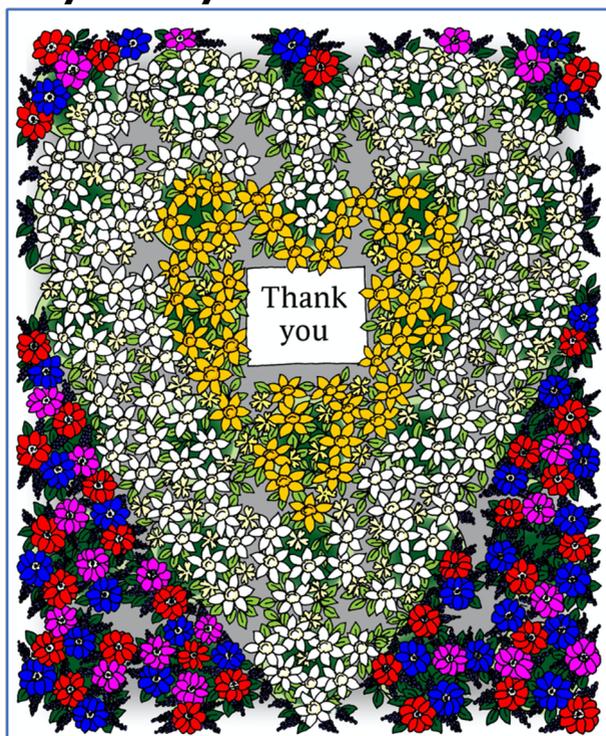


The Holsworthy Benefice Magazine March 2020

**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.

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...but if you respond to one of our advertisers please tell them you saw their advert in our Benefice Magazine.

From the rectory

It's Lent, a season to concentrate on growing ever closer to God. If you have not planned what you are doing this year it's not too late. From Ash Wednesday to Easter Sunday there are 46 days so some people don't fast on a Sunday as it is the day of the resurrection and always a Feast day. Others observe Lent from Ash Wednesday to Palm Sunday; the day Jesus returned to Jerusalem after all his ministry and then observe Holy Week from Palm Sunday to Easter Sunday Eve more strictly. Only if we journey through the wilderness and then into Jerusalem with Christ, can we truly experience the joy of the risen Lord on Easter Sunday.

There is lots going on during this season of Lent;

Joy 2020 when our three Bishops spend time with us over the weekend of 6-8th March

Lent Group - the pilgrim course about the Lord's prayer on Tuesday evenings
Stations of the Cross on 25th March, 2.30pm at Hollacombe
The 10am Eucharist on a Friday

There are also online resources which can be done by email, Facebook or Twitter;

40 Acts - The generosity Challenge
#LiveLent: Care for God's Creation

There are also many Lent books to choose from. Saying Yes to Life is The Archbishop of Canterbury's Lent Book 2020.

Jesus went into the wilderness and was tempted. He resisted and angels waited on him.

What is your wilderness?

What temptations does it put in front of you?

And how do you follow God so that your soul grows in faith, joy and wisdom so that you are ready to go back out into the world?

Mother Elizabeth



News from the Churches in our Benefice

St. Peter and St. Paul, Holsworthy

By Bob Beckford

Photo to the right is by Rodney Parish ©



Advance Notice of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM)

Our APCM will be on Tuesday 21st April at 19:30. There will be a Said Eucharist prior to the meeting at 19:00. If you are interested in becoming a member of the PCC will you please put your name on the list that will be at the back of church nearer the time. We really could do with a few more people who would be willing to take a turn at organising some of the fund raising events.

Electoral Roll – Please see Mary Beckford (Electoral Roll Officer) if you would like your name added to the Holsworthy Electoral Roll, this will give you voting rights at the APCM. There are application forms at the back of church.

Church Fabric

Roof - The two recent storms we have all experienced did not cause too many problems for us. A few slates have gone adrift but the damage is not as bad as we feared it would be. As soon as we get a run of dry weather we will get the builder in to do the necessary repairs.

Boiler - I am pleased to report that the boiler has passed its annual inspection, it just needed the replacement of a gasket to the combustion chamber.

