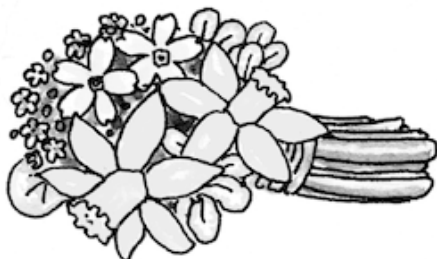


The United Benefice of St. Peter's, Caverswall with
St. Andrew's, Weston Coyney and All Saints, Dilhorne

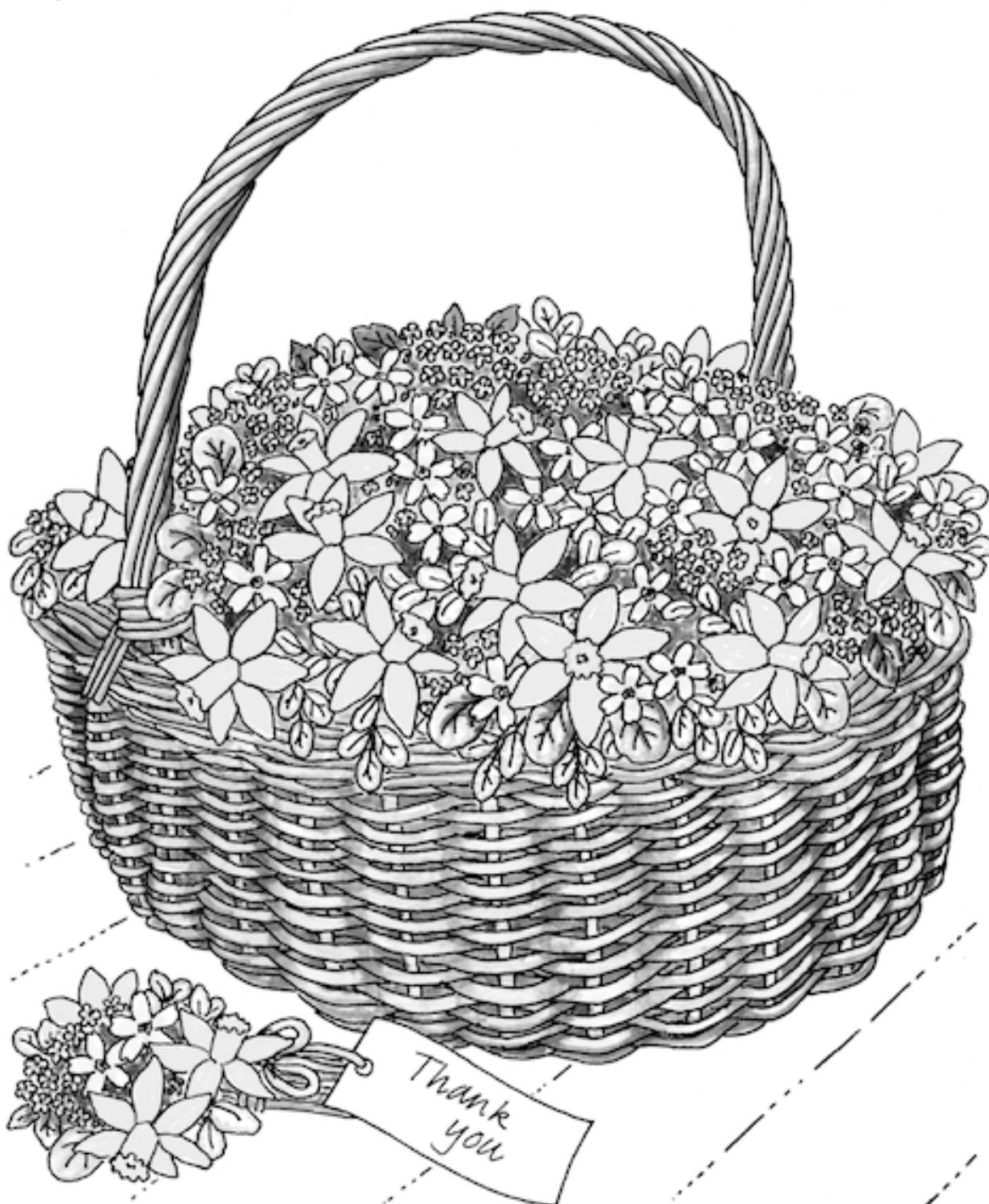
Caverswall, Dilhorne & Weston Coyney Post

Magazine: 50p each or £5 per year

March 2012



March 2012



A Word from the Curate



Revd Linda Lucking

Dear Parishioners,

Jesus said, "Which of these three do you think was a neighbour to the man who fell into the hands of robbers?"

The one who showed mercy.

Go and do likewise."

(Luke 10: 36-37)

The familiar story of the Good Samaritan came alive for me recently. I was travelling back home with Paul and my son Alex, having spent the day in Sheffield celebrating our grandson's 2nd birthday. Snow began falling several hours before we began our journey home, so we decided to take the longer route via the motorway. The road conditions were bad, and the journey took much longer than usual, but we thought we were on the home strait when we saw the '10 miles to Stoke' sign. Then all the traffic suddenly came to a halt, and we sat in the same spot for an hour. A man walked past, and said he'd heard that the tailback stretched all the way back to Stoke. There had been an accident, and the

road had been closed for hours. It was not likely to open for a while. It looked like it was going to be a very long, cold night.

We decided to leave the car and walk to a nearby hotel, to see if we could use their toilets and perhaps get a hot drink. As we entered the hotel, a friendly receptionist greeted us and asked if we were stranded. We said yes, and she said something like, "Come in, make yourselves at home. Sorry we can't offer you a room - we've already given them all out to families with small children. But we're leaving the restaurant open all night for anyone else who's stranded - we'll give you some blankets and pillows, and tea and coffee, and you can stay all night if necessary. At least its warm and dry here!" Compared to the prospect of spending the night in the car, her offer seemed very inviting. Needless to say, we accepted, along with some 50 others who had already camped out in the restaurant. The staff, who should have gone off duty at midnight, stayed there all night to serve us and never stopped smiling. They even turned the heating up so we wouldn't get cold! The road eventually opened at 5am, but they said we could stay until morning if we wanted to. We eventually left at around 9am.

How much did the hotel charge for this extraordinary hospitality? Not one penny! They are part of a national chain, with premises all over the country, and are primarily in the business of making a profit. Yet in our hour of need, they made absolutely no attempt to profit from our misfortune. Their decision to help us was not just a case of the staff following company policy either - in many ways, they were breaking all the rules. They did it, simply because they could. And their kindness and generosity transformed the experience for all of us, from something that could have been very unpleasant, into something which was memorable for all the right reasons.

