# CROSSROADS

The magazine for St George's Tuffley and St Margaret's Whaddon

# Worshipping, Caring, Pioneering



Growing God's Kingdom



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ST MARGARET'S

Sundays Tuesdays Wednesdays Parish Communion at 10.30am

Parish Communion at 10.00am

Morning Prayer at 8.15am on Zoom

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday Evensong at 5.00pm

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday Parish Communion at 9.00am and

Family Praise at 4.00pm

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday Evensong at 5.00pm

4<sup>th</sup> Sunday Parish Communion at 9.00am 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Parish Communion at 9.00am

Thursday Parish Communion at 10.30am

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

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## **PASTORAL ASSISTANT, SUSAN WRITES...**

Dear Friends,

This April we begin on a high note, with Jesus' entry into Jerusalem, which we call Palm Sunday in memory of the palm branches strewn by the crowd. It is a moment of triumph and yet Jesus does not enter on a horse, as a conqueror would do, but a donkey. And even as the crowd hail his presence there are those who are unhappy about it.

From there we move into the drama of Holy Week and watch as Jesus throws out the traders within the temple and as he is anointed with expensive oil. All human life is there, from those who wanted to make 'a quick buck' to a woman who gave all she had to Jesus.

And then there is the Last Supper, the tragedy of Good Friday and the overwhelming joy of Easter Sunday. I wonder what it would have felt like as one of the disciples, living through such a rollercoaster week.

Even now, when we read or hear the story of Jesus' last week, it can all feel a bit overwhelming, because there's so much to take in and so many emotions to experience. So maybe it's worth just choosing one episode from the week and taking a few minutes to imagine what it would have felt like to be there, perhaps as a disciple or one of the women who followed Jesus, maybe as a bystander watching things play out, and picture the event in our minds.

What's Jesus doing? How would I feel? Would I have acted as the disciples did, or would I have done something different? The answers may not be quite what was expected.

And however, you spend Holy Week, whether you are able to attend various services, or life takes over in other ways, I pray that we will all know and celebrate once again the joy and power of the first Easter Sunday.

With every blessing, SUSAN



### FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

#### **BAPTISM**

St Margaret's

Dylan Myles Slade

#### **FUNERAL**

**St George's**Daphne Joan Reeves

#### **CREMATORIUM**

Marion Constance Patricia Marks



Is there anything you've ever wondered about the Christian faith, the Bible, the Church or why we do what we do in services? Anything from a small detail question to a wider more general question.

When I was teaching Y6 (top Juniors) we did a topic on 'wondering' and the children asked lots of questions on a whole variety of topics – as I'm sure you can imagine! We then thought about how we might find out the answers, or at least some of the thinking previously done around the questions. For the more spiritual, faith and religion-based questions, the children asked if we could invite the local parish priest in (this was a Catholic school). The children fired questions at him, and listened to what he had to say for over an hour! In the end I had to persuade them to go out for morning break. They were

captivated because he spoke honestly saying, sometimes there is no clear answer, we just don't know, but from the Bible we learn this... from the tradition of the Church we learn this... from our own experience we learn this...

After the children had gone for morning break and the local priest had gone to have a well-earned coffee, the staff in the classroom were saying how much they had appreciated the session. They said that many of the questions the children were asking were questions they had themselves, but they wouldn't have known where to ask them – they said they wouldn't have thought of going to any of the churches and asking because they would have felt silly, or that asking questions wasn't what you were supposed to do in church!

This experience has always stayed with me, and especially the adults' question of, 'where would we ask our questions?'

From Easter Day (9<sup>th</sup> April) to Pentecost (28<sup>th</sup> May) therefore, we will have a 'questions box' at the back of both churches. Anyone will be able to put a question in (write in on a slip of paper in church or at home) anonymously, and throughout Eastertide (Easter to Pentecost) and onwards we will give some time to thinking about these questions. Sometimes there will be a straightforward answer, sometimes it will be more like the above - an exploring of what we learn from different sources and considering the question from different angles.

Don't be afraid to put your question in – there are no 'silly questions' and if you're asking the question, it's likely that others will be too!

#### RACHFI

#### **SIGNPOST**

Might you be able to let us know what you like and what you don't like about Signpost. Does Signpost give you the information you expect? Might there be too much of one thing and not of another? In your opinion is there anything missing that you would have expected to see or be told on a regular basis in Signpost. Or, perhaps there is something which you would prefer not to see as often as you do in Signpost. We are aware that the website version differs because of presentation preferences to the paper version of Signpost available on a Sunday morning.



If anyone asked you what the benefice logo looked like, would you know?

For a logo to be worthwhile, it needs to be recognised by people instantly, think of these:













Our benefice logo needs to be recognised within the community as representing St George's and St Margaret's. We need to be able to put it on a poster, leaflet, social media, and for people to know instantly that the information or event is associated with St Margaret's and St George's. As a joint PCC, we are not confident that is the case with our current logo.

