Galilee

A trip is being arranged by McCabe Pilgrimages, led by Revd Lee Batson, and Revd Lee Taylor from Chelmsford Diocese.



If anyone is interested in going along, please see **Mike Priestman (07966-249037)** for further details of the itinerary, and cost.

Names and deposits required by middle of October with final payment due by mid-November.

## Winter challenge for Ukrainians

Eight months since Russia's invasion, Christian Aid is warning that millions of Ukrainians face a bleak winter in temporary shelters and damaged homes.

Christian Aid is working hard to help Ukrainians get through the cold months, when temperatures can plunge to -20C.

Alongside its local partners and other charities, the programme for winter includes insulating shelters, restoring toilet and shower blocks, and handing out cash, food, blankets, toiletries and other essentials to support 57,000 people.

Christian Aid CEO Patrick Watt said:

"Thanks to the unprecedented generosity of the British people, Christian Aid is helping local people to take the lead in tackling their own priorities. But with disrupted power, freezing temperatures lie ahead for conflict-hit Ukrainians already struggling with trauma and a lack of medical treatment. We must do more, and quickly.

"One helpful measure would be for the Ukrainian government to lift the tax on humanitarian aid. We urge the UK government to use its relationships in Kyiv to achieve this. We want to complement state activities – not replace them."



## 1<sup>st</sup> October Remigius, praying for ill children

If you've ever prayed for the ill children of non-Christian friends, then you are following in the steps of Remigius (d.533).

Remigius was bishop of Reims late in the 5th century, and the king's son was ill. The queen, Clothild, was a Christian, but the king of the Franks, Clovis I, was not. Then Remigius prayed for their ailing son, and he was healed. The king was so overwhelmed with gratitude that he decided to acknowledge and honour the Christian God.

In his enthusiasm King Clovis seems to have turned his royal household into something akin to the aftermath of a Billy Graham rally/Alpha course, for he commanded that all 3,000 members of the royal household and followers become Christians at once, and that they all be baptised.

Under the protection of King Clovis, Remigius carried on preaching the Gospel throughout the Frankish kingdom. He did some extensive church-planting - founding bishoprics and churches -

## Hunger in East Africa doubles in one year

The response of the international community in responding to the early warning signs of a hunger crisis in East Africa has been branded "**hugely inadequate**".

In a recent report, *Ripping off the Band Aid*, Christian Aid warns hunger has "more than doubled in one year." On World Humanitarian Day 2021, there were 2.1 million people in Kenya facing food insecurity while 4.1 million Kenyans facing the same fate in 2022.

In Ethiopia, people facing food insecurity have dramatically escalated from 5.2 million to 20 million. Across Ethiopia and South Sudan, the UN reports that gaps in funding have forced a cut to rations, incomplete food baskets and a reduction in the number of people helped. In addition, there has been a catastrophic impact on crops, livestock and pasture, caused by conflict, flooding, desert locust infestations, the lingering effects of Covid on prices and now disrupted supply chains.

Christian Aid warns that the crisis in East Africa has shown the aid system cannot meet the ever-increasing scale of emerging crises. It is calling for a scaling up of locally driven approaches that builds on existing capacity and local knowledge.

Christian Aid said: "To break the cycle of food hunger, it's time to rip off the band-aid and invest in building resilient communities during and between crises. That demands government backed finance and local knowledge to complement early warning systems and anticipatory action."

## Parishes face soaring bills for energy

As churches do not qualify to the cap on energy bills, they have seen prices soar to hitherto unimaginable heights in recent months.

Some examples:

a church in Andover whose bill went from £70 a month to £1,000 a month – and could rise to £4,000 a month during the coming winter months.

a church in Wendover whose bills have gone from £8,248 a year to £22,500 a year.

But they are only two among thousands of churches across the UK who this autumn are desperately looking at how to make savings. Ideas range from the installation of LED lights, to turning the heating down so low that all midweek and community use of the building is suspended, to putting insulation into the church hall.





## A prayer for morning... and for evening

O God, who divides the day from the night, separate our deeds from the darkness of sin, and let us continually live in Your light, reflecting in all that we do Your eternal beauty.

O God, who gives the day for work and the night for sleep, refresh our bodies and our minds through the quiet hours of night, and let our inward eyes be directed towards You, dreaming of Your eternal glory.

*From the Leonine Sacramentary, 5<sup>th</sup> century*

## Prayer for October 2022

Loving, Creator God,

Thank you for your wonderful creation. In these days of concern about climate change and the damage caused by modern lifestyles and choices, help us to be more aware. Help us to make good choices. Help us to be good stewards of Your creation.

You are so generous Lord. You provide for us – more than enough to meet the needs of all people. Help us to play our part in making sure there is fair distribution of all Your provision. Help us to reflect Your generosity, Your compassion, Your justice. Help us to care for Your world and Your precious children.