It was also a powerful reminder of the story of the Good Samaritan, and the fact that God works not only in the Church, but in the world, wherever he finds people who are willing to do the *right* thing. We can all try to be good neighbours, but there are also times when we all NEED a good neighbour. So who is our neighbour? The one who does the will of God, whenever we find ourselves in need in the world. Thank God for those people.

Linda Lucking





**All Welcome to join us for
Parish Prayers and Mid-Week Communion**
Parish Communion: Wednesdays, 10am - 11am

Parish Prayers: Sundays, 6pm - 7pm & Thursdays, 9.30am - 10.30am
All held at St. Andrew's during term-time. All Welcome!

Holiday note - Please note that Thursday Parish Prayers will break for Easter on Thursday 22nd March, Sunday Parish Prayers on Sunday 25th March and Wednesday Parish Communion on Wednesday 28th March, re-starting on Sunday 15th April onwards.

If you would like anyone or any situation to be prayed for at Parish Prayers, or if you would like any names to be added to the monthly prayer diary, please contact the Parish Office.



Life Groups

Life Groups will begin meeting again on Tuesday 17th April, following the Lent Course (see page 7) and the Easter Holidays. Please continue to use the Bible Study notes (blank copies available from the Parish Office if required).

St. Andy's 4 Points Club

Meets Wednesdays

7pm to 8.30pm at St. Andrew's.

Age 10 - 16 (Y6 to Y11). £1 entry.

Holiday Note - Please note that St. Andy's 4 Points Club will meet throughout March, then break for Easter (no group to be held on Wednesday 4th or 11th April, re-starting on Wednesday 18th April)



Sunday 18th March - Mothering Sunday Services

10am at St. Andrew's Church, Weston Coyney

10.30am at St. Peter's, Caverswall

10am at All Saints, Dilhorne



Mother's Day



Shared Service between St. Peter's & St. Andrew's

Sunday 25th March, 10am at St. Andrew's

With Di Kruczek from Christians Against Poverty speaking.

A retiring collection will be held for the charity.

The next Shared Service will then be held on

Sunday 22nd April, 10.30am at St. Peter's



Easter Services 2012 - Please join us!



Palm Sunday - Sunday 1st April

10.30am - Open Air Palm Sunday Service at Park Hall Hills

The Salvation Army will be attending to lead worship.

There will be a march from St. Peter's at 9.30am, or join us on the hills for this celebratory service!

6.30pm at St. Filumena's Catholic Church, Caverswall

A joint service with St. Filumena's to mark Palm Sunday

Maundy Thursday - Thursday 5th April

7pm - Holy Communion Service at St. Peter's, Caverswall to remember Christ's last supper

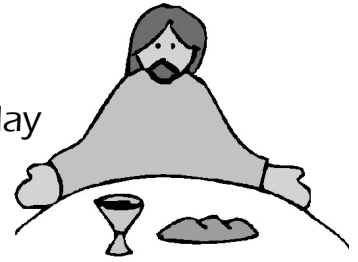
Good Friday - Friday 6th April

12noon to 3pm at St. Peter's, Caverswall

A series of 1 hour meditations to mark the day that Christ was crucified.

1pm to 3pm at All Saints, Dilhorne Church open for private meditations.

7pm to 8pm at St. Andrew's, Weston Coyney - Meditation



Easter Saturday - Saturday 7th April

1.30pm at St. Peter's Church

Full immersion Baptism Service with an opportunity to renew Baptismal vows



Easter Day Services - Sunday 8th April

Celebrating the Risen Christ!

6am SonRise Service at Park Hall Hills

Meet at Park Hall Hills - All Welcome!

St. Peter's Church

8am Traditional Holy Communion

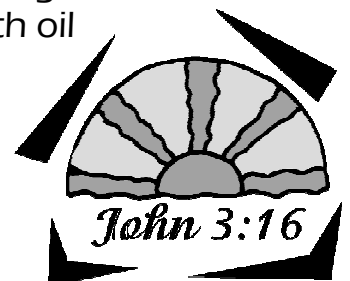
10.30am Holy Communion

St. Andrew's Church

10am Holy Communion with focus on Healing and opportunity for prayer and anointing with oil

All Saints Church

10am Holy Communion by Extension



Please see page 15 for information about this year's Bishop's Lent Appeal, 'To Reach New Generations'

Salvation Army Centre - Easter Collection

If you would like to donate to the Easter collection of women's and men's toiletries for the Salvation Army Life House in Stoke, please bring items such as disposable razors, toothpaste and brushes, soap and deodorants to St. Andrew's and place in the cream bin near the office.

Please do **not** bring any food items on this occasion. *Thank you.*



Open Doors - Tea, Coffee and Cakes!



We warmly welcome you to drop by **St. Andrew's Church at Weston Coyney** for **tea, coffee and cake** during the week of **Monday 26th March to Friday 30th March, between 9.30am to 12.30pm.** Please feel free to come along by yourself, with children, friends or family to have a chat, meet other members of the community or to spend some quiet time in the Church area.

Volunteers are needed to help serve drinks and welcome people. If you can help for a whole session or an hour on one or more of the days, please let the Parish Office or Chris Lomax know. Donations of cakes would also be appreciated - please bring these to the Parish Office.



Full Immersion Baptism Service

with an Opportunity to Renew Baptismal Vows

Easter Saturday, 7th April, 1.30pm at St. Peter's Church



We will be holding a full immersion Baptism on Easter Saturday at St. Peter's Church. If you have not been Baptised and would like to consider being Baptised by full immersion on Easter Saturday, please speak to Reverend Steve or Reverend Linda. All members of the congregation are also welcome to attend to renew their Baptism vows within the service.

Confirmation



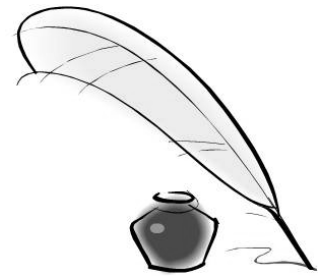
If anyone is interested in being confirmed, please speak to Reverend Steve, Reverend Linda or the office. Confirmations are due to be held on Sunday 8th July 2012 at St. Andrew's (10am service). Preparation classes will be arranged for those who would like to be confirmed.

Flyers for our Easter Services and Open Doors will soon be available - please collect some from Church or the Parish Office to give to family, friends and members of the community. Please keep outreach to the local community in your prayers this Easter.