Future Events

March - Coffee Morning at the Memorial Hall 11th March

April - St Georges Day Party 23rd April at The White Hart

May - May Day Breakfast 2nd May

June - Afternoon Tea at the Rectory 13th June

Coffee Morning at the Memorial Hall 17th June

July - Fair Day 8th July

Tamar Valley Male Voice Choir 25th July

NEW - Chatty Café scheme. On the first Friday of the month 10.45-12noon at the Meet 'n' Great Cafe (11 Fore Street, Holsworthy) there will be a 'Chatter & Natter' table with free biscuits and tea and coffee for a £1, (full menu also available). If you know of anyone who might like a bit of company, young or old

then do tell them about the scheme, or even bring them along. First one is on Friday 6th March. More information on www.thechattycafescheme.co.uk

The Friend's of Holsworthy Parish Church St Peter's Monthly Jackpot Draw

The winners of the Draw, drawn on 20th February were –

1st Prize, £27.50 – ticket number 120, D from Church Lane

2nd Prize, £5.50 – ticket number 117, Karen from Glebe Meadow

You can still purchase a ticket and join in for the next months price of the ticket to be included in the March draw is £1.

Please speak to Helen Narborough our treasurer or a member of the PCC if you would like to purchase a ticket.

The Friend's of Holsworthy Parish Church St Peter's Monthly Jackpot Draw

A message from Helen Narborough, our Treasurer

It is time to renew your membership of the St Peter's Monthly Jackpot Draw for 2020/21. The cost of renewal for the coming year is only £12.00.

Please put £12.00 cash or a cheque in an envelope and give it to the person that you originally purchased your ticket from. Or drop the envelope into - Lyndhurst, North Road, Holsworthy (next door to Bodmeyrick Nursing Home), or - The Rectory, Bodmin Street, Holsworthy

Alternatively you can bring your envelope to me at the coffee morning in the Memorial Hall on Wednesday, 11th March.

Please make sure that the envelope is marked with your name, telephone number and ticket number, if you have it. Cheques to be made payable to 'PCC of Holsworthy Parish Church'

In the past year we have given away over £360.00 in prizes.

If you are not a member of the Jackpot Draw already and would like to take part, please contact me on 01409 253868.

Thank you for supporting Holsworthy Parish Church.

St. Petroc, Hollacombe

by Margaret Stacey

As our February Evensong had been cancelled our first & only service for the month was on Sunday 16th when we were very privileged to welcome Rev Stuart Wilson & his wife Margaret, to Hollacombe for his first service since his recent bout of illness. As always, Stuart gave us a cracking

sermon & led our communion service. Thank you so much Stuart, we look forward to having you again when you feel able.



Canon Tim Newcombe is scheduled to come for our next Sunday H.C. Service on 15th March at 9.30am

Before then we hope to host The Guild of Servants of the Sanctuary, North Devon area Holy Communion service on Friday 13th March in the evening.

I have been to a few of these services in the past & found them very uplifting. I do not have the time at the moment but please keep an eye on the Benefice timetable. All are welcome, refreshments served afterwards.

We were delighted to pray for Mary (nee Kellaway) & Fernley Chidley during our February Holy Communion service, they were married at Hollacombe Church on Feb 4th 1950. The family had fondly remembered them with a tribute on Mary's parents grave in the churchyard. It would have been their 70th anniversary.

Services in March

Sunday 1st March 3pm Evensong

Friday 13th March The Guild of Servants of the Sanctuary, North Devon area Service. Please see later notices

Sunday 15th March 9.30am Holy Communion. Book of Common Prayer service.

Weds 25th March 2.30am Benefice Stations of the Cross.

Services in April

Sunday 5th April 3pm Evensong

Sunday 19th April 9.30am Holy Communion. Book of Common Prayer service.

At the moment we do not have an Easter Day Service. Please watch further notices

General News from The Parish Pump

Joy 2020 Thursday 5th to Sunday 8th March Bishop in Mission.

Bishop's Robert, Nick and Jackie will be spending 4 days in north Devon including a service at Rosemoor at 3pm on Sunday 8th. All will be welcome. Further details are available on leaflets in our churches..



Holsworthy Methodist Church Thursday Group Programme 2020



- March 12th "OLD LAUNCESTON" Rob Tremain
- March 26th "THE MARATIME ISLANDS" John & Stella Burnard
- April 9th "MAUNDY THURDAY COMMUNION" Clive Smale
- April 23rd "A GAMES EVENING" Sylvia Simpson
- May 7th "MY VISIT TO JAPAN" Christine Williams
- May 21st AGM Followed by Hilary Vivian

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



We are holding a **Coffee Morning in the Schoolroom at Bodmin Street on Saturday March 7th, 9.30am to 12 noon**, all proceeds to the Alzheimer's Society for Dementia Action Week. It is a charity very close to our hearts, and we're hoping for a good result, I would be very grateful indeed, Thank you very much, Doreen Buckingham.