We would love for you to have a think about what would be instantly recognisable, and to ask your neighbours, friends, and families. What do they think of when they hear 'St George's and St Margaret's' and how would they recognise that is visual form? This gives us a wonderful opportunity to ask people in our community what comes to mind when they think of our two churches.

We are fortunate to have an offer from a young adult who is studying for a degree in art to create a logo for us, once we have collected some information and ideas from the above conversation. To enable some draft logos to be created by him, please could you let Rachel, Darrell or Dawn know any answers to the above question by the end of April.



# Holy Week and Easter dates and information

Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> April Palm Sunday

9.00am Holy Communion at St Margaret's

10.30am Family worship (no Holy Communion) at St George's

with a real live donkey, which looks uncannily like a pony!

5.00pm Evensong at St Margaret's

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> April Holy Monday

5.00pm Evening prayer on Zoom

7.30pm Candlelit Compline at St Margaret's

Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> April Holy Tuesday

10.00am Parish Communion at St George's10.30am Stations of the Cross at St George's

5.00pm Evening Prayer at St George's

Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> April Holy Wednesday

8.15am Morning Prayer on Zoom 5.00pm Evening Prayer on Zoom

Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> April Maundy Thursday

10.30am Parish Communion at St Margaret's

7.00pm Agape Meal at St George's (More details to follow)

Friday 7<sup>th</sup> April Good Friday

Together as the Church in Tuffley

10.00am Messy Easter at St Barnabas until12.00noon1.00pm Walk of witness beginning at English Martyrs

2.00pm Hot Cross buns at St George's2.30pm Holy Communion at St George's

Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> April Holy Saturday

9.30am Easter Fun for all the family at St George's until 11.00am

8.00pm Easter Vigil at St Margaret's

Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> April Easter Day

9.00am Holy Communion at St Margaret's
10.30am Holy Communion at St George's
4.00pm Easter Family Praise at St Margaret's



# The latest news on the earthquakes in Turkey and Syria

A third, 6.4 magnitude earthquake struck southern Turkey a fortnight after two powerful earthquakes hit southern Turkey and northern Syria, killing over 50,000 people.

It has been one month since two earthquakes killed over 50,000 people. A further 100,000 were injured following the two powerful earthquakes.

The first, a 7.8 magnitude earthquake, struck in the early hours of 6<sup>th</sup> February near the city of Gaziantep, followed hours later by a 7.5 magnitude earthquake that hit around 80 miles away in the Elbistan district. The earthquakes are estimated to have directly impacted 26 million people across Turkey and Syria. The focus has now shifted to providing essential support for survivors who have lost their homes, belongings, livelihoods and loved ones.

The Red Crescent is on the ground in both countries, aiding rescue efforts and providing emergency medical treatment, shelter, food, warm blankets and winter kits.

In Turkey, the Turkish Red Crescent has launched a crisis response operation and mobilised teams in more than 10 regions across the country.

Across the border, the Syrian Arab Red Crescent is delivering assistance and support to those in need in the regions of Hama, Aleppo and Lattakia.

The Turkish Red Crescent and the Syrian Arab Red Crescent are at the heart of the earthquake response. Both National Societies are rooted in the communities they serve, providing unique access to the hardest hit areas. The International Federation of the Red Cross (IFRC) is also bringing in international support to support these localised efforts.

The bucket collection at St George's amounts to almost £250.00 currently.



Almighty God, we pray for the people of Turkey and Syria, for the victims, the injured, and all those affected by the devastating earthquake. We pray for first responders, and all those working tirelessly to rescue survivors from beneath the rubble. May God's peace sustain their efforts. Amen



Our planning for holiday club in August has started in earnest with lots of families excited about our plans! We will be using some Scripture Union holiday club material "The Guardians of Ancora" which Rachel has used before so she will be our guru this time round! The club will run

from 9.30am until 12.00noon for three days 22<sup>nd</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> August and will be aimed at those already at school from years Reception up to year 5. A separate lunchtime session for those in school years 6 to 8 will take place from 12.45pm until 1.45pm. The sessions will involve videos, games, crafts and teaching as well as a snack break and some sport too! We will limit the sessions to 30 children. The idea is to give first refusal on places to our Tuesday Fun and Free Families, our Baptism families, any other families we have regular contact with and of course any of your own children / grandchildren etc. make sure you have the dates in your diary!!! More information to follow!!

LAINE



# Bring your Donkey to Church Family Worship at St George's

On Palm Sunday, 2<sup>nd</sup> April, we are arranging Family Worship at 10.30am with a pony as our guest. There will not be Holy Communion at St George's this morning; but a Benefice Palm Sunday Communion will take place at St Margaret's at 5.00pm.

Editor's update: Apparently Max the pony, is very nervous about meeting everyone, so Laine is trying to find a replacement. Would anyone have a pantomime horse suit to hand just in case, of course?



