

**The Parish Church of  
*St. James, North Cray***

**50p  
*October, 2022***

***(Part of the Bexley Team Ministry)***



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### **St James Sunday Service**

9.30am Holy Communion

(All age service with Uniformed Organisations on second Sunday)

## FROM THE ASSOCIATE PRIEST OCTOBER 2022



As I write this article there has been a definite move from Summer into Autumn. As a church we are preparing for a busy season of thanksgiving and remembrance. Our Harvest Festival will take place on the 9<sup>th</sup> October at 9.30am. It is a service which gives us a time to reflect upon Gods abundant gifts to us through creation.

One of the joys of this season, especially in my early teaching life as a Food and Nutrition teacher was the prospect of teaching children how to preserve food. We would take the fruit and vegetables which are in abundance at this time and make them into jams and pickles, and we would freeze food to be used later in the year.

Children learnt that food has a season, that it is a valuable and precious commodity which should not be wasted, and that it is possible to save food for later when times are hard.

For those of us who have plenty, we need to be thankful that God has provided us with food and resources in abundance. When we have more than we need we must share it with those who have insufficient. At this time we are very aware that many people in this area do not have sufficient food to eat and are increasingly relying on the food banks to help them get through the week.

Food banks are doing an essential job, giving food to families in this area who through no fault of their own have insufficient food to feed their families with. In many cases the food bank also gives practical cooking/recipe advice to the families on how to get the most out of the food they have been given.

Added to this many families and elderly people are also struggling to keep warm before we even get to the coldest part of the year. Throughout the Winter months the Bexley Team at St Barnabas Joydens Wood hopes to keep its church building open each Sunday as a place of warmth and welcome to those from our community and beyond.

In the gospel we read “for I was hungry and you gave me something to eat .... I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me ” (Matthew 25:35-40)

At this time of harvest please reflect on how much support you can give to those in need either through donations of food or money, encourage others to give thanks for what they have and let your community know about the warm place which will be available for anyone in need.

Yours in Christ

Rev. Sue Twynam

A decorative rectangular border with ornate floral and scrollwork patterns in each corner, framing the text.

### Evening Sun

After a day of cloud and rain  
The evening sun comes out again.  
Forget the gloomy day that's gone,  
And listen to the robin's song!

In the sunshine's golden glow  
See the garden's floral show!  
And nature, freshened, can rejoice  
In sparkling colour, scent, and voice.

If your day is damp and grey  
Know the cloud will go away –  
The pouring rain will soon be done  
And then will come the evening sun!

By Nigel Beeton



## SERVICES AND EVENTS FOR OCTOBER 2022

### **SUNDAY 2<sup>nd</sup> October**

9.30 am  
Wednesday  
8pm

### **16<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity**

Communion  
  
Team Zoom

### **SUNDAY 9<sup>th</sup> October**

9.30 am  
  
Wednesday  
8pm

### **17<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity**

Harvest Festival  
Family Parade  
  
Team Zoom

### **SUNDAY 16<sup>th</sup> October**

9.30 am  
Wednesday  
8pm

### **18<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity**

Holy Communion  
  
Team Zoom

### **SUNDAY 23<sup>rd</sup> October**

9.30 am  
Wednesday  
8pm

### **Last Sunday after Trinity**

Holy Communion  
  
Team Zoom

### **SUNDAY 30<sup>th</sup> October**

9.30 am

### **All Saints Day**

Memorial Service

Please contact the Associate Priest or a member of the clergy team to be included on the emailing list or see our website for further information.

Also, do contact any of our clergy team if you are concerned, or if you would simply like a chat, or prayer.

## **A Tribute to Her Majesty from The Archbishop of Canterbury, The Most Revd Justin Welby**

It is with profound sadness that I join the nation, the Commonwealth and the world in mourning the death of Her Late Majesty The Queen. My prayers are with The King and the Royal Family. May God draw near them and comfort them in the days, weeks and months ahead.