*In Jesus name, Amen*

## THE CROSS

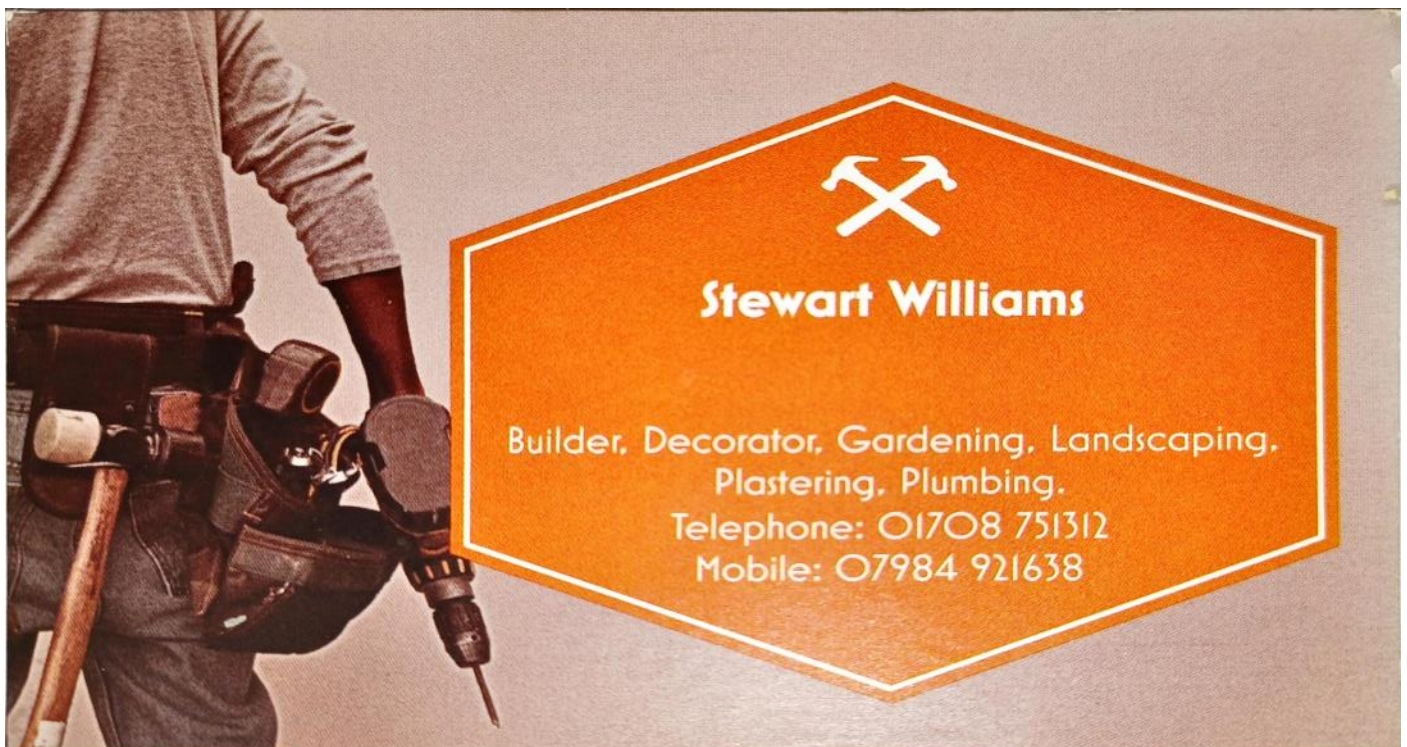
Have a look around your church building – both inside and outside for crosses.

What materials are they made from?

How extravagant or glamorous are they?

Are they Crosses (an 'empty' cross) or Crucifixes (this has a representation of Christ hanging on the cross)?

How do they aid you in your worship and how much do they reflect your faith?





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## The theme of water as a baptismal symbol in the Bible - Mike Priestman

The baptismal symbol of water represents a running theme throughout the whole Bible.

God provides salvation **through** the waters at the creation of the world, right up to the story of Jesus' baptism and this influences the development of baptism in early Christianity.

The theme begins in Genesis 1:1-2, when God brings order to chaos by acts of separating. He separates the dark chaotic waters and creates a space where life can flourish.

God continues with these acts of separating: light from darkness (Gen 1:3-5); waters above from the waters below (Gen 1:6-8); and seas from the dry land. By bringing life out of these chaotic waters, God brings humanity into a new world.



But in Genesis 3 humanity causes chaos in the world again, and we see the theme re-emerge with the act of God separating the waters once again, but this time he saves a 'remnant' to pass **through** the waters.

This remnant passes **through** to the other side to inhabit a new creation.

So the theme begins with God's purpose, but once humanity disrupts this purpose, the pattern becomes an act of rescue.

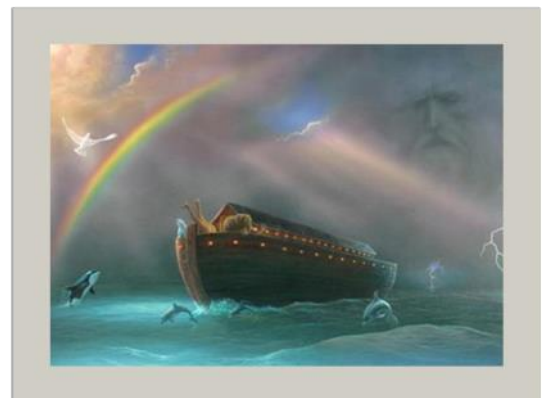
### Salvation from the flood

The theme of God providing salvation for his people **through** the waters, reappears with the chaotic waters of the flood narrative (Genesis 6-8).

The flood in effect reverses days two and three of creation.

Every being is also wiped from the face of the earth reversing days five and six of creation.

But God rescues a *remnant* in Noah and his family who pass **through** the waters to create a new generation of humanity.



In the New Testament, the apostle Peter also refers back to this Old Testament story and reminds us of the link to baptism.

*19 So he went and preached to the spirits in prison— 20 those who disobeyed God long ago when God waited patiently while Noah was building his boat. Only eight people were saved from drowning in that terrible flood. 21 And that water is a picture of baptism, which now saves you, not by removing dirt from your body, but as a response to God from a clean conscience. It is effective because of the resurrection of Jesus Christ. (1 Peter 3:20-21 NLT)*

### An exodus from bondage

We see the same pattern emerge again in the story of the Exodus.



In the story we are introduced to Moses who has just been delivered **through** the waters of death in an ark to the house of Pharaoh (Exodus 2).

Later in the story, God fulfils his covenant promise to Abraham and appoints Moses to deliver Israel – his son – out of slavery in Egypt (Exodus 4:22-23).

God saves his chosen people by leading them **through** the waters of the Red Sea and onto dry land (Exodus 14:16).

The Israelites are delivered from slavery and death **through** the waters to Mount Sinai, where they are invited to become God's representatives to the nations.

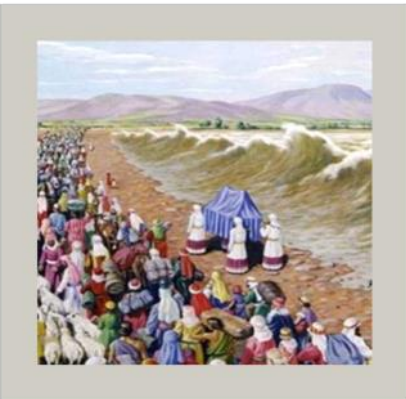
Who can forget the classic film epic *The Ten Commandments* (1956) by Director Cecil B. DeMille which I remember watching as a child (picture).

