

# CROSSROADS

The magazine for  
**St George's Tuffley and St Margaret's Whaddon**  
**Worshipping, Caring, Pioneering**

## Growing God's Kingdom



### ST GEORGE'S

**Sundays**  
**Tuesdays**  
**Wednesdays**  
**1<sup>st</sup> Sunday**

**Parish Communion at 10.30am**  
**Parish Communion at 10.00am**  
**Morning Prayer at 8.15am on Zoom**  
**Family Praise at 10.30am and**  
**Evensong at 5.00pm**  
**Parish Communion at 9.00am**  
**Evensong at 5.00pm**  
**Parish Communion at 9.00am**  
**Parish Communion at 9.00am**  
**Parish Communion at 10.30am**

### ST MARGARET'S

**2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday**  
**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday**  
**5<sup>th</sup> Sunday**  
**Thursday**

**MARCH 2022**

**50p**

# **ST GEORGE'S TUFFLEY WITH ST MARGARET'S WHADDON**

## **WHO'S WHO**

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| SECRETARY TO PCC: | Vacancy         |             |
| ELECTORAL ROLL:   | Margaret Barber | Tel: 730182 |
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## **ST MARGARET'S**

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## **Social Media**

**Website:** [www.glos-stg-stm.org.uk](http://www.glos-stg-stm.org.uk)

**Instagram:** @TuffleyStG

**Facebook:** St. George's, Tuffley and St Margaret's Whaddon

**Twitter:** @TuffleyStG

## **REV RACHEL WRITES...**

It was wonderful to be able to mark and celebrate at both churches the 70th anniversary of the Queen's Accession to the throne on Sunday 6th February: a celebratory Eucharist at St George's and a special Evensong at St Margaret's. At both, we gave thanks for Queen Elizabeth II's long and dedicated service and her inspiring Christian witness. Looking back at her first Christmas message from 1952, we were astounded by how relevant it still is for us today.

In that first message, the Queen reminded us that we belong to one another, and encouraged us to work to understand ourselves and each other better. She urged us to work for tolerance and understanding among the nations, and for us to use the tremendous forces of science and learning for the betterment of all. If we do this with courage, generosity and humility, she said, we should surely achieve peace on earth and goodwill toward all. The Queen also asked everyone, whatever their religion, to pray for her to have God's strength and wisdom to carry out the solemn promises she would make at her Coronation service, "that I may faithfully serve Him and you, all the days of my life."

What an inspiring example she is to us all, in serving God and one another. She surely embodies the type of discipleship and leadership Jesus calls us all to, where the leader will be like one who serves, and where we walk alongside one another, supporting and serving one another in generosity and humility. We only need to think of that heart-breaking photo of the Queen last year, sat alone, wearing a face mask, at Prince Philip's funeral. The photo that has become an iconic one of solidarity, generosity, humility, and service.

For Lent this year, it feels appropriate then to be looking at the life of the Queen's father, King George VI, who also showed generous leadership of service, courage and humility. We will do this through reflection and discussion of the film, *The King's Speech*. A film that speaks to all our lives, as it is about anxieties and disappointments, and the power of perseverance, encouragement and friendship. There will be two opportunities to be part of this – Wednesday afternoons from 2.00pm until 3.30pm and Thursday evenings from 7.00pm until 8.30pm, starting on 9th and 10th March, for five weeks. Everyone is welcome to come along and to participate as much or as little in the discussions as they would like.

We will, of course, also be planning special celebratory services for the Platinum Jubilee year on Sunday 5th June – watch this space!

With every blessing to you all,

RACHEL

## **FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS**

### **BAPTISMS**

Hayley Louise Anderson

Bobby Thomas Evans

### **FUNERALS**

Our sympathies to the family and friends of: -

Derrick Etherington RIP, Hilary Reynolds RIP,

Malcolm Burn RIP, Philip Jordan RIP, Gillian Kocerhan RIP:

May they rest in peace



## **LENT 2022**

**Ash Wednesday is 2<sup>nd</sup> March**

**1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent is 6<sup>th</sup> March**

## Written by Michael Rosen for the 60th anniversary of the NHS

Just as relevant today if not more so...

These are the hands  
That touch us first  
Feel your head  
Find the pulse  
And make your bed.

These are the hands  
That tap your back  
Test the skin  
Hold your arm  
Wheel the bin  
Change the bulb  
Fix the drip  
Pour the jug  
Replace your hip.

These are the hands  
That fill the bath  
Mop the floor  
Flick the switch  
Soothe the sore  
Burn the swabs  
Give us a jab  
Throw out sharps  
Design the lab.

And these are the hands  
That stop the leaks  
Empty the pan  
Wipe the pipes  
Carry the can  
Clamp the veins  
Make the cast  
Log the dose  
And touch us last.

## MOTHERING SUNDAY WITH BISHOP RACHEL

We are delighted that the Bishop of Gloucester, Rachel Treweek, will be joining us at St George's on the morning of Mothering Sunday, 27th March. Please do put this date in your diary and come along if you possibly can, at 10.30am. This will be a joint service for the two churches as Bishop Rachel would love to meet as many people as possible from Tuffley and Whaddon. The service will be a celebratory one, suitable for all ages, and hopefully will be full of much joy and laughter. Please do invite your friends, family, and neighbours to come along.



# *Let us Entertain you!*

**7.30pm, Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> March**  
**St George's Centre**

**Come along and let us entertain  
you in word and song**

**Tickets £5.00**  
**to include a light supper**  
**Please bring your own drink**

**For tickets please see Glenda and Darrell**

## **LENT IS HERE SOON! TIME TO READ!**

There are a lot of books suitable to read during Lent so you should be able to find one that suits you. Have a look at the display on the tables in St. George's. Every year The Bible Reading Fellowship publish a Lent book. The idea is to read a few pages each day from Ash Wednesday to Easter Day. Easy to do for a few minutes daily while, perhaps enjoying a cup of coffee. There are many different ones to choose from, but I've picked a couple.

Dust and Glory ranges across the whole business of living and believing, where the questions are as important as the answers and may call us to deep heart searching. The goal is always to draw us to authentic faith - a way of living and believing that is real and vulnerable, strong in knowing its limits, rooted in joy and wonder, blessed with the healing and merciful presence of God. Such faith acknowledges both the dust of our mortality and the glory that keeps breaking in with unexpected life, hope and new beginnings.