As we grieve together, we know that, in losing our beloved Queen, we have lost the person whose steadfast loyalty, service and humility has helped us make sense of who we are through decades of extraordinary change in our world, nation and society.

As deep as our grief runs, even deeper is our gratitude for Her Late Majesty's extraordinary dedication to the United Kingdom, her Realms and the Commonwealth. Through times of war and hardship, through seasons of upheaval and change, and through moments of joy and celebration, we have been sustained by Her Late Majesty's faith in what and who we are called to be.

In the darkest days of the Coronavirus pandemic, The Late Queen spoke powerfully of the light that no darkness can overcome. As she had done before, she reminded us of a deep truth about ourselves – we are a people of hope who care for one another. Even as The Late Queen mourned the loss of her beloved husband, Prince Philip, we saw once again evidence of her courage, resilience and instinct for putting the needs of others first – all signs of a deeply rooted Christian faith.

As we sustain one another in the face of this challenge, our shared grieving will also be a work of shared reimagining. I pray that we commence this journey with a sense of Her Late Majesty's faith and confidence in the future.



As a faithful Christian disciple, and also Supreme Governor of the Church of England, she lived out her faith every day of her life. Her trust in God and profound love for God was foundational in how she led her life – hour by hour, day by day. In The Late Queen’s life, we saw what it means to receive the gift of life we have been given by God and – through patient, humble, selfless service – share it as a gift to others.

Her Late Majesty found great joy and fulfilment in the service of her people and her God, “whose service is perfect freedom”. For giving her whole life to us, and allowing her life of service to be an instrument of God’s peace among us, we owe her a debt of gratitude beyond measure.

The Late Queen leaves behind a truly extraordinary legacy: one that is found in almost every corner of our national life, as well as the lives of so many nations around the world, and especially in the Commonwealth.

It was my great privilege to meet Her Late Majesty on many occasions. Her clarity of thinking, capacity for careful listening, inquiring mind, humour, remarkable memory and extraordinary kindness invariably left me conscious of the blessing that she has been to us all.

In my prayers at this time I also give thanks for the marriage of The Late Queen and His Late Royal Highness Prince Philip. Theirs was an inspirational example of Christian marriage – rooted in friendship, nourished by shared faith, and turned outwards in service to others.

May Her Late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II rest in peace and rise in glory.





## ST JAMES NORTH CRAY SAVE OUR SPIRE

The ancient parish church of St James, North Cray has been there as a focal point for the community through many lifetimes. The building stands through the seasons, and the years, as a reminder of the Church's commitment to God and His love for all people, whether they attend church services or not!

We want to ensure that this precious church building remains open for many years to come. To achieve this, we now need the help of our community!

We are facing a number of significant challenges with the church building, the most pressing of these is our lovely church spire. This is covered with traditional wooden shingles, and we need to replace these urgently. If you value your parish church, and the part it plays in your community, please do consider making a donation to this work.



Help this beautiful church...Link to our new online giving page:

<https://givealittle.co/campaigns/569e4fec-3e77-4d90-8a0a-94d0726a8974>

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“I declare before you all that my whole life whether it be long or short shall be devoted to your service and the service of our great imperial family to which we all belong.”

On my twenty-first birthday I welcome the opportunity to speak to all the peoples of the British Commonwealth and Empire, wherever they live, whatever race they come from, and whatever language they speak.

Let me begin by saying 'thank you' to all the thousands of kind people who have sent me messages of good will. This is a happy day for me; but it is also one that brings serious thoughts, thoughts of life looming ahead with all its challenges and with all its opportunity.

At such a time it is a great help to know that there are multitudes of friends all round the world who are thinking of me and who wish me well. I am grateful and I am deeply moved.

As I speak to you today from Cape Town I am six thousand miles from the country where I was born. But I am certainly not six thousand miles from home. Everywhere I have travelled in these lovely lands of South Africa and Rhodesia my parents, my sister and I have been taken to the heart of their people and made to feel that we are just as much at home here as if we had lived among them all our lives.