If you would like to submit an article for the next Magazine, please submit as soon as possible before **Friday 23rd March.**

REGISTERS



FUNERALS

- January 27 Russell Brindley, aged 43
- February 1 Edith Ogen, aged 89 (Burial of ashes)
- February 3 Irene Constance Shenton, aged 91
- February 9 Gordon John Martin, aged 79
- February 10 Roy Reynolds, aged 88
- February 17 Millicent Chell, aged 91

BAPTISMS

- February 19 Hattie Elizabeth Rose Holt

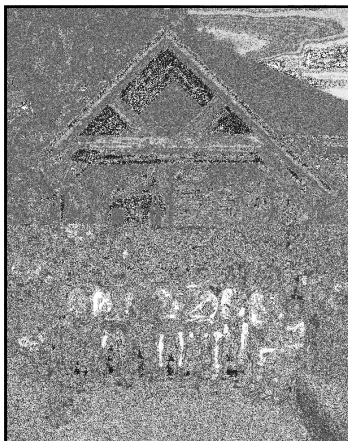


ST. PETER'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND AIDED PRIMARY SCHOOL
SCHOOL LANE, CAVERSWALL, ST11 9EN
 ACTING HEADTEACHER: MRS SUE MOORE, TEL: 01782 393118

I'm very pleased to be able to announce that Mr Christopher Burton will be our new Headteacher in September. He is presently Headteacher at Castle Primary in Mow Cop. When the news was announced after the interviews to the children at St. Peter's they cheered - so it seems we're off to a good start!



Plenty of activities are planned for the children this term including visits to Sudbury Museum of Childhood and the National Space Centre at Leicester, a football tournament at Stoke City FC and a visit to the Synagogue at Newcastle. Rev Steve and Rev Linda often visit the school and the children enjoy seeing them for assemblies and communions throughout the term. We are very grateful for all the volunteers who help at the school - they are always cheerful and are very much part of the school family.



Activities around
Caverswall Village

There are 185 children on roll at present with some places available. If you wish to enquire about places at St Peter's please telephone 01782 393119 or send an email to headteacher@st-peters-caverswall.staffs.sch.uk. It would be lovely to hear from you!

Mrs Sue Moore, Acting Headteacher

Lent Course 2012 - 'Themes for Growth'

A Lent Course will be running from Tuesday 28th February to Tuesday 27th March at St. Andrew's, based upon 'Themes for Growth', the Bishop's Staff's Focus for 2012 in the Diocese of Lichfield. An afternoon and evening session is being held each week. Please see below for the course outline. **All welcome to attend either the afternoon or evening sessions, as suits.**



Course Outline

'Discovering the Heart of God': Tuesday 28th February, 1.30pm or 7.30pm

'Growing Disciples': Tuesday 6th March, 1.30pm or 7.30pm

'Reaching New Generations': Tuesday 13th March, 1.30pm or 7.30pm

'Transforming Communities': Tuesday 20th March, 1.30pm or 7.30pm

'Practising Generosity': Tuesday 27th March, 1.30pm or 7.30pm

Matthew 13 v 31-32: He [Jesus] told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed, which a man took and planted in his field. Though it is the smallest of all your seeds, yet when it grows, it is the largest of garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and perch in its branches."

SERVICES AT ALL SAINTS, DILHORNE

MARCH

Sunday 4 March
10.00 a.m. Family Service

Sunday 11 March
10.00 a.m. Holy Communion

Sunday 18 March
10.00 a.m. Morning Prayer

Sunday 25 March
10.00 a.m. Holy Communion

APRIL

Sunday 1 April - Palm Sunday
10.00 a.m. Family Service

Friday 6 April - Good Friday
1.00 p.m. to 3.00 p.m. Church Open
for private meditation

Sunday 8 April - Easter Day
10.00 a.m. Holy Communion by Extension

Sunday 15 April
10.00 a.m. Morning Prayer & Baptism

Sunday 22 April
10.00 a.m. Holy Communion by Extension

Sunday 29 April
11.00 a.m. Joint Service with Methodist
Churches at Blakeley Lane Methodist Chapel

A Message From Pastor George Irwin

Dear Friends,

Your mistakes are not bigger than God! Jeremiah 29:11 says, "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

Oftentimes, you hear people say, "I've just blown it so many times. I had this major setback. I don't see how I could ever get to where I'm supposed to be."



But we have to realize — our errors aren't that powerful. Our blunders aren't too big for the Lord to set right. He's not up in the heavens shaking His head saying, "I never dreamed they would do that. They've ruined My plan." No, the Father knew every slipup we would ever make. He knew every wrong turn, and He's already prepared a new route. He already has your muddle figured out.

Scripture says that God knows the end from the beginning. If you've made a mess, the Good News is that He has already planned a way to get you back on track! Just come to Him with an open and humble heart. Let Him wash you clean and make you new. Your mistakes aren't bigger than God. He loves you and has a good plan in store for you!

So why not pray, "Father God, thank You for choosing me and accepting me beyond my faults. Thank You that the blood of Jesus cleanses me and makes me new. I invite You to have Your way as I submit every area of my life to You. In Jesus' name. Amen."

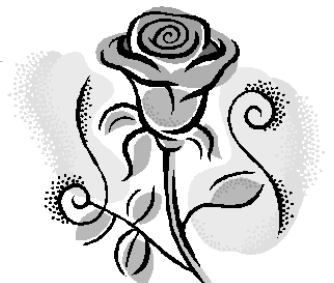
With love,
George & Joyce Irwin

P. S. Over the past month I've had the opportunity to speak at a series of meetings in a church at Delhi and also to teach amongst refugees in Nepal at a short term B School. They were so hungry for the Word of God.

Would you please pray for us especially as in the days ahead I share at two other B Schools – in Dehradun and Lucknow. Thank you very much indeed.

Thank You

Robert Lovatt sends his many thanks for your kindness and the sympathy cards sent following the passing away of his mother, Norah Lovatt, in January.



The Sledge



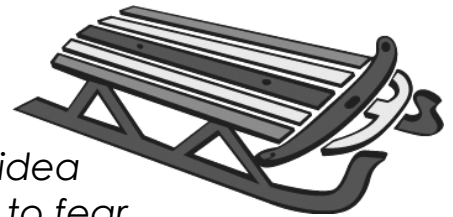
When I awoke the garden was covered white
Mum and Dad said it had snowed a lot last night
Breakfast time was full of stories of long ago
When as children they sledged on hills of snow



Dad disappeared into the garage with determined look
And a plan that he had torn from a woodwork book
The sound of sawing and sanding could be heard
Hammering and banging we did not dare disturb

When at last he proudly emerged with sledge completed
His task he announced had not been defeated
The wood off the side gate had now a better use
All joints cut and fitted tight nothing left loose

Off we went to the local snowy slopes
In search of sledging joy or so we hoped
Crowds of people had shared the same idea
But there was plenty of room so no need to fear



To the top of the hill we dutifully trooped
Sledging down how we shouted and whooped
Repeating the walk to the top then ride down again
Finally stopping when it started to rain

