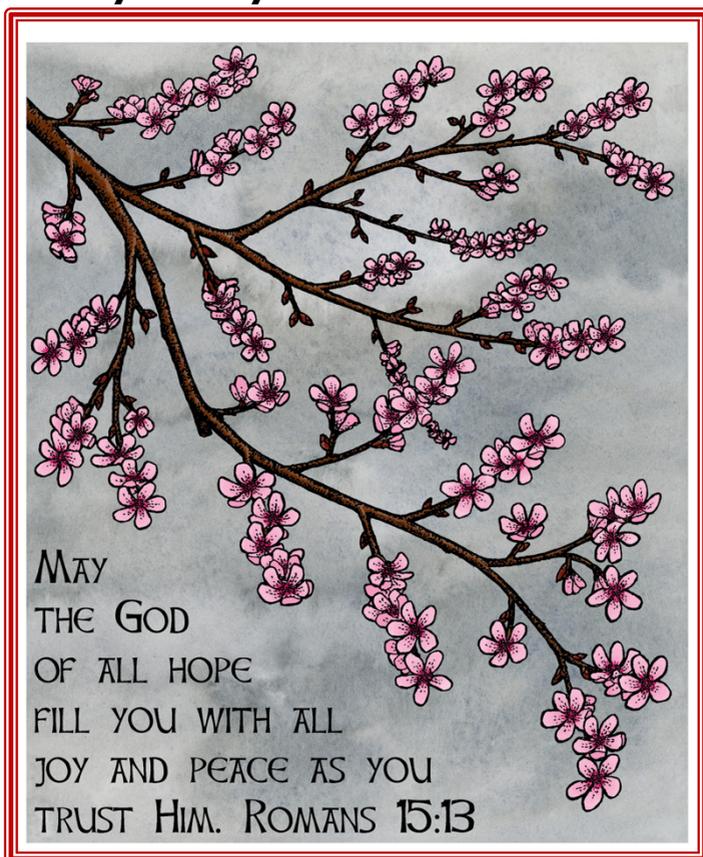


The Holsworthy Benefice Magazine February 2019

For the Parishes of the United Benefice of
Holsworthy, Bridgerule, Hollacombe,
Pyworthy with Pancrasweek



www.holsworthybenefice.org.uk

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If you have anything you would like to be considered for publication in our magazine please give it to the editor by the 20th of the preceding month. It can be sent by email or hand written. Our printer in Bude can usually reproduce photographs to a reasonable standard. If you want any hard copy or pictures returned please ensure your name and address is on the back.

This magazine is produced for the churches of St. Peter and St. Paul Holsworthy; St. Bridget's, Bridgerule; St. Petroc, Hollacombe; St. Swithun, Pyworthy; St. Pancras, Pancrasweek; and is the only publication promoting the views and vision of the benefice.

The contents of this magazine do not necessarily reflect the views of the individual PCC's but are those of individual contributors.

Mission Community Prayer

Lord of the Church, hear our prayer for the Holsworthy Mission Community: Set our hearts on fire with love for you. Claim our worship and wealth, our abilities and our time, that we be worthy stewards of all that you have given. Save us from complacency and fear of new ways; inspire us with vision; make us a power-house of prayer, a community of loving service, and faithful witnesses to your kingdom as we grow daily in and through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen

From the rectory

Hopefully all thank you letters have now been written for presents received over Christmas. Saying thank you is something we are all taught at a very early age. It's an important lesson about making sure we show our appreciation.

Saying thank you is important for any relationship. As well as saying thank you to each other we do need to remember to say thank you to God. Very often our prayers can be all about asking - supplication and intercession. Petitions for help, for people that are ill or in need; petitions for guidance for ourselves or others and sometimes we can forget to pray unless we want something.

I have found the acronym ACTS very useful to help ensure that my prayers are balanced.

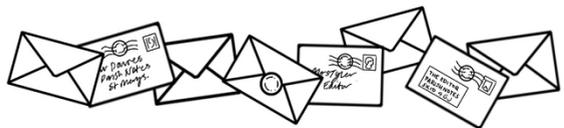
- (A) Adoration
- (C) Confession
- (T) Thanksgiving
- (S) Supplication

February may be a cold, dark month but there is still much to be thankful for. There are also many people to thank for their hard work in making sure that the church is there for everyone. Thanks and appreciation go to all who worked so hard to make the churches look so beautiful for Christmas and Epiphany and to those involved in the life size nativity at Holsworthy church especially the Men's Shed. Thank you to all involved in making sure the church buildings are fit for use especially those that have worked tirelessly to ensure everything is in place for a new heating system in Pyworthy church and a new roof for Pancrasweek church. Thank you to all who have helped raise money to ensure the churches can pay their bills, from the folk band and the White Hart Hotel for helping to make the Burns Supper such a success to all involved in the Pancrasweek Sunday lunch.

And of course we can always ask God to help us to be more thankful!

Yours in Christ,

Mother Elizabeth



News from the Churches in our Benefice

St. Peter and St. Paul, Holsworthy

by Bob Beckford

Burns Night 2019

Burns night very conveniently fell on Friday 25th January this year so we decided to celebrate the occasion with a supper and ceilidh. With some clever decorating, the Holsworthy Memorial Hall became a Scottish banqueting hall, black chairs with tartan bows, tartan table decoration and napkins with beautiful candelabra.



We were welcomed by Mother Elizabeth, we heard the Selkirk Grace, delivered by a true Scottish waitress from the White Hart Hotel. The haggis was then piped in, piper in front followed by our chef, Jon Hutchings and then myself, who had the delightful task of addressing the haggis. Fortunately, I was able to obtain an English translation, although it is rumoured I have some historical connection with Clan Hamilton I struggle with much of the Scottish terminology.