I really enjoyed At Home in Lent as it is such an original and quirky way of looking at Lent. Taking 46 different objects found around the home ranging from, for example, a toothbrush to a clock, a kettle to a chair, spiritual lessons from their use and history can be learnt. As a result, you might discover that finding God in the normal pattern of life - even in the mundane - transforms how you approach each day.

You may prefer the book The Art of Lent in which you can join Sister Wendy Beckett on a journey to discover the timeless wisdom to be found in over 40 of the world's greatest paintings, arranged in the themes of silence, contemplation, peace, joy, confidence and love.

Do you remember Ratty, Mole and Mr. Toad, those well-loved characters from The Wind in the Willows? It was a book I loved as a child, and I was delighted to find The Gospel in the Willows which has 40 meditations inspired by The Wind in the Willows. Every episode has a short excerpt from the book, a short reading from the Gospels followed by the meditation and ends with a prayer.

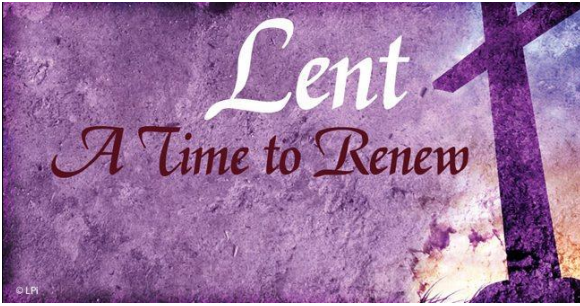
A book I enjoyed very much.

These are a few of the many books available and I hope you too can find enjoyment and inspiration from them.

SARAH KINGSCOTE



## LENT AND EASTER DATES



Lent begins on 2<sup>nd</sup> March this year. It will, of course, be preceded by the legendary Pancake Party at English Martyrs on Shrove Tuesday, 1<sup>st</sup> March!

Below are our services and activities planned for Lent and Easter, but please be aware that we might have to make changes due to Covid – keep an eye on the parish noticeboards, website and Facebook Page for up-to-date information.

Wednesday 2 March

|        |                                   |             |
|--------|-----------------------------------|-------------|
| 7.00pm | Ash Wednesday service with ashing | St George's |
|--------|-----------------------------------|-------------|

Wednesday 9 March

|        |  |          |
|--------|--|----------|
| 2.30pm | King's Speech film reflections<br>(for five weeks at this same time) | Vicarage |
|--------|--|----------|

Thursday 10 March

|        |  |          |
|--------|--|----------|
| 7.00pm | King's Speech film reflections<br>(for five weeks at this same time) | Vicarage |
|--------|--|----------|

Sunday 10 April

|         |                       |               |
|---------|-----------------------|---------------|
| 9.00am  | Palm Sunday Communion | St Margaret's |
| 10.30am | Palm Sunday Communion | St George's   |

Tuesday 12 April

|         |                       |             |
|---------|-----------------------|-------------|
| 10.30am | Stations of the Cross | St George's |
|---------|-----------------------|-------------|

Thursday 14 April

|         |                           |               |
|---------|---------------------------|---------------|
| 10.00am | Maundy Thursday Communion | St Margaret's |
| 7.00pm  | Maundy Thursday Communion | St George's   |

Friday 15 April

Church in Tuffley walk of witness  
Meet up time and starting point to be confirmed

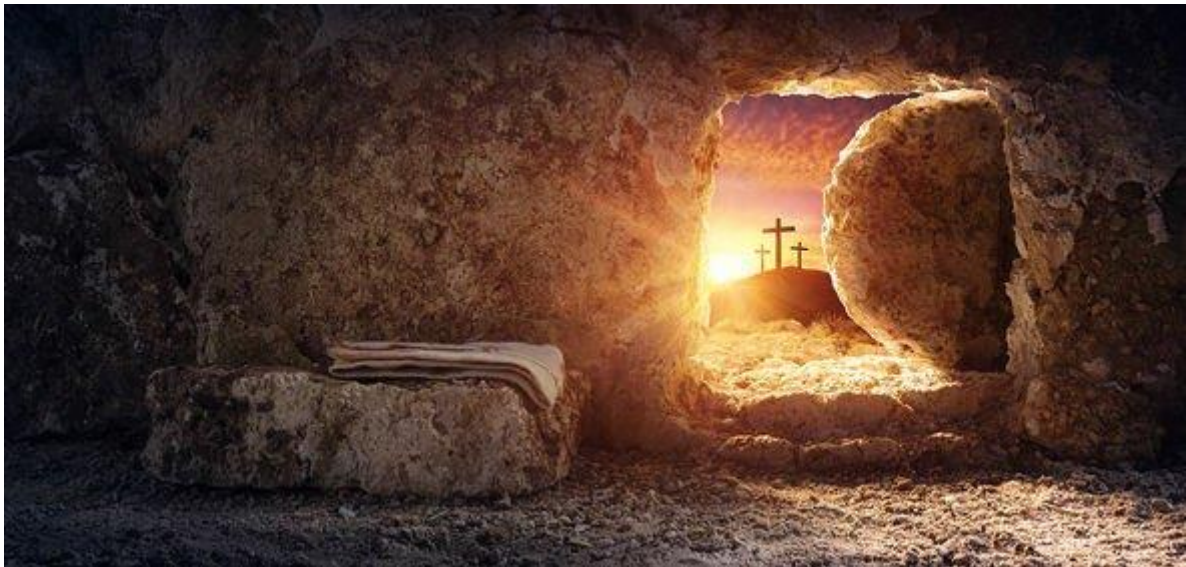
Saturday 16 April

|        |              |               |
|--------|--------------|---------------|
| 8.30pm | Easter Vigil | St Margaret's |
|--------|--------------|---------------|

Sunday 17 April

|         |                             |               |
|---------|-----------------------------|---------------|
| 9.00am  | Easter Day Parish Communion | St Margaret's |
| 10.30am | Easter Day Parish Communion | St George's   |
| 10.30am | Easter Day Family Praise    | St Margaret's |





## **EASTER DAY**

### **SUNDAY 17 APRIL**

*Extract from the Diocesan Messenger for March*

### **Lent...**

Once the pancake tossing is over, it's the start of Lent (2 March). Christians often use the time between Lent and Easter to do things that help them get closer to God. Here are a few of our favourite resources to use either on your own, or with friends.

