

# CROSSROADS

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

**Worshipping, Caring, Pioneering**



*Lest We Forget*

— REMEMBRANCE DAY —



**Remembrance Sunday**  
**12<sup>th</sup> November**

**ST GEORGE'S**

**Sunday**  
**Monday**  
**Tuesday**

**Parish Communion at 10.30am**  
**Evening Prayer on Zoom at 5.00pm**  
**Parish Communion at 10.00am**  
**Evening Prayer at 5.00pm**

**ST MARGARET'S**

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

**Morning Prayer at 8.15am on Zoom**  
**Evensong at 5.00pm**  
**Parish Communion at 9.00am and**  
**Family Praise at 4.00pm**  
**Evensong at 5.00pm**  
**Parish Communion at 9.00am**  
**Parish Communion at 9.00am**  
**Parish Communion at 10.30am**

**NOVEMBER 2023**

**60p**

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

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## **FROM THE VICARAGE...**

### Remembering and giving thanks

November in the Church calendar is a month of remembering and giving thanks. First, we have All Saints Day (1<sup>st</sup> November) when we remember and celebrate those who are recognised by the worldwide church as saints – those who inspire our faith collectively. Then we have All Souls Day (2<sup>nd</sup> November) when we remember and give thanks for all Christians who have died, our departed loved ones; those who had an influence on our own individual faith and life. Next, of course, comes Remembrance Day and Remembrance Sunday (11<sup>th</sup> November and this year 12<sup>th</sup> November) when we remember and give thanks for all who have served in a sacrificial way during wartime. Finally, we remember and give thanks for St Margaret of Scotland, on the day dedicated to her across the Church (16 November) \*.

Remembering is an important activity for humans, hence our distress at illnesses that affect memory. Remembering is not merely about keeping track of what is happening in the week, keeping our appointments etc. It is also about remembering significant times in our lives, the happenings and events that have shaped and formed us. When we remember together our shared stories we create identity, meaning and purpose. When I meet with families before funerals, often the act of recalling stories of their loved one turns out to be a joyful one, amidst the sadness of them not physically being present any longer. Reliving memories involving that person and remembering special times together brings thankfulness and often hope.

As God's people, remembering and giving thanks has always been an important part of our faith. From the earliest of days in the OT we hear the story of our faith told and retold through Abraham, Isaac, Jacob etc. As Christians we are invited to continue to tell the story of our faith and the good news we experience through Jesus. One of the easiest and most effective ways for us to talk to others about our faith is through stories of our personal experience. To remember and give thanks for how our faith makes a difference in our lives, how living in the hope and love of Jesus sustains and strengthens us day by day. As we remember those who have gone before us, whether they are saints recognised by the Church over hundreds of years, people we have known in

our lifetime, or those who have lost their lives in conflict – let us be inspired by their lives of faithfulness and dedication.

With every blessing,  
RACHEL

\* On Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> November we will celebrate our Patronal Festival at St Margaret's at the 10.30am Eucharist. Gloriously, we are likely to be joined that day by Bishop Emmanuel, the Bishop of the Diocese of Western Tanganyika (DWT) in Tanzania. As many of you will know, St Margaret's has had a long-time link with DWT, particularly supporting the church at Eden. Please do come to St Margaret's on 16<sup>th</sup> November, if you can!

A graphic for 'Parish Registers' featuring a background of handwritten text from a register and a photograph of a church building on a hill.

## Parish Registers

**FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS**

**BAPTISMS**  
**St George's**  
Carol Vincent  
Shelby Teague  
Gracie May Newport

**CREMATORIUM FUNERALS**  
Jennifer Margaret Perris  
William John Ford



## **QUESTIONS AND SUGGESTIONS...**

Thanks so much to all those who have put questions into the boxes in both churches over the last few months. Hopefully some of these questions have been answered, either through articles in Crossroads or through sermons, and particularly through the discussion group. Huge thanks go to Rev'd Mark for preparing and leading these group sessions, which were appreciated by many - do look out for a different version of the Creed appearing in the St George's morning service booklets soon by request of the group (if you go to Evensong at St Margaret's, you will recognise it!) Watch out, also, for another opportunity to take part in another set of discussions, as more questions have arisen from the discussions - as often happens and is one of the many joys of exploring our faith and lives.

Please do continue to put your questions in these boxes as and when they occur to you, AND also your suggestions. If you have an idea for anything we might do differently or something new, we might try - do add your suggestion to the box (however small or large you think the idea is!) We will also be giving 'sponsor a hymn' a go at St George's, where for a small donation you can request a hymn for the morning service - we will try where possible to include these in a relevant place in the service and on an appropriate Sunday. So, please do put your hymn suggestions in the box too!