That is the great privilege belonging to our place in the world-wide commonwealth - that there are homes ready to welcome us in every continent of the earth. Before I am much older I hope I shall come to know many of them.

Although there is none of my father's subjects from the oldest to the youngest whom I do not wish to greet, I am thinking especially today of all the young men and women who were born about the same time as myself and have grown up like me in terrible and glorious years of the second world war.

Will you, the youth of the British family of nations, let me speak on my birthday as your representative? Now that we are coming to manhood and womanhood it is surely a great joy to us all to think that we shall be able to take some of the burden off the shoulders of our elders who have fought and worked and suffered to protect our childhood.

We must not be daunted by the anxieties and hardships that the war has left behind for every nation of our commonwealth. We know that these things are the price we cheerfully undertook to pay for the high

honour of standing alone, seven years ago, in defence of the liberty of the world. Let us say with Rupert Brooke: "Now God be thanked who has matched us with this hour".

I am sure that you will see our difficulties, in the light that I see them, as the great opportunity for you and me. Most of you have read in the history books the proud saying of William Pitt that England had saved herself by her exertions and would save Europe by her example. But in our time we may say that the British Empire has saved the world first, and has now to save itself after the battle is won.

I think that is an even finer thing than was done in the days of Pitt; and it is for us, who have grown up in these years of danger and glory, to see that it is accomplished in the long years of peace that we all hope stretch ahead.

If we all go forward together with an unwavering faith, a high courage, and a quiet heart, we shall be able to make of this ancient commonwealth, which we all love so dearly, an even grander thing - more free, more prosperous, more happy and a more powerful influence for good in the world - than it has been in the greatest days of our forefathers.

To accomplish that we must give nothing less than the whole of ourselves. There is a motto which has been borne by many of my ancestors - a noble motto, "I serve". Those words were an inspiration to many bygone heirs to the Throne when they made their knightly dedication as they came to manhood. I cannot do quite as they did.

But through the inventions of science I can do what was not possible for any of them. I can make my solemn act of dedication with a whole Empire listening. I should like to make that dedication now. It is very simple.

I declare before you all that my whole life whether it be long or short shall be devoted to your service and the service of our great imperial family to which we all belong.

But I shall not have strength to carry out this resolution alone unless you join in it with me, as I now invite you to do: I know that your support will be unfailingly given. God help me to make good my vow, and God bless all of you who are willing to share in it. (*21<sup>st</sup> April, 1947*)

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# **MEETINGS and Events 2022**

*Watch this space for  
future events*

## **THE PARADOXES OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE**

There is no egg in eggplant, nor ham in hamburger; neither apple nor pine in pineapple. English muffins weren't invented in England or French fries in France. Sweetmeats are candies while sweetbreads, which aren't sweet, are meat. We take English for granted but if we explore its paradoxes, we find that quicksand can work slowly, boxing rings are square and a guinea pig is neither from Guinea nor is it a pig. If teachers taught, why didn't preachers praught? If a vegetarian eats vegetables, what does a humanitarian eat? In what language do people recite at a play and play at a recital or ship by truck and send cargo by ship? How can a slim chance and a fat chance be the same, while a wise man and a wise guy are opposites?

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# CHRISTIANS IN ACTION

## Anthony Ashley-Cooper, the Poor Man's Earl



The small statue of the angel poised with bow and arrow in Piccadilly Circus stands for Anteros, the god of selfless love. It is a memorial to the greatest Christian Victorian philanthropist, politician and social reformer of his generation – Lord Shaftesbury.

Anthony Ashley Cooper, the 7th Earl of Shaftesbury (1801 – 1885) was a devout Christian who spent his life fighting to help ease the plight of lunatics, chimney sweeps, children in factories, women and children in the mines, opium addicts, and children without any education.

His own early life was loveless and bleak – his parents formal and frightening, his early schooldays a “horror” of “cruelty and starvation”. The only love came from the family’s housekeeper, Maria Millis. A biographer wrote: ‘She provided for Ashley a model of Christian love that would form the basis for much of his later social activism and philanthropic work.’ The reality and homely practicality of her Christian love were a beacon for the young Ashley. She told him Bible stories, she taught him a prayer.