### **Embracing Justice, by Isabelle Hamley**

Exploring stories of justice in the Bible and looking at how God works with humanity to bring justice, wholeness, and salvation to all. Why not pair it with the Church of England's accompanying Lent booklet for 2022 ([chpublishing.co.uk/features/live-lent](http://chpublishing.co.uk/features/live-lent)), and the videos on A Big Church Read (<https://thebigchurchread.co.uk>)?

Published by SPCK. ISBN: 9780281086542, £10.99.

### **Plenty!' – Joy in Enough Lent Course**

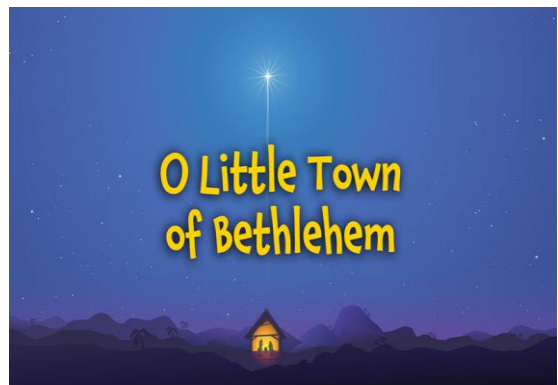
A six-week online course exploring Christian responses to sustainability, consumerism and the environmental crisis. Do you want to have a better understanding of the economic drivers of the climate and environmental emergency? Are you wondering what actions you could take to make a difference?

Wednesdays in Lent, starting 9 March 2022, led by the Revd Dr Julie Nelson, a retired priest and Eco Ambassador for Cirencester Deanery. Book at [gloucester.anglican.org/event/plenty-joy-in-enough-lent-course](http://gloucester.anglican.org/event/plenty-joy-in-enough-lent-course) Spaces are limited, but you can also download the resources for personal use.

## **“THE HOPES AND FEARS OF ALL THE YEARS ...”**

(concluded)

Just to recap from last month ... “O little town of Bethlehem” was written in 1868, the work of an American priest, Phillips Brooks. He wrote it for his Sunday School, not long after he had visited Bethlehem for himself. The words first appeared in Britain in 1896, and by the 1920s they were being included in most of the main hymn books.



The carol was originally sung to a tune by Lewis Redner. He was the organist and Sunday School Superintendent at Brooks’ church in Philadelphia. By profession an estate agent, he worked tirelessly for Holy Trinity church. Legend has it that the tune was written the evening before it was due to be sung in church!

Redner’s tune, called ‘St Louis’ is still the normal tune for “O little town” in the US, but I can’t imagine it is ever sung over here. The style is very Victorian, with the harmonic feel of the parlour song. If anyone would like to hear it played, just let me know, or I am sure you can find it on YouTube.

I think (but there is some confusion lurking here) that in Britain the words were originally given a tune by Walford Davies. Curiously, and this is where the confusion starts, Walford Davies wrote two entirely different tunes for “O little town”.

Neither of his tunes quite hit the mark. One is called “Christmas Carol” and I’m sure that you would recognise it if I played it for you. It’s an appealing tune, but a little tricky for a congregation, and tends to feature as a choir item. His other tune, called “Wengen”, was printed in Hymns Ancient & Modern. But it’s

a strangely unmemorable piece of work for the celebrated composer, who for example gave us such a treasure as "God be in my head".

So, what about the tune that we all know today? That tune is called "Forest Green". It's a folk melody which was sung by an old countryman to Ralph Vaughan Williams in 1903 at Ockley near Dorking, in Surrey. Around that time there was a lot of interest in collecting local folk tunes and words before it was too late. (Thank goodness this was done, or many wonderful melodies would have been lost for ever). Just a few years later, in 1906, Vaughan Williams was working as the musical editor of the new "English Hymnal" (EH). "O little town" was included, and Vaughan Williams set it to "Forest Green" – a pairing which rapidly became very popular. There was quite a trend at that time to move away from the Victorian style of rather slushy harmony and to rediscover English folk melody.

Vaughan Williams included in EH another tune which also fits "O little town". This is the Sussex folk melody which he called "Kingsfold" and which he set to "I heard the voice of Jesus say". I'm going to stick my neck out and say that I believe "Kingsfold" is a better tune than "Forest Green" and I wish that he had paired it with "O little town". Vaughan Williams regarded "Kingsfold" very highly and in 1939 wrote a stunning symphonic setting of the tune. It has become quite a popular hymn tune over the last fifty years or so, and people pick it up very readily. At St Margaret's we have quite often used it for "O little town" and no-one has yet protested! On the other hand, I wouldn't risk using it at our big candlelight service, as so many people have come to expect "Forest Green".

The two tunes have a lot in common; both are in the form AABA, so there is a lot of repetition of the main melody and both tunes are thus easily learned. But "Kingsfold" in my view is better, for two reasons. First, it's in a minor key which gives it a slightly wistful feeling, setting it apart from most Christmas tunes. Second, it has more rhythmic interest than "Forest Green", which tends to plod a little, by comparison.

Oh dear, I have over-run my target and rabbitied on a bit. But "O little town" is a truly great carol and deserves a bit of attention. And in only nine months' time we'll be singing it all over again!

JONATHAN



To have your **APRIL 2022 CROSSROADS** ready for publication on **SUNDAY 27 MARCH**

ARTICLES NEED TO BE WITH THE EDITORS' PREFERABLY BY EMAIL BEFORE, BUT NO LATER THAN...

**...SUNDAY 13 MARCH**

The earlier you can get your articles to the Editors the greater chance of getting it published.

**Thank you for your help in this matter**



Annual Parish Meetings are coming up in May, Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> May to be precise. These are important occasions for us to celebrate together all that's been good over the last year, and to look forward to the year ahead. Also we'll be electing people to represent us all on the parish church councils (PCCs) through the year, including church wardens and other representatives. So, now's the time to look around, consider who you'd like to nominate, and nobble them (prayerfully, of course!).