## **HARVEST AT ST MARGARET'S**

Our Harvest services at St Margaret's this year were 9.00am Holy Communion and Family Praise at 4.00pm. We had a lovely surprise at Family Praise, when Rachel arrived with a huge traditional harvest loaf. She explained that Joceline had managed to obtain this for St George's, and now it would have a turn at St Margaret's.

I'd love to see these harvest loaves being made, complete with the mouse among the corn heads. It looked a picture- thank you, Joceline. Thanks also to Jenny and Katie Hyett, for decorating the church with flowers and produce. It all looked beautiful.

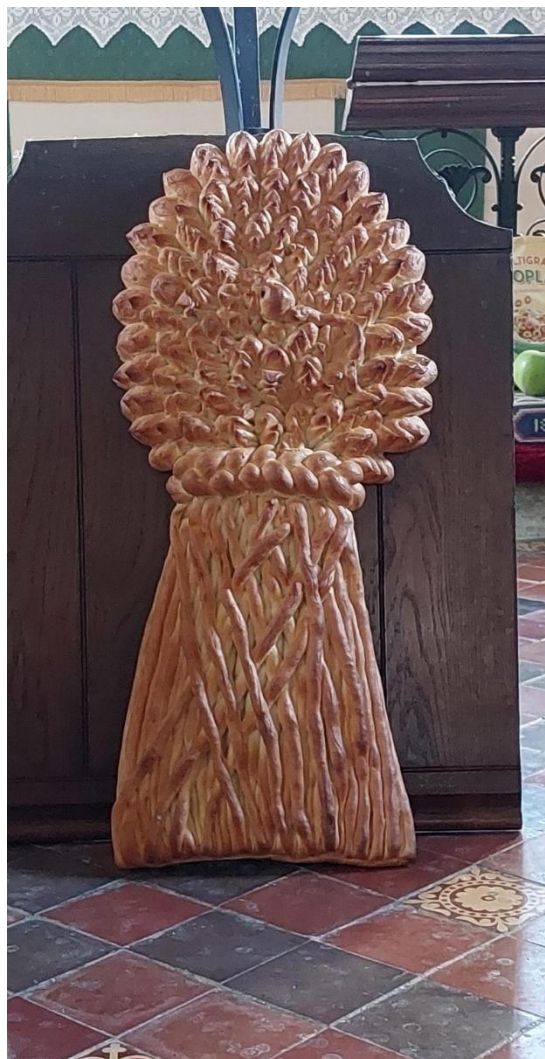


Rachel had prepared a great teaching slot, making us think about where our favourite food comes from, and how it is grown. To bring it alive, we each had a Jammy Dodger biscuit. What goes into one of those: who farms the different crops, and where? It all comes from God's Creation.

As at St Georges, people were encouraged to bring gifts for the Gloucester Foodbank. No less than 59kg was presented at St Margaret's. that's nine stone, or over a hundredweight in the old money! There was a great response from local churches generally, and Foodbank volunteers worked many extra hours processing the donations. Apart from that, we were able to send some potatoes, apples, and other fresh produce to Newton House in Great Western Road, so nothing was wasted.

Here's a photo of the beautiful harvest loaf propped up in front of the altar.

JONATHAN



## LIGHT PARTY

On Tuesday 31st October from 4.30 until 6:30pm we will be holding a light party as an alternative to Hallowe'en. The idea is that the Church provides a safe fun environment with games, food and activities and also spreads the message of Christ's love and light. It is a time to celebrate good things and not scary ones!! We will be using a pumpkin prayer as part of this event which allows the children an opportunity to enjoy pumpkin carving but with a focus on the light of Christ. We will have a path of light all the way down the path from the Church using tealights and the many jam jars we have collected. The children will also take home battery operated tealights in jars to take the light of Christ into their homes. The children are invited to come dressed in bright colours or neon!! Or perhaps positive characters like superheroes. The message is that Jesus loves us to have fun, but he doesn't want us to celebrate evil things but focus on the good. We do hope many of you will be able to come and help us with this event. Do please speak to Laine or Rachel if you can.



We are well on the way to planning our Christmas Fair 2023, It may resemble the image of 2022 but there will be differences. We've taken on board the thoughts and suggestions which you have passed to us. We will be serving some food and drinks from the Served into the small hall and that Santa will be in his grotto (Lady Chapel), with two elves.

There will be a Grand Draw, Cake Stall and Tombola and other stalls you would expect to see at a Christmas Fair?

Did you make things to sell last year? Would you be happy to do that again this year? We have introduced a table booking form this year so we can keep an eye on requests from external sellers, there will be some but at least we will be as clear as we can regarding what they are selling so hopefully there will be little or no duplication. We will have Christmas music in the main hall, small hall and in the church. We will encourage children to decorate biscuits as before. Our recently formed Art Group will be putting on an exhibition of their work,

so we are trying to be innovative. (It's not too late to join that group and possibly get something exhibited).