Again, we are reminded in the New Testament by Paul, in Corinthians, of the theme from the Old Testament story and the ongoing link to Baptism.

*10 I don't want you to forget, dear brothers and sisters, about our ancestors in the wilderness long ago. All of them were guided by a cloud that moved ahead of them, and all of them walked through the sea on dry ground. 2 In the cloud and in the sea, all of them were baptised as followers of Moses. (1 Cor 10:1-2 NLT).*

-

### The Israelites Cross the Jordan



Once again, we see this theme re-emerge in the book of Joshua. The story is set 40 years after the Exodus from Egypt with Moses, who has since passed away, and the Israelites are now being led by Joshua.

As they prepare to enter the promised land, they spend the night on the banks of the river Jordan before finally crossing.

They are not in danger but we still see the same salvation theme playing out. God brings the people out of the wilderness and once again they cross **through** the waters to the place prepared for them by God.

The priests are instructed to go first and to carry the ark of the covenant and, as they step foot into the river, the waters back up in an almost identical image of the parting of the Red Sea, and they are able to cross on dry ground in safety.

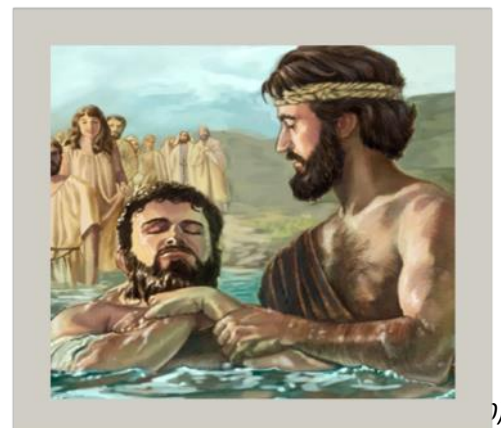
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### John the Baptist

As we move into the New Testament the theme of salvation **through** the waters begins with John the Baptist.

John fulfils the prophetic announcement of Israel's restoration (Isaiah 40:1-5; Matt 3:1-4). He is proclaiming the coming of the Messiah, calling people to repent and baptising the Israelites in the river Jordan.

Again, this is intentional, as John is having the people pass



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(Continued from page 9)

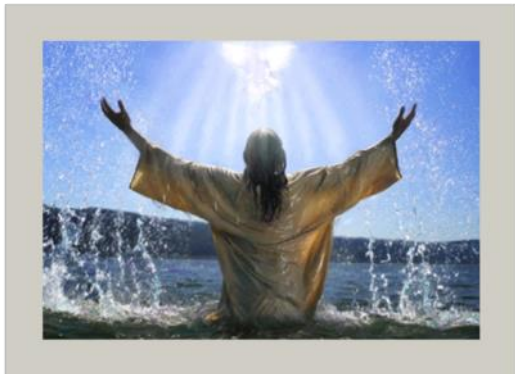
**through** the waters to renew their commitment to the God of Israel.

As with the story from Joshua, the Israelites were going **through** the waters of the Jordan with another prophetic leader (John) and ushering in Israel's restoration and deliverance. It is once again a repeat of the Exodus story.

Baptism is the participation in Christ's death and resurrection.

*For you were buried with Christ when you were baptised. And with him you were raised to new life because you trusted the mighty power of God, who raised Christ from the dead (Col. 2:1-2 NLT)*

Jesus went down into the river Jordan and was baptised in solidarity with sinners and therefore fulfilled on earth his Father's wishes.

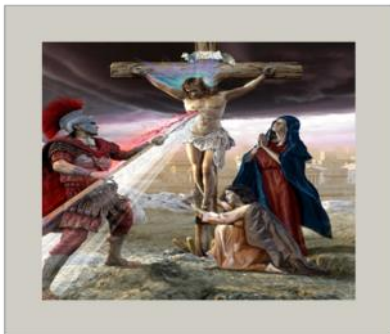


*9 One day Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee, and John baptised him in the Jordan River. 10 As Jesus came up out of the water, he saw the heavens splitting apart and the Holy Spirit descending on him like a dove. 11 And a voice from heaven said, "You are my dearly loved Son, and you bring me great joy." (Mark 1:9-11 NLT).*

All of the Gospel narratives on this topic depict Jesus going **down to the river**, being baptised, and then coming **out of the waters**. The words '*in the Jordan*' refer back to the story in Joshua and '*out of the water*' refers back to the Exodus story.

Also, the heavens '*opening*' and '*splitting*' refers back to the acts of separation at the beginning of creation and the floodgates of the skies opening in the story of Noah.

God's words '*You are my beloved son*' has links to his words to Moses in reference to the Israelites.



Jesus' side is pierced

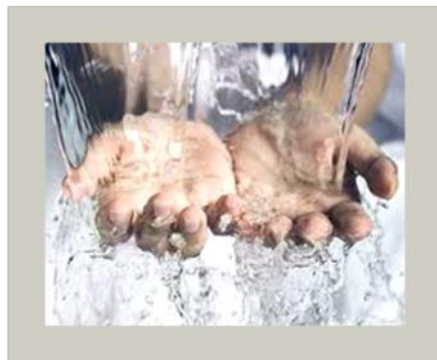
Water is also symbolic in Jesus' death on the cross when his side is pierced by the Roman soldier, when not only blood but water pours out giving new life to the world again.

*One of the soldiers, however, pierced his side with a spear, and immediately blood and water flowed out. (John 19:34 NLT).*

Washing away of sin

Baptism is as an ablution which washes the body with pure water, a cleansing of the heart of all sin, and an act of justification.

*Some of you were once like that. But you were cleansed; you were made holy; you were made right with God by calling on the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God (1 Cor. 6:11 NLT)*





## New birth

*Jesus replied, "I assure you; no one can enter the Kingdom of God without being born of water and the Spirit (John 3:5)*

This picture of a new born baby as it comes into the world reminds me of new beginnings, hope, and vulnerability.



The birth waters can be compared to baptismal waters. We are totally reliant on those delivering the baby. Symbolically when we are baptised, we give and trust ourselves totally to Christ.