After Christ Church Oxford, where he proved an outstanding scholar, Ashley turned to politics. In 1826, aged 25, he was elected as Tory MP for Woodstock. He was eager to serve on parliamentary committees that got things done; his great life’s work had begun.

Lunatics: In 1827 lunatics were kept chained naked in straw, forced to sleep in their excrement. They were washed in freezing cold water, with one towel for 160 people and no soap. There was gross over-crowding and inedible food: asylums were places to die in.

Shaftesbury’s maiden speech in Parliament was in support of a Bill to improve their conditions. He wrote: ‘By God’s blessing, my first effort has been for the advance of human happiness.’



It took years: from 1827 to 1884 he fought for a succession of Lunacy Acts, writing later of ‘the years of toil and care that, under God, I have bestowed on this melancholy and awful question.’

Child Labour and Factory Reform. Again, reform took years, with Shaftesbury fighting for the Ten Hours Act from 1833, 1842, 1844, 1846 and 1847 – when it finally got through Parliament. No child under the age of nine should work in the cotton or woollen industries, and no one under 18 must work more than ten hours a day.

Miners. In 1842 he fought to outlaw the employment of women and children in coal mines.

Climbing boys. Thousands of young boys were dying in terrible pain – scorched, blinded and suffocated by soot, or with cancer. Ashley fought for Bills in 1840, 1851, 1853, 1855, and 1864 until finally the Chimney Sweepers Act 1875 closed the practise down.

Education reform: 1844 Ashley became president of the Ragged School Union that promoted education for poor children. He wrote that if it were to fail, ‘I should die of a broken heart’.

Religion. Lord Shaftesbury was a devout Christian who became a leading figure in 19th century evangelical Anglicanism. He was President of British and Foreign Bible Society for nearly 30 years. He was very sympathetic to the Jews, and advocated their return to the Holy Land.

Lord Shaftesbury’s funeral service at Westminster Abbey on the morning of 8th October 1885 drew thousands of people. The streets along the route were thronged with the poor: costermongers, flower-girls, boot-blacks, crossing sweepers, factory hands and many more. They waited for hours just to see his coffin go by. He was dearly loved by them as the ‘Poor Man’s Earl’.

One biographer wrote: ‘No man has in fact ever done more to lessen the extent of human misery, or to add to the sum total of human happiness.’

The great preacher Charles Spurgeon called him ‘the best man of the age’. He ‘lived for the oppressed’, he was a ‘moral anchor in a drifting generation’, ‘friend of every living thing’, ‘he had a ‘fervent love to God, and hearty love to man.’



# Book Mark



**The Christmas Message: Queen Elizabeth II describes the significance of Christmas. By The Rev Dr Geoffrey Waugh, £24.**



Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, in the first of her annual Christmas Speeches (1952), reminded us that 'Peace on earth, Goodwill toward all' is the eternal message of Christmas and the desire of us all. The Queen's Christmas Messages describe the significance of Christmas as well as giving us her compassionate review of the year. This book compiles in one volume her Majesty's reflections on the meaning and significance of Christmas. Excerpts are given from all her annual Christmas Broadcasts and also include Easter 2020.

**The Faith of Queen Elizabeth: The Poise, Grace, and Quiet Strength Behind the Crown. By Dudley Delffs, £12.99 in hardcover.**



Discover the inspiring spiritual legacy of Queen Elizabeth II, the longest reigning monarch in British history. Sharing a behind-the-scenes glimpse into the life of this notoriously private monarch, *The Faith of Queen Elizabeth* features intimate stories and inspiring reflections on the personal faith behind the Crown. With testimonies from historic figures such as Winston Churchill, Billy Graham, Mother Teresa, and Margaret Thatcher, this magnificent tribute explores the faith of the world's most famous Queen - and the King she serves.