Breath of Fresh Air Lung Support Group

March 18th at Chilsworthy Village Hall 2pm Breath of Fresh Air lung support group are meeting and have guest speaker **Steve Lock** coming from Appledore to talk about "**Tales from the River Bank**". Steve was brought up in Appledore and has spent much of his life on the water.

He is now a great ambassador for Gig Rowing and has been to several countries, teaching people how to row. A very amusing and interesting talk to look forward to

April 15th at Chilsworthy Village Hall at 2pm Breath of Fresh Air lung support group meeting with guest speaker **Dr Al-Doori**, retired GP who is coming to talk about the relatively new group in Holsworthy which is **The Man Shed**. We look forward to hearing about this project from him and one or two members who attend.

Further details available from Wendy Millar Group Leader on 01409 254085.

Major expansion of science education planned for ministry training

Grants to provide opportunities to learn about cutting-edge science for people training for the priesthood in the Church of England are to be made available as part of a £3.4 million project aimed at transforming the relationship between science and faith.

Theological colleges and courses will be encouraged to bid for funds to help integrate discussion on science-related subjects into existing theological studies in the latest phase of the Equipping Christian Leadership in an Age of Science (ECLAS) project.

Organisers hope that up to half of all people training for ordained ministry will eventually benefit from sessions where they have an opportunity to discuss topics such as Artificial Intelligence and the questions it raises for society. This will be funded by the project, run by the Universities of Durham and York in partnership with the Church of England.

Under the plans, the project will also provide more conferences for senior church leaders and clergy on areas of scientific interest.

The Bishop of Kingston, Richard Cheetham, said: “This project has transformative potential. I can see it contributing to the shaping of a future generation of church leaders who enjoy science and are unafraid of complexity, fully prepared to engage in conversation with the pressing questions raised by cutting edge research.”

Bishop sets out to change inquest law to expose scale of gambling role in suicide

The Bishop of St Albans, Dr Alan Smith, has set out to change the law on inquests to help reveal the full extent of the link between gambling and suicide for the first time.

Bishop Alan, who has played a leading role in a series of high-profile efforts to limit gambling-related harms, wants coroners to record gambling addiction among the circumstances in which someone has taken their own life.

He has introduced a Private Members’ Bill to the House of Lords which would make a simple change to the coroners’ rules requiring them to consider whether gambling addiction has been a factor.

The information the change would reveal could “shock policy makers from their complacency”, he said.

The Coroners (Determination of Suicide) Bill 2020, received its first reading in the House of Lords in mid-January.

Bishop Alan said: “I have introduced this common-sense piece of legislation so the Government can begin to get a handle on the consequences of gambling-related harm. “I have met far too many families whose lives have been destroyed by the loss of a loved one, often young adults who have their entire lives ahead of them.

“As there is no accurate, up-to-date, data linking gambling with suicide, their desire to get the Government to take action has often been stymied. “This Bill would change that. For the first time we would have annually available, accurate records showing gambling as a cause in every suicide in the country.

“I expect the first data-set will shock policy makers from their complacency.

“Campaigners estimate two suicides every working day of the year are linked to gambling, while the Government and the industry cites lack of data as a reason for making slow progress in reducing harm.”

Bishop welcomes credit card gambling ban

The Bishop of St Albans, Dr Alan Smith, has welcomed an announcement from the Gambling Commission that consumers will no longer be able to use credit cards to gamble from April 2020.

“This marks a significant step in progressive policy-making, reducing the risks to gamblers,” he said. For too long people have been vulnerable through gambling with money they don’t have, using credit cards, additionally incurring the costs of borrowing alongside any losses.

“I have been calling for this change as consultation turned into consultation, while gamblers were facing the consequences of delay.

“Putting down a Private Member's Bill in the last Parliament seemed like the last option and I was delighted when both the Government and Labour pledged to deliver a ban on credit card gambling.

“However, this is no more than a tweak to gambling legislation and regulation. Fundamental reform is needed if we are to ever make significant progress for the hundreds of thousands affected by gambling-related harm.”