We had an excellent meal comprising, Scotch Broth with Oat Cakes, Haggis, Beef, Braised Red Cabbage, Garden peas, Neeps and Tatties all rounded off with a delicious Cranachan with Shortbread. Most importantly, we also had the liquid for the toasts!



The celebrations then continued with a short reading of Burns Poetry, after this we had 'The Immortal Memory', which is a formal and personal tribute to Robert Burns. The 'Toast To The Lassies', was good humoured and given by Richard Hutchings. The reply came from Pretty Maid, Lizzy Flaherty, even more comical than Mr Hutchings. Well done Lizzy. Following a vote of thanks, the dancing began. The musicians for the night were 'The Devonshire Highlanders', a local band, and our caller was Chris March, some of you may have seen Chris playing the church organ at Ashwater Church. It was so good to see so many guests up and ready to dance, very little coercion being needed by our caller and considering the speed of some of the dances it was good to see people staying on the floor for

more. We did of course have some slow Scottish waltzes so that dancers could take it a little easier and the occasional Scottish air played by the band.

Well I had a most enjoyable time, if somewhat stressful, but we achieved our aim of raising a £1000, in fact as I write this article the amount raised stands at £1295.53 which is fantastic. Thank you so much to everyone that contributed in any way, be it by buying a ticket making a donation or helping in any way to put on the event. We have already had an enquiry for two tables for next year if we run another one. Watch this space as they say.

Teddy Bear Winner

If you were at the Christmas Lights Switch On or any of the Wednesday Memorial Hall Coffee mornings following that you will no doubt have seen Mother Elizabeth wandering around with a very large teddy bear. The winner was Mike Trix.

Holsworthy Parish Electoral Roll

From Mary Beckford, Electoral Roll Officer for Holsworthy Parish Church

Every six years a new electoral roll is prepared and those on the previous roll are informed so that they can re-apply. 2019 is just such a year. This must be revised by 12th March 2019. If you are on the current Church Electoral Roll you will be handed or sent a form and if you wish to be included in the revised roll, please complete the form and return it in the envelope provided to Mary Beckford, there is a box on the table near the church entrance for this. The church is usually open from around 9:30am to 5:00pm each day.

You can be on the electoral roll if you are baptised and over the age of 16 and can confirm one of the following

- A. I am a member of the Church of England (or of a Church in communion with the Church of England) and am resident in the parish. **OR**
- B. I am a member of the Church of England (or of a Church in communion with the Church of England) and, not being resident on the parish, I have habitually attended public worship in the parish during the period of six months prior to enrolment. **OR**
- C. I am a member in good standing of a Church (not in communion with the Church of England) which subscribes to the doctrine of the Holy Trinity and also declare myself to be a member of the Church of England and I have habitually attended public worship in the parish during the period of six months prior to enrolment.

If you are not resident in the parish but were on the roll as a habitual worshipper and have been prevented by sickness or absence or other essential reason from

worshipping for the past six months, you may write “would” before “have habitually attended” on the form and add “but was prevented from doing so because...” and then state the reason.

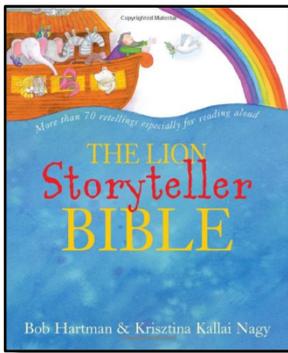
Open The Book

From Bob Beckford

Open The Book is celebrating its 20th Anniversary this year. In 1999, a small group of church volunteers started going into a few schools in Bedford to read and act out stories using the Lion Storyteller Bible. After being inspired by this, the project spread into Gloucestershire in 2001 which is where I first became involved 8 years ago. Later, in 2007, a national charity was formed. With increasing growth of volunteer numbers into the thousands, OtB joined Bible Society in 2013.



The first of five regional 20th Anniversary Celebration events is being held in St Petroc’s Church, Bodmin, Cornwall on February 20th. Storytellers from the South West and further afield have been invited to join this very special thanksgiving and celebration service together with Bob Hartman, the author of The Lion Storyteller Bible, the book we read from at assembly.



Messy Church

From Sue Bumby

Messy Church at the Primary School has changed to WEDNESDAY AFTERNOONS (4th in the month) between 3:00 and 4:30 in the lower classroom.

All primary children and their carers are welcome.



Next sessions

Weds 27th Feb

Weds 27th March

Do come and join us for stories, games, craft and fun.

Coffee Morning Wednesday 26th February

From Kath Durling

There will be a Coffee Morning in aid of church funds for St. Peter and Paul Holsworthy on Wednesday 27th February. Please note that this is a change of date, it was going to be on March 6th but as that happens to be Ash Wednesday the

decision has been taken to bring forward the coffee morning to **Wed 27th February** in the memorial hall starting at 9am. We are very grateful to everyone that helped us to make this change possible.

Could we please ask for tombola and raffle donations as well as items for the cake stall. You can pass items for the tombola and raffle to the churchwardens or Mother Elizabeth. Please bring items for the cake stall to the hall on the day.

Advance Notice - The next joint coffee morning at the Memorial Hall in aid of funds for the churches of Holsworthy and Hollacombe will be on **June 12th**.

St. Petroc, Hollacombe

by Margaret Stacey

Services in February

Sunday 3rd 3pm Evensong

Sunday 17th 9.30am Holy Communion

Services in March

Sunday 3rd 3pm Evensong

WEDNESDAY 6th MARCH. 2pm. HOLY COMMUNION AND IMPOSITION OF ASHES. This service on ASH WEDNESDAY, the beginning of Lent will be taken by Rev Peter Bevan from Torrington.



The Coffee Morning on 6th March is cancelled but see the Holsworthy News section for the new date.

January has been a quiet month at Hollacombe and we have now put away the last of the Christmas artifacts, The Crib at Candlemas (2nd Feb).