## ALL IN THE MONTH OF OCTOBER

250 years ago, on 21<sup>st</sup> October 1772 Samuel Taylor Coleridge was born. He co-founded (with William Wordsworth) the Romantic Movement of poetry. Best known for *The Rime of the Ancient Mariner* and *Kubla Khan*.

175 years ago, on 6<sup>th</sup> October 1847 Charlotte Bronte's novel *Jane Eyre* was first published, under the penname of Currer Bell.

150 years ago, on 11<sup>th</sup> October 1872 Emily Davison, British suffragette, was born. A militant fighter for her cause, she died after being hit by the King's horse at the 1913 Derby.

Also 150 years ago, on 12<sup>th</sup> October 1872 Ralph Vaughan Williams, British composer, was born.

100 years ago, on 18<sup>th</sup> October 1922 the BBC was officially founded as the British Broadcasting Company (now the British Broadcasting Corporation.)

80 years ago, on 30<sup>th</sup> October 1942 crew members from the British destroyer HMS Petard retrieved codebooks from the German submarine *U-559*, enabling cryptographers at Bletchley Park to decipher the version of the Enigma code used by U-boats.

70 years ago, on 6<sup>th</sup> October 1952 the world premiere of Agatha Christie's play, *The Mousetrap* opened in Nottingham. It then opened in London on 25<sup>th</sup> November, and is still running, making it the world's longest-running play. It has been performed more than 28,000 times.

## THE BOTHY

**Are you looking for a small hall for a function?**

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## Reflected Faith Series

*The Revd Dr Jo White*

### Reflecting Faith: the Cross in our churches



I recently read a web article which was wondering if Christians actually need a 'cross' in our church buildings; or indeed if they were unhelpful in our worship. The major argument against having one, it seems, was that it could become the focus of our worship, and it is not okay to worship idols.

To me this argument is nonsensical. The cross is a graphic reminder of what Jesus Christ has done for us in His death. No one in their senses would dream of worshipping a cross itself, as it was the most humiliating and debasing form of capital punishment – it was a means of gruesome execution.

Christians use crosses in churches to remind people of just how far Jesus was prepared to go to rescue us from what St Paul called 'the dominion of darkness'.

So this Sunday, why not have a look around your local church building, and count how many crosses there are?

I would expect there to be 'hidden' crosses where the building was consecrated, and also under the altar itself. There will also be various paperwork, service books, sheets and hymnals which all have the sign of the cross on their covers.

Perhaps you have candle holders with crosses sculptured into them. And in most Protestant churches you will see a cross on or above the altar table itself.

Many processions of choir and clergy will be led by a raised cross bearer. And In churches where the Bible is processed into the nave for reading during a service, a cross is also carried.

People turn to face these processions as they travel without necessarily understanding which part they are facing: the Cross, the Bible or the Person?

The answer is – we follow the Word of God – the Bible - *not* the cross. The same is true in any procession. We stand to honour the clergy in their role as Christ’s servants, not the cross which may be held aloft before them.

*This month:*

Have a look around your church building – both inside and outside for crosses. What materials are they made from? How extravagant or glamorous are they? Are they Crosses (an ‘empty’ cross) or Crucifixes (this has a representation of Christ hanging on the cross)? How do they aid you in your worship and how much do they reflect your faith

## WORDSEARCH



- |         |            |           |          |
|---------|------------|-----------|----------|
| Autumn  | Saints     | Jesus     | Coal     |
| Gold    | Goodness   | Son       | Leaves   |
| Night   | Saving     | Fearless  | Bonfires |
| Dark    | Prayer     | School    | Sneeze   |
| Pumpkin | Protection | Exams     | Scarves  |
| Sweets  | Light      | Half term | Soup     |

(Solutions on page 30)