## Baptismal Liturgy

The Baptism liturgy refers directly to this same theme. For instance, the Introduction in the service:

*Our Lord Jesus Christ has told us  
that to enter the kingdom of heaven  
we must be born again of water and the Spirit,  
and has given us baptism as the sign and seal of this new birth.  
Here we are washed by the Holy Spirit and made clean.  
Here we are clothed with Christ,  
dying to sin that we may live his risen life.  
As children of God, we have a new dignity  
and God calls us to fullness of life.*

Also, the prayer over the water:

*We thank you, almighty God, for the gift of water  
to sustain, refresh and cleanse all life.  
Over water the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation.  
Through water you led the children of Israel  
from slavery in Egypt to freedom in the Promised Land.  
In water your Son Jesus received the baptism of John  
and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ,  
to lead us from the death of sin to newness of life.  
We thank you, Father, for the water of baptism.  
In it we are buried with Christ in his death.  
By it we share in his resurrection.  
Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit.  
Therefore, in joyful obedience to your Son,  
we baptise into his fellowship those who come to him in faith.  
Now sanctify this water that, by the power of your Holy Spirit,  
they may be cleansed from sin and born again.  
Renewed in your image, may they walk by the light of faith  
and continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Lord;  
to whom with you and the Holy Spirit  
be all honour and glory, now and for ever.*

This is why the baptism theme was so important for Jesus' followers and is still so important to us today, as it symbolised God's promise, that his son Jesus rescues the world from the chaos of human evil by dying to sin and being re-born to new life. For those of us coming to faith it signifies our commitment to Christ and for the existing Church family it reminds us of our membership of the one body in which we were all baptised.

*(Michael wrote this article as an Essay for the Course in Christian Studies)*

## 11th October James the Deacon

James the Deacon is the saint for any lay person who has stepped in to lead their church when the clergy are far away.

In fact, an historian has called James the Deacon 'the one heroic figure' in the Roman mission to Northumbria. No wonder – in a time of political chaos, with the king murdered and even the bishop fleeing for safety, James the Deacon stood firm.

It had begun when Pope Gregory the Great sent Paulinus, Bishop of York, to take Roman Christianity to Northumbria. James the Deacon, almost certainly an Italian, was among those who went with Paulinus.

The mission began well, and Edwin the king of Northumbria was converted. Roman Christianity in Northumbria took root and began to grow. But then in 633 Edwin fell in battle with Penda, the ruthless pagan king of Mercia. A pagan backlash began. The queen and her son fled for Kent, with the bishop Paulinus going south with them.

All that was left of Roman Christianity in Northumbria was James, now a solitary deacon.

But James was made of stern stuff, and despite the danger from Penda, James stayed on at a village near Catterick, often risking his life as he cared for the Christians, and continued to preach the gospel.

His success was discovered when the Northumbrian mission returned five to ten years later, and found an active Christian community still in Northumbria. James had been a faithful servant.

After Penda died, and Christian rule was re-established in Northumbria, James turned to teaching music, especially Gregorian Chant, to the fledgling churches in the region. Bede praised him for his honour and integrity. James was present at the Synod of Whitby in 664, which met to discuss the differences between the Celtic Northumbrian Church of the North, and the Roman Church of the South.

When James died sometime after 671, he was deeply mourned by the ordinary Christians of Northumbria, both Celtic and Roman. He had never deserted them.

## George Cadbury – the chocolate man with a heart for welfare *by Tim Lenton*

One hundred years ago, on 24<sup>th</sup> October 1922, George Cadbury died. He had transformed his father's failing chocolate and cocoa business into one of the world's most successful companies and provided low-cost housing and improved working conditions for his employees.

George was the third son of John Cadbury, a Quaker who founded Cadbury's cocoa and chocolate company. With his brother Richard, George took over the family business in 1861 and founded the chocolate producer Cadbury Brothers. But his consuming interest was in the welfare of his employees and others: having taught in an adult school he was aware that poor housing was a major problem.

One of his first moves was to relocate his factory to a greenfield site south-west of Birmingham with access to canals and the new railways. It was here that he later founded a Quaker higher educational institution – now the Woodbrooke Quaker Study Centre.

But apart from his chocolate he is best known for his creation of a rural factory village (designed by architect William Alexander Harvey), called Bournville after the nearby river Bourn. The houses – not exclusively for factory employees – were never privately owned, and they remain attractive and affordable to the present day: a huge change from the poor living conditions in



## Reaping and harvesting

Sometimes a law of nature is very similar to a law of the spirit. Take the process of harvest, or 'sowing and reaping'. The Bible tells us: 'A farmer who plants just a few seeds will get only a small crop, but if he plants much, he will reap much.' (2 Cor 9:6)

It has been said that probably the most sensitive nerve on our body is the one that runs to our cheque book! Money represents our time, our security and our hard work. It gives us independence and power. So, when God begins to talk to us about giving more of our money to Him – sowing it in His service – we can feel very alarmed.

The seed a farmer sows in a field may sometimes be lost, but not the seed that we give to God. What we sow with regards to our time, gifts and money in service to others God will make sure we one day reap – in a harvest of spiritual riches that we can never lose.

## Remembering prisoners during Prisons Week - 9<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> October

More than 80,000 people are currently being held in UK prisons. Many of them have caused acute misery and hurt to innocent people, and so it is tempting to forget about them now.

But Jesus commanded that we do the opposite – that when it comes to showing compassion, we should include in our care even those who may seem to us to be the least deserving of consideration.

When Jesus said: 'I was in prison and you visited me,' (Matt 25:43), He meant something amazing: that when we do any goodness to prisoners in His name, He will reckon that we have shown that kindness to Him. That is quite an incentive to do something for them!

The Prisons Week initiative has prepared prayer literature for UK churches to use for more than 40 years, and so is an excellent place to start. The needs for all those affected by prisons: prisoners and victims, their families, their communities, those working and volunteering in prisons and the criminal justice system, are huge and complicated, and need God's help.

As Jonathan Aitken, who works with Prisons Week says: "Almost everyone has a spiritual dimension to their lives, however much they have suppressed it or ignored it. Prison is not a bad place to explore the part of your being which is called the soul. Yes, you have hit a rock-bottom low point. But you will recover from it and can rebuild your life. Be willing to extend or accept the hand of friendship."