St Swithun, Pyworthy

by Liffy Lowes

Not so much news this month, January is a quiet time at Pyworthy after all the hustle and bustle of Christmas. One bit of important news is that our heating system is being upgraded at the moment so for the next few weeks services will be held in the village hall at the normal church service times.



Looking ahead to March you will see elsewhere in the magazine our advert for the Creative Church Shrove Tuesday event.

General News From The Parish Pump

The GOOD news about chocolate

A little bit of chocolate is good for you – especially your heart.

If you eat up to three bars a month, you could have a 13 per cent lower risk of heart failure than if you do not eat any chocolate. It seems that natural compounds in cocoa called flavonoids boost blood vessel health and help reduce inflammation. But be careful: if you eat chocolate daily you could experience a 17 per cent increase in your risk of heart failure.

So the advice from the researchers at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai in New York is: ‘moderate dark-chocolate consumption is good for health.’

National Nest Box Week: 14th – 21st February

If you like birds, now is the time to help the next generation get started.

And so this month will see thousands of us shakily climbing ladders against the sides of our houses, garages and trees, to install cosy nest boxes. And soon our tenants will arrive: blue tits, robins, nuthatches, pied wagtails, sparrows, to starlings, tawny owls and even great spotted woodpeckers.

National Nest Box Week was started by the British Trust for Ornithology in order to encourage the conservation of our breeding birds. Nest boxes are desperately needed, as natural nest sites for birds such as holes in trees or old buildings are disappearing fast, as gardens are ‘tidied’ and old houses are repaired.

It really is worth the trouble to put up a nest box. If you hang one within sight of your kitchen window, you will have hours of fun in observing the young feathered families.

You may find these links helpful:

How to choose a nest box: www.bto.org/about-birds/nnbw/buy-a-box

Where to put it: www.bto.org/about-birds/nnbw/putting-up-a-nest-box

Technoference

We’ve all seen them: mothers engrossed on their mobile phones and ignoring their children nearby. But now research has found that children whose parents are addicted to their phones are significantly more likely to have behaviour problems. The problem is called ‘technoference’. It is when the everyday relationship between parent and child is constantly disrupted by a digital or mobile device, including during face-to-face conversations, meal-times and play-times.

Technoference causes children to display a range of behavioural problems: from sulking, whining, and emotional distress, to hyperactivity and tantrums. Sadly, it often gets the child nowhere. One health expert has said: 'Around Manchester you can see unbelievable attempts by children to communicate with the adult they are with, but who remains oblivious to them.'

What is happening to our pets?

It is getting harder to own a pet. In 2012 two-thirds of homes had pets. Now it is down to just over half. In fact, families are now ten times more likely to own a virtual assistant like Amazon's Alexa than even a hamster.

It is not our fault. We still love animals, but can we still provide them with a home? Growing numbers of us are unable to buy our own homes, which means that many of us are in rental accommodation, and not that many landlords welcome pets.

Sadly, many animal sanctuaries are full of dogs and cats who were unable to move on with their owners in their next rental property.

There is a similar problem in later life. So many residential homes ban residents from bringing their much-loved pets - which only increases their loneliness in old age.

And yet those of us fortunate enough to have pets still love them and mourn their loss. As Alexander Pope, writing in the 18th century, observed: 'Not louder shrieks to pitying heaven are cast/When husbands or when lapdogs breathe their last.'

All the lonely people

Where do they all come from?

All the lonely people

Where do they all belong?

The Beatles saw loneliness all around them back in the 60s, when they wrote the lyrics to Eleanor Rigby. And loneliness is growing: the number of lonely over-50s will hit two million within seven years, according to recent data from the English Longitudinal Study of Ageing.

The study points out that older people often live alone, lack someone to confide in, or are widowed, or are in poor health, or are unable to do the things they want, or feel that they do not belong in their neighbourhood

Caroline Adams, Age UK's charity director warns that such loneliness will bring 'serious consequences for their physical and mental health, and therefore for the NHS, unless we take action now.' But action will be a challenge, for the adult social

care sector is badly over-stretched, with up to 110,000 jobs vacant across the country.

Poverty on the increase

More and more people in this country just aren't making it, no matter how hard they work. Such is the finding of a recent survey into poverty in the UK.

The Joseph Rowntree Foundation (JRF)'s recent 2018 poverty report has found that four million adults are in poverty in the UK – despite having a job. That is a rise of more than half a million in the past five years.

The report says: 'In the last five years, poverty rates have risen for every type of working family: lone-parent or couple families, families with full-and part-time workers, and families with different numbers of adults in work. This is the first period in the last two decades when this has happened.'

The report goes on to say that 1.5 million people were living in destitution at some point during 2017, including 365,000 children. It also states that seven per cent of the population live in persistent poverty.

'Rising employment alone is not delivering lower poverty. Rather, in-work poverty is increasing faster than employment. Many workers are caught in the middle of a series of moving currents: stuck in low-paid work, with little chance of progression, subject to high housing costs, and using a weakening social security.'

Bishops call for a change of tone on Brexit debate

The Church of England bishops who recently met in London made the following statement:

'The bishops of the Church of England pray for national unity – and courage, integrity and clarity for our politicians. We call on the country to consider the nature of our public conversation. It is time to bring grace and generosity back to our national life.

'At the heart of the Christian message is Jesus' command to love our neighbour. This includes those with whom we agree and disagree – at home, in Europe, and further afield. We urge everyone – our political leaders and all of us – to bring magnanimity, respect and reconciliation to our national debate.

'There is now an urgent need for the United Kingdom to recover a shared vision and identity to help us find a way through the immediate challenges.

'Regardless of what happens next with Brexit, the Church of England, alongside many other churches and other agencies striving for the common good, will be at the heart of local communities; educating one million children, providing 33,000 social action projects and running 16,000 churches across the country. Above all else, we will continue to support the most vulnerable and share Christ's love with all.'