# MAUNDY THURSDAY AGAPE MEAL 6<sup>th</sup> April, at 7.00pm in the Main Hall at St George's

On Maundy Thursday we remember the Last Supper that Jesus shared with his disciples, before he was arrested later that evening and crucified the next day. We remember that he washed his disciples' feet before the meal (John 13.4-17) urging them to follow his example to serve one another. 'Maundy' comes from the Latin 'mandātum' meaning mandate or command. The washing of feet is the practical example of the new command Jesus gives at the Last Supper, "A new commandment I give you, that you love one another; even as I have loved you, that you also love one another." (John 13 v34)

We remember too that during the Last Supper, Jesus taught his disciples how to remember him always – in the sharing of bread and wine. The Church across the world celebrates this as Jesus' institution of Holy Communion, Eucharist or Mass. Jesus takes bread, give thanks to God for it, breaks it and passes it round his disciples, and then lifts the cup of wine, gives thanks, and passes it round his disciples (Matthew 26.26-28; Mark 14.22-24; Luke 22.14-22).

Ultimately then, we remember on Maundy Thursday that Jesus teaches us to love God and to love one another, and to remember him through the sharing of bread and wine. We will do this at St George's this year through an Agape Meal. 'Agape' is the type of love that is not concerned with self, but is an unselfish, giving love – the love Jesus has for us, and encourages us to have for one another.

At 7.00pm on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> April, we will hear an account of the Last Supper, and then start the meal by sharing bread and wine (non-alcoholic options also available) together. We will then have a simple meal of jacket potatoes and various fillings, followed by a choice of desserts/puddings. This will be a time of fellowship together as we gather as Jesus' disciples here in this place and time. Please do come along if you possibly can. If you have any questions about the evening, please do ask Rachel.

**Editor's note:** There will not be a charge for our Agape Meal but please let Rachel know if you would like to be a part of this evening, in order that catering requirements can be assessed.



#### **CORE VALUES AND MORE**

One day about 62 years ago, I was eating an apple. My elder brother looked at me with slight scorn and asked: "don't you eat your apple cores?" I hadn't up till then, but I fell into line and have eaten them ever since, despite the protest of a boy at school who said that apple trees would grow inside my stomach. I have often felt rather smug about the litter and wastage I have saved.

But now it turns out that actually the core is the most nutritious bit of the apple. Maybe parents should set an example and encourage their children to eat the whole apple. OK, the stalk is a bit woody and can safely be discarded.

It seems that the core contains probiotics or "good bacteria" which promote the health of your internal organs. Moreover, the skin contains much of the goodness of the apple, so those who peel an apple as well as leaving the core are really losing out.

Did you know that the average person eats about 17 pounds of apples a year? (I am a registered fruit bat and eat at least three or four times that amount). Now if there are say 55 million adult apple eaters in Britain eating 17 pounds of apples per year and who don't eat the cores (and very few people seem to) then my calculation is that something like 90,000 tonnes of nutritious food is being discarded or at best recycled in the food waste.

While I am on my soap box, what about spuds? Why do we peel them? There's goodness in the skin, removal of which is tedious and wasteful. The only spuds we ever peel at home are for mashed potatoes on the shepherd's pie.

Would you like to have my secret recipes? Jonathan's magic mini-roasties: chop whole spuds (e.g. King Edwards or Maris Piper) peel and all, and cut into small pieces, no more than an inch. Parboil till they are beginning to disintegrate and stick them into a Pyrex dish or a roasting tin, preferably with no oil, or at most the tiniest drop. Roast at say 200 till a nice gold colour. (Without oil this does take quite a while).

And there's my chip recipe; even easier. Cut your chips, skins and all, quite thinly. Put into a roasting tin and give them a small smear of rape oil and a sprinkling of sea salt. You need a smear of oil, no more, on all surfaces. Start on 180 degrees and loosen with a suitable implement after 10 to 15 minutes as they will tend to stick. Keep cooking till they are how you like them.

#### Jonathan

# BENEFICE FAMILY FUN DAY SATURDAY 15TH JULY 2023 from 12.00noon until 4.00pm

This event will be fun and games for all the family, accompanied by hot dogs and strawberry teas, and a Grand Summer Raffle.

Please put the date in your diaries, and share the date with your friends, families, and neighbours (and please pray for good weather!) If

you have any ideas or suggestions for the day, please let Rachel or Darrell know, and if you would like to join the planning team, we would love to have you on board!

The Fayre's Group will meet on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> March at 7.00pm in the Vicarage to carry on with the planning.



**PCCs** 

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is the body that, with the minister, steers the life of the church in its mission, witness and service in the parish. The PCC's role is governed by law (the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956). It is a charitable trust and PCC members are charitable trustees, and so all the provisions of charity law apply to their corporate responsibilities, financial management and decision making. This is true whether or not the charity is registered with the Charity Commissioners. You cannot be a PCC member if by law you are not permitted to be a trustee.

# Being elected to the PCC

You are eligible for election to the PCC by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting if: -

- your name has been on the Electoral Roll of the parish for at least the preceding six months (unless under the age of 18 at the date of the election)
- you are an actual communicant (receiving Communion at least three times in the previous 12 months)
- Because of their responsibilities, PCC members will be expected to attend Safeguarding training. You cannot be a PCC member if convicted of a specified safeguarding offence or included in a barred list.