If you normally write a report for APCM Reports pack, would you please prepare it **NOW** and send it to Glenda as soon as possible. Emailed documents are preferred; but if your report must be handwritten, please let Glenda have it immediately, in order that she can process it in time for the Annual Report and Accounts pack.

Remember your report covers the period...

1st JANUARY TO 31st DECEMBER 2021 only

**Only THREE have been received thus far...**

The deadline for the receipt of ALL reports is **Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2022**; your report will not appear in the reports pack if it is received after the set deadline date.

## CROSSROADS

Many of our annual payers for Crossroads have paid either the person who delivers their copy, or me, or popped their money in a jar at the back of St Margaret's or in the wall safe at St George's. So, thank you for that.

If you have yet to pay for the copy you are currently reading or for the year, please see me or pass your money to a Churchwarden who will know exactly what to do with it. Remember that if you have access to the internet, you can read Crossroads for free and in colour by visiting [www.glos-stg-stm.org.uk](http://www.glos-stg-stm.org.uk) But please let us know if you decide to view Crossroads via our website so we don't print or deliver copies needlessly.

I am looking for someone to deliver just a few magazines on the Grange Estate (do we still call it that?) or to be more precise some roads in the Chatsworth Avenue area. Please see me if you can help, *don't all rush at once*.

*"There are many of us that are willing to do great things for the Lord, but few of us are willing to do little things."*

*D.L. Moody*



### QUIET PRAYER GROUP

**will meet again on**

**Friday 25th March 2022 at 2.30pm**

**in the Lady Chapel of St George's Church**



## **GOSPEL TRUTH BIBLE QUIZ**

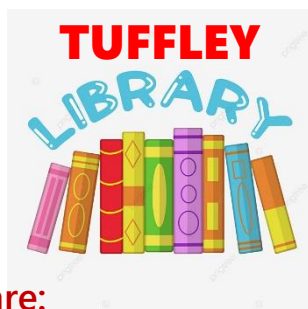
Questions based on the Gospel readings for January

- 1 Wise men from the east came to Jerusalem asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews". Who did they ask?
- 2 The Priests and the Scribes quoting an Old Testament Prophet stated the Messiah was to be born in Bethlehem. Which Old Testament Prophet were they quoting?
- 3 The crowds looked at John the Baptist wondering if he might be the Messiah. John answered, "I am not. One is coming who is more powerful than I. I am not worthy to \_\_\_\_ his \_\_\_\_". What words are missing?
- 4 As Jesus was baptised the Spirit descended on Him and a voice from heaven said, "You are my Son, the \_\_\_\_; with you I am well pleased". What was Jesus?
- 5 What, according to John, was Jesus first miraculous sign?
- 6 At the wedding feast in Cana of Galilee. How many stone water jars were there?
- 7 Early in His ministry Jesus returned to Galilee and reports about him began to spread throughout the surrounding country. He began to teach in their \_\_\_\_\_. Where was he teaching?
- 8 In Nazareth Jesus picked up a scroll written by Isaiah. He read aloud, "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me because he has appointed me to bring good news to the poor". Which chapter of Isaiah was Jesus reading?
- 9 Who guided Simeon to the Temple as Mary and Joseph arrived with Jesus?
- 10 Anna was an aged widow who never left the Temple, but worshiped there with fasting and prayer night and day. How old was she?

*Answers to this month's Gospel Truth Bible Quiz are printed later in this issue*

***"God loves each of us as if there were only one of us"***  
***Augustine***





**Our current regular groups are:**

**Baby Bounce and Rhyme:** Thursdays from 10.30am until 11.00am

**Computer Club:** Thursdays at 11.00am

**Lego Club:** Saturdays from 10.30am until 12.30pm We cater for all ages as we have Duplo too so make it an outing for the whole family. Just turn up to discover this week's theme and let your imagination run wild!

To find out more about any of these events and/or to book a place please call in, email or phone.

For any childminders out there, library staff are happy to put on a special story time for your children when you visit us. Just give us a call to arrange.

As ever we have books, audio books and a home delivery service. If you know of anyone who can't get out and would appreciate a book or spoken word delivery do, please let us know.

Forthcoming Events at Tuffley Library: (Pop these dates in your diary)

April 1st/April 2nd: **April Fools soft toy sleepover** (see poster). **FREE**

Monday 11th April at 10.30am: **Flying Feathers and Fables**. A special bird watching story walk with master storyteller Bill Church. **FREE**

Saturday May 7th from 10.30am until 12.30pm Community Plant and Seedling Swap with coffee morning **FREE**

If you haven't already, check out the Gloucestershire Libraries website

<https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/libraries/>

You will find eBooks, eMagazines and a comprehensive virtual reference library. Remember too that the library space is available as venue hire for your club or meeting when we are closed. It is here for you all. We hope to see you soon

MARGARET AND STEVE

01452 522160

[Tuffleylibrary@gloucestershire.gov.uk](mailto:Tuffleylibrary@gloucestershire.gov.uk)

<https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/libraries/>

# **Tuffley Library**

**Proudly Presents**

## **The April Fooling Soft Toy Sleepover!**



**Bring your toys in on Friday 1st April  
From 2.00pm until 4.30pm**

**Follow their adventures  
on Gloucestershire Libraries social media**

**Collect them after their adventure  
on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> April  
at 10.30am for a story and certificate**

**Limited places, booking essential on  
01452 522160 or [tuffleylibrary@gloucestershire.gov.uk](mailto:tuffleylibrary@gloucestershire.gov.uk)**

**The Library**

## AN UPDATE FROM THE FLAG LOCKER



It's a good while since I have reported on flag flying at St Margaret's. Our flag flying started in 1993, when Evelyn Chaloner bought our flagpole, and Dot Martin sponsored our very first flag. Through the generosity of others, we now have about a dozen different flags which are flown according to a set programme of about thirty flag days a year.

Dave Trigg has had to retire as our flag flyer, for health reasons. He has been 'doing the flags' with total dependability since 2016, and we are very grateful indeed. His new next-door neighbour, Adam Broadbent, has very kindly taken

over. Adam moved in to Robinswood Cottage last year with his wife Lucie and their five children. He has already proved himself a first-class successor to Dave. The flags go up and down exactly as per the schedule and all I have to do is to produce the annual flag flying plan.