A message from Youth Worker – Ruth Jones

I am delighted to present the Hiding Place by Oddments Theatre Company who are coming to Holsworthy Community College in February. As well as a performance for the school, we are hosting an evening performance for the community and local churches. Below you will see the press release and photo. There is a video available at:

<http://www.oddments-theatre.co.uk/main/content/hiding-place>

For more information contact Sue Banks or myself.

The Hiding Place: The Corrie ten Boom Story

And then I remembered: my vision... All the people I loved being drawn against our wills, unable to turn back, going to a world we did not know, somewhere we did not want to go.

Oddments Theatre Company brings 'The Hiding Place' – the inspirational and heart wrenching testimony of Corrie ten Boom, to life in their latest production –. Corrie, born on April 15, 1892 in Haarlem, Holland, and her Christian family are outraged at the German occupation in the Second World War, and the constant persecution of the Jewish community. Her sister, Betsie, and father, Casper, join Corrie and thousands of others in the unceasing resistance of God's underground. Their refusal to stand by and watch the Nazi's horrendous onslaught, and their faith that prevails throughout their subsequent suffering of the Second World War's darkest terrors, continues to inspire all of those who encounter Corrie's incredible

story. Oddments are one of the few full-time Christian Theatre Companies in the UK. Based in Yeovil, Somerset, they are a registered charity reaching out to churches, schools, and prisons. The Hiding Place is currently brought to you by a production team of six performers whom, alongside an exciting, rotating stage set, music, and lively stage action, will make you laugh before they make you cry. Rated 5 stars by audience members, you will not be disappointed by this passionate story of God's love and hope in amidst an environment of darkness and brutality.

Described by the audience as - "a powerful performance showing how God's love can overcome hatred and evil"

and - "an inspiration to us all", we can guarantee it is a show not to miss. Corrie and her family's incredible story is timeless, and Oddments truly capture the Christian message in a new and encouraging way.

The play is rated a five star show consistently by our audiences.

What the audience say. Quotations

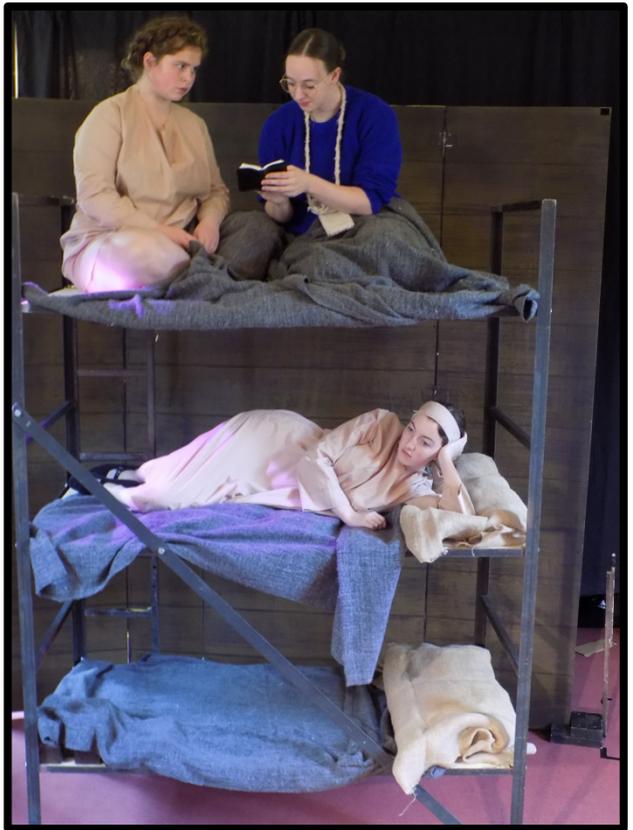
"Outstanding performance, I highly recommend it. If you're near a performance... it's a must see. Brilliantly done."

"It was brilliant. I went not knowing what to expect, but I was confronted with a very moving and emotional play."

"It was excellent. A very moving portrayal of the story. Well done."

The show will be at Holsworthy Community College on Thursday 28th February 2019, starting at 7:30pm. Tickets are £12 on the night or £10 in advance. Space are limited so booking is advisable. Tickets are available from local churches or contact Sue Banks – 07779 560083.

Tickets are also available online at oddments-theatre.co.uk



Holsworthy Benefice Service Chart - February 2019

Benefice Services for February - http://www.holsworthybenefice.org.uk/services/benefice-calendar/					
	Bridgerule	Hollacombe	Holsworthy	Pancrasweek	Pyworthy
Sunday 3rd Feb Candlemass	11.15am Sung Eucharist (Patronal)	3pm Sung BCP Evensong	9.30am Sung Eucharist		9.30am All Age Service
Fri 8th Feb		***10am*** Benefice Eucharist at Holsworthy (new time)			
Sunday 10th Feb	11.15am Morning Prayer		9.30am Sung Eucharist		11.15am Sung Eucharist
Fri 15th Feb		***10am*** Benefice Eucharist at Holsworthy (new time)			
Sunday 17th Feb	11.15am Sung Eucharist	9.30am Sung BCP Holy Communion	9.30am Sung Eucharist		9.30am Morning Prayer
Fri 22nd Feb		***10am*** Benefice Eucharist at Holsworthy (new time)			
Sunday 24th Feb	11.15am Morning Worship		9.30am Sung Morning Prayer	9.30am Sung Eucharist	11.15am Sung Eucharist
Fri 1st Mar		***10am*** Benefice Eucharist at Holsworthy (new time)			
Sunday 3rd Mar	11.15am Sung Eucharist	3pm Sung BCP Evensong	9.30am Sung Eucharist		9.30am All Age Service
Shrove Tuesday 5th Mar	4pm Shrove Service with pancakes and race				6pm Shrove Service with pancakes and race
Ash Wednesday 6th Mar		2pm Sung BCP Holy Communion with Imposition of Ashes	7pm Benefice Sung Eucharist with Imposition of Ashes		
Not been to church before? or not in a while? Come and give it a go - everyone welcome. Come as you are.					