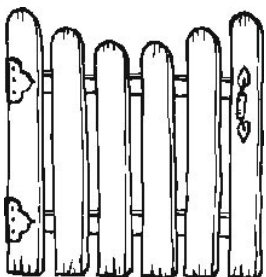


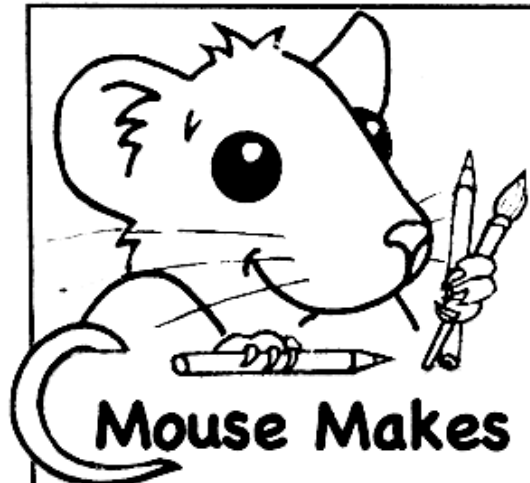
When we got home we discovered with dismay
The dog had made his escape and run away
Squeezing through the cat flap on the back door
Freedom beckoned as the side gate was no more

As it got dark we recognised a cry for help
The bark of our dog or more like a yelp
Hunger had brought him home safe and sound
We opened the door and in he did bound



On the side of the house now hangs the gate
The sledge has been returned to its original state
If it snows again this year it will have to be
The use of a tray that once carried the tea.



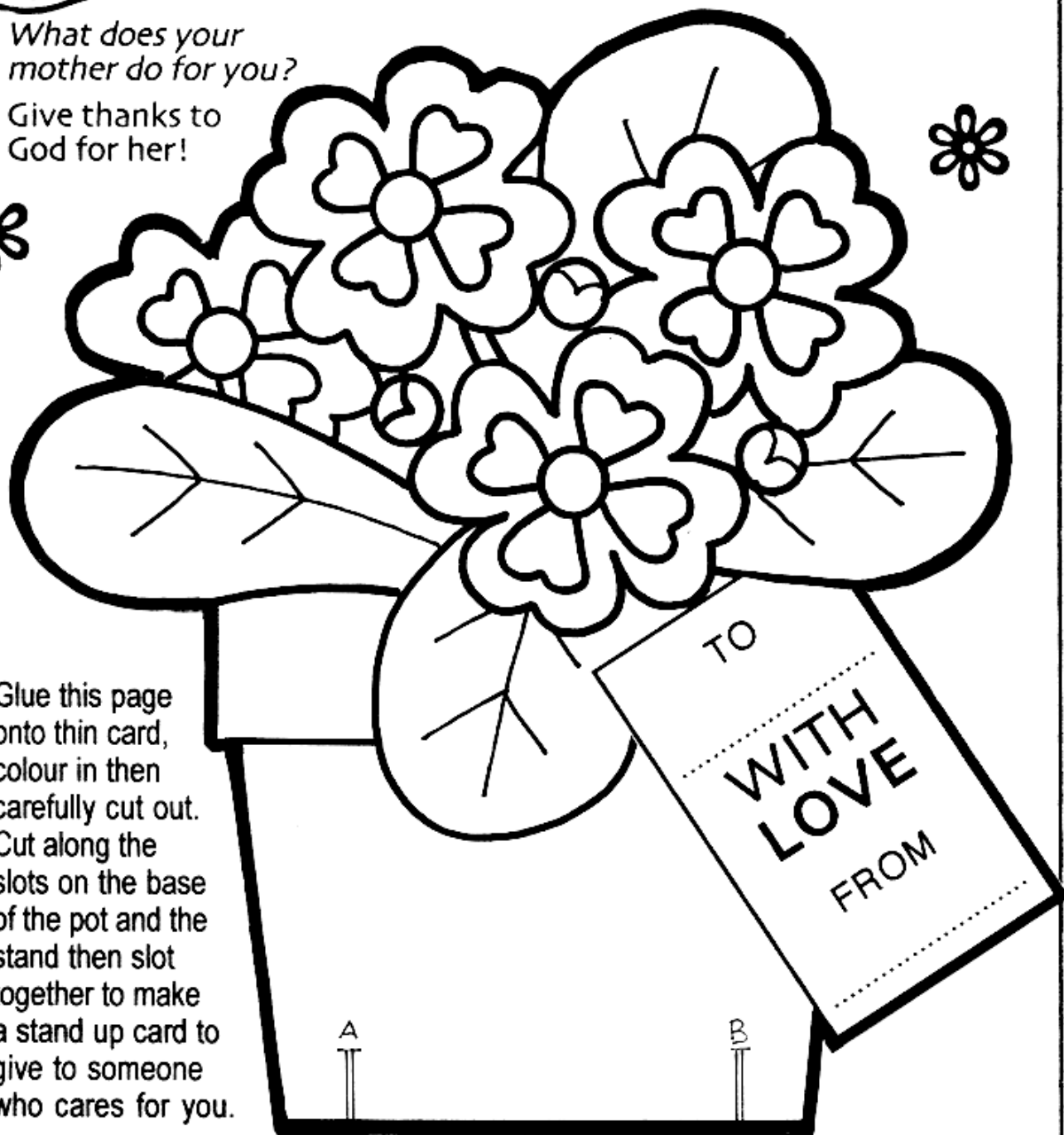


Jesus was **loved** by his mother Mary...
 ...she **cared** for him, **worried**
 about him and **prayed** for him,
 she washed his clothes,
 cooked his food and
hugged him when he cried.

Mary cuddled Jesus when he was
 born, cried when he died and rejoiced
 when he rose from the dead.

*What does your
 mother do for you?*

Give thanks to
 God for her!



Glue this page
 onto thin card,
 colour in then
 carefully cut out.
 Cut along the
 slots on the base
 of the pot and the
 stand then slot
 together to make
 a stand up card to
 give to someone
 who cares for you.

Mar12



THANK YOU

STAND

Ursula Blanchard Ne Katzenellenbogen

Ursula died in December 2011 at the age of 90 at a nursing home near to Skegness.

She came from a Jewish Christian family with a long history. As a result, the family was targeted by the Nazis. She and her brother were got out of Germany two months before the outbreak of the Second World War by a group of Quakers, where she found refuge in Caverswall. She was taken in by the Gower Jones family, which was a life saver for her, being only 17 at the time.

I grew up in Caverswall, knowing Ursula for nearly the first 16 years of my life and have been her friend ever since. She was a wonderful Christian, bringing joy to all she met. She and Lucy (Gower Jones) presented the sick communion set to the Church, which we still have.

I have a lot of information on her life. She thought Caverswall to be a wonderful place. Contact me if you would like to know more.