*More info at: [www.prisonsw.org](http://www.prisonsw.org)*

## We are rivers

Lord, we are rivers running to thy sea,  
Our waves and ripples all derived from thee:  
A nothing we should have, a nothing be,  
Except for thee.

*From a prayer of Christina Rossetti (1830 – 1894, who was an invalid for most of her life)*

## Petition at Rising

O holy Father of truth adored,  
O kindly Father of mercy poured,  
Deliver me from the spells that harm,  
Deliver me from each evil charm.

Allow no stain to blemish my soul,  
Allow no spot to my body whole,  
Allow no taint my breath to defile,  
Father of tender and lovely smile.

For now, and for henceforth unto me  
In my life, in my death, do thou be,  
O Son and Abba Father of love,  
And Holy Spirit of grace above!

*From an ancient Celtic prayer from South Uist*

## Enrich a Life. Foster for Redbridge.

Do you remember jumping over the waves at the beach in the summer? Or the dance show you were in when you were 6?

If you would like to create fun and lasting memories for children who may have never had these experiences, please email [fostering@redbridge.gov.uk](mailto:fostering@redbridge.gov.uk), call us on 020 8708 6068 or join us on our next virtual information session on 12 August 2022 10am to 11am. Visit <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/foster-for-redbridge-coffee-morning-120822-10-11am-tickets-240073565497> book a place.

### Gemma Seabrook

#### Recruitment, Engagement and Development Officer – Fostering

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## 14<sup>th</sup> October Donation, North Africa Christian martyr

Some Christians today have the curious idea that being a Christian guarantees a prosperous life in this world. St Paul was more realistic – throughout his epistles he urges Christians to pray for patience and endurance in this world. Donation (martyred c 484) is a timely reminder that we are called to be witnesses, and that that may not be easy.

When Hunneric, the King of the Vandals, closed all the churches in North Africa in the late fifth century, Donation and his friends were tortured, driven into the desert, and left to die of exposure. Many Christians in Muslim Africa today face similar dangers for Christ. Pray for them, that they find the courage and endurance they need.

We remember **St Luke** (18<sup>th</sup> October), who was a doctor by profession. The healing of the paralytic man by Jesus (Luke 5: 17-26) gives us some key principles for healing for our lives, as the man was lowered to Jesus through the roof!

#### **Faith:**

It was the adventurous and persistent faith of man's four friends that brought him to Jesus to be healed. Jesus was the focus of their faith, as they trusted His ability and willingness to transform the man's life. We are also called to such trust, exercising faith in a great God!

#### **Wholeness:**

Jesus' first words are surprising, "*Friend your sins are forgiven*" (20). Before anything else, Jesus wants the man's relationship with God to be right. God wants to bring wholeness to our lives, including spiritual, emotional, relational, as well as physical healing. Often, He needs to deal with sin, hurt, unforgiveness, guilt or fear before physical restoration.

#### **Authority:**

Jesus challenges the Pharisees with the question, "*Which is easier: to say, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Get up and walk?'*" (23). By healing the man's legs, Jesus not only confirms that He has authority over sin and sickness, but that He is truly God. We can confidently bring all our needs to Him prayerfully '*in the name of Jesus*'.

*'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 forever.'* (Collect, Common Worship).





## MU News

### Tuesday Monthly Service 11th October 10.30am

**On Thursday 20th October, Holy Trinity with St Laurence, Barking-side MU Branch will be hosting a "Members' Day" here at Holy Trinity. 10am - 2pm**

All members are invited to bring a friend along. Also open, to anyone who would like to know a bit more about what goes in Chelmsford MU. There will be worship, fellowship, activities and a question and answer session with the CDMU Trustees.

Tea and coffee will be available all day from 10am, but please bring your own lunch. We aim to finish before 2pm when the parking restrictions kick in.

### Anti-Slavery Week 17<sup>th</sup> - 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2022

17<sup>th</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2022 marks anti-slavery week with anti-slavery day on 18<sup>th</sup> October. The Clewer Initiative's campaign for 2022 is 'Make It Slavery Free'. Campaign resources can be downloaded free of charge <https://theclewerinitiative.org/campaigns/anti-slavery-day-make-it-slavery-free> including the 'Make It Slavery Free' pledge poster. We will also be sharing prayers and resources through our Facebook page and website over this period.

### Packing shoeboxes Tuesday 25th October 1pm

Please come along and help pack shoeboxes for *Children in Distress*. Gifts to go in the boxes will be gratefully received. We are particularly short of small toys/games, soft toys, toothpaste and wrapped sweets. Items should be new and age appropriate.

### Council & AGM 7<sup>th</sup> November.

Our next AGM and Council will take place on 7<sup>th</sup> November. The service in the Cathedral will start at 10:30am followed by AGM and Council in the Chapter House. Please let our diocesan secretary know if you are planning to attend. Bring your own lunch and a mug.

*God bless.  
Maxine x*

## GARDENING - MR MIDDLETON AND ALL THAT

I suppose I am talking history when referring to the foundation of the British Broadcasting Corporation. If the BBC was an item for sale it would be classed as an antique.

Our so familiar national institution was granted its charter in 1922 a time when radio waves ruled the air and many, later familiar, faces and voices of that time, became part of every day life. Big Hearted Arthur Askey, Franklin Engleman and Mr Middleton.

Yes, Mr Middleton was the first gardening expert and he was treated with due deference in gardening matters. He always remained as Mr Middleton, no other title was conferred upon him. Being only a child myself at the time I do not remember his expertise but I do remember his voice.

Many have since given gardening advice on radio and TV. Far too many to list but certain memories persist. One is of Percy Thrower's boot, in close up, crushing down on the soil around a newly planted plant. The enthusiastic Geoffrey Hamilton and his lovely garden situated near Rutland Water. Sadly Geoffrey died prematurely, his grave stone is inscribed with Wellington boots - his regular footwear. Alan Titchmarsh of course, an entrepreneurial entertainer, turning his hand to many other aspects. Dr Stefan Buchatski, chairing Gardeners Question Time way back.

What would Mr Middleton have made of our recent drought? His stock phrases like, "Well you know.....add a little bit of....etc", would have had little effect on soil needing tankers full of water. "Good afternoon Mr Middleton".