The Bishop of St Albans previously helped lead the campaign to reduce the maximum stake on Fixed Odds Betting Terminals, and pushed for a ban on gambling with credit cards in a Private Member's Bill, which was subsequently incorporated into the Government’s manifesto pledges.

The man who invented self-raising flour

Henry Jones, a baker from Bristol, was granted a patent for his invention of self-raising flour 175 years ago, on 17th March 1845.

Jones was born in Monmouth, Wales, but he established a bakery in Broadmead, Bristol. His formula for making self-raising flour – essentially a process of baking without yeast – was granted a patent in 1845, and by the end of 1846 it was a runaway success, and he was soon supplying patent flour and biscuits to Queen Victoria.

He was granted a patent in the USA in 1849, and in 1852 the first gold medal for the new flour was issued to a Chicago firm using the Bristol formula, but his greatest opponent was the British Admiralty. Jones pointed out in detail and at length the benefits to seamen of using the new flour instead of the hard biscuits

they were used to, and he received a great deal of support from individual captains and many prominent people.

But it was not until 1855, when his flour was used in the Crimean War – partly at the request of Florence Nightingale – and was so effective in saving lives and improving food supplies, that it got the grudging acceptance of the Admiralty.

World Water Day – 22nd March

This year, it is all about water and climate change – and how the two are linked. There is a website offering good ideas and resources if you would like to join in. Please go to: <https://www.worldwaterday.org/>

Eating Disorders Awareness Week - 2nd – 8th March

A staggering 1.25 million people in the UK are living with an eating disorder. And every one of them is affecting other people by that disorder. In fact, it is reckoned that as many as five million of us in the UK are struggling to help someone whom we care about, who has an eating disorder.

If you know anyone with an eating disorder, or if you have an eating disorder, there is a website may help. Please go to: <https://www.beateatingdisorders.org.uk/edaw>

Late bloomers

Are you crossing life's milestones later than your grandparents and even parents did? Not to worry – you are not alone.

The office for National Statistics has recently revealed that for many of us, life's milestones are happening later. We are marrying, buying our first homes, becoming parents, divorcing, becoming grandparents, and retiring later than ever.

Some examples:

Giving birth: In 1999: 29 years. In 2018: 31 years.

Getting divorced:

In 1998: men, 40.4; women, 37.9. In 2018: men 46.9; women 44.5

Becoming grandparents: In 2009/10: 60.1 In 2017/18: 63

Stopping work: In 1999: men 63.2; women 60.8 In 2019: men 65.3; women 64.3

If you are older, here's a great bit of news: men and women aged 65-74 are happier than any other age group. (Those aged 40-50 are least happy.)

Garden trends for 2020

What plans do you have for your garden this year? Probably you will slow down on the digging, and maybe try making some mud pies by your new bee hotel instead. These are among the predictions of The Royal Horticultural Society (RHS).

The RHS reports a growing desire among gardeners to keep their soil healthy by adopting a 'no dig' philosophy, which limits damage to soil structure and wildlife.

As for mud pies, the RHS hopes that more parents will tempt their children into the garden to enjoy themselves with simple fun, and also to enjoy the benefits of soil bacteria on their immune system.

As for bee hotels, they are just one of many ways in which we can take positive steps towards helping nature. Gardens need to be a bit less tidy, with seed heads left for the birds to eat, fallen logs left for the hedgehogs and beetles to sleep in, and piles of dead grass and weeds for our woodlice and other small crawlies. Gardens also need simple ponds, and plants for pollinators. Clipped shrubs, manicured lawns and pesticides do not help at all.

As Guy Barter, RHS chief horticulturalist says: "There's a rising tide of concern about the environment.... In the garden at least we can have some control. Now we are all wildlife gardeners, helping songbirds, helping beetles and woodlice."

What's in your child's lunchbox?

Ten years ago, too many children's lunch boxes contained processed ham sandwiches and packets of crisps. Sadly, today, little has changed.

A recent study at Leeds University has found that the majority of lunchboxes still fall well below nutritional standards. Only one in five include any vegetables or salad. Less than one per cent have sandwiches with plant-based fillings, such as hummus. There is a drop in minerals and vitamins such as A, C and zinc. Even the bread is less healthy: as wholemeal gives way to tortillas and wraps.

But one public health information officer points out, "given the choice of unhealthy food and drinks that are often marketed as 'family packs' or 'good for lunch boxes', it is hardly surprising that busy parents go for these options."