We have replaced two flags lately, namely The Mission to Seafarers flag and the Scottish Lion (red on yellow). Both had become disgracefully tatty. Unfortunately flags soon fray at the downwind end, and there is not a lot one can do. This incidentally is why it is so important that flags come down on schedule. If they are left to fly for days on end, and in stormy weather, they deteriorate very quickly. The new Scottish Lion is a printed flag, whereas its predecessor was woven. The cost of woven, where the design is complex, is now prohibitive. This printed replacement flew beautifully for the Queen's Accession on 6<sup>th</sup> February, and we are following with a St David's flag. So, look out for the Red Dragon over Whaddon on 1<sup>st</sup> March – St David's day.

Apart from that, March will be a quiet month for flags – just the Union Jack on the 14<sup>th</sup> to mark Commonwealth Day. April is much busier, with a continuous run of flag days from Easter Day onwards, right up to 2<sup>nd</sup> May. You will see St

George's cross, the Union flag, Tanzania, and our own St Margaret of Scotland flag. All good exercise for our trusty flag flyer!

People do notice the flags. We get nice comments from time to time, and wedding couples often request a flag for their big day.

JONATHAN



Picture showing Rachel and Jonathan with the new Mission to Seafarers flag







I'm well on the way to being ready to draw  
St George's 100 Club winners on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> March.

Are your numbers in the draw?

**What you haven't got any!!**

See Darrell as soon as possible,  
before it's too late!

**DON'T MISS OUT AGAIN!"**

I can sort out your membership in time for you to be a part  
of our March 2022 draw, but you have to move quickly...

A full set of rules is available upon request.

**Please talk to the promoter Darrell as soon as possible**



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### **ANOTHER DATE FOR YOUR DIARIES...**

St George's will be hosting  
the 2022 Archdeacon's Visitation service  
on Thursday 9th June  
at 7.30pm

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# PETER'S MARCH

## Quiz

- 1 How many players are there on each side in a polo match?
- 2 In what year did Tony Blair become British Prime Minister?
- 3 How many times has England won the men's football World Cup?
- 4 What is the capital of New Zealand?
- 5 Street artist Banksy is originally associated with which British city?
- 6 From what grain is the Japanese spirit Sake made?
- 7 What was the name of the baker in whose bakery the Great Fire of London of 1666 apparently started?
- 8 The Spanish Civil War started in 1936 and ended in which year?
- 9 In 1870 the Third Republic is declared in France after which leader was deposed?
- 10 Which US President had the middle name Milhous?
- 11 How many notes are there in a musical scale?
- 12 What temperature centigrade does water boil at?
- 13 What company is also the name of one of the longest rivers in the world?
- 14 What in the animal kingdom is a doe?
- 15 What is the tallest mountain in the world?
- 16 Which city hosted COP26?
- 17 Name the viral sea shanty sensation who reached number one in the UK singles chart.
- 18 Who sold out every night in Glasgow for his upcoming comedy tour after releasing tickets this year?
- 19 Which movie was adapted by Steven Spielberg this year and takes place in 1957's New York City?
- 20 Charles Dickens wrote A Tale of Two Cities. What are the two cities?

### ANSWERS TO PETER'S FEBRUARY QUIZ!

1 Elephant: 2 Brazil: 3 Jerusalem: 4 Motor Racing: 5 Predictions: 6 Wolf: 7 Fruits:  
8 Diabetes: 9 Hiroshima: 10 The fear of skin disease: 11 A bicycle: 12 Observer:  
13 Amadeus: 14 Taxidermy: 15 Brake Horse Power: 16 Arthur: 17 John Kay:  
18 Radiation: 19 The legal profession (Doctor of Law): 20 Two – Anne Boleyn and Anne of Cleves:





From Tony, the Tuffley Poet...

I love fish and chips,  
Grapes with no pips,  
When turned into wine  
I drink a bottle at nine  
Allowing me more than just sips

Received my energy bill,  
Time to make a new will.  
'Cos I'm now very cold,  
Frail, and quite old.  
Knowing I'm well over the hill

From me...

I know a young man from The Pludds,  
Whose intention it was to give bloods.  
He checked in at his local Donor Centre,  
But, his nurse turned out to be an experimenter  
And his blood came out in floods.

*If you think that you can do better than these! Get your **Easter limericks** to me by 13th March, and we'll see!*

## **JILL'S JOTTINGS**

from St Margaret's

Well folks, it's me again, that moaning Minnie who does at St Margaret's Church with her mates Marilyn and Dianne.

We kept our Christmas tree up until Candlemas, we had all the candles lit and the church looked a wonderful sight. Our service was a little different from normal; but it was awesome. Rachel lit the Pascal candle and we had to light our own candle and move towards the font. We sang our final hymn and said a prayer; it was lovely. We all congratulated Rachel for a wonderful service.

Marilyn, Dianne, Julie and I took the church tree down on 24<sup>th</sup> January; it was a lot quicker taking it down than putting it up. The baubles came off quite well with out any mishaps, we took the tree to the bottom of the churchyard to be sorted out by a friend of Marilyn's. Then it was all hands to the pump to clear up all the dropped pine needles, we had a bucketful by the time we had finished. About three hours all told! The baubles were boxed up and put in the shed. It's getting harder and harder to put things away as more and more rubbish is put in there; but I found a place on shelves which were free, locked the door and hoped that nothing fell to the floor. Here's to next Christmas!

On our last perusal into Wilf Brunt, he was a man of so many talents, his granddaughter gave me an envelope with more information about Wilf. He was born on 16 July 1901 and went to Whaddon School 15<sup>th</sup> October 1908 until 18<sup>th</sup> December 1913, when he was 13 years and 5 months old. According to his report he was an intelligent boy he was always the farmer from a very young age. It does make you wonder how he managed to pack so much into his life. He was a keen supporter of road safety in Whaddon and Brookthorpe; Stroud Road was lethal in place at one time.

He was Parish Council Chairman for well over 40 years. He was invited to the opening of the Golden Valley Bypass in 1966 which was followed by luncheon at the Shire Hall. He also attended a Garden Party at Buckingham Palace in the early 1970's, what an interesting jolly that must have been.