As for us, dare we call ourselves Gardeners? I do venture out onto our plot. I, we, cut the grass fairly well, courtesy of modern mowers - some of which work on their own returning to base when recharging needed.

There are blowers for leaves, all types of compost bins, eight foot long loppers, electric machines to cut and drill. Why, we even have our garden rubbish removed from us by the local authority.

And yet, there was I a few days ago digging deep to remove rogue plantains, docks and nettles all of which had survived the drought. The soil seems to have recovered nicely since our normal rainfall returned. Furthermore, dahlias and chrysanthus are flourishing.

We had an extraordinarily good crop of green beans this year. We gave up on runners for a year for a change. A good crop of various sized tomatoes too, all plants given to us by a neighbour; varieties that Mr Middleton would probably have never heard of.

I have now fallen back on hoeing to beat the myriads of tiny weeds finding every spot to grow, veritable carpets of them and that is not counting next years' forget-me-nots that I try to not to touch. The Japanese anemone cutting that I planted three years ago and that disappeared has now sent up a shoot with a lovely pink flower. So our constant watering was all worth while after all.

Apples and pears, out of reach for picking in many cases are falling onto the lawn. Some are recoverable for cooking, some are just a squashy mess.

Happy Gardening !!

**Bill Godfrey**





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## 26<sup>th</sup> October Alfred the Great, King of the West Saxons

Can you think of a politician who deserves to be called a saint? If no one currently living politician comes to mind, never mind – there is always King Alfred of Wessex (871-99).

This remarkable and best known of all the Anglo-Saxon rulers may have dozed off and let some cakes burn while a peasant woman was hiding him from the Vikings, but he did so much else which was of lasting good for the Anglo-Saxon people.

It was a desperate time for the Anglo-Saxons – the kingdoms of Northumbria, East Anglia and Mercia had fallen to the Vikings. Only Alfred's province remained free. Through some inspired military maneuvering, Alfred managed to keep them at bay. As a Christian, he became the defender of all Christian Anglo-Saxons against the pagan Vikings. (His son and grandsons went on to conquer the Vikings, and thus ensured the future unity of England.)

Alfred was also a scholar, and was admired certain writings which had laid down models of ideal Christian kingship. He tried to put these principles into practise, such as producing a law-code. Alfred believed strongly that anyone in authority should have to study in order to learn how to govern. Not such a bad idea for leaders today!

Alfred was never canonised by the Church, but his translation of Consolation of Philosophy by Boethius is often thought to be a fitting epitaph: *I desired to live worthily as long as I lived, and to leave after my life, to the men who should come after me, the memory of me in good works.*

## HOBBIES

If someone was to ask you what your hobbies were, I wonder what your answer would be. In my younger days, it might have been stamp-collecting but I doubt if this is in the top list of hobbies these days. I used to love all the colours of the stamps, particularly the foreign ones and I must admit it improved my geography finding out where these countries were, and learning their names. I would spend hours with a friend sorting them out and arranging "swaps". However moving into the digital age, there are fewer actual stamps around. Small boys would also fill many notebooks collecting train numbers and bus numbers, either waiting at the end of the station platform or standing on a street corner.

What were then recognised as useful and essential skills have now become hobbies. Take knitting. Our mums and grannies were never without a pair of needles clicking away making a necessary jumper or cardigan for one of the family. If there was a new baby imminent, then all the familiar baby patterns would come out. Knitting and crotchet are now classed as hobbies and an occasional occupation. The same goes for sewing. The Great British Sewing Bee has produced some expert stitchers, and their work is wonderful, but nevertheless still classed as a hobby.

Some men of a certain age, usually with an engineering background are following their childhood dreams and making a hobby of restoring old classic cars or motorcycles. They do need an understanding partner as this can be a very expensive and time consuming hobby. Old family jalopies are now much sought after and after a lot of tinkering become a work of art.

I've friends who collect teddy bears, elephants (not the breathing ones!), pigs, thimbles, tea towels, Beatrix Potter figures. In fact you name it and I bet there's someone out there with a collection of some sort. But of course a hobby.

Gardening is very popular today and again classed as a hobby, not perhaps the necessity it once was in providing essential fruit and veg for the family. Although in these current times, maybe this is changing.

Ask a young person today what their hobbies are and you'll get a variety of weird answers – mostly technical/digital. Fortunately sport has become a popular hobby now, and running seems top of the list, although looking at some of the participants they don't look as if they're particularly enjoying it.

I have to admit that if asked, my favourite hobby now is reading which is a nice sedentary occupation and doesn't use a lot of energy, but never time-wasting as there's always something to learn from a good book.

Barbara Youngs

## 31<sup>st</sup> October All Hallows Eve – or Holy Evening

*Modern Halloween celebrations have their roots with the Celtic peoples of pre-Christian times.* In those long-ago days, on the last night of October, the Celts celebrated the Festival of Samhain, or 'Summer's End'. The priests, or Druids, performed ceremonies to thank and honour the sun. For there was a very dark side to all this: Samhain also signalled the onset of winter, a time when it was feared that unfriendly ghosts, nature-spirits, and witches roamed the earth, creating mischief. So the Druid priests lit great bonfires and performed magic rites to ward off or appease these dark supernatural powers.

Then the Romans arrived, and brought their Harvest Festival which honoured the Goddess Pomona with gifts of apples and nuts. The two festivals slowly merged.

When Christianity arrived still later, it began to replace the Roman and Druid religions. 1<sup>st</sup> November - All Saints' Day - was dedicated to all Christian Martyrs and Saints who had died. It was called 'All Hallows' Day'. The evening before became an evening of prayer and preparation and was called 'All Hallows' Eve', The Holy Evening, later shortened to 'Halloween'.

For many centuries, however, fear of the supernatural remained strong. During the Middle Ages, animal costumes and frightening masks were worn to ward off the evil spirits of darkness on Halloween. Magic words and charms were used to keep away bad luck, and everybody believed that witches ride about on broomsticks. Fortune telling was popular, and predicting the future by the use of nuts and apples was so popular that Halloween is still sometimes known as Nutcrack Night or Snap-Apple Night.