John Harp



Dilhorne Endowed C.E. (VA) Primary School

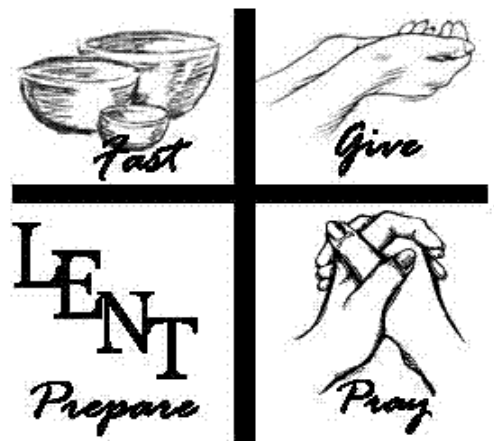
'Growing in faith and learning'

Executive Headteacher: Mr. J. M. Eccles. Godley Lane, Dilhorne, Staffordshire. ST10 2PF

Tel: 01538 723568. E-mail: office@dilhorne.staffs.sch.uk

Our Lenten Promises

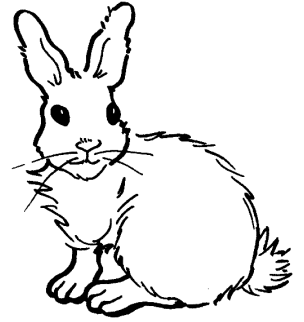
- ◇ I am giving up playing on the Wii for Lent. *Dillon*
- ◇ I am giving up sleeping in James's room for Lent! *Helaina*
- ◇ I'm not going to have as much chocolate as usual. *James W*
- ◇ I am not going to have any crisps. *Rebecca*
- ◇ I am not going to drink lots of tea! *Harry*
- ◇ I am not going to eat as much junk food. *Iona*
- ◇ I am going to stop biting my nails. *Lucy*
- ◇ I am not going to eat crisps. *Charlotte*
- ◇ I will stop eating chocolate. *Jasmine*
- ◇ I am not going to drink all the orange juice! *Matthew*
- ◇ I am not going to eat chocolate. *Koharu*
- ◇ I am not going to eat crisps. *Courtney*
- ◇ I am giving up playing on my Xbox360. *Ewan*
- ◇ I am going to try and give up Coke. *Grant*
- ◇ I am not going to eat too much chocolate. *Holly*
- ◇ I am giving up crisps and chips for Lent. *Mr. Eccles*



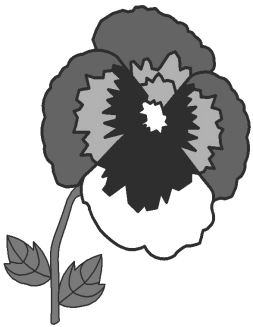
Uncle Jim

Dear Children,

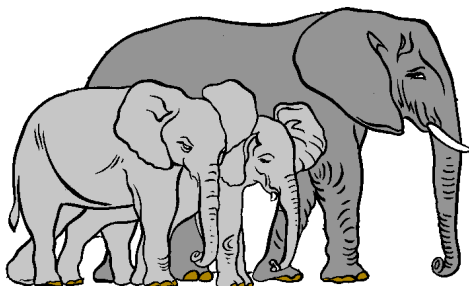
My nieces Imogen and Tilly were very sad one Saturday morning when they went with their Dad to feed their two pet rabbits, Snowy and Ruby. The rabbits lay so still and lifeless that Dad knew something was wrong. When he opened the door of the hutch, he could see that the rabbits had died. As Dad broke the news to Imogen and Tilly, they burst into tears. They had cared for their pets throughout the cold winter and were looking forward to playing with them in the garden again. "Why have they died?" asked Imogen. "I don't really know", said Dad, "Perhaps they caught a virus". "Will they come alive again?" asked three year old Tilly. "No", said Imogen, "We will have to dig a grave and bury them in our garden."



Dad was pleased that Imogen had dried her eyes and was thinking positively about the next stage. "Where do you think we should bury them?" said Dad. Imogen looked around and pointed to a quiet corner of the garden away from the house. The girls watched as Dad tenderly lifted out the rabbits and wrapped them in cloth which Mum had found. Dad then dug a deep hole and laid the rabbits to rest. When he began to replace the soil, Imogen and Tilly ran to fetch their seaside spades and helped him to fill in the hole. Imogen looked around the garden for some flowers. There were some pansies in flower. "Can we put some pansies on the grave?" she asked. "Yes" said Mum, "I will dig a plant up and replant it on the grave, to remind us of our dear little rabbits."



Later in the day Imogen said sadly "We have no pets to care for now." Dad was listening and said "There are still lots of living creatures for you to care for in the garden. Soon our old friend Munch the hedgehog will be awakening from hibernation, wherever he is hiding at the moment! He will be wanting food. Also, your little field mouse friend Buttercup will be running up the bird table again to scrounge a few seeds. You must look out for her, she may have a new family to feed. Also, you can help me to fill the bird feeders and spot any birds".



Every living creature is here on earth for a purpose, from the tiniest insect to the largest mammal, and we must all play our part in caring for them and protecting them. In our country we have two big organisations dedicated to protecting them.

There are 80,000 members in the Royal Society of Wild Life Trusts and many more in the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB). (Children can become members). We also have numerous trained Vets to treat domestic pets and care for "all creatures, great and small". They are all doing God's work in loving and caring for those He has created.



Be kind to your pets! With love from, *Uncle Jim*

MARCH BIBLE READINGS

Sunday 4 March
2nd Sunday of Lent

Romans 4.13-25

Mark 8.31-38

Sunday 11 March
3rd Sunday of Lent

1 Corinthians 1.18-25

John 2.13-22

Sunday 18 March

4th Sunday of Lent / Mothering Sunday

(Mothering Sunday Readings)

2 Corinthians 1.3-7

Luke 2.33-35

Sunday 25 March

5th Sunday of Lent

Hebrews 5.5-10

John 12.20-33



APRIL BIBLE READINGS

Sunday 1 April - Palm Sunday

Isaiah 50.4-9a & Mark 15.1-39 (All Saints) /
Matthew 27: 15-17, 20-31 & 37-50 (Park Hall
Hills Service)

Thursday 5 April - Maundy Thursday

Exodus 12.1-14 & John 13.1-17, 31b-35

Sunday 8 April - Easter Day

Isaiah 25.6-9 & John 20.1-18

Sunday 15 April - 2nd Sunday of Easter

Exodus 14.10-31; 15.20-21 & John 20.19-31

Sunday 22 April - 3rd Sunday of Easter

Zephaniah 3.14-20 & Luke 24.36b-48

Sunday 29 April - 4th Sunday of Easter

Genesis 7.1-5, 11-18; 8.6-18; 9.8-13 &

John 10.11-18

Simplicity

It's a gift to be simple,
it's a gift to be free,
it's a gift to come down
where we ought to be.

And when we see ourselves
in a way that is right,
we live in a valley
of love and delight.