Several of our congregation have indicated that they would like to run a stall and we thank them for that. Should you be intending to run a stall, but haven't told us yet please tell us soon. There are sheets at the back of church for names of those who can help and for things we would like donations of. We are aware that you have been asked to help in so many ways of late and we know that you may only be able to help in a limited way, but however limited please be aware it's still appreciated.

As usual all proceeds will go to St George's.

Keep an eye out whilst reading Signpost for any updates.

Thank you  
RACHEL, DAWN, DARRELL, SYLVIA E AND JONATHAN T

**MONDAY'S @ 6!**

We wanted to reach out to the children we know from Fun and Free Tuesdays who are now older and at high school and we wanted them to know we as a Church are still here for them. So, we invented '**Monday's @ 6**' where we advertised doughnuts and hot chocolate and we waited to see what would happen...The first week we had four 11 year old boys, the second week we had ten children, week three saw sixteen join us and this week we had a whopping twenty 11-13 year olds in the centre! At least 10 of these have no previous contact with our Church! The young people are lovely and open, happy to chat and full of enthusiasm! We have so far played football (thanks to Korsten Lewis for coming to help with this as Rachel and I aren't great footballers!), made slime, completed minute to win it challenges and made ice cream sundaes (thanks to Dawn for sorting out all the goodies for those). Rachel, Dawn, Angela, and I love these high-octane sessions, there is never a dull moment! It has also provided more connections with local families as some of the parents and younger siblings who didn't attend Fun and Free now do so. Please pray for this group as we build relationships, and share Christ's love with these fabulous young people.





## **ST GEORGE'S AND ST MARGARET'S ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS 2023**

As we prepare for Christmas this year, there will be the chance to view three videos (one per session) filmed in the Holy Land reflecting on the real history of Jesus' birth. Each video lasts for 30 minutes and there will then be the opportunity to ask questions and reflect together on what we have heard and seen. Seeing the significant places in the Holy Land and walking in Jesus' footsteps will no doubt be especially poignant given the horrific happenings in the country currently. There will also be a time at the end of each session for us to hold everyone living there now in our prayers, and for us to pray for peace to come.

### **Advent Groups**

"Unwrap Christmas" – 3 short films (30 mins each) filmed in the Holy Land

### **The Journey**

Guided by Dr Peter Walker, a Bible teacher, academic theologian, and expert on the history of the Holy Land, we will travel over three weeks from Nazareth to Bethlehem. We will see the likely site of Jesus' childhood home, the shepherds' fields below Bethlehem (known by the young David 1000 years earlier), and finally arrive at Manger Square to discover the traditional site of Jesus' birth.

See Christmas through fresh eyes this year with Unwrap Christmas!

### **Advent Groups to meet in our Lady Chapel: -**

Monday evenings: - 7.30pm until 9.00pm on December 4<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, and 18<sup>th</sup>.

Wednesday afternoons: - 2.00pm until 3.30pm on December 6<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>, and 20<sup>th</sup>.

If you don't normally come to these groups, please do consider coming along this year if you can – it will be so good to be together thinking about the Holy

Land. Be assured that there will be no expectation on anyone to say or read aloud anything in front of others – everyone will be free to participate as much or as little as you feel comfortable doing so in the discussion after the video.

If you would like to know any more about this, please do speak to Rachel.



### December 2023

Sunday 10 <sup>th</sup>	at 4.00pm	Family Praise Christingle at St Margaret's
Saturday 16 <sup>th</sup>	at 10.00am	Christmas Family Fun at St George's
Sunday 17 <sup>th</sup>	at 4.00pm	Carol Service at St George's
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	at 6.00pm	Candlelit Carols at St Margaret's
Sunday 24 <sup>th</sup>	at 9.00am	Holy Communion St Margaret's
	at 10.30am	Holy Communion St George's
	at 2.00pm	Chill out at Christmas at St George's
	at 11.30pm	Christmas Communion at St George's
Monday 25 <sup>th</sup>	at 10.00am	Christmas Communion at St Margaret's (Relaxed/informal/all age focussed)

Sometime in week of 18<sup>th</sup> December (possibly Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup>) carol singing in the Pike with CiT?

### ST MARGARET'S LOO: AN UPDATE

Some of you may be wondering what's happening about the loo at St Margaret's.

I have a certain amount to report. The problem is that the underground cess tank has broken and filled with soil, creating a sinkhole. It was the hole that



made us realise we had a problem, and it also explained why the tank had never needed emptying.