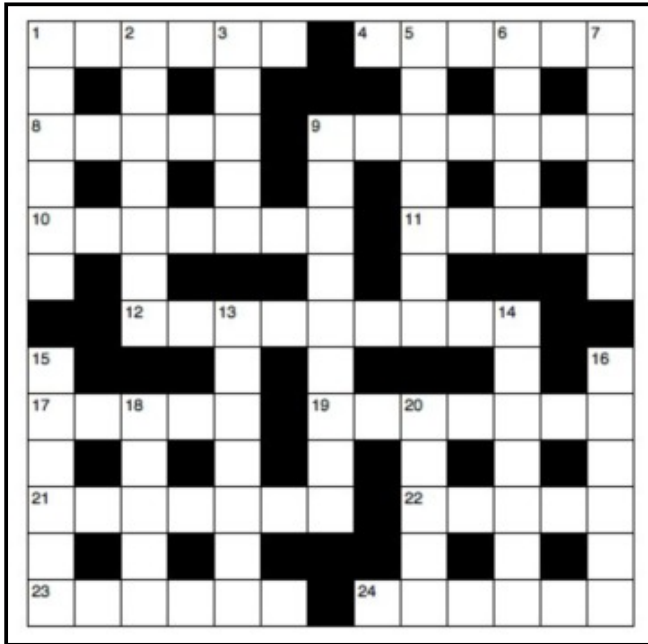
## OCTOBER CROSSWORD PUZZLE

### Across

- 1 Tertullus, who presented the high priest's case against Paul in his trial before Felix, was one (Acts 24:1) (6)
- 4 As balm (anag.) (6)
- 8 Having explored Canaan, he and Joshua urged the Israelites to take possession of it (Numbers 13:30) (5)
- 9 On becoming king of Judah, he had all six of his brothers killed (2 Chronicles 21:4) (7)
- 10 'Even the — has found a home, and the swallow a nest for herself' (Psalm 84:3) (7)
- 11 Banishment (Jeremiah 29:1)(5)
- 12 'And now I will show you the most — way'(1 Corinthians 12:31) (9)
- 17 'Titus did not exploit you, did he? Did we not —— the same spirit and follow the same course?' (2 Corinthians 12:18) (3,2)
- 19 Mice den(anag.)(7)
- 21 How Egypt is often described in the Old Testament: 'the land of — ' (Exodus 13:3) (7)
- 22 One of the first Levites to resettle in Jerusalem after the exile in Babylon (1 Chronicles 9:15) (5)
- 23 'As a sheep before her shearers is —, so he did not open his mouth' (Isaiah 53:7) (6)
- 24 Paul's birthplace (Acts 22:3)(6)

### Down

- 1 Ravenous insect inflicted on Egypt in vast numbers as the eighth plague (Exodus 10:14) (6)
- 2 Well-being (Philippians 2:20) (7)
- 3 Small piece of live coal or wood in a dying fire (Psalm 102:3) (5)
- 5 Sportsman or woman (2 Timothy 2:5) (7)



- 6 The original name of Abraham's wife (Genesis 17:15) (5)
- 7 'So in Christ we who are many form one body, and each — belongs to all the others' (Romans 12:5) (6)
- 9 According to Peter, a wife's beauty should not come from wearing this (1 Peter 3:3) (9)
- 13 'For God did not send his Son into the world to — the world' (John 3:17) (7)
- 14 'The Lord of heaven and earth...does not live in — built by hands' (Acts 17:24) (7)
- 15 'If your hand — you to sin,cut it off'(Mark 9:43)(6)
- 16 Something like these fell from Saul's eyes as soon as Ananias placed his hands on him (Acts 9:18) (6)
- 18 Track(Job 41:30)(5)
- 20 Religious doctrine(5)

(Solutions on page 30)

## ST JAMES THE LEAST OF ALL

### **Beware what lurks in the church vestry...**

The Rectory

St. James the Least of All



My dear Nephew Darren

I am unsurprised that the cleaning lady took exception to you dismantling your motorbike in the church vestry. Clergy vestries are the final repositories of rotting hymn books, ancient cassocks with a certain aroma, buckets with holes in which are kept “just in case” and dead animals in various states of decomposition; but they are no place for bike chains, disc brakes and inner tubes.