Wilf died at the grand old age of 94 and is buried in St Margaret's churchyard, he was much loved by his family and friends. I always liked to listen when he went to the Brookthorpe Gardening Club. My mum and Mr Brunt always had lots to talk about when they got together. There used to be a lady who sold cheese in Whaddon, my mum bought some for my dad. Mr Brunt told my mum not to buy her cheese from that lady again as her hygiene was not all it should be, she thanked him and said that in future she would get her cheese from the Co-op in Tuffley Lane.

Well, my friends, that's about all for this month, I've done my best for you so until next time, stay safe and well.

JILL PONTER



## OVER THE GARDEN FENCE

Maya, what you doing over there? Trixie I'm just looking to see who's coming down the road. Oh! Is that all! I'm still waiting for our mum to come home as I'm flaming starving! I know what you mean Trix; I'm not exactly full up right now. Oh, come and look Trix, our mum has just come through the alleyway. She's talking to someone, now I wonder how long she's going to be now! Come on, Maya, let's cry out together, maybe she'll hear us. Mum, mum, we are starving to death! Trixie, we do have some biscuits in our bowls. I don't care, Maya, I'm still starving. Trixie, you don't half go on! Can't help that, Maya, but our mum's coming now, so let's give it to her full blast, both together now, one, two, three...

I don't think that our mum was very impressed with us today, Trixie. But I'm glad that we are outside now, maybe we'll see the Gingers. I still haven't seen Harry yet, so maybe we'll find out at long last what has been wrong with him. Oh, hello, Yasmin. Have you seen Harry lately? The Gingers said that something had happened to him. I don't know all the details, so like you, I'm all ears. There they are the two Gingers. Hi, guys, how are you both? It's been a while since you blessed us with your presence, so what's the Goss around your area boys? And what on earth has been wrong with Harry? Well girls, it was like this Harry told me that he did not feel so good so, I went with him so he wouldn't get lost. He almost collapsed on me a couple of times but, we managed to get him to his mum and dad. They took one look at him, and he was put in that box and off to the doctors; I never heard any more for ages after that, but I kept going round to try and find out what had happened to him. All I got was the odd snippet of information.

Oh, Ging, did they say why he had to go to that place? Trixie, all I could find out at the time was that he was in the very best place, but where that place was, I just don't know. Little Ging managed to find out that he had eaten something, and it got stuck somewhere and he was very, very poorly. His mum talks to our mum and they said he was very poorly and that he would be out of circulation

for quite a while. I have seen him through the window, he has one of those lampshade things around his neck. He didn't half look funny and extremely fed up. I don't know what bit of him was chopped out but, his belly ain't got no fur on it. I saw that myself I still don't know when he will be allowed out to say hello to us. Do you know anything Yasmin? Only what the two of you just said. My mum doesn't talk to many of the people in our road as you know. She thinks that she is a little above them but, as far as I can see we are all felines that get on with each other. Our mums will just have to get over the fact that I like all my feline friends and I don't mind whose food I shovel down my throat. My friend's mums have excellent taste in at food. Maya & Trixie, your mum puts out the best! It's always lovely and juicy. I don't mind that at all, I know that Duke is very appreciative of what your mum gives him Maya. I know Yasmin, he gets bigger every time I see him, I make sure that I pass by him very quickly, when he has his nose in his food.

So, what are we going to do about Harry, guys? I will keep my ears and eyes open Maya. I know that he is doing alright, so far. I'll make sure that you are the first to know anything. Ok, little Ging, most appreciated, we will all meet up again next week, sometime. Ok, with you all? I'm still desperate to find out what happened, bye Yasmin and Gingers, see you next time. Come on, Trixie, say tata to everyone. Ok Maya, tata folks, until the next time and it's tata from me too, Maya. Take care of yourselves and stay safe.

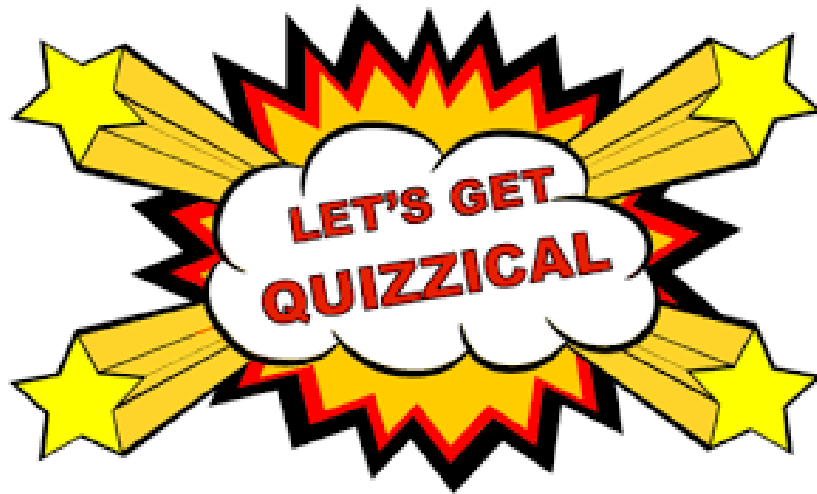
Best wishes  
MAYA AND TRIXIE PONTER

### **GOSPEL TRUTH BIBLE QUIZ ANSWERS**

1 King Herod: 2 Micah: 3 untie & sandals: 4 Beloved: 5 turning water into wine:  
6 Six: 7 Synagogues: 8 Isaiah 61: 9 the Holy Spirit: 10 84 years:

*"God will meet you where you are in order to take you  
where He wants you to go."*

*Tony Evans*



**Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> April**  
**at 7.30pm**

**ST GEORGE'S CENTRE**  
**Grange Road, Tuffley**

**Maximum of 6 per team**

**£2.00 per team member**

**10 rounds of quizzing with a difference**

**Bring your own food and drink**

**This is an alternative quiz**  
**with a raffle**



## **THROUGH THE WINDOW**

Hello there, it's me again, this time I didn't forget the pad and pen. My mum still hides it from me, I'm sure that she does it on purpose! There's not a lot going on in my life at the moment. I go out and have a mooch around the estate, sniff here and there to see what's out there and who's wandered over my patch. It's a bit chilly out there at the moment and we've had rain!