#### ANNUAL REPORTS

If you normally write a report for the APCM Reports pack, it should be in preparation now as requested in recent Signposts. Please send it to Glenda as soon as possible by email. 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 that your report covers the period...

1st JANUARY TO 31st DECEMBER 2022 only

Only SEVEN out of a possible 15 have been received thus far...

The deadline for the receipt of ALL reports will be **Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> April 2023**; your report will not appear in the reports pack if it is received after the set deadline date.

#### **ELECTORAL ROLL**

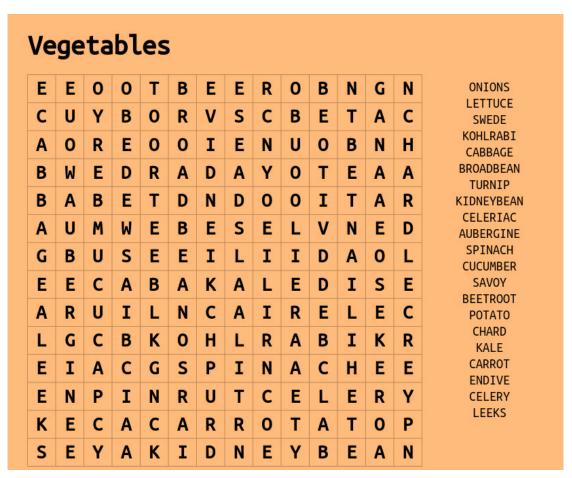
If your name does not appear on the Electoral Roll, you are not eligible to vote at our APCM or able to be elected to the PCC. The Electoral Roll will be displayed on the noticeboard in the porch a few weeks prior to the APCM. If you wish your name to be added to the list, forms can be obtained from the back of church, or you can speak to Margaret at St George's or Jill at St Margaret's. Completed forms should be handed to, Glenda or a Churchwarden.

The next complete renewal of the Electoral Roll will be in 2025.



We will be gathering for a few confirmation sessions soon as we have at least one candidate for confirmation in the benefice. If you would be interested in either being confirmed, or coming along to the sessions out of interest (if you've already been confirmed, or if you're not sure about confirmation) please do speak to Rachel or Laine.





Find the words listed in the above puzzle. Words can go in any direction. Words can share letters as they cross over each other.

The answer is printed later in Crossroads

Thank you again, Angela



To have your MAY 2023 CROSSROADS ready for publication on SUNDAY 30<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2023...

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

THURSDAY 13th APRIL 2023

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



# **CIT ENVIRONMENT GROUP LITTER PICK GROUP**

These are the dates and venues of the next litter picking sessions: -

Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> April at 10.00am at Holmleigh Park School Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> May at 10.00am at Holmleigh Park School

Please come along and join us



#### ST GEORGE'S CHURCH CLEANING

Saturday 1st April at 10.00am

Yes, our small band of duster flickers, hoover movers and cobweb shifters continue to meet on the first Saturday of each month. No previous experience is necessary, and on-the-job training is always available, as is tea/coffee. The weather will have, hopefully, started to improve, so the advice is to dress accordingly in case you get a sweat on!

This month when we get together will be in the lead up to Easter so it would be good to have your help in ensuring that St George's is looking its best for Palm Sunday and Easter Day a week later.

Next month we will see you on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> May at 10.00am at St George's as our usual first Saturday of the month is, of course, Coronation Day.

DARRELL



## **CORONATION OF CHARLES III AND CAMILLA**

On Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> May the coronation of King Charles III and Camilla, will take place. Communities around the country are invited to celebrate the Coronation of Charles III. Our PCCs are inviting anyone with ideas as to how we should celebrate the day to please speak with Rachel as soon as possible.



I'm already for our next draw on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> June

We had our draw last month and the winners were

1<sup>st</sup> prize £30.00 Dot Martin

2<sup>nd</sup> prize £20.00 Veronique Stevens

3<sup>rd</sup> prize £10.00 Ann Mayo

Congratulations and better luck next time
to those whose number weren't pick out this time

So, are your numbers in the next draw? What, you still haven't got any!!

See Darrell as soon as possible! £1.00 per number per month

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

I will sort out your membership in time for you to be a part of our next draw

A full set of rules is available upon request.

Please talk to the promoter Darrell as soon as possible

If you are already a member and would like to increase your chances of winning you can see me to purchase further numbers.

Also, don't forget to pay at least your first quarter's fees before the date of the draw.





# Questions based on the Gospel readings for February

Till Matthew's gosper Jesus talks about Salt and Light. In which chapter of
Matthew will you find this reading?
2 Jesus came, not to abolish the $\_\_$ or the $\_\_\_$ , but to fulfil them. What did
Jesus come to fulfil?
3 Jesus went on to say, "Truly I tell you, until and pass away, not one
letter, nor one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished".
What are the missing words?
4 Which gospel tells us 'Do not worry'?