I will concede that vestries seem to attract all those objects no one quite knows what to do with, but which parishioners can't bear to throw away, as iron filings race towards a magnet. But flower arrangers looking for space for boxes of twine, decorators hoping to store cribs and Easter gardens and choirmasters for overspill for anthems must be repelled vigorously.

Only hardy souls should enter a vestry. You will be confronted with all of your predecessors staring down at you reproachfully. The most recent, in colour, will stare smugly, knowing full well that you cannot equal their standards. Earlier incumbents, in black and white, will look mildly reproachful, reminding you that your abilities have fallen well short of their intellectual stature. Those from previous centuries, hand drawn and looking as if they have recently ingested a pint of vinegar, will tell you that, whoever you are and whatever you may become, you are a disappointment. I am already rehearsing my own look of pained forgiveness for my leaving photo that will stare down on my own successor and perpetually irritate him.

It also seems to be a tradition that retiring clergy donate their robes

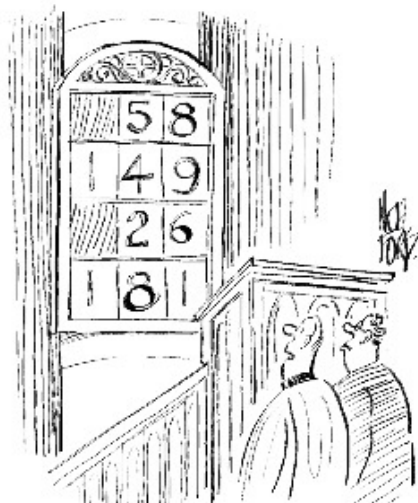


for their successors, probably because it spares them a walk to the dustbin. So, a five foot, 18 stone incumbent will leave a cassock for his six foot, ten stone successor – and then will let his disappointment be known that the new arrival is not using his kind gift. There will also be a spare 1960s nylon surplice hanging on the back of the vestry door, to remind you that should you ever forget your own, then this is the horror you will be obliged to wear throughout Evensong.

Notices on the walls will tell you that marriage fees in the 1920s were seven shillings and sixpence, that Communion wine can be obtained from a shop that closed down a generation ago and there will be a copy of the prayer of thanksgiving to be used on the relief of Mafeking.

My only advice is to remove your bike before it gets bundled up with the Scouts' tents – although you may try claiming that the engine oil was brought in for anointing the sick.

Your loving uncle,  
Eustace



“But shouldn't we be doing more for our elderly members than just having a large print hymn-board?”

## **GOD AND THE ARTS**

*By The Rev Michael Burgess*

### **I WILL LIFT UP MINE EYES UNTO THE HILLS**

“The artist should not only paint what he sees before him, but also what he sees within him.” These are the words of a German romantic painter, Caspar David Friedrich, who lived from 1774-1840.

The inspiration for most of his paintings was the countryside and the world of nature around. As he looked at its beauty and grandeur, it awoke in him feelings of wonder and awe, which he expressed through his art.

At the age of 34 he painted a cross in the mountains as an altarpiece for a church in Dresden: the first time a pure landscape had been used for an altar. Later in 1811 he painted a similar, but more profound and more moving work: ‘Morning in the Riesengebirge.’



Friedrich was a great walker and climber, and he loved the mountains of East Saxony depicted here. The first rays of the sun are coming over the horizon to illuminate both the beauty of the hills, and the tall crucifix placed on the mountain top. Friedrich looked at the glory of nature at sunrise and saw there a sign of God the Creator, and God the one who sent His Son to redeem that Creation.

Like Caspar David Friedrich, and like the psalmist, we can look to the hills and see the glory and greatness of God. This will be the theme for many of us this month with Harvest celebrations. But we give thanks for creation and the bounty of the world at a time when we hear reports of glaciers melting, water levels rising, greenhouse gases warming up our planet, and resources of food and fuel wasted and depleted. It is too easy to take this world for granted and imagine it is here solely for us.