My mum makes me go out in it but, I don't stay out long because I get very wet. I drape myself around my mum's legs to dry myself off a bit. Mind you I get told off but, she does have trousers on, so it doesn't matter, well not according to me! My mum keeps going out, but I don't know where she goes but it's with Auntie Jill. She's out for hours, other times not so long. I know they go to see Auntie Lynne but return early enough to give me my tea.

I haven't seen that other feline who lives a few doors away recently, maybe it's too cold for him too. I'll be glad when it warms up a bit so that I can stay outside more. Over the weekend I was shut up in my mum's bedroom, again! All because that pesky dog was coming. You should hear my mum and Auntie Jill it fair makes you sick; talking all lovey-dovey and soppy. It chases up the stairs and thinks it can come and say hello! Well, it can't get in! I'm always glad when my mum comes and lets me out. I have a good sniff round, just to make sure it's not still here. It's a relief I can tell you.

Sometimes my mum and Auntie Jill have somebody come and I'm allowed to join them. I'm not supposed to jump up onto the table and if something is going on well, I have to make sure that it's being done correctly! I do like to poke my nose in even though it's not always wanted. Sometimes I shuffle things around, then I'm told off and shouted at.

Not to worry eh! I have to have a little snigger at my mum and Auntie Jill. They have their papers and are busy writing something, they call it a crossword,



whatever that is? They spend ages working on it, it's all Greek to me because I don't know what they're on about. Whatever floats your boat.  
That's all for now...

Love, JoJo Whittle (Miss)



## **FEBRUARY**

|        |  |                                     |        |
|--------|--|-------------------------------------|--------|
| Sun 27 | <b>Sunday before LENT</b><br><b>March Crossroads available</b> |                                     |        |
|        | 9.00am   | Parish Communion                    | St M's |
|        | 10.30am  | Parish Communion followed by coffee | St G's |
|        | 10.30am  | Messy Church                        | GB     |
|        | 4.30pm   | Private let                         | SH     |
|        |  | Private let – tbc                   | MH     |
| Mon 28 | 10.30am  | Aphasia-Now                         | SH     |
|        | 5.00pm   | Brownies                            | MH     |
|        | 6.00pm   | Rainbows                            | SH     |
|        | 7.15pm   | Guides                              | MH     |

## **MARCH**

|       |   |                  |        |
|-------|---|------------------|--------|
| Tue 1 | <b>St David's Day/Shrove Tuesday</b>          |                  |        |
|       | 10.00am                                       | Parish Communion | St G's |
|       | 10.00am                                       | Coffee Pot       | MH     |
|       | Interment of Ashes for the late Jeanne Wilson |                  | St M's |
|       | 6.30pm  | Cubs & Beavers   | MH     |
|       | 6.00pm  | Pancake Party    | EM     |
| Wed 2 | <b>ASH WEDNESDAY</b>                          |                  |        |
|       | 8.15am  | Morning Prayer   | Zoom   |
|       | 3.30pm  | Slimming World   | MH     |

|        |  |   |        |
|--------|--|---|--------|
| Thu 3  | 10.30am  | Parish Communion                                    | St M's |
|        | 7.00pm   | Ash Wednesday service with ashing                   | St G's |
| Fri 4  | <b>WORLD DAY OF PRAYER</b>   |   |        |
|        | 10.00am  | World Day of Prayer at Grange Baptist – all welcome |        |
|        | 3.30pm   | Messy Church  | St B   |
|        | 7.30pm   | Entertainers  | MH     |
| Sat 5  | 7.30pm   | Let Us Entertain You                                | St G's |
| Sun 6  | <b>1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of LENT</b>   |   |        |
|        | 10.30am  | Family Praise                                       | St M's |
|        | 10.30am  | Parish Communion                                    | St G's |
|        |  | Private let – tbc                                   |        |
|        | 5.00pm   | Evensong  | St M's |
| Mon 7  | 5.00pm   | Brownies  | MH     |
|        | 6.00pm   | Rainbows  | SH     |
|        | 7.15pm   | Guides  | MH     |
| Tues 8 | 10.00am  | Parish Communion                                    | St G's |
|        | 10.00am  | Coffee pot  | MH     |
|        | 2.30pm   | Mother's Union – Lent Talk by Rev'd Rachel          | SH     |
|        | 6.30pm   | Cubs & Beavers                                      | MH     |
| Wed 9  | 8.15am   | Morning Prayer                                      | Zoom   |
|        | 2.00pm   | King's Speech film reflections 1                    | V      |
|        | 3.30pm   | Slimming World                                      | MH     |
| Thu 10 | 10.30am  | Parish Communion                                    | St M's |
|        | 7.00pm   | King's Speech film reflections 1                    | V      |
| Fri 11 | 7.30pm   | Entertainers  | MH     |
| Sat 12 | 10.00am  | Messy Church  | St G's |
| Sun 13 | <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of LENT</b><br><b>Deadline for April Crossroads</b> |   |        |
|        | 9.00am   | Parish Communion                                    | St M's |
|        | 10.30am  | Parish Communion followed by coffee                 | St G's |
| Mon 14 | 5.00pm   | Brownies  | MH     |
|        | 6.00pm   | Rainbows  | SH     |
|        | 7.15pm   | Guides  | MH     |
| Tue 15 | 10.00am  | Parish Communion                                    | St G's |
|        | 10.00am  | Coffee Pot  | MH     |
|        | 6.30pm   | Cubs & Beavers                                      | MH     |
| Wed 16 | 8.15am   | Morning Prayer                                      | Zoom   |
|        | 1.00pm   | Diocese meeting                                     | SH     |