This chart was correct at the time we went to press. Please check on the back of your weekly service sheet for any last-minute changes or take a look at the Benefice Calendar on our www.holsworthybenefice.org.uk/services/benefice-calendar/

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Holsworthy Methodist Church Thursday Group Programme 2019



Jan 31 st	“UP THE CREEK AND BEYOND”	Rupert Kirkwood
Feb 14 th	“ST VALENTINE”	Christine Williams
Feb 28 th	“ARTS AND CRAFTS IN FRANCE”	Philippa Adams
March 7 th	“THE SEWORTHYS”	Kath Durling and friends
March 21 st	“FLOWERS FOR EASTER”	Mary and Jean
April 14 th	“GO WEST YOUNG MAN”	Lynda and Cliff Vickery
April 18 th	✠“MAUNDY THURSDAY COMMUNION”	Clive Smale
May 2 nd	“A GAMES EVENING “	Sylvia Simpson
May 16 th	“VISIT TO A GARDEN CENTRE”	
May 30 th	AGM	Followed by Hilary Vivian

All meetings at 7.30pm unless stated otherwise, for further information please contact
Doreen Buckingham (Tel: 253462)

High Days and Holy Days in February

I February - Brigid of Ireland: compassion and love

Brigid, you could say, was the female Patrick of Ireland.

Historical facts about this first abbess of Kildare (451 AD) may be scarce, but her ‘Lives’, written from the 7th century, tell many anecdotes and miracles which over the centuries have become deeply rooted in Irish folklore. Brigid came from a village near Kildare, of parents of humble origin, and is said to have been baptised by Patrick and became a nun at an early age. She is credited with founding the monastery of Kildare, a powerful influence for Christianity in Ireland.

The miracles attributed to Brigid show her to have been a woman of great compassion and generosity. There are stories of how she could multiply food, especially butter, for the poor. Other stories tell of her changing her bath-water to beer, in order to satisfy the thirst of unexpected visitors. Even her cows gave milk three times the same day, to enable visiting bishops to have enough to drink.

Brigid’s cult grew rapidly in Ireland, where it became second only to that of Patrick. In England, there were at least nineteen ancient church dedications in her honour (the most famous is St Bride’s Fleet Street). There is also St Bride’s Bay, Dyfed, which underlines the strong connection between Irish and Welsh Christianity. St

Brigid is patron of poets, blacksmiths, and healers. She is usually depicted with a cow lying at her feet, which recalls her phase as a nun-cowgirl.

2 February - The Presentation of Christ in the Temple/ Candlemas

In bygone centuries, Christians said their last farewells to the Christmas season on Candlemas, 2 February. This is exactly 40 days after Christmas Day itself.

In New Testament times 40 days old was an important age for a baby boy: it was when they made their first 'public appearance'. Mary, like all good Jewish mothers, went to the Temple with Jesus, her first male child - to 'present Him to the Lord'. At the same time, she, as a new mother, was 'purified'. Thus, we have the Festival of the Presentation of Christ in the Temple.

So where does the Candlemas bit come in? Jesus is described in the New Testament as the Light of the World, and early Christians developed the tradition of lighting many candles in celebration of this day. The Church also fell into the custom of blessing the year's supply of candles for the church on this day - hence the name, Candlemas.

The story of how Candlemas began can be found in Luke 2:22-40. Simeon's great declaration of faith and recognition of who Jesus was is of course found in the Nunc Dimittis, which is embedded in the Office of Evening Prayer in the West. But in medieval times, the Nunc Dimittis was mostly used just on this day, during the distribution of candles before the Eucharist. Only gradually did it win a place in the daily prayer life of the Church.

14 February - Valentine's Day

There are two confusing things about this day of romance and anonymous love-cards strewn with lace, cupids and ribbon: firstly, there seems to have been two different Valentines in the 4th century - one a priest martyred on the Flaminian Way, under the emperor Claudius, the other a bishop of Terni martyred at Rome. And neither seems to have had any clear connection with lovers or courting couples.

So why has Valentine become the patron saint of romantic love? By Chaucer's time the link was assumed to be because on these saints' day - 14 February - the birds are supposed to pair. Or perhaps the custom of seeking a partner on St Valentine's Day is a surviving scrap of the old Roman Lupercalia festival, which took place in the middle of February. One of the Roman gods honoured during this Festival was Pan, the god of nature. Another was Juno, the goddess of women and

marriage. During the Lupercalia it was a popular custom for young men to draw the name of a young unmarried woman from a name-box. The two would then be partners or 'sweethearts' during the time of the celebrations. Even modern Valentine decorations bear an ancient symbol of love - Roman cupids with their bows and love-arrows.

There are no churches in England dedicated to Valentine, but since 1835 his relics have been claimed by the Carmelite church in Dublin.

15 February – Thomas Bray: founder of SPCK

Thomas Bray was once called a "Great Small Man", with good reason. This diminutive 18th century English clergyman (1658 – 1730) not only helped to establish the Church of England in Maryland, but he was also founder of the Society for the Propagation of Christian Knowledge (SPCK) in 1698 and the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts (USPG) in 1701.

Those are long names for societies whose aim was to get Christian books and resources into the hands of those who desperately needed them. For the early 18th century was not an easy time for poor clergymen: books were expensive, and many of them had few, or none to guide them in their ministry. And so Thomas Bray, who had been educated at Oxford, joined with some other clergy friends to help them.