Elder Joseph Brackett (1797-1882)

Submitted by Ruth Barnacle

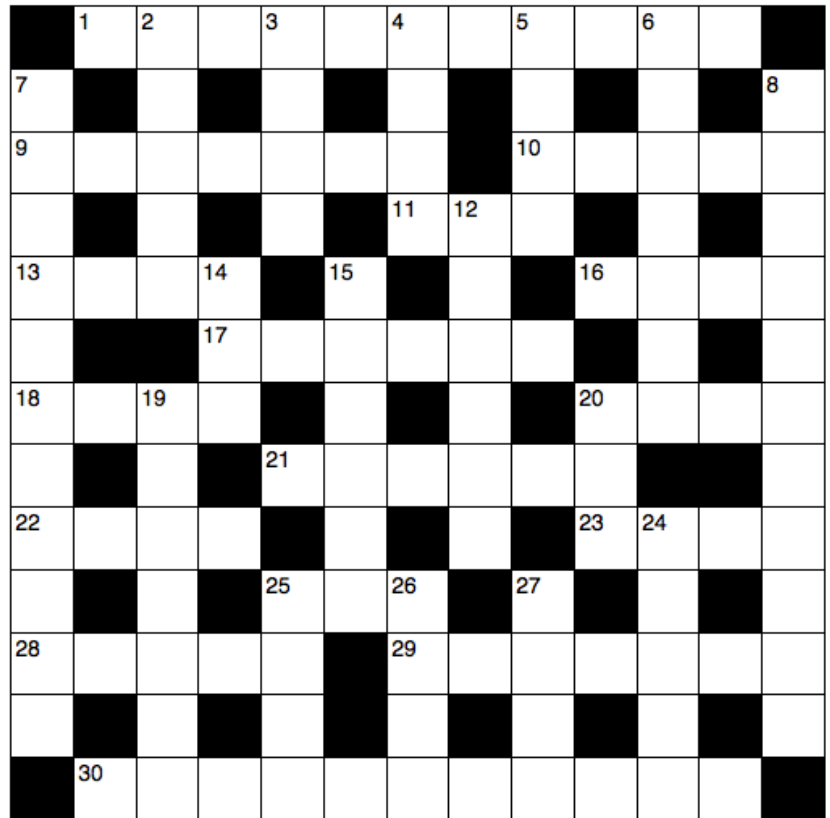


"Our basic wedding charges are very reasonable – optional extras include pew usage, hassock rental, hymn-sheet supplement, parking, lighting..."

Puzzler

Down

- 2 'That was why his parents said, "He is — —; ask him"' (John 9:23) (2,3)
- 3 Integrated Services Digital Network (1,1,1,1) 4
- 4 'Saul has slain his thousands, and David his — of thousands' (1 Samuel 18:7) (4)
- 5 Concept (John 8:14) (4)
- 6 'Do we, then, — the law by this faith? Not at all! Rather, we uphold the law' (Romans 3:31) (7)
- 7 Industrious (2 Timothy 2:6) (11)
- 8 'I pray also that the eyes of your heart may be — in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you (Ephesians 1:18) (11)
- 12 'Out of the same mouth come — and cursing' (James 3:10) (6)
- 14 This was how many of the Jewish leaders described Jesus (John 10:20) (3)
- 15 Vitality (Job 20:11) (6)
- 19 He urged David to kill Saul at Hakhilah (1 Samuel 26:8) (7)
- 20 'So for a whole year Barnabas and Saul — with the church and taught great numbers of people' (Acts 11:26) (3)
- 24 'Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord — — ' (Deuteronomy 6:4) (2,3)
- 25 Parched (Matthew 12:43) (4)
- 26 'In the image of God he created him; — and female he created them' (Genesis 1:27) (4)
- 27 Disparagement (Psalm 15:3) (4)



Across

- 1 These letters come between Romans and Galatians (11)
- 9 'You will not — me to the grave' (Psalm 16:10) (7)
- 10 King of Moab to whom the Israelites were subject for 18 years (Judges 3:14) (5)
- 11 Town possessing mineral spring (3)
- 13 Mede (anag.) (4)
- 16 High-fidelity (abbrev.) (4)
- 17 He succeeded his father Rehoboam as king of Judah (1 Kings 14:31) (6)
- 18 A son of Simeon (Genesis 46:10) (4)
- 20 Controversial religious book of the 1970s, The — of God Incarnate (4)
- 21 'He has received from the Father the promised Holy Spirit and has poured out what you — — and hear' (Acts 2:33) (3,3)
- 22 'You — me together in my mother's womb' (Psalm 139:13) (4)
- 23 Edit (anag.) (4)
- 25 'Who has believed our message and to whom has the — of the Lord been revealed?' (Isaiah 53:1) (3)
- 28 Abraham's brother (Genesis 22:23) (5)
- 29 'When Mordecai learned of — that had been — , he tore his clothes' (Esther 4:1) (3,4)
- 30 Sympathetic (Proverbs 11:16) (4-7)

Answers: ACROSS: 1, Corinthians; 9, Abandon; 10, Eglon; 11, Spa; 13, Deem; 16, Hi-fi; 17, Abijah; 18, Ohad; 20, Myth; 21, Now see; 22, Knit; 23, Tide; 25, Arm; 28, Nahor; 29, All done; 30, Kind-hearted; DOWN: 2, Of; 3, ISDN; 4, Tens; 5, Idea; 6, Nullity; 7, Hardworking; 8, Enlightened; 12, Praise; 14, Mad; 15, Vigour; 19, Abishai; 20, Met; 24, Is one; 25, Arid; 26, Male; 27, Slur.

The Bishop's Lent Appeal 2012

**'To Reach New Generations' - Ephesians 6 v 4:
Jesus said, "Bring your children up in the training and instruction of the Lord."**

Dear Friends,

Young people sometimes have a poor reputation. It's nothing new. In every generation it seems that children and young people are not given the respect they deserve. For many people, the lasting memory from last year's riots in London and elsewhere - including parts of the Black Country - will be of young people rampaging through the streets, throwing missiles at the police and looting. But I was more impressed by the large numbers of young people who took part in the community clean-ups in the affected towns and cities in the aftermath of the disturbances.

Children and young people are often overlooked in society and, despite Jesus' injunction to "let the little children come to him", we aren't much better in the Church. We often talk about children and young people as "the church of tomorrow." This approach is unbiblical. Jesus said: "Do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these." He didn't say the Kingdom "will belong", but "belongs".

The Christian church in our country already does much good work with children and young people. In the Church of England alone, more than 116,000 volunteers work alongside 4,900 employed staff to provide activities outside church worship for 407,000 children and young people under the age of 16. Churches in our diocese have some 54 paid and volunteer workers engaged in youth and children's work. But I want to do more. And so this year my Lent Appeal will support Christian initiatives overseas and here in the UK working with children and young people. Please support my appeal as generously as you can so we can help equip this vital area of Christian ministry.