The solution suggested is to replace the tank with an above-ground container which will be easier to monitor and to empty when required. The PCC has agreed to go ahead with the proposal by Messrs Cotswold Drainage, and we have applied for the necessary faculty for the work. Quite how long it will take to get agreement and then to get the work done, I would not like to predict at the moment.

In the meantime, we have an obvious problem, especially those who have come a distance, or who may have special medical needs. Those who don't mind a short walk can always go up to the Farm Shop, where there is a facility. We're very grateful to Jenny Hyett for allowing us to use this when required.

Actually, whisper it softly, but we do now have an emergency solution available, intended for people who may have special needs. An anonymous donor has kindly provided a Porta-Potty, which is in the loo building as a temporary fix. This is the sort of thing which will be familiar to caravanners and others, and of course it will need emptying as required. It's not intended for general use, but for those who for special reasons can't wait, or who can't walk to the Farm Shop.

"Normal service will be resumed as soon as possible"!



Remembrance Sunday falls on 12<sup>th</sup> November this year and there will be a variety of services for you to be part of that day. The Eucharist (Holy Communion) service in the benefice will be at 9.00am at St Margaret's, which will end with an Act of Remembrance. At St George's we will be joined by the uniformed organisations **and the service will begin ten minutes early at 10.20am**, to enable us to be out and in position at the cross for the 11.00am

Act of Remembrance. Refreshments for all will be offered in the Main Hall after this Act. In the afternoon, at 4.00pm, at St Margaret's there will be the monthly Family Praise service, which is a service for all the family. Please do come along to any or all these services, and do let your family, friends and neighbours know about them.

## LET US ENTERTAIN YOU

We have a show! **Let Us Entertain You at Christmas** on *Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> December* at *7.30pm*. I've already got names of entertainers to be in the show, but there's room for your name too, if you'd like to join the cast, speak to me soon and get practising your Christmas party pieces. Tickets will be £5.00 each to include mince pies or an alternative for those who are not mincemeat eaters but please bring your own drinks.



Cheers, Darrell



As a Church in Tuffley community project, we would like to provide 40 Christmas hampers for local families. We are working in partnership with Gloucestershire Bundles (Dawn Dolphin) who will add appropriate presents for each of the children with our hampers. Our aim is to share some of what we have with other families in a time when there is a high pressure to provide something more than usual. The hampers will be full of all the treat items we often buy for Christmas such as Christmas puddings and mince pies, along with a few essentials like tea and coffee. The average cash value of the food for the Hampers is £40 each. We want this to be a real gift/treat and we hope that by delivering it as early as possible, we will be saving these families some cash.

Please help us put these hampers together. You can choose any item from the lists available at the back of the church. It's helpful to have the items bought in groups of 5. Please make sure you buy the items as specified and return to St George's collection point by Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> December. If there are no lists at the back of church please see Rachel.

## **WHADDON GRANGE TRANSPORT INTERCHANGE**

Near the gates into St Margaret's churchyard, we have placed the following announcement, with the authority of the PCC. We hope it will alert people to what we view as a very real threat to the character of our much-loved churchyard.

### **DO WE WANT A PARK+RIDE NEXT TO OUR CHURCHYARD?**

Did you know that Taylor Wimpey plan to build a **Park+Ride**, and a road for buses, in the field next to our Churchyard? Apart from its appearance, we are worried about noise, light pollution, and loss of the tranquillity of our ancient place of burial.

A planning application for this, as part of the plan for some 3000 new homes on the fields, is likely in about three months.

If you love our churchyard, please be ready to object.

Jonathan MacKechnie Jarvis

Mike Smith

Churchwardens

September 2023

For details of what is planned please **copy and paste** the following into your internet browser:

<https://www.taylorwimpey.co.uk/new-homes/gloucester/land-at-whaddon-grange>

At the foot of the page you open, you will find the following link, which takes you to the detailed plans: *A copy of the public exhibition consultation boards can be found by clicking [here](#)*



**N.B.** What about 'Whaddon Grange' generally? Many people will have concerns about the effects of building on this scale, with the inevitable pressure it will add to the roads and other local infrastructure. However, St Margaret's PCC has decided to remain neutral on the general principle of the housing, recognising that there must also be concerns about the present shortage of housing, which this sort of large development is intended to address.

## **ART GROUP**

The Art Group has continued to meet each week on a Thursday from 2.00pm to 4.00pm. It is flourishing as we have slowly gained new members. Some are able to come weekly; others every two weeks and other members come when they can. We will continue to meet weekly until the end of November and then have a break until the Christmas and New Year festivities are over.



We agreed recently that a suitable title for the group is 'First Impressions'. We are aiming to put on a small exhibition of our work in the Church for the Christmas Fair. So, watch out and be astounded by the talent amongst us.