After a trip to assess the needs of the young Episcopal Church in Maryland (he was sent by the Bishop of London), Bray became rector of St Botolph's, Aldgate in London in 1708. From here he served his parish, and through SPCK eventually established 80 parish libraries in England and a further 39 in the Colonies. SPCK and USPG worked by asking learned authors to donate copies of their books. They also appealed to merchants to the foreign plantations for financial help in establishing the libraries.

Thomas Bray's life has affected hundreds of thousands of people over three centuries. Not only was his work in America the first major coordinated effort to establish libraries in the New World, but SPCK is still one of our leading UK Christian publishing houses today. As if that was not enough, Bray also worked to help poor debtors emigrate to better lives, and homeless children to get care in England. He helped feed prisoners at Newgate prison in London and joined in the political fight against slavery. He also supported outreaches to Africans and Native Americans in their home countries.

When he died on 15th February 1730, thousands mourned him. A great small man indeed!

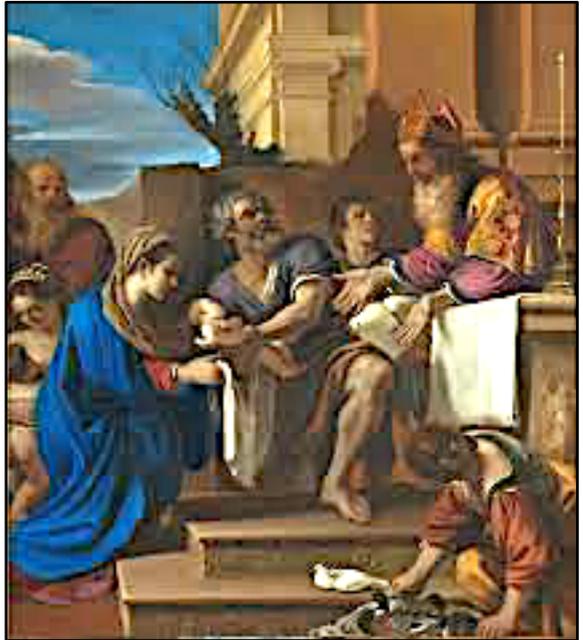
God in the Arts

Editor: The National Gallery at Trafalgar Square in London houses one of the finest collections of European paintings in the world. It is home to 2,300 works spanning the centuries of artistic creation. During this year we shall be journeying through the gallery to explore one of those treasures each month. By the Rev Michael Burgess.

'The Presentation in the Temple' by Guercino

This month of February opens with the celebration of Candlemas. On the 2nd we recall that special moment of enlightenment when Mary and Joseph bring Jesus to the temple. They meet Simeon, who represents the waiting people of Israel – a nation looking for a better world now that the holy city was in the hands of Roman invaders.

Simeon clung to the hope that God would come to bring freedom and a new life. When it came, there was no fanfare, no warning. St Luke in his Gospel tells us of an ordinary family from faraway Nazareth who go to Jerusalem to perform the religious duties for the firstborn son. But in their encounter with Simeon we see and hear something extraordinary.



The scene is captured in this beautiful painting of 1623 that hangs in the National Gallery: 'The Presentation in the Temple' by Guercino. The artist Giovanni Barbieri had the curious nickname Guercino which means 'Squinty.' Why squinty, we are not sure, for all is clear and lyrical in this work.

At the base of the canvas we see the turtle doves with two ducks, but the heart of the scene focuses on Mary, Joseph and Simeon linked by the Christ-Child. Notice the gentle hands of Mary, the strong, supportive hands of Joseph, and the outstretched, waiting hands of Simeon. He may be an old man, but he is ready to welcome the babe, who is offered as a sign of hope and light for the future. A

candle burns at the right side to emphasise the light shed by this meeting of infancy and old age.

St Luke by tradition was an artist himself, depicting the stories of his gospel with the deft strokes of a painter. In this scene the words of the evangelist and the skill of a 17th century Italian artist tell us that, at whatever age we are, we can also find light and hope as we offer our hands and our hearts to welcome the Christ-Child.

February 2019 – Letter from St. James the Least of All

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



On New Year's resolutions for 2019

The Rectory
St. James the Least

My dear Nephew Darren

We have just returned from our annual parish three-day silent retreat at St Epiphanius' Priory. We had the usual attendees: those husbands who see it as an opportunity to stop their wives talking, however briefly; those wives who can keep their husbands temporarily from the 19th hole at the golf club; and those who want to see if it might be a suitable home in which to park an inconvenient relative.

It can come as quite a shock for first-timers: the ladies are appalled to discover that there is neither coffee shop nor hairdressers, and the men that there is no bar or billiards table. The resident community certainly frowned on the four men among us who were discovered silently pushing a car down the drive late

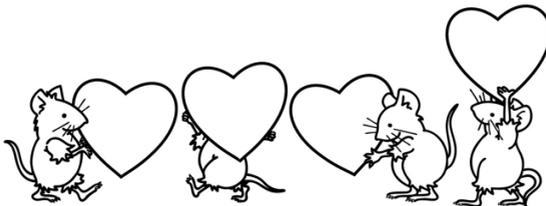
one evening before starting it at the main gates as they escaped to the nearest pub. Those of us who are older hands know to bring our own supplies – carefully wrapped, so that the clinking of bottles is not too obvious as one ascends the main staircase. The near universal retreat to bedrooms before dinner is less an opportunity for quiet reflection and more one for a restorative sherry.

The more experienced also know that temperatures in the house are Siberian. All the movement and hand waving during Services is less charismatic enthusiasm and more an attempt to maintain blood flow to the extremities. The series of addresses were given by an aged member of the community. That some of our party fell asleep during the addresses was excusable; that the person giving them also occasionally did so, was not.

During one stroll round the gardens, I noticed clouds of smoke coming from behind the hedges near the chapel. My hope that it was parishioners experimenting with incense to be used in church on our return was soon crushed when I found it was a group of hardened parishioners topping up their nicotine levels. Seeing them nervously huddled in the shrubbery made one think of schools and bike sheds. I now find it difficult not to picture them all in short trousers and wearing caps.