Jonathan Gledhill, Bishop of Lichfield



Funds raised this year will go to support:

CPAS Falcon Camps. Falcon Camps, run by the Christian agency CPAS, provide affordable and unforgettable Christian holidays for around 500 eight- to 18-year-olds each year. Many of these children come from families facing different types of disadvantage, including unemployment, financial difficulties, loss, separation or exclusion from education. There are 21 Falcon Camps in the country, including two here in our diocese at Oswestry and Dovedale. They are run by a team of committed and enthusiastic volunteers who are passionate about communicating the good news of Jesus Christ through their words and actions. Falcon camps help young people to grow in confidence, make new friends and have fantastic new experiences. It is also a time when many children hear the Gospel for the very first time. The monies raised in this appeal will go directly to bursaries towards those children who cannot afford the cost of a holiday.



Sunday School Training in Matlosane, South Africa. Overseas we are supporting our companion Diocese of Matlosane in South Africa as they are working on an ambitious programme to train Sunday School teachers across the 27 parishes in the Diocese, to develop its Sunday Schools, and to build up a range of culturally relevant resources to help the leaders teach the youngsters about our Lord. This is part of a larger campaign by the Anglican Church in South Africa to 'Grow the Church', focusing on evangelism and spirituality. A group of people from the Lichfield Diocese will be visiting Matlosane after Easter to help train Sunday School teachers.

If you would like to donate to the Bishop's Lent Appeal 2012, a collection will be taken at the Open Air Service on Palm Sunday, 1st April, at Park Hall Hills (10.30am service), or please forward your donation to the Parish Office. If you are a UK tax payer, please do pick up a blue Lent Appeal gift aid envelope from the Parish Office or from Church and complete before making a donation. Please pray for the above projects, the staff, volunteers and young people at each and for the financial donations received to be effective in reaching new generations.

As / Was Saying... by Fred Hall



What ever happened to Free Speech? My view is that it is now restricted to the minority who have strong views and are convinced that other peoples views are wrong and ill-informed, plus impose on their freedom to impose their views upon us, who disagree with them. Got it?

How many Clubs are there, you know like Working Men's Clubs, or British Legion etc., who don't have rules? The established Church must have them, although I don't know entirely what they are. There are rules about getting married, although they are now getting 'adjusted' I think, so that divorced people can now, quite rightly, get married in Church under certain considerations. Mind you, it used to be regularly featured in the newspapers years ago, when some well known actress (Rita Hayworth for instance) was to wed again for the 'severalth' time. Well, there it goes, we bend the rules sometimes. I don't mind if it is considered directly by the people involved.

But then it is our 'club', so it is for us to make the rules I contend. I don't mind us rethinking through our own rules in our own Church but I certainly resent Stonewall from interfering with our set up. Nor do I have any sympathy with the loner who says that he is an Atheist and goes to court to get our ludicrous Judges (for whom my late Barrister cousin had contempt) to comply with his minority opinion that it was illegal to open a Council Meeting with Prayers. In fact, as I understand it, the Judge judged that there was no legal requirement to hold a prayer nor was it actually illegal. So I suppose, like the Health and Safety people, we will be told what we can and cannot do.

I think of all the men who fought for this country, including my father and father-in-law; and now we have half wit upstarts giving them/us orders and using legal means to do it. The Law is an Ass and it is getting worse. Incidentally, I also contend that most 'Atheists' are not. They do not have enough knowledge to be one. They are just ignorant; i.e. don't understand the subject.

Former Archbishop Lord Carey is opposed to legalising same sex marriage. I should have thought that it was a contradiction in terms. I have no problem with binding contracts for these people nor do I have any problem with their 'condition'. There are too many of them who have been persecuted for their situation and I remember the mathematical genius who worked on the Enigma Code Breaking machine that saved many lives and contributed so much to fighting Nazi Germany. He was hounded literally to death. The Law was severe on people who they considered 'odd', so long as I don't have to subject myself to their restrictions they are welcome to my company and there are so many of them who have contributed to the world's advancements in art, literature and science etc.

So whether it is Stonewall or the Lib Dems, they can jump in the lake as far as I am concerned, my point of view is valid and I am entitled to it. Try telling our Muslim friends that they must welcome same sex married couples into their community, never mind Mosques.

However, I wish devoted couples well and would welcome them to my own circle of friends if required to. I still balk at the little baby now in the home of a well known 'Gay Couple'. He will want for nothing they say...oh no? What about a mum? I wonder how he will get on at school. Children can be very cruel, as we who live in the real world know. We may be Church goers but we maintain our faith and tradition, locking no one out, but we have our rules and if they require changing then it is up to us to do it.

Sheila and I have stopped our bulk shopping and petrol at a well known Super Market because they are donating to, can you believe it...Gay Parade. Not with my money they ain't.

Fred Hall

SERVICES AT ST.ANDREW'S, WESTON COYNEY

MARCH

Sunday 4 March

10.00 a.m. Morning Prayer

Sunday 11 March

10.00 a.m. Holy Communion
by Extension

Sunday 18 March

10.00 a.m. Family Service

Sunday 25 March

10.00 a.m. Shared
Holy Communion Service

APRIL

Sunday 1 April - Palm Sunday

10.30 a.m. Open Air Service at Park Hall Hills

Friday 6 April - Good Friday

7.00 p.m. to 8.00 p.m. Meditation

Sunday 8 April - Easter Day

6.00 a.m. SonRise Service at Park Hall Hills

10.00 a.m. Holy Communion with focus on Healing
and opportunity for prayer and anointing with oil

Sunday 15 April

10.00 a.m. Family Service

Sunday 22 April

**10.30 a.m. Shared Holy Communion Service
at St. Peter's Church**

Sunday 29 April

10.00 a.m. Morning Prayer

Parish Communion will also be held at **St. Andrew's** at **10am** every **Wednesday** during term-term. **All Welcome!** There will be no **Parish Communion** held on **Wednesday 4th** or **Wednesday 11th April** due to the **Easter Holidays**.