Benefice Services for March - <http://www.holsworthybenefice.org.uk>

	Bridgerule	Hollacombe	Holsworthy	Pancrasweek	Pyworthy
1st Mar	11.15am Sung Eucharist	3pm Sung BCP Evensong	9.30am Sung Eucharist		9.30am All Age Service
8th Mar	11.15am Morning Prayer		9.30am Sung Eucharist		11.15am Sung Eucharist
15th Mar	11.15am Sung Eucharist	9.30am Sung BCP Holy Communion	9.30am Sung Eucharist		9.30am Morning Prayer
22nd Mar	11.15am Morning Prayer		9.30am Sung Morning Prayer	9.30am Sung Eucharist	11.15am Sung Eucharist
Wed 25th Mar	2.30pm Benefice Stations of the Cross, Hollacombe				
29th Mar	10am Passion Sunday Benefice Sung Eucharist Pyworthy				
All are welcome at any of the services					

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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God in the Arts

Editor: The Rev Michael Burgess begins a series on animals and birds as seen in art and scripture... this will run throughout 2020.



‘He gave us eyes to see them’: woodcut from Cologne Bible of 1478

The RSPCA was the first national animal welfare society in the world and was founded in 1824 by an Anglican priest, the Revd Arthur Broome. He asked the question, ‘Can the infliction of cruelty on any being which the Almighty has endued with feelings of pain and pleasure consist with genuine and true benevolence?’

This month we focus on the story of Balaam and his donkey in Numbers 22. Balaam has not heeded God’s will, and as he journeys, an angel bars his way. Balaam cannot see the angel, but his donkey can. Three times the animal turns away. Three times he is beaten by his owner, and eventually the donkey asks, ‘Why are you beating me when I have served you faithfully?’ Balaam’s eyes are opened: he sees the angel and his heart repents.

This story is captured in a vivid woodcut from the Cologne Bible of 1478. It was a translation into Low German and enhanced by colourful illustrations. We can see Balaam on his donkey in the countryside. He has raised his hand to strike, unaware that the donkey has seen the angel of God. As we look and ponder this story, we can remember that cruelty and abuse mark out life today with children, vulnerable adults, and all creatures great and small. The donkey calls us to think of how we treat creation around us.

Donkeys can be stubborn, but they are also signs of humility, patience and hard work. It might be Dapple with Sancho Panza in the story of Don Quixote, or Tim Moore travelling the camino with his donkey in ‘Spanish Steps.’ And in the Gospels, we recall the donkey in the Christmas story and the donkey that bore Jesus into Jerusalem on the first Palm Sunday. We celebrate that day next month: the humble donkey sharing in the triumph of that entry, just as he shares with all animals in the wonder of creation. G K Chesterton’s poem reminds us that the donkey may be starved, scourged and derided, but he had that special hour of glory. ‘There was a shout about my ears and palms before my feet.’

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March 2020 – 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 why pews are better than chairs

The Rectory
St James the Least

Mr dear Nephew Darren

This year, the rigours of Lent have taken second place to a far more pressing matter: the installation of a lavatory at St James the Least of All.

Personally, I entirely disapprove of this additional sign of decadence in our moral fibre; we have survived perfectly happily for the last 800 years without one, so why is there such an urgent need now? And being surrounded by acres of fields, there seems to be a completely acceptable alternative.

It also spoils the pleasure I used to take, informing ushers at weddings, having liberally refreshed themselves at our local pub before the Service, that we have no facilities and that they would just have to wait. Their look of pained resignation, developing to clear signs of repentance as the Service progressed, was most cheering. It also meant that wedding parties did not linger after the Service but disappeared with commendable speed to safe havens.

I anticipate that now we have the thing, a sub-committee will form to devise a commissioning Service for the person who will be in charge of its maintenance. I can already foresee Lady Bartlett proposing an appropriate set of robes for the office holder – although it will need some tact to select suitable insignia on the sleeves.

In fact, the project has not been entirely successful; we still need to have a lock fitted and so at present, occupants have been advised to sing hymns loudly. A hymn book has been installed as an aide memoire.

The greater difficulty arises from our antiquated plumbing system. A member of the congregation can leave a Service perfectly discreetly; they can enter the lavatory unseen by anyone, but on flushing, water is drawn through pipes running the length of the inside of the building with a thunderous roar.