And so we return, knowing that we have done our bit once again for the spiritual vigour of the parish, and also that three days of vegetarian cooking will mean a long queue at the village butchers tomorrow morning.

Your loving uncle, *Eustace*



All in the Month of February

It was:

150 years ago, on 14th Feb 1869 that Charles Thomson Rees Wilson, Scottish physicist was born. Winner of the 1927 Nobel Prize in Physics for inventing the cloud chamber.

100 years ago, on 26th Feb 1919 that the Grand Canyon National Park was established in Arizona.

90 years ago, on 11th Feb 1929 that Italy and the Vatican signed the Lateran Treaty, which recognised the Vatican City's independence and sovereignty.

80 years ago, on 14th Feb 1939 that the German battleship Bismarck was launched. It was sunk by the British in May 1941 during a WW2 battle in the North Atlantic.

70 years ago, on 14th Feb 1949 that Israel's parliament (the Knesset) convened for the first time.

60 years ago, on 3rd Feb 1959 was 'the day music died'. American rock-and-roll performers Buddy Holly, Ritchie Valens and The Big Bopper were killed in a plane crash in Iowa.

50 years ago, on 3rd Feb 1969 that Yasser Arafat was appointed leader of the Palestine Liberation Organisation.

40 years ago, on 1st Feb 1979 that Iranian religious leader Ayatollah Khomeini returned to Iran after more than 14 years in exile. In November, following a referendum, Iran became an Islamic Republic with Khomeini the Supreme Leader.

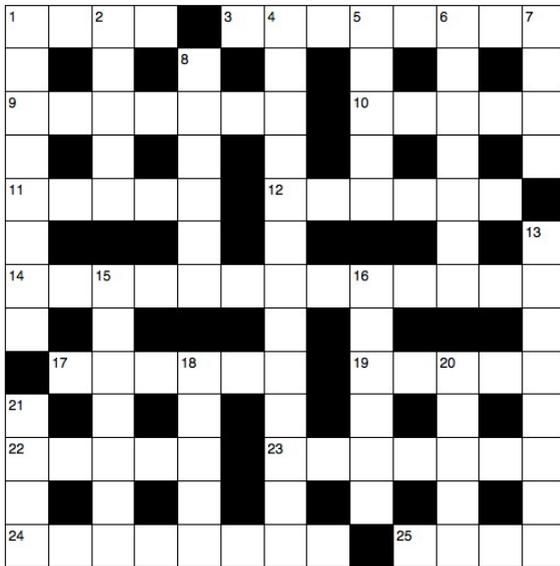
30 years ago, on 14th Feb 1989 that Iranian Ayatollah Khomeini issued a 'fatwa' calling for the death of the British writer Salman Rushdie, whose novel *The Satanic Verses* was condemned as blasphemous against Muslims.

20 years ago, on 9th Feb 1999 that Bryan Mosley, British actor, died. Best known for his role as Alf Roberts in the TV soap *Coronation Street*.

10 years ago, on 10th Feb 2009 that two satellites collided in orbit for the first time. A defunct Russian Cosmos-2251 military communications satellite and an operational US Iridium 33 communications satellite were both destroyed, creating thousands of fragments of space debris.

The Puzzle Pages February 2019 Crossword

(The solution to this crossword puzzle can be found on page 27)



Across

- 1 Salary (Isaiah 19:10) (4)
 3 Question Jesus asked of those healed of leprosy, 'Were not all ten — ?' (Luke 17:17) (8)
 9 Wide, elevated level area of land (Joshua 13:9) (7)
 10 'So you also must be — , because the Son of Man will come... when you do not expect him' (Matthew 24:44) (5)
 11 '[He] said to the man, "Stretch out your hand." He — , and his hand was completely restored' (Luke 6:10) (3,2)
 12 'Who has gathered up the wind in the — of his hand?' (Proverbs 30:4) (6)

14 Not born again (13)

17 'Again and again he — the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins' (Hebrews 10:11) (6)

19 Mails (anag.) (5)

22 'He — — here; he has risen' (Matthew 28:6) (2,3)

23 Defeated (Judges 20:43) (7)

24 Soldiers' quarters (Acts 21:34) (8)

25 'Pillars of marble' were how the Beloved described those of her Lover (Song of Songs 5:15) (4)

Down

1 Totally destroyed (Genesis 7:23) (5,3)

2 What the Philippian jailer was told to do with his prisoners Paul and Silas (Acts 16:23) (5)

4 Object of ridicule (Job 12:4) (8-5)

5 In most years, the month in which Easter falls (5)

6 For example, Caesarea, Joppa, Tyre, Sidon (7)

7 '[Jesus] was in the desert for forty — , being tempted by Satan' (Mark 1:13) (4)

8 'Hallelujah! Salvation and glory and power — to our God' (Revelation 19:1) (6)

13 Mend dots (anag.) (8)

15 Purifier (Malachi 3:3) (7)

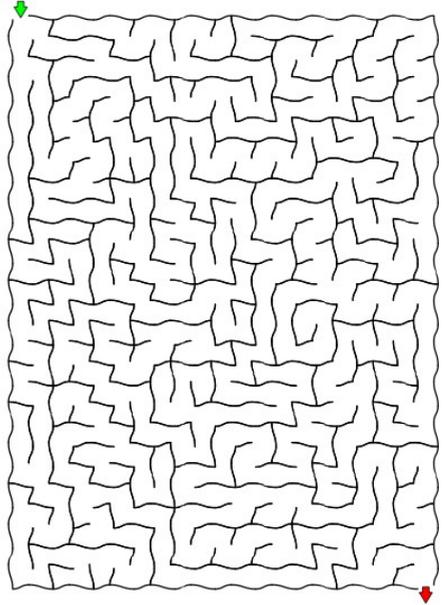
16 Attacked (1 Samuel 27:8) (6)

- 18 The good Samaritan to the innkeeper: 'When I return, I will reimburse you for any — expense you may have' (Luke 10:35) (5)
- 20 How Matthew described the crowds who followed Jesus (Matthew 4:25) (5)
- 21 For example, one of 25 Across (Judges 19:29) (4)

February 2019 Sudoku (Solution on page 28)

			7			4	6	2
9	6	7		4				
	4	2		6	1	9		3
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				1		7	8	5
8	9	3			7			

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February 2019 Maze

Start at the top left and exit at the bottom right.