Today, Christians have learned to turn to prayer instead of charms to overcome the powers of darkness. And the deeper, true meaning of All Hallows' Eve, should not be forgotten. As Christians, we all draw closer to Christ when we remember and give thanks for our loved ones and for others who have gone before us through the gates of death.

## Animal Welfare Sunday – 2<sup>nd</sup> October

This year, Animal Welfare Sunday falls on Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> October, which is the nearest Sunday to St Francis' feast day on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup>. It is a good opportunity to thank God for the animals, and to consider how we might help them.

Christians have been involved in animal welfare reform throughout history. For example, even the RSPCA – the first animal protection society, was founded by an Anglican priest – the Revd Arthur Broome. But many well-known Christians such as C S Lewis, John Wesley and William Wilberforce also spoke out against animal cruelty.

As the Psalmist says in Psalm 148, animals in their amazing variety of species were all created for the glory of God and to praise His name. They were not created for our exploitation and domination.

But sadly, Creation has been abused, and continues to be abused today. The economics of providing us with low-cost chicken, pork, beef and milk can too often result in cruelty towards millions of animals.

## *Calligraphist???*

*If you are good at "calligraphy", then we are looking for someone who can bring the "Chantry Book" up to date, to ensure that past members of our church are not forgotten. If you are interested please see Clergy or Churchwardens!!*

The Rectory  
St James the Least

My dear Nephew Darren

### On publishing my book

After all these years, who would have believed it: to have my own book printed! I must admit, I had imagined a leather-bound volume with gold leaf lettering on the spine – perhaps even titled 'Volume One', implying future delights when further work would appear. A paperback, held together with glue was a slight disappointment. The publisher's reason for a print run of 50, saying that it meant fewer would have to be dumped in cut-price bookshops, was not what I had expected either.



He seemed to think that my commentary on Eusebius's tables for cross-referencing the gospels, as explained in his letter to Carpiamus, would not have mass interest. While I concede it will be unlikely to dent the sales of Harry Potter, and that I am unlikely to be involved in negotiating the film rights, I had hoped for slightly more enthusiasm for this stride forward in global knowledge.

The excitement of the book launch and signing was also tempered when only the bishop arrived, expecting a free copy, so he could mark it for theological errors. My suggestion that he take a copy to colour it in did not go down well. I suspect I will not now be asked to deliver a paper on it at the next clergy conference.

I was briefly excited when several parishioners came into the shop. But it turned out that one wanted to book a baptism with me, and another wanted to complain that at his recent wedding, I had nearly married the best man to the bride. I was tempted to tell him that the time may come when he wished that I had, but decided that would be another sale lost.

I could not even console myself with a free drink. The publisher had only brought two bottles of that particular white wine, of unknown origin, that seems specially reserved for book launches and retirement parties. I suspect it derives less from a vineyard and more from a laboratory. One bottle he kept for himself and the other disappeared after my Confirmation class came in to ask whether the book would be serialised on TV.

In the end, I bought all 50 copies myself, placed a note in the bookshop window saying that, due to exceptional demand, the print run had been entirely sold out. It has also solved the annual problem of Christmas presents; in your case, a second copy will probably arrive for your birthday too.

**Your loving Uncle Eustace**

### Jesus' Dad's Name

A Sunday school teacher asked her class, "What was Jesus' mother's name?" One child answered, "Mary."

The teacher then asked, "Who knows what Jesus' father's name was?" A little kid said, "Verge."

Confused, the teacher asked, "Where did you get that?"

The kid said, "Well, you know, they are always talking about Verge n' Mary."

### KIDS IN CHURCH

3-year-old Reese:

"Our Father, Who does art in heaven, Harold is His name. Amen."

A little boy was overheard praying: "Lord, if you can't make me a better boy, don't worry about

it. I'm having a real good time like I am."

After the christening of his baby brother in church, Jason sobbed all the way home in the back seat of the car. His father asked him three times what was wrong. Finally, the boy replied, "That preacher said he wanted us brought up in a Christian home, and I wanted to stay with you."

I had been teaching my three-year old daughter, Caitlin, the Lord's Prayer for several evenings at bedtime. She would repeat after me the lines from the prayer. Finally, she decided to go solo. I listened with pride as she carefully enunciated each word, right up to the end of the prayer: "Lead us not into temptation," she prayed, "but deliver us from E-mail."





"Never mind, let's just be happy that Baz came to church in the first place."



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...and the theme of this morning's service is... 'Preaching a Gospel of Simplicity'...



R&N

Dark forces were at work in Dave's fridge



Thanks to digital technology, the vicar never got the name wrong again

*This anonymously-written verse dates back to around 1731.*  
 "Have no other God but me.  
 Unto no image bow thy knee.  
 Take not the name of God in vain.  
 Do not the Sabbath day profane.  
 Honour thy father and mother too, And see that thou no murder do.  
 From vile adultery keep thou clean, And steal not though thy state be mean.  
 Bear not false witness—shun that blot! What is thy neighbour's covet not"



Every week they gathered for Bible Study

## AN ORDINARY SEPTEMBER DAY

Early morning and it seemed like an ordinary September day, sky clearing and promises of sunshine. It being September, there was an autumnal feeling in the air. Once the sun came out the sunshine would be distinctly autumnal too, containing a touch of yellow, or poetically, a hint of gold. It is what happens sometimes in September.

I made off on a bike ride to Fairlop Waters. As I neared the open farmland around Aldborough Hatch I became aware of a faint mist hanging in bushes and trees, not enough to affect the vista as did the 'pea soupers', pre The Clean Air Acts and smokeless zones, that so badly affected our vision and clogged our throats but enough, perhaps, to subdue the early morning sun and add to the quietude of the morning.

But for many of us It was not an ordinary September day, it was the first Sunday after the sad death of our much loved Sovereign, Queen Elizabeth 2nd after seventy years of dedicated service to the county; to us all.

I continued my journey around Fairlop Waters and saw others also enjoying the country park. Life goes on and when the sun finally broke through it banished the mist, warming up the land and, perhaps, helped to heal the uncomfortable sense of loss some may have been feeling.