The Persecuted Church



Algeria - Church Attacked in Ouargla, Algeria - Sources: VOM Contacts, International Christian Concern

On February 1, Muslim extremists attacked a church in Ouargla, eastern Algeria, damaging church property. According to VOM contacts, Pastor Mourad had received a threatening letter two weeks earlier demanding that he leave the area but had not taken the threat seriously. However, around midnight on February 1, several men broke through the rear gate of the church and destroyed some church equipment. They also tried to break into the church building but were unsuccessful. In 2009, Pastor Mourad's wife was beaten and seriously injured by an unknown group of attackers. And last year, an angry mob shouted death threats while throwing heaps of trash over the church walls. Despite these attacks, Pastor Mourad is convinced that the Lord has called him to serve in Ouargla, and he refuses to leave. "No matter what happens, we will stay here," he says. Praise God for his faithfulness. *Psalm 54:1-3*

Bosnia - Believer Uses VOM-Provided Book to Share Gospel - Source: VOM Contacts

A Christian in Bosnia recently shared the gospel with his neighbours by giving them some humanitarian supplies along with a VOM-provided gospel story book. After receiving a package of supplies from the Christian relief organization Samaritan's Purse, "Henry" offered the supplies to his neighbours, along with an illustrated Jesus: He Lived Among Us story book, which tells the story of Jesus from the gospels. A 25-year-old woman kept asking Henry questions about the difference between Croatian Christmas celebrations and Christian celebrations. "It came to my mind to use the book to talk more about Jesus and his plan for humanity," Henry said. "In the end, I told her to read the book and find out more about the life of this wonderful and unique man." Praise God for the creativity and willingness believers all over the world have to share Christ's message. *John 20:30-31*

Sudan - School Bombed by Government Forces - Sources: Samaritan's Purse, State Department, VOM Contacts

On Wednesday, February 1, 2012, Sudanese forces bombed a school run by Samaritan's Purse in the Nuba mountains in Southern Kordofan. The bombing occurred on the first day of school, when the Heiban Bible College campus was crowded with students, teachers and families. Although Sudanese forces dropped eight bombs, destroying two buildings, no one was killed. A statement from the United States' ambassador to the United Nations said the attack "underscores the viciousness of Sudan's ongoing military campaign in South Kordofan and Blue Nile states" in a conflict affecting 50,000 people. Samaritan's Purse reported that four churches in the region have been destroyed since August. Nearly 30,000 refugees from the Nuba mountain have filled a camp across the border in South Sudan. Please pray for those affected by the ongoing violence and for those who are bringing Jesus' name to the area. *Psalm 61:1-3*

**For further prayer requests, updates and information, please visit:
www.persecution.com**

What's On?

Young at Heart

Held on the last Friday of the month, 2.30pm - 4pm.
All senior citizens welcome. Please see Fred Hall,
Barbara Colclough or contact the
Church Office for more details.

**The next meeting will be held on
Friday 30th March.**

The Ladies' Fellowship

Meets 3rd Monday of each month. The next
meeting of the Ladies' Fellowship will be the
AGM to be held on Monday 19th March at 2pm
in the Sonbeams Room. All welcome.

Cuppa and Comfort

If you would like to meet with others who are
bereaved to chat informally over a cup of coffee
and receive support and friendship, join us on the
1st Thursday of every month at 10.30am.

Model Railway Club

Open to anybody enthusiastic about trains. Meets
every Monday, 7.30-9.30pm. All welcome. For
more info., please contact Phil on 01782 397821.

Blythe Bridge Water Colour Society - Art Class

Wednesdays, 2-4pm. **Places now available.**
For more info., please contact Irene Roston on
01782 212771.

Weightwatchers

Thursdays 6.30pm-7.30pm. For more info., please
contact Liz Archibald on 01782 397349.

Zumba Fitness (Dance Aerobics)

Thursdays, 8.15pm-9pm, £3.50 per session.
For more info., please contact Tracy on
0780 823 2683

Caverswall & Cookshill Women's Institute

Meets in the in Caverswall Village Hall on the 1st
Wednesday of the month at 7.15pm. We offer
good company, good speakers, good food and
much, much more. Visitors are most welcome.

Weston Coyney Women's Institute

Meetings held on the third Tuesday in the month
at 7.30pm in Weston Coyney Village Hall. Visitors
£2.00. Tel. 01782 327598. **20th March:**
Trevor Mooney: 'History of Chatwyns Bakery'

St. Andy's 4 Points Club - Church Youth Group Meets Wednesdays during term-time

7pm to 8.30pm at St. Andrew's.

Age 10 - 16 (Y6 to Y11). £1 entry.



St. Andrew's with St. Peter's Pre-School

For 2-5 years olds. Monday to Friday, 9.30am until
12noon for 2 year olds and until 12.30pm for 3-5
year old funded places. The Foundation Stage
Curriculum is followed. For more info., please
contact the Pre-School on 01782 314270 (9-1, M-F).

Parents & Toddlers

A friendly and informal group. Meets Mondays
1-2.30pm during term time. For more info., please
contact Toni on 01782 314270 (M-F, 9-1).

Rainbows (part of Girl Guides)

Meets on Wednesdays, 6-7pm (term time only).
Girls are welcome between the ages of 5-7 years.
For more info., please contact Lisa Gibben on
01782 370274.

Brownies

Tuesdays, 6.30-7.45pm (term-time only). Girls are
welcome between the ages of 7-10 years. For
more info., please contact Carol on 01782 318413.

Guides

3rd Caverswall Guide Unit meets on Mondays,
7-8.30pm (term-time only). Girls are welcome
between the ages of 10-15 years. Enquiries to
Andrea Smith through the Church Office please.

Rangers

Longton Division Rangers meet on Mondays,
8-9.30pm (term-time only). Girls are welcome
between the ages of 14-25 years. Enquiries to
Andrea Smith through the Church Office please.

At St. Andrew's Centre

In the Community

**For more details, please contact the above numbers or call into or contact the Church Office:
01782 312570 / caverswall382@btinternet.com**

A Prayer for Lent

Father,
 Forgive us the wrongs we have done,
 As we forgive the wrongs that others
 have done to us.

From the prayer that Jesus taught (Matthew 6: 11)



SERVICES AT ST. PETER'S, CAVERSWALL

MARCH

Sunday 4 March

8.00 a.m. Holy Communion
 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion

Sunday 11 March

8.00 a.m. Holy Communion
 by Extension
 10.30 a.m. Family Service
 & Thanksgiving

Sunday 18 March

8.00 a.m. Holy Communion
 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion
 by Extension

Sunday 25 March

8.00 a.m. Holy Communion
**10.00 a.m. Shared Holy
 Communion Service
 at St. Andrew's**

APRIL

Sunday 1 April - Palm Sunday

8.00 a.m. Holy Communion
10.30 a.m. Open Air Service at Park Hall Hills,
 March to Hills from St. Peter's at 9.30am
**6.30 p.m. Joint Service at St. Filumena's
 Catholic Church, Caverswall**

Thursday 5 April - Maundy Thursday

7.00 p.m. Holy Communion

Friday 6 April - Good Friday

12noon to 3.00 p.m. Series of 1 hour meditations

Saturday 7 April - Easter Saturday

1.30 p.m. Full immersion Baptism Service
 with an opportunity to renew Baptismal vows

Sunday 8 April - Easter Day

8.00 a.m. Holy Communion
 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion

Sunday 15 April

8.00 a.m. Holy Communion
 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion by Extension

Sunday 22 April

8.00 a.m. Holy Communion by Extension
 10.30 a.m. Shared Holy Communion Service

Sunday 29 April

8.00 a.m. Holy Communion
 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion

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Please use these hours, if possible, for routine enquiries regarding baptisms, weddings and general administration.

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