Caspar David Friedrich invites us to look at the world, its beauty and greatness, as a gift to cherish, not to manipulate and exploit for our own use. As we look at this earth with eyes of wonder and gratitude, then we shall find the God who created and redeemed it, and ask what service and stewardship we can offer Him in the world.

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12<sup>th</sup>

## Edith Cavell

Edith was a vicar's daughter from Swardeston in Norfolk, where she was born in 1865. She became a governess, but her heart was for nursing, so she went on to train at the London Hospital, before nursing in various hospitals such as St Pancras and Manchester.



When Edith was 42, she decided to go abroad, and was appointed matron of a large training centre for nurses in Brussels. She was still there seven years later, when the First World War broke out and German troops invaded Belgium on their way to Paris and the Channel Ports.

Edith's nursing school became a Red Cross hospital, and she turned down the opportunity to return to the safety of England. Instead, her nurses tended

wounded soldiers from both German and Allied armies.

Sadly, in 1915, when the Germans began their occupation of Brussels, they took a dim view of Edith's work. But they would have been even more unhappy had they known she was helping to smuggle 200 British soldiers across the border into the Netherlands!

Finally, the Germans arrested Edith in August 1915, and put her into solitary confinement. They tricked her into confessing to a charge which carried the death penalty. But Edith refused to show either regret at what she had done, or any fear or bitterness towards her captors.

On 11<sup>th</sup> October 1915, the night before her execution, Edith was visited by the Anglican chaplain to Brussels, the Revd Stirling Gahan. Together they said the words of *Abide with Me*, and Edith received her last Holy Communion.

She told Gahan: "I am thankful to have had these ten weeks of quiet to get ready. Now I have had them and have been kindly treated here. I expected my sentence and I believe it was just. Standing, as I do, in view of God and eternity, I realise that patriotism is not enough. I must have no hatred or bitterness to anyone."

Edith was shot by a firing squad next day, on 12<sup>th</sup> October 1915.

After the war her body was exhumed and buried in Norwich Cathedral. Her memorial service in Westminster Abbey attracted thousands. A commemorative statue of her stands near Trafalgar Square.



## THANK YOU

The beginning of autumn and Harvest time is here again, a time when we come together to thank God for all of his blessings.

Harvest is a popular time of the year with special school and church services. Baskets of fruit and vegetables, tins of baked beans and sliced mangos – all offerings from our garden or kitchen cupboards to be given to the sick or elderly or sold to raise money for those in other places who go hungry.

We thank God for all his gifts at Harvest. In the words of the harvest hymn we sing 'All good gifts around us are sent from heaven above, then thank the Lord... for all his love.' So even the humble tin of beans becomes a symbol of God's love and care for us.



## BEAN CAKE

Well, it's not really made with baked beans but it looks as if it is...

You will need:

- 100 g (4 oz) margarine
- 100 g (4 oz) toffees
- 100 g (4 oz) pink and white marshmallows
- 100 g (4 oz) Rice Crispies

Grease and line a Swiss roll tin.

Put the margarine, toffees and marshmallows into a large saucepan and stir over a gentle heat until everything is melted together.

Take the pan off the heat and stir in the Rice Crispies.

Press the mixture into the prepared tin and leave to set in a cool place. Cut into squares when cold.

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**What do you get when you put three ducks in a box?**

A box of quackers.

**Why did the boy eat his homework?**

The teacher told him it was a piece of cake.

**What did the hungry computer eat?**

Chips, one byte at a time.

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07982 392809

### Team Vicar:

Rev'd Edward Barlow    fr.edwardbarlow@gmail.com    01322 521786

## ACCESSIBILITY NEEDS

If you are going to attend our church and you have accessibility needs please let us know and we will be happy to make arrangements for you. There is level access to the church and the Bothy and we have a sound loop system and large print orders of service. Please feel free to telephone the Associate Priest Rev'd Sue Twynam or the Team Curate Rev'd Matt Hodder who will be happy to discuss the matter with you.

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