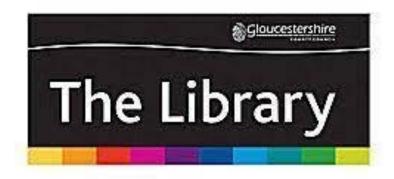
- 5 What 3 things did Jesus tell His audience not to worry about?

1 In Matthew's gospol losus talks about 'Salt and Light'

- 6 In which gospel, chapter and verse did Jesus tell his audience to, "Strive first for the Kingdom of God and his righteousness".
- 7 The scripture says, "Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain by themselves". What event was about to happen?
- 8 Two others appeared with Jesus. Who were they?
- 9 During the temptation of Jesus what did Satan suggest Jesus should command to become loaves of bread?
- 10 The scriptures highlight 3 temptations placed before Jesus. How many days and nights did Jesus fast?

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





# **Tuffley Library News and Events**

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 10.30 am until 12.30 pm 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!

**NEW BOOK GROUP** for adults meets on the second Thursday of every month at 2.00pm. Next two titles are:

The House by the Loch by Kirsty Wark on 13th April
The Other Bennet Sister by Janice Hadlow on 11th May

It is an informal friendly group, relax with tea and cake and make new friends!

**ALSO NEW**: A COMPUTER BUDDY is available for FREE one to one sessions on a Thursday morning. Bring your own device or use a library computer. Sessions must be booked in advance! Tel 01452 522160

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.

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 Tel 01452 522160

tuffleylibrary@gloucestershire.gov.uk

# JILL'S JOTTINGS

from St Margaret's

Well, hello folks. It's me again the moaning Minnie that does the cleaning at St Margaret's. There is just three of us who take the time to meet up and do our very best to clean our wonderful little church every other Monday.

It's been hard going of late, as the weather has been atrocious, we do try and keep smiling and carry on though. We always make visitors welcome, but there hasn't been many of late, but we are ever hopeful.

We have been on the lookout for some different brass cleaner, as the Duraglit can leave the brass a bit streaky. I've got a product name but I can't find it in the shops so a bit more leg work for me, I think!

Even if the weather has been awful, we will still carry on, what with Easter on the horizon. Also, there are many special services at St Margaret's to be looking forward to, so our church needs to look her very best.

I know that I will be on cleaning the floors and keeping the vestry clean and tidy, I just don't know where all the dirt comes from. I keep telling Dianne and Marilyn that there must be little pixies in our church, and they are forever making the mess. Marilyn tells me that it's me and my big feet, so I tell her it's her and her big feet as it can't be Dianne she only has little feet!

Well, my friends that is all for now as I'm out of think and my brain is frozen, so until next month, stay safe and warm.

JILL PONTER



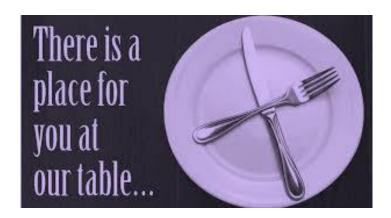
- 1. 1 What star sign are you if your birthday falls between March 21<sup>st</sup> and April 19<sup>th</sup>? And what about April 20<sup>th</sup> and May 20<sup>th</sup>?
- 2. 'It was a bright cold day in April, and the clocks were striking thirteen.', is a quote from which book?
- 3. On what date in April is St George's Day?
- 4. 'April is the cruellest month', is the first line of which T.S. Eliot poem?
- 5. Which major UK sporting event will be held on April 14<sup>th</sup> 2018?
- 6. What is April's birthstone?
- 7. April's birth flower is often listed as Bellis perennis; which is the Latin name of which flower?
- 8. On which holiday in the United States, on the last Friday in April, are individuals and groups encouraged to plant trees?
- 9. Which event made British news headlines on April 2<sup>nd</sup> 1982?
- 10. April Windsor, played by Amelia Flanagan, is a character in which soap?
- 11. Which bird's arrival in mid-April, is said to signal the start of Spring?
- 12. What was first introduced into Britain on April 1st 1973?
- 13. The April Lyrids last from April 16<sup>th</sup> to April 26<sup>th</sup> each year; what are they?
- 14. In a famous TV prank from 1957, the BBC broadcast a film showing Swiss farmers picking freshly-grown what?
- 15. Which famous Englishman's birth remains unknown, but is traditionally observed on the same day as Saint George's Day?

The answers to this quiz are printed later in Crossroads



# **GOSPEL TRUTH BIBLE QUIZ ANSWERS**

1 Five: 2 Law & prophets: 3 Heaven & earth: 4 Matthew: 5 What to eat, drink or wear: 6 Matthew 6:33: 7 The Transfiguration: 8 Moses & Elijah: 9 stones: 10 forty:



To celebrate St George's patron Saint, we are having a supper on Sunday April 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7.00pm.

The cost is £15 for a two-course meal.

We appreciate it is more than last year's harvest supper, but everything has gone up. I am assured there will be a nice choice of home-cooked fresh food and several desserts.