If you have not been, do drop in. No need to buy equipment as our sharing box has all you need to 'have a go!' Maybe we'll see YOU there!

## **FIRST IMPRESSIONS**

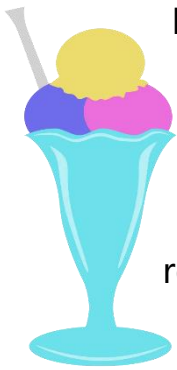


Well, it isn't too long to wait until our final draw of the year on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> December when we bring yet another 100 Club year to a close. Please make sure that you are fully paid up by Sunday 10<sup>th</sup>, or your number(s) won't be in

the draw. Congratulations to our winners over the year; for those of you who have not won there is still the final draw of the year to put that smile on your face. By my reckoning there are 15 members who have yet to pay their monies before the 10<sup>th</sup>. You can see me at any time to pay.

Many thanks  
DARRELL

## **MAKE YOUR OWN SORBET**



It must be sixty years since I first tasted lemon sorbet, when taken out for a birthday meal with my parents. I thought it was wonderful, like eating fluffy snow, with that lovely lemony flavour. Sorbet is thought to go back to about 500 BC, and to have its origins in Persia. Certainly, the Romans knew about it, but of course modern refrigeration has made it something easy and affordable.

Have you ever tried making your own? It's not difficult, and it's worth the effort. The flavour is better than the bought product, and there need be no added preservatives, flavourings, or any other unwanted E-numbers. You can make it without an ice cream maker. Best of all, you can vary and fine-tune the ingredients to get it just how you like it.

My lemon sorbet recipe includes limes, though it works just as well with lemons only. Start by grating some of the zest off the lemons, using a zester. Don't zest the limes- the skin is rather bitter. Boil the water and add the sugar and the zest, stirring to avoid burning the sugar. After five to ten minutes, you will have a nice syrup. Leave it to cool, then put it in the fridge.

When ready to make the sorbet, squeeze the fruit, straining the juice to avoid lemon pips going into the sorbet. You will also need to beat the egg white into a good froth. Stir the juice and the egg white into the syrup and add the vodka. This is not to give the sorbet a kick, but to raise its freezing point, and thus to help keep it softer in the freezer.

If you have an ice cream maker, process as with an ice cream. Without a machine, put the mixture in a tub and give it a good stir with a fork, then put it in the freezer. You'll need to give it another good stir every so often, but you

should find it works quite well. Perhaps, like me, you will be so pleased with the result that you will buy an ice cream maker to make the job easier.

**Ingredients:**

one pint water  
11 oz sugar  
four lemons  
three limes  
three capfuls of vodka

The other fruit which works brilliantly as a sorbet is the Seville Orange, but you'll need to wait till January for these. You could try a lemon and grapefruit one as well, though I must say that the lemon and lime is hard to beat. One of these days I will get round to trying some non-citrus sorbets: damson might be good, and maybe rhubarb.

JONATHAN



please  
don't forget!

That to have your  
**DECEMBER 2023 / JANUARY 2024 CROSSROADS**

ready for publication by

**SUNDAY 26<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2023...**

...ARTICLES NEED TO BE WITH THE EDITORS' PREFERABLY BY EMAIL  
BEFORE, BUT NO LATER THAN... **...MONDAY 13<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER**

**Crossroads will be printed on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> November**

If you can get your articles to the Editors earlier than the above date, great!!

Thank you for your help in this matter

**Please note that there will not be a separate Crossroads in January 2024**



**TODAY**, Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> October 2023 in St George's Church at 3.00pm

Traditionally in the Church, across the world, All Souls is a time to give thanks for and remember before God our loved ones who have died. Over the past few years, the Church in Tuffley has held a joint service for this called, 'Time to Remember'. As usual this will be a simple reflective service, suitable for all ages, with some favourite hymns and readings. During the service, the names of all those who have died will be remembered, and you will have an opportunity, if you wish, to light a candle in memory of your loved one(s).

## **ST GEORGE'S ENTERTAINERS**



Puss in Boots time is almost upon us. The stage is due to be erected, the lights and sound have been tested the cast have learnt their lines (Oh! No they haven't!!) So all we need now is an audience so get your tickets soon.

Our performances will be on:

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November at 7.30pm

Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> November at 2.30pm and 7.30pm

This year we are pleased to be supporting Charlie's Cancer Support and Therapy Centre, helping local people and their families.

So, now's the time to dust off your dancing shoes, practice those boos and "he's behind you"s and we look forward to seeing you there.