Later, on 19<sup>th</sup> September, the nation was able to watch the whole State Funeral service on television, a truly spectacular and moving ceremony. Many tens of thousands had, in preceding days, queued for long hours to pay last respects to our good Queen lying in state in Westminster Hall.

On the day of the funeral September again treated us to another golden day on which to commemorate and celebrate the life and dedication of Queen Elizabeth.

## GOD SAVE THE KING

The words of a popular song of the 1950:

In a golden coach there's a heart of gold riding through old London Town  
With the sweetest queen the worlds ever seen wearing a golden crown:  
As she rides in state to the palace gate her beauty the whole world can see  
In a golden coach is a heart of gold that belongs to you and me. **Bill Godfrey**

### **Empower a child. Foster for Redbridge.**

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or join us on our next virtual information session on 5 October 6pm to 7pm. Visit <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/foster-for-redbridge-virtual-information-session-051022-6-7pm->



**"When I grow up, I want to be a superhero!"**

London Borough of Redbridge

**Foster for Redbridge**  
0208 708 6068  
[fostering@redbridge.gov.uk](mailto:fostering@redbridge.gov.uk)

## GENERAL ENQUIRIES

Parish Office  
Holy Trinity Church  
Mossford Green, Barkingside  
Ilford, Essex. IG6 2BX

*Monday, Wednesday, Friday: 10 am – 12 noon  
(07478 187 010)*

[parishoffice@holytrinitybarkingside.org.uk](mailto:parishoffice@holytrinitybarkingside.org.uk)

## HALL LETTINGS

[hallbookings@holytrinitybarkingside.org.uk](mailto:hallbookings@holytrinitybarkingside.org.uk)

(please note that halls are not generally available for wedding receptions or parties for children over 11 years)

## BAPTISMS, WEDDINGS & FUNERALS

please contact:

**Rev Dr Chris Szejmann**

**0208 637 4859**

to arrange an Interview

## Parish Safeguarding

**We are committed to Safeguarding Children, Young People, Victims / perpetrators of Domestic Abuse, and Vulnerable Adults.**

The PCC has adopted the Church of England's policies and best practice on safeguarding which may be found on the Church of England's website:

<https://www.churchofengland.org/more/safeguarding>

**Our Parish Safeguarding Officer is Mr. Kaye Larbi, who may be contacted at church or by email:**

[psr@holytrinitybarkingside.org.uk](mailto:psr@holytrinitybarkingside.org.uk)

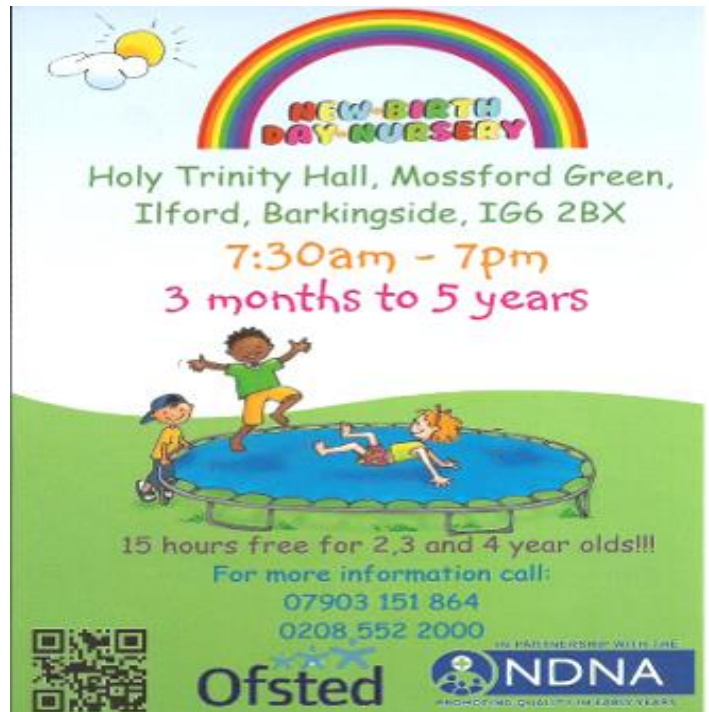
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– normally open: **Mon, Wed, Fri 10 am – 12 noon**

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**The Vicarage, 36 Mossford Green, IG6 2BJ**

(07804 641 931)

[priest@holytrinitybarkingside.org.uk](mailto:priest@holytrinitybarkingside.org.uk)

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**Assistant Curate:**

Rev Andrew Appiah - 07853 197 937

[andrew.appiah@holytrinitybarkingside.org.uk](mailto:andrew.appiah@holytrinitybarkingside.org.uk)

**Churchwardens:**

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[churchwarden.chris@holytrinitybarkingside.org.uk](mailto:churchwarden.chris@holytrinitybarkingside.org.uk)

Chris Stoneham, - 07828 885 439 / 020 8270 5742

[chrisstoneham1@gmail.com](mailto:chrisstoneham1@gmail.com)

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Rev Margaret Chapman - 020 8504 6750

**Sacristan / Verger:**

(& Organist) Mary Fabb - 020 8550 9694

**Deputy Wardens:**

Maxine Paul, Paul McKenzie

**Church Treasurer:**

Laura Priestman

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## PARISH DIARY

**Every Tuesday 9am - 1pm 'Tuesday Morning Drop In'**  
Parish Hall (continuing weekly).

**2nd Oct Sun - 10:30am - Harvest Festival - please bring non-perishable food for the Foodbank. Light Lunch afterwards.**  
**4.00pm - St. Francis of Assisi - Choral Evensong with the Chelmsford Cathedral Choir (led by James Davey, choirmaster)**

**9th Oct Sun - Confirmation Service - St Paul's Woodford Bridge - 3pm**  
(meet up here - at church at 2pm for a lift)

**11th Oct Tues 10:30am MU service in church**  
- and Making / Filling shoeboxes



**29/30 Oct Sat / Sun—**  
Clocks go Backwards 1 hour. Don't be late !!

**20th Oct Thurs M.U. "Members' Day" - here at Holy Trinity. 10am - 2pm**

**25th Oct Tues - 1pm Packing shoeboxes**  
Please come along and help pack shoeboxes for *Children in Distress*.

**2nd Nov Weds - 7:30pm - All Souls Requiem Mass**