I am sure that in your worship centre you will have lavish cloakrooms furnished with colour co-ordinated walls and towels, baby-changing facilities and video monitors relaying everything going on in the service. But we are made of sterner stuff, and I maintain that our congregation should be grateful that they now have a lavatory at all. And to think that someone suggested it should even have heating!

Your loving uncle, *Eustace*



"I think I've finally become fully accepted here. After 25 years, the villagers have stopped calling me, The new incumbent!"



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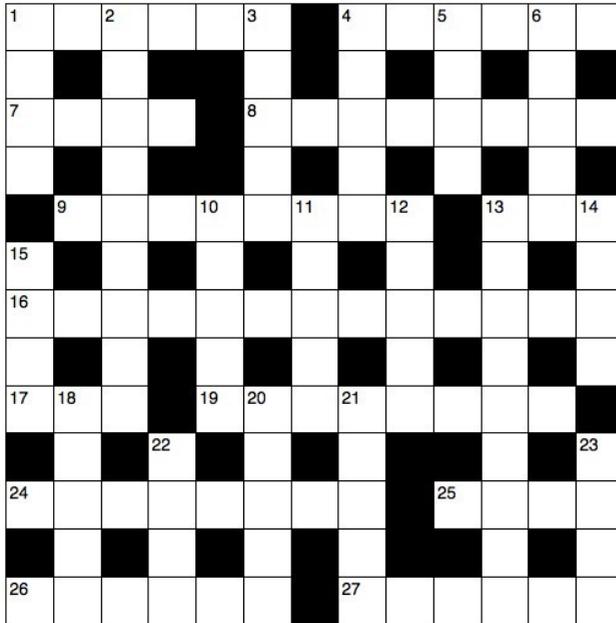
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Please email the editor for details

The Puzzle Pages March 2019 Crossword

(The solution to this crossword puzzle can be found on page 28)



Across

- 1 The earth is one (6)
- 4 'On a hill far away stood an old — cross' (6)
- 7 'I am the — vine and my Father is the gardener' (John 15:1) (4)
- 8 The Caesar who was Roman Emperor at the time of Jesus' birth(Luke 2:1) (8)
- 9 'Your — should be the same as that of Christ Jesus'(Philippians 2:5) (8)
- 13 Jesus said that no one would put a lighted lamp under this(Luke 8:16) (3)
- 16 Involvement (1

Corinthians 10:16) (13)

- 17 Armed conflict (2 Chronicles 15:19) (3)
- 19 Where the Gaderene pigs were feeding (Mark 5:11) (8)
- 24 What jeering youths called Elisha on the road to Bethel (2 Kings 2:23) (8)
- 25 The Venerable — , eighth-century Jarrow ecclesiastical scholar (4)
- 26 8 Across issued a decree that this should take place (Luke 2:1) (6)
- 27 Come into prominence (Deuteronomy 13:13) (6)

Down

- 1 Where some of the seed scattered by the sower fell (Matthew 13:4) (4)
- 2 Sexually immoral person whom God will judge (Hebrews 13:4) (9)
- 3 Gospel leaflet (5)
- 4 Physical state of the boy brought to Jesus for healing (Mark 9:18)
- 5 Tugs (anag.) (4)
- 6 To put forth (5)
- 10 Nationality associated with St Patrick (5)
- 11 Leader of the descendants of Kohath (1 Chronicles 15:5) (5)
- 12 'After this, his brother came out, with his hand grasping — heel' (Genesis 25:26) (5)
- 13 At Dothan the Lord struck the Arameans with — at Elisha's request (2 Kings 6:18) (9)

- 14 'Peter, before the cock crows today, you will — three times that you know me' (Luke22:34) (4)
- 15 Spit out (Psalm 59:7) (4)
- 18 'When I — , I am still with you' (Psalm 139:18) (5)
- 20 Concepts (Acts 17:20) (5)
- 21 Thyatira's dealer in purple cloth (Acts 16:14) (5)
- 22 Does (anag.) (4)
- 23 The second set of seven cows in Pharaoh's dream were this (Genesis 41:19) (4)

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

March 2019 Sudoku (Solution on page 28)

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*Mary wished she'd never mentioned
Fresh Expressions of Church*

All in the Month of March

It was:

200 years ago, on 10th March 1820 that the Royal Astronomical Society was founded in Britain.