Adult tickets £5, Children £3. If you would like tickets see Glenda and Darrell or call the Church Office on 01452 307456 and leave a message and we'll put them by for you or they can be purchased at Coffee Pot on Tuesdays from 9.30am

until 11.00am or you may call into the Church Office personally on a Wednesday, Thursday or Friday morning from 9.30am until 11.30am.

# **WORLD'S BIGGEST COFFEE MORNING**

**What a morning that was,  
so many people together at one time,  
so many people only too willing to help,  
so much cake donated and eaten,  
so many cups of tea and coffee drunk,  
so many raffle tickets bought,  
oh, and so much money donated**

**All proceeds went to  
Macmillan Cancer Support**

**Did you ask how much?  
Well by my reckoning over £600 to date**

**Thank you so much for your generosity**



church  
**CLEAN UP**  
**ST GEORGE'S CHURCH CLEANING**  
Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> December at 10.00am

This will be our last opportunity to have St George's looking its very best before welcoming all the school children, teachers, parents etc before Christmas. Should you spot something which needs attention in St George's please let someone know, unless you're going to sort it yourself, that is!

To correct my incorrect statement in last month's Crossroads this cleaning session is the week before our Christmas Fair so, apologies if I sent you into panic whilst you were reading. Soothe yourself with tea and cake!! Better still come along on 2<sup>nd</sup> December and soothe yourselves along with us duster flickers, hooverers, cobweb shifters and general cleaners over a cup of tea or coffee but definitely cake!!

**Please Note:** There will not be a Church cleaning session on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2024 instead we're going to meet up at 1.00pm on that day to generate space in the storeroom off our main hall. Before that day, Centre users will be asked to clearly mark and tidy up their allocated spaces so we can assess how much useful space we can discover!!

Please check your Signpost for any new church cleaning update.



**GOSPEL TRUTH BIBLE QUIZ**

*Questions based on the Gospel readings for September*

1 Jesus announced He must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering. Who would cause His suffering?

2 On hearing this announcement who rebuked Jesus?

- 3 Jesus said, "If any want to become my followers....". Jesus then gave 3 conditions they must fulfil. Can you name any of these conditions.
- 4 What did Jesus say about "those who want to save their life"?
- 5 Concerning forgiveness how many times did Jesus say we should forgive?
- 6 Comparing heaven with a king Jesus said, "The king wished to settle accounts with his slaves." How many talents did the first slave owe?
- 7 This slave was owed money by a fellow-slave. How much was he owed?
- 8 A landowner hired workers to work in his vineyard. The scriptures tell us he went out at about \_\_\_ o'clock. What was the time?
- 9 The landowner went out 3 more times. At what hours of the day did he go and hire additional workers?
- 10 At the end of the day the landowner said, "Call the labourers and give them their pay." Who was the landowner giving this instruction?

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

## **JILL'S JOTTINGS**

**from St Margaret's**

Well, hello everyone, it's that moaning Minnie who helps do the cleaning at St Margaret's, Whaddon. It's been a bit of a funny time doing our cleaning, we have had quite a few people coming in to see what we are doing. We do tell them that the church has to be cleaned as and when necessary; you all know that Di is No1 with furniture polish. St Margaret's looks great, that is until people come in and walk over our nice clean floor. Marilyn is No1 with the Brasso, so the brass looks wonderful too. Then there's me, she who does the floor cleaning, and gets rid of the flies from the windowsills. Actually, both Marilyn and I do the sills, Marilyn in the chancel and me the rest. For the sills you need long arms or have to stand on the pews to get to the back. We do our very best for our congregation and visitors for they might like what they see and want to join us sometime.

We did have a lovely man join us at a Thursday Service, he asked if he could take photos of St Margaret's both inside and out. He was compiling photos for a book. He hadn't been able to get this far south for a while and was pleasantly surprised that St Margaret's was so unique. I didn't get his name, but he did

show Margaret and I a book of photos he had taken of other churches. I will ask Jonathan if he knows who he was and let you know next month.

Well, my friends, that's about it for another month as I need a lie down in a darkened room; so, until the next time, stay safe and well.

Jill Ponter  
Deputy Churchwarden



## ADVENT

N	P	E	A	C	E	C	A	N	D	L	E	S	L
F	H	O	E	A	O	N	K	R	C	V	U	W	L
R	A	C	J	N	E	N	A	T	I	V	I	T	Y
A	I	H	E	M	S	T	E	T	N	E	N	N	I
N	S	R	S	E	S	R	E	S	E	G	O	L	D
K	S	I	U	H	N	E	M	E	S	I	W	E	N
I	E	S	S	E	Y	S	Y	A	E	O	J	V	I
N	M	T	R	L	L	E	R	M	N	Y	R	O	T
C	S	M	A	H	T	P	R	W	J	G	R	L	L
E	A	A	M	T	M	O	H	Y	O	J	E	I	A
N	C	S	A	E	S	H	E	R	P	H	L	L	H
S	L	Y	A	B	W	R	E	A	T	H	S	R	S
E	N	O	W	A	D	V	E	N	T	S	C	N	A
S	H	E	P	H	E	R	D	S	E	H	A	A	A