We will meet at 6.30pm for a glass of sherry or juice.

You are welcome to bring your own drinks, following the meal, we will have a singalong of patriotic songs to celebrate St George and England.

See Sylvia Evans to book your place.

We hope you will join us ST GEORGE'S SOCIAL COMMITTEE

#### THROUGH THE WINDOW

Hello, my friends. I thought I'd better write, while it's all quiet, mum is upstairs making her bed ready for me to be comfortable when I'm lying on it. I don't know where she goes but Auntie Jill and my mum go swanning off together and I don't have a clue what they're up to. Still while the cat's away the mice will play. Talking of mice, I caught one the other day and brought it into the house to show mum. You should have heard her, "Get it out! Get it out!" she shouted. I couldn't understand why she



didn't want it. I said I brought her a present then she took it off me. Where she put it, I'm not sure, probably in the bin. I don't know you give a little gift and it's not appreciated. I'll not give her one in the future, I'll keep it for myself!

I got on that machine that you can talk into so I could find out what's happening with Maya and Trixie. They tell me all sorts of things, what they're getting up to and who they're talking to (apart from me, of course).

They see other felines and welcome them into their gang. There's nobody by me, at least I don't see them, My mum has mentioned something in passing about me having to go to that place (that dreaded place) again. I think I'll hide when it comes round. Every morning there I am sitting on the settee, next to my mum, the next thing I know I'm having a horse pill shoved down my throat. I do try and spit it out, but it doesn't work, as it just goes back in again. I might just as well swallow it first time as last time. I don't really want it but it has to be done.

This is all for now, until the next issue...

Bye for now, JoJo Whittle

#### **OVER THE GARDEN FENCE**



Now, where is she, she's not down here. Maya, Maya, where are you, Maya! Trixie, what on earth are you going on about, I'm on the table in the kitchen. Well, what are you doing on the table. I'm just hanging about Trixie; what are you doing? Well Maya, I've been looking for our mates, but it's so cold I didn't hang about for long in the window. I know what you

mean, Trixie, but where I am sitting it's very warm. I know Maya, my bed is behind the chair in the corner and its lovely and warm too. But we can't stay here all day, we have to go out and find our mates. I'm with you there Trixie, but first we have to have a word with our JoJo, so let's get to that machine thing. Hello, hello, is that you JoJo? How are you today? Whatever do you mean, you have to have a gob stopper shoved down your neck, everyday! Whatever for? 'Cos you have a funny tail? The doctor said that you keep trying to eat your tail. Oh, JoJo, how can you do that? When we see you, you still have your tail. Oh, I see you keep biting it and the pills are supposed to stop all the itching which make you bite it. Oh, well JoJo look after yourself, speak to you again soon.

Come on Trixie, the sun is coming out, so let's meet up with the gang, if they're about. Maya, oh look, Maya, there's Dozy Rosie, I wonder if she knows where the rest of the gang are? Hi, Rosie, what have you been up to lately? It's like this, you know I told you the other day about our new neighbour, well I keep my eyes on the puppy baby and my, oh my, has she grown, she got taken to that place where you have a pin and a pill shoved down her neck. She said she had to have a chip put in her neck as well. I ask you a chip, I never saw a chip in her neck, but she told me that it didn't half hurt. Rosie, I think that was an identification chip, so they can find her if she gets lost, or if she's found by a stranger, any doctor would zap her, and her name and address pops up. Then they would return her to your neighbours.

Oh, Maya, do we have one of those chips? Yes, we do Trixie, we have it checked each year to make sure it's still there and working. Oh, that's what I see when she puts that thing over me. Yes Trixie, it's to make sure that you are still you! Oh, Maya, you do make me laugh. Well come on Rosie what else is going on? Oh, not much, just that the puppy baby is still trying to pinch my tail, I will bat

him one, if he chews it one more time. Why don't you just move out of the way? I do Trixie, but he still finds me and grabs my tail. Oh, Rosie, you will have to stop going round to his house, your mum may not like you spending so much time there. You could be right, Trixie. I think I will have to do that. Oh look, here comes the Gingers, how are you guys? We're fine Rosie, a bit cold, we don't know where this wind is coming from, but boy I know where it's going! Have you seen Harry lately? I haven't seen him in absolutely ages. Yasmin may know, but her mum might not let her out anywhere as it's so cold. Harry is just coming across the road now everyone!

Harry, are you alright? You look a bit down. Girls, I've just been to see Yasmin, she can't come out because she's had an accident. She went to be groomed the other day but the clippers got knocked out of the groomer's hand and they took a lump of her fur out. So, she's had to have the rest of it cut off to make it look even; she's not going to come out until it's all grown back. Oh dear, what a shame, and the weather is freezing too. Come on everyone let's get to our den and have a warm up. Trixie say cheerio to everyone. Ok, Maya tata folks and it's cheerio from me and the gang too. Best wishes from all of us, stay safe and keep warm.