Smile Lines

Manner of speaking

'Are your father and your mother in?' asked the vicar when the small boy opened the door.
 'They was in,' said the youngster. 'But they is out.'
 'They was in. They is out. Where's your grammar, young man?'
 'She's gone upstairs, for a nap.'

Rice

A man who had been dating a girl for a number of years took her out to a Chinese restaurant. As they studied the menu he asked: 'How would you like your rice, fried or boiled?'
 She looked at him sadly. 'Thrown.'

LENT COURSE - THE BEATITUDES

The eight blessed sayings of Jesus from his Sermon on the Mount

Pilgrim is a teaching and discipleship resource from the Church of England.

It is aimed at those wanting to go deeper and understand more about their Christian faith. Each course is made up of six sessions and has been co-written by our own Diocesan Bishop, Robert Atwell.

The course will be run on either a Tuesday at 2.30pm at The Rectory or a Friday at 10.45am at Holsworthy Church. For those unable to make the day time if there is enough interest it may be possible to run a course in an evening.

If the course is run on a **Tuesday** at 2.30pm the dates will be 12th, 19th, 26th March and 2nd, 9th & 16th April at The Rectory

If the course is run on a **Friday** at 10.45am the dates will be 9th, 16th, 23rd, 30th and 5th & 12th April at Holsworthy Church



All are welcome - If you would like to attend the course please add your name to the list at the back of church

CREATIVE CHURCH

Shrove Tuesday, 5th March

4pm at Bridgerule Parish Church

6pm at Pyworthy Parish Church



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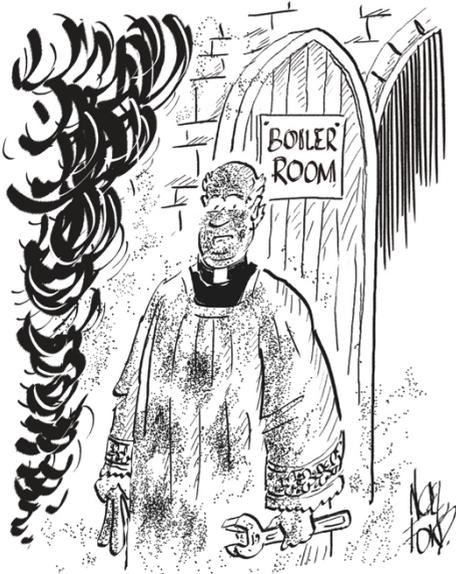
15 BODMIN ST
HOLSWORTHY
DEVON EX22 6BD

CONTACT KELVIN ISAAC
TELEPHONE NUMBER: 01409 253 555
OUT OF OFFICE HOURS: 01409 254 256

Holsworthy Church Coffee Morning

Wednesday
February 27th
In The Memorial Hall
09.00 am to Midday

Coffee & Biscuits
+
Cake Stall - Raffle -
Tombola



The church heating fund could only stretch to buying a copy of 'Boiler Repairs For Dummies'



That old tea urn had served the church well

February 2019 Crossword Solution

ACROSS: 1, Wage. 3, Cleansed. 9, Plateau. 10, Ready. 11, Did so. 12, Hollow. 14, Unregenerated. 17, Offers. 19, Islam. 22, Is not. 23, Overran. 24, Barracks. 25, Legs.

DOWN: 1, Wiped out. 2, Guard. 4, Laughing-stock. 5, April. 6, Seaport. 7, Days. 8, Belong. 13, Oddments. 15, Refiner. 16, Raided. 18, Extra. 20, Large. 21, Limb.

Some Useful Numbers

Holsworthy Benefice Priest-in-Charge:

Mother Elizabeth Burke, The Rectory, Bodmin Street, Holsworthy, EX22 6BH
elizabethmaburke*icloud.com 01409 255490 or 07990 978485

Primary School	253700
Holsworthy Community College	253430
Library	253514
Health Centre	253692
Sports Hall	254013
Holsworthy Visitor Centre	254185
Brownies (M Galjardt)	254727
Guides (Jane Crocombe)	211319
Scouts (Cathy Withall)	254803
Town Clerk	253312
Memorial Hall	255450
Holsworthy Play Group (Dawn Bewes)	253825
Holsworthy Hospital	253424
Boots the Chemist	255295
Lloyds Pharmacy	253461
Stagecoach South West	01392 42 77 11
National Rail Enquiries	03457 48 49 50
Rev'd Jane Lucas (Ashwater Benefice)	01409 211205
Rev'd Kathy Roberts (Black Torrington Benefice)	01409 231279
Rev'd Richard Freeman (Bradworthy Benefice)	01409 241315
CAB (Citizen's Advice Bureau) (Weekdays 9.30 am – 4.00 pm)	02444 111 444
Samaritans	116 123

February 2019 Sudoku Solution

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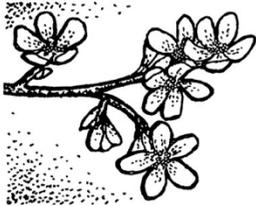
Phone 01288 381700

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7	5	1	4	8	2	3	9	6
4	2	6	3	1	9	7	8	5
8	9	3	6	5	7	1	2	4

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February 2019

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