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

**Advent, Angels, Bethlehem, Candle, Christmas, Frankincense, Gold, Hope, Jesus, Joy, Love, Messiah, Myrrh, Nativity, Peace, Shepherds, Star, Wisemen, Wreath.**

The answer is printed later in Crossroads



All the following questions relate to events that happened in the month of November

- 1 November was the month in which this British heroine was born. She famously rescued survivors from a shipwreck off Northumbria in 1838. Who was she?
- 2 Lewis Carroll's novel Alice's Adventures in Wonderland was published in November 1865. What was the writer's real name?
- 3 In Nov 1990 who became the first female President of Ireland.
- 4 One of the most popular board games ever devised was launched by Parker Brothers in 1935.
- 5 In 1940 which politician became the only U.S. President to win a third term in office?
- 6 Which politician resigned as British Prime Minister in 1940 and died in November of the same year?
- 7 Who became King of Spain following the death of Franco in 1975?
- 8 In November of which year did Angela Merkel become the first female Chancellor of Germany? Was it, a) 2001 b) 2003 c) 2005
- 9 In 1957 what was the name of the dog Russia launched into orbit around the earth?

10 In 1995, what was the name of the Israeli Prime Minister who was assassinated while at a peace rally?

The answers to this quiz are printed later in Crossroads



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

1 The elders, Chief Priests, and scribes: 2 Peter: 3 deny themselves, take up their cross and follow him: 4 they will lose it: 5 77: 6 10,000: 7 a hundred denarii: 8 nine: 9 noon, three and five: 10 his manager:

### **OVER THE GARDEN FENCE**

Maya, Maya Ponter, you just come out from wherever you're hiding, I know you're in there somewhere. Where in the world are you? What's the matter Trixie, you lost something, have you? No I haven't and don't look at me like that either. You know what I mean. You let our mum take us to that place again, didn't you, you can't deny it! I won't believe you anyway, Trixie. I know what you mean but I was just as shocked as you. I had just come in and was enjoying a lovely sleep on the bed, not the end of the bed but at the top, next to those lovely pillows, it was so comfy. I was in the middle of a lovely dream when, WHAM! I was lifted up and shoved head first into that box. Then you did a runner, I was locked in, so I couldn't get out and mum had to chase you. I know I gave her the runaround but she caught me and shoved me in with you. I'm just so pleased I was first in and managed to get the best side. Then it was off to Auntie Marg's to await JoJo appearance. Did you hear her when she got put in the vehicle? I think that whole of Tuffley must have heard her. But, did you notice that she shut up when her mum and our mum got in? Yes Maya, I did. It didn't





last long though, she was off everytime we slowed down or stopped. I know Trix, but she was mostly alright.

It was JoJo who went in first. I know Maya and did you see that her mum made her have her toes cut off? Trixie, it was just her toenails and it took about 5 minutes. Oh Maya, it makes my toes curl just thinking of it! Then you went in I had a good look at what they were doing and you didn't have to get out of the box either mum just took the lid off and that was that. We didn't have our toes cut off. No Trixie we didn't, but don't forget we've got to go back again in December. Oh no, not again Maya. Trix get used to the idea of going back every couple of months or so for treatment. Oh yes Maya, I think so, but I don't have to like it. I'll be there with you, Trix; now lets go and see if our mates are around anywhere.

Here come, the two Gingers and Rosie. Hi guys, how are you doing? It's been a long time since we saw you last. Well, its been a bit up and down with us, we seem to be seeing lots of Harry one day and then nothing. I asked his next door neighbour what was happening to him and all he could say was that Harry was getting on a bit and had to stay in more. So he only goes out when the weather is warm, now! Well, it hasn't been warm lately. I heard my hoomans say that it was going to be quite warm for a few days, so come on girls let's get with it and get some rays. OK, Rosie, let's go, come on Trixie say cheerio to everyone. Cheerio from me, see you all next month and stay safe and warm. It's tata from me, Maya until next time be safe and look after yourselves.

Maya and Trixie Ponter



## THROUGH THE WINDOW



Hello, everyone, It's your feline friend again, keeping you upto date with everything which is going on in my neck of the woods. I don't go very far these days, as you just don't know what's coming around the corner, do you. There are lots of vehicles whizzing around of Tuffley, so I stay well away from the road. I still have to keep an eye on what is going on though. It's a bit nippy first thing in the morning now, isn't it! I still like to go outside, well, I have to know what's what because I'm just plain nosey like that! I keep my eye on things just like my mum and Auntie Jill do!