# **APRIL QUIZ ANSWERS:**

1 Aries. Taurus: 2 Nineteen Eighty-Four (by George Orwell): 3 April 23<sup>rd</sup>: 4 The Waste Land: 5 The Grand National (at Aintree): 6 Diamond: 7 Daisy: 8 Arbour Day: 9 Argentina invaded the Falkland Islands: 10 Emmerdale: 11 The cuckoo: 12 VAT (Value Added Tax): 13 A meteor shower: 14 Spaghetti: 15 William Shakespeare:

#### WORDSEARCH ANSWER





'Let Us Entertain You' is coming together for Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> June at 7.30pm in our main hall. I've got some names of people willing to entertain us so, if you would like to be part of the evening's entertainment, please let me know. I even think that St George's Entertainers will be joining us on the night as well. I still have my list of previous LUEY acts and will be approaching them soon. I think that we'll keep it simple regarding eats and drinks for the audience so, probably it's best to assume that you are to bring your own.

I will, however, confirm the final arrangements as soon as possible. Also, I will get tickets printed and ready for sale asap. All proceeds from ticket sales will go to St George's Church. Thank you, Darrell



# **MARCH**

	Clocks went forward one-hour LAST NIGHT!			
Sun 26	LENT 5 / April Crossroads available			
	9.00am	Parish Communion	St M's	
	10.30am	Parish Communion followed by coffee	St G's	
	2.00pm	Diocesan Treasurer's meeting	MH	
	4.30pm	Charles' Igbo Group	SH	
Mon 27	10.30am	Aphasia-Now	SH	
	5.00pm	Brownies	MH	
	6.00pm	Rainbows	SH	
	7.15pm	Guides	MH	
Tue 28	9.30am	Coffee Pot	SH	
	10.00am	Parish Communion	St G's	
	1.30pm	Fun & Free Tuesday	МН	
	6.30pm	Cubs & Beavers	МН	
	8.00pm	Karate	МН	
Wed 29	8.15am	Morning Prayer	Zoom	
	2.00pm	'From Now On' Lent Group 5	LC	
	3.30pm	Slimming World also at 5.00pm & 6.30pm	MH	
	7.00pm	Fayres' Planning meeting	V	
Thu 30	10.30am	Parish Communion	St M's	
	10.30am	Day Centre	SH/SL	
	6.30pm	Clubbercise Zumba	МН	
	7.00pm	'From Now On' Lent Group 5	LC	
	7.30pm	Charter Band	SH	
Fri 31		END OF SCHOOL TERM		
	2.30pm	Quiet Prayer Group	Tbc	

# **APRIL**

Sat 1	10.00am	Karate	MH	
	10.00am	Church Cleaning	St G's	
	10.00am	CiT Litter Pick	HPHS	
Sun 2	PALM SUNDAY			
	10.30am	Family Worship with a donkey	St G's	
	5.00pm	Benefice Communion	St M's	
Tue 4	9.30am	Coffee Pot	SH	
	10.00am	Parish Communion	St G's	
	8.00am	Karate	МН	
Wed 5	8.15am	Morning Prayer	Zoom	
	3.30pm	Slimming World also at 5.00pm & 6.30pm	МН	
Thu 6		<b>MAUNDY THURSDAY</b>		
	10.30am	Parish Communion	St M's	
	10.30am	Day Centre	SH/SL	
	7.00pm	Agape Meal	МН	
Fri 7		GOOD FRIDAY		
		CiT Walk of Witness		
Sat 8	HOLY SATURDAY			
	9.30am	Messy Easter	МН	
	8.30pm	Easter Vigil	St M's	
Sun 9	EASTER SUNDAY			
	9.00am	Parish Communion	St M's	
	10.30am	Parish Communion followed by coffee	St G's	
	10.30am	Family Praise	St M's	
Tue 11	9.30am	Coffee Pot	SH	
	10.00am	Parish Communion	St G's	
	2.30pm	Mothers' Union	SH	
	8.00pm	Karate - Tbc	MH	
Wed 12	8.15am	Morning Prayer	Zoom	
	3.30pm	Slimming World also at 5.00pm & 6.30pm	MH	
	7.00pm	Gardening Club Committee	SL	
Thu 13	MAY CROSSROADS DEADLINE			
	10.30am	Parish Communion	St M's	
	10.30am	Day Centre	SH/SL	
	6.30pm	Clubbercise Zumba	МН	
	7.30pm	Charter Band - Tbc	SH	