175 years ago, on 17th March 1845 that one Henry Jones, a baker from Bristol, was granted a patent for his invention of self-raising flour.

100 years ago, on 25th March 1920 that the British special constables known as the 'Black and Tans' arrived in Ireland to suppress revolution and target the IRA.

90 years ago, on 12th March 1930 that Indian political spiritual leader Mahatma Gandhi led 78 activists and followers on a 23-day 'salt march' to protest against a British tax on salt and British rule in India. On 5th April he reached the sea and made salt, breaking British law. On 4th May he was arrested and imprisoned.

80 years ago, on 18th March 1940 that Adolf Hitler and Benito Mussolini met at Brenner Pass in the Alps. The Italian dictator agreed to join Germany's war against France and Britain.

75 years ago, on 22nd March 1945 that the Arab League was founded (as the League of Arab States).

70 years ago, on 8th March 1950 that Volkswagen launched the Type 2/Transporter van – also known as the Camper, Bus, microbus or Kombi. It became the best-selling van in history, and early versions remain much-loved icons of the counterculture/hippie movement.

60 years ago, on 21st March 1960 that the Sharpeville Massacre, South Africa, took place. Police opened fire on a group of black anti-apartheid demonstrators, killing 69 and wounding 180.

50 years ago, on 5th March 1970 that the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons came into effect.

40 years ago, on 21st March 1980 that in the TV soap opera Dallas, the character J R Ewing was shot by an unseen assailant. This led to the famous catchphrase 'Who shot J.R.?' The answer (Kristin Shepard) was revealed that November.

Also 40 years ago, on 24h March 1980 that Oscar Romero, the Archbishop of San Salvador, was shot dead by a lone gunman as he celebrated Mass.

30 years ago, on 31st March 1990 that poll tax riots in London broke out. 200,000 protestors took to the streets and clashed with police. Violence and looting erupted, leading to the worst riots in the city for a century.

25 years ago, on 20th March 1995 that a terrorist group released sarin nerve gas on the Tokyo underground, killing 12 people and injuring over 5,000.

15 years ago, on 11th March 2005 that the Nintendo DS portable video games console was released in Europe.

Also 15 years ago, on 26th March 2005 that the science fiction TV series *Doctor Who* returned after a 16-year break.

High Days and Holy Days in March

8 March - Felix of Burgundy: apostle to East Anglia

East Anglia is blessed with a rich Christian heritage. Just two examples: at more than 650, Norfolk has the greatest concentration of ancient churches in the world, and at 500, Suffolk has the second greatest density of medieval churches. And that is not to mention all the churches in Cambridgeshire, Essex, Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire...

And it all began with one man, back in 630 A.D., a bishop named Felix. His name in Latin means 'successful' and 'happy' – an excellent description of someone who brought great good and stability to this beautiful corner of England.

Felix came from Burgundy in France. At some point he was consecrated bishop, and went to Canterbury, to see Honorius, the Archbishop of Canterbury. In 630 the Christian king Sigebert returned from exile in Gaul to rule the East Angles, and Honorius sent Felix along with him, to evangelise the people. According to local legend, Felix went by boat, and arrived at Bablingey in Norfolk.

Felix may well have known Sigebert back in Gaul, for the two men worked exceptionally well together. Sigebert settled Felix in Dunwich, which became the centre of his diocesan 'see'. Then, with the support of Sigebert, Felix set up the first-ever school in East Anglia. He brought teachers up from Canterbury to staff it, and the school became, according to Bede, the place "where boys could be taught letters".

Felix had a fruitful ministry to the Anglo Saxons for 17 years. He preached Christianity, encouraged the school to grow, and did a lot of other good. All in all, Felix brought the love of God, the good news of Jesus, and the comfort of the Holy Spirit, delivering "all the province of East Anglia from long-standing unrighteousness and unhappiness," according to Bede. Certainly, the people came to love Felix.

When Felix finally died on 8th March 647 or 648, he left the Christian faith firmly embedded in East Anglia. Six ancient English churches are dedicated to Felix, and Felixstowe bears his patronage.

20 March – Cuthbert: beloved monk and bishop of Lindisfarne

Cuthbert of Lindisfarne (c 634-87) has long been northern England's favourite saint. It is easy to see why: Cuthbert was holy, humble, peaceable, prayerful, faithful in friendship, winsome, and really kind.