|        |   |  |        |
|--------|---|--|--------|
|        | 2.00pm  | King's Speech film reflections 2   | V      |
|        | 3.30pm  | Slimming World sessions  | MH     |
| Thu 17 | 10.30am   | Parish Communion   | St M's |
|        | 7.00pm  | King's Speech film reflections 2   | V      |
| Fri 18 | 3.30pm  | Messy Church   | St B   |
|        | 7.30pm  | Entertainers   | MH     |
| Sat 19 | 10.30am   | CiT Environmental Group Litter Pick meet at St Barnabas  |        |
| Sun 20 | 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday in LENT  |  |        |
|        | 10.30am   | Parish Communion followed by coffee  | St G's |
|        | 5.00pm  | Evensong   | St M's |
| Mon 21 | 5.00pm  | Brownies   | MH     |
|        | 6.00pm  | Rainbows   | SH     |
|        | 7.15pm  | Guides   | MH     |
| Tue 22 | 10.00am   | Parish Communion   | St G's |
|        | 10.00am   | Coffee Pot   | MH     |
|        | 6.30pm  | Cubs & Beavers   | MH     |
| Wed 23 | 8.15am  | Morning Prayer   | Zoom   |
|        | 2.00pm  | King's Speech film reflections 3   | V      |
|        | 3.30pm  | Slimming World sessions  | MH     |
| Thu 24 | 10.30am   | Parish Communion   | St M's |
|        | 7.00pm  | King's Speech film reflections 3   | V      |
| Fri 25 | 2.30pm  | Quiet Prayer Group meet  | St G's |
|        | 7.30pm  | Entertainers   | SH     |
|        | 7.30pm  | Gardening Club   | MH     |
| Sat 26 | Clocks forward 1 hour tonight   |  |        |
| Sun 27 | MOTHERING SUNDAY / 4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in LENT<br>April Crossroads available |  |        |
|        | 10.30am   | Today we welcome Bishop Rachel to our Benefice Communion Service at St George's followed by coffee |        |
|        | 10.30am   | Messy Church   | GB     |
|        | 12.30pm   | Baptism – tbc  | St G's |
| Mon 28 | 10.30am   | Aphasia-Now  | SH     |
|        | 5.00pm  | Brownies   | MH     |
|        | 6.00pm  | Rainbows   | SH     |
|        | 7.15pm  | Guides   | MH     |
| Tue 29 | 10.00am   | Parish Communion   | St G's |
|        | 10.00am   | Coffee Pot   | MH     |
|        | 6.30pm  | Cubs & Beavers   | MH     |

|        |         |                                  |        |
|--------|---------|----------------------------------|--------|
| Wed 30 | 8.15am  | Morning Prayer                   | Zoo    |
|        | 2.00pm  | King's Speech film reflections 4 | V      |
|        | 3.30pm  | Slimming World sessions          | MH     |
| Thu 31 | 10.30am | Parish Communion                 | St M's |
|        | 7.00pm  | King's Speech film reflections 4 | V      |

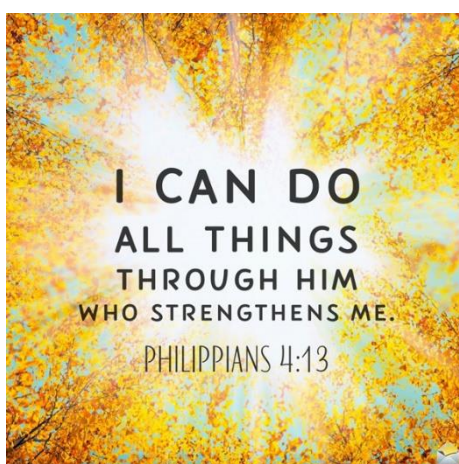
## APRIL

|       |  |                                     |        |
|-------|--|-------------------------------------|--------|
| Fri 1 | 3.30pm   | Messy Church                        | St B's |
|       | 7.30pm   | Entertainers                        | MH     |
| Sat 2 | 7.30pm   | LET'S GET QUIZZICAL                 | MH     |
| Sun 3 | <b>5<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY in LENT</b><br><b>Deadline for APCM reports</b> |                                     |        |
|       | 9.00am   | Parish Communion                    | St M's |
|       | 10.30am  | Parish Communion followed by coffee | St G's |
|       | 10.30am  | Family Praise                       | St M's |
|       | 3.30pm   | Messy Church                        | St B's |

St G's = St George's Church, St M's = St Margaret's Church  
 EM = English Martyrs Catholic Church, St B's = St Barnabas' Church  
 GB = Grange Baptist Church,  
 MH = Main Hall, SH = Small Hall, SL = Softley Lounge, V = Vicarage

There are occasionally changes to the weekly timetable so please refer to our weekly newsletter, Signpost for details of any changes. Crossroads and our weekly newsletter are now available for free on our website.

[www.glos-stg-stm.org.uk](http://www.glos-stg-stm.org.uk)





Our Gloucester Foodbank are in need of the following, if you can help by donating anything from the following list do. There is a crate at the back of St George's Church for donations there is also a collecting point in St George's Centre entrance hall.

**LONG LIFE FRUIT JUICE, BOTTLES OF SQUASH, INSTANT MASH PACKETS,  
TINNED FRUIT, PASTA & SAUCES PACKETS, SAVOURY RICE PACKETS, SMALL  
JARS OF COFFEE, DEODORANT AND SHAMPOO**

Ben, from the Foodbank, usual collects donations from St George's Centre on Friday morning around 10.00am.



## **A LITTLE BIT OF HUMOUR TO FINISH WITH...**

A man walks into a chemist's and says: 'Can I have a bar of soap, please?' The chemist says: 'Do you want it scented?' And the man says: 'No, I'll take it with me now.'

"I always take my wife morning tea in my pyjamas. But is she grateful? No, she says she'd rather have it in a cup."

"I used to think sticks and stones could break my bones, but words could never hurt me – until I fell into a printing press."

"I went to Waterstones and asked the woman for a book about turtles. She said 'hardback?' and I was like, 'yeah and little heads.'"

Two monkeys were getting into the bath. One said: "Oo, oo, oo, aah." The other replied: "Well, put some cold in it then."

"I'm going to donate my body to science, and keep my dad happy – he always wanted me to go to medical school."

My wife sent a text, "Hi! Son, what does IDK, LY, & TTYL mean?" He texted back, "I Don't Know, Love You, & Talk To You Later." My wife texted back, "It's ok, don't worry about it. I'll ask your sister, love you too."

A man got hit in the head with a can of Coke, but he was alright because it was a soft drink.

A robber pulls out gun in a bank, and says, "Give me all the money or you're geography!" The puzzled man behind the counter replies, "Did you mean to say, 'or you're history?'" The robber says, "Don't change the subject!"

I went down the street to my Tesco Local. When I got there, the assistant was locking the front door. I said, "Hey! The sign says you're open 24 hours." He said, "Yes, but not necessarily in a row!"

What do cats eat for breakfast? Mice Krispies of course!