Sat 15	10.00am	Karate	МН		
Sun 16		EASTER 2			
	10.30am	Parish Communion followed by coffee	St G's		
	5.00pm	Evensong	St M's		
Mon 17		START OF NEW SCHOOL TERM			
	10.30am	Aphasia-Now - Tbc	SH		
	5.00pm	Brownies	МН		
	6.00pm	Rainbows	SH		
	7.15pm	Guides	МН		
Tue 18	9.30am	Coffee Pot	SH		
	10.00am	Parish Communion	St G's		
	1.30pm	Fun & Free Tuesday	МН		
	6.30pm	Cubs & Beavers	МН		
	8.00pm	Karate	МН		
Wed 19	8.15am	Morning Prayer	Zoom		
	3.30pm	Slimming World also at 5.00pm & 6.30pm	МН		
	7.30pm	Refresh	Tbc		
Thu 20	10.30am	Parish Communion	St M's		
	10.30am	Day Centre	SH/SL		
	6.30pm	Clubbercise Zumba	МН		
	7.30pm	Charter Band	SH		
Fri 21	7.30pm	Gardening Club	МН		
Sat 22	10.00am	Karate	МН		
Sun 23	ST GEORGE'S DAY / EASTER 3				
	9.00am	Parish Communion	St M's		
	10.30am	Parish Communion followed by coffee	St G's		
	6.30pm	St George's Supper	St G's		
Mon 24	10.30am	Aphasia-Now	SH		
	5.00pm	Brownies	МН		
	6.00pm	Rainbows	SH		
	7.15pm	Guides	МН		
Tue 25	9.30am	Coffee Pot	SH		
	10.00am	Parish Communion	St G's		
	1.30pm	Fun & Free Tuesday	МН		
	6.30pm	Cubs & Beavers	МН		
	8.00pm	Karate	МН		
Wed 26	8.15am	Morning Prayer	Zoom		
	3.30pm	Slimming World also at 5.00pm & 6.30pm	МН		

Thu 27	10.30am	Parish Communion	St M's	
	10.30am	Day Centre	SH/SL	
	6.30pm	Clubbercise Zumba	МН	
	7.30pm	Charter Band	SH	
Fri 28	2.30pm	Quiet Prayer Group	Tbc	
Sat 29	10.00am	Karate	МН	
Sun 30	EASTER 4 / May Crossroads available			
	Deadline for the Annual Reports			
	9.00am	Parish Communion	St M's	
	10.30am	Parish Communion followed by coffee	St G's	
	4.30pm	Charles' Igbo Group	SL	

# **MAY**

Mon 1		BANK HOLIDAY		
Tue 2	9.30am	Coffee Pot	SH	
	10.00am	Parish Communion	St G's	
	1.30pm	Fun & Free Tuesday	MH	
	6.30pm	Cubs & Beavers	MH	
	8.00pm	Karate	MH	
Wed 3	8.15am	Morning Prayer	Zoom	
	3.30pm	Slimming World also at 5.00pm & 6.30pm	MH	
Thu 4	10.30am	Parish Communion	St M's	
	10.30am	Day Centre	SH/SL	
	6.30pm	Clubbercise Zumba	MH	
	7.30pm	Charter Band	SH	
Sat 6	CORONATION OF KING CHARLES III and CAMILLA			
	10.00am	Karate – Tbc	10.00am	
Sun 7	EASTER 5			
	10.30am	Parish Communion followed by coffee	St G's	
	5.00pm	Evensong	St M'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, LC = Lady Chapel, MH = Main Hall, SH = Small Hall,
SL = Softley Lounge, V = Vicarage, HPHS = Holmleigh Park High School
Tbc = To be confirmed

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

Jack and Jill were on Safari when a lion suddenly sprang on Jack and started to drag him away. Jill shouts "Shoot him, Shoot him!" Jack says, "Wait! Wait! Let me change the battery in my camera first!!."

Jack and Jill visit are visiting a sports stadium. Jack says, "Why are all these people running?" Jill replies, "This is a race. The winner will get the cup." To which Jack says, "If only the winner will get the cup, why are others running?"

A young Bill asked, "Dad, do lawyers ever tell the truth?" his dad replied, "Yes son, sometimes a lawyer will do anything to win a case!"

A Science Teacher to his class, "In 1774, Oxygen was discovered by Joseph Priestly; it is necessary for breathing and for life." Bill said, from the back of the class: It's a good job that I was born after 1774 then otherwise, I would have died without it!

Jack went to an auction. He bid on a parrot. Jack really wanted this bird, so he kept on bidding, but was outbid each time, so he bid higher and higher. Finally, Jack won the bid. As he was paying, he said to the Auctioneer, "I hope such a costly parrot can talk". "Don't worry" said the Auctioneer, "He can talk alright! Who do you think kept bidding against you?"

Jill noticed an old, happy man sitting on his porch. "Excuse me" she said "I just couldn't help noticing how happy you look. Tell me, what is the secret to your long happy life." "Well, the man responded, "I eat fatty foods, I never exercise. I also smoke three packs of cigarettes a day, and I drink about a case of scotch a week." "Wow!" Jill said, "And how old are you?" "Twenty-eight" he replied!

Jack said to his son, "I expect you to get 80% in your final examination today". Bill replied, "No Dad, I'll get 110%". "Don't joke with me, son" "Who started it, Dad?"

Jill said, "What do you mean by coming home half drunk?" Jack replied, "It's not my fault! I ran out of money."

St George's Church and Centre, Grange Road, Tuffley, Gloucester GL4 0PE St Margaret's Church, 2 Church Lane, Whaddon, Gloucester GL4 0UE