Cuthbert was born into a fairly well-off Anglo-Saxon family, and became a monk at Melrose in 651. He and another monk, Eata, were sent to start a monastery at Ripon, but Alcfrith, who owned the land, insisted that they adopt the Roman customs, which Cuthbert's Celtic church did not allow. So Cuthbert and Eata quietly returned to Melrose, where Cuthbert became prior in about 661. Then came the Synod of Whitby in 663/4, and the Celtic Church formally decided to adopt the Roman Customs. After this, Cuthbert was sent on to Lindisfarne as prior, where he sensitively introduced the new ways, and won over the monks there.

Cuthbert was very much loved at Lindisfarne. His zeal was evident in his constant preaching, teaching, and visiting of the people. He was also said to have gifts of prophecy and healing. Occasionally, Cuthbert reached 'people overload'. Then he would retreat to a tiny islet called Inner Farne, where he could pray in total seclusion. When, to his horror, he was told he had been made Bishop of Hexham, he immediately 'swapped' sees with Eata, and stayed on at Lindisfarne as Bishop. Sadly, Cuthbert died on little Inner Farne, only two years later, on 20 March, 687.

Cuthbert was buried at Lindisfarne, but that is not the end of his story. For it was only now that his travels began. After the Vikings destroyed Lindisfarne in 875, several monks dug him up and set out to find Cuthbert a final, and safe, resting place. For the next 120 years Cuthbert was deposited in various monasteries around the north of England and southwest Scotland. Finally, in 999, Cuthbert was allowed to rest in Durham, where a Saxon church was built over his shrine.

All that travel must have done him good; when his body was exhumed to be put into the 'new' Norman Cathedral in Durham in 1104, it was said to be still in perfect tact, and 'incorrupt'.

Mothering Sunday: 4th Sunday in Lent

There is an old Jewish saying: *God could not be everywhere, and therefore He made mothers.*

Mother Church, Mother Earth, Mother of the Gods - our human mothers - all of them have been part of the celebration of 'Mothering Sunday' - as the fourth Sunday in Lent is affectionately known. It has been celebrated in the UK since at least the 16th century.

In Roman times, great festivals were held every Spring to honour Cybele, Mother of all the Gods. Other pagan festivals in honour of Mother Earth were also celebrated. With the arrival of Christianity, the festival became one honouring Mother Church.

During the Middle Ages, young people apprenticed to craftsmen or working as 'live-in' servants were allowed only one holiday a year on which to visit their families - which is how 'Mothering Sunday' got its name. This special day became a day of family rejoicing, and the Lenten fast was broken. In some places the day was called Simnel Day, because of the sweet cakes called simnel cakes traditionally eaten on that day.

In recent years the holiday has changed and in many ways now resembles the American Mother's Day, with families going out to Sunday lunch and generally making a fuss of their mother on the day.

27 March - Rupert the salty

Rupert is the saint for you if you like The Sound of Music – or salt with your food!

Rupert (d c 710) was bishop of Worms and Salzburg, and it was he who founded the great monastery of St Peter in Salzburg in the eighth century, thus firmly establishing Christianity in that city. True, it would be another 11 centuries before a certain young wanna-be-nun wandered about singing of her 'Favourite Things' and 'Something Good', but you have to start somewhere.

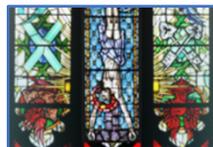
In the meantime, Rupert also helped the people of Salzburg by developing the salt-mines nearby. This was 'something good' as well, because it brought in an income.

Though if salt became a too 'favourite thing', it would also have raised the locals' blood pressure.

Rupert's iconographical emblem is a barrel of salt, which makes sense, but is not as romantic as raindrops on roses, or whiskers on kittens.

Holsworthy Benefice Website

We have recently added a link on the Home page to the Church of England's Daily Prayer pages. Whilst also adding a link into our Links page on the website I was surprised to see that our site has now been used 22,164 times to access the NRSV online bible. That's a lot of bible reading.



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. Richard Freeman (Bradworthy Benefice)	01409 241315
CAB (Citizen's Advice Bureau) (Weekdays 9.30 am – 4.00 pm)	02444 111 444
Samaritans	116 123

March 2020 Crossword Solution

March 2020 Sudoku Solution

P	L	A	N	E	T		R	U	G	G	E	D	
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2	7	4	5	8	6	3	1	9
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