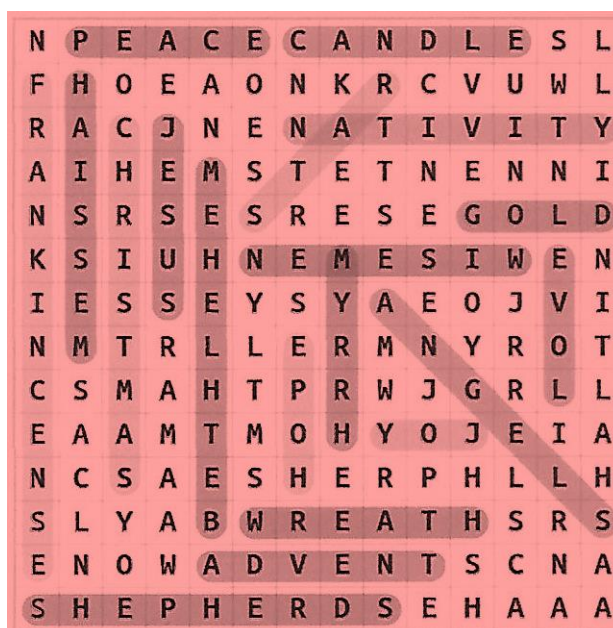
I had to go to that place again, you know the one; I had stuff squidged over me to stop fleas. Me! Have fleas? Huh!! They wouldn't dare. Then, I thought that my toes were going to be cut off, but once again it was just my claws. I must confess that they were long though. I keep them sharpened. I have heard that a d-d-dog is coming round again soon, so I'll be shut in my mum's bedroom. She does leave me in there with enough food and water, so I'll be OK. I'll just have to wait until it's gone before I come out again and claim my territory back. Luckily, it only comes now and then.

You should hear my Auntie Jill with it! To listen to them together you'd think that she was the best thing since sliced bread. Her name is Holly and she's a Cocker Spaniel. Honestly, you would think she was the boss, she brings her owners Rob and Sam with her each time. Auntie Jill gives her some dinner, I don't see any, not that I'd eat it anyway. I'll stick to my own, thank you very much. I have to laugh at my mum, well you should see her, sometimes she goes around the house as though she's lost something but doesn't know what! Eventually she gives up looking, because she doesn't need whatever it was. It takes all sorts I suppose!

Any way that's all for now, so, until the next time,

Bye for now...  
Yours, JoJo (Miss)

## WORDSEARCH ANSWER



## NOVEMBER QUIZ ANSWERS

1 Grace Darling: 2 Charles Lutwidge Dodgson: 3 Mary Robinson: 4 Monopoly: 5 Franklin D. Roosevelt: 6 Neville Chamberlain: 7 Juan Carlos I: 8 c)2005: 9 Laika: 10 Yitzhak Rabin:

## THE CHURCH MOUSE by Tony J

The church mouse, found far and wide  
With the Lord, it does abide  
Never short of some tasty crust  
Scurrying and hiding, amongst the dust  
A nest amongst. songs of praise  
Colourful windows, enjoy sunlit rays  
Pictures of hope, a reflection of good  
A landscape showing, where Jesus stood  
The human race, come and go  
A sanctuary for those, when feeling low  
A collection plate, does the rounds  
Generosity, knows no bounds  
They kneel down, in silent prayer  
All observed, from a nearby lair  
This little church mouse, doesn't want for more  
His needs are met – so no longer poor



## ST GEORGE'S CHURCH AND CENTRE

### OCTOBER

Sun 29	<b>BIBLE SUNDAY / LAST OF TRINITY</b> <b>Clocks back/ November Crossroads available</b>		
	9.00am	Parish Communion	St M's
	10.30am	Parish Communion followed by coffee	St G's
	10.30am	Messy Church – tbc	GB
	3.00pm	<b>Time to Remember service followed by refreshments</b>	St G's
	4.30pm	Charles Igbo group meet	SH
Mon 30	<b>HALF TERM BREAK</b>		
	5.00pm	Evening Prayer	Zoom
Tue 31	9.30am	Coffee Pot	SH
	10.00am	Parish Communion	St G's
	4.30pm	<b>Light Party</b>	St G's
	5.00pm	Evening Prayer	LC
	8.00pm	Karate	MH

## NOVEMBER

Wed 1	<b>ALL SAINTS DAY</b>		
	8.15am	Morning Prayer	Zoom
	8.15am	Phonics with Robot Reg TBC	SH
	3.30pm	Slimming World also at 5.00pm & 6.30pm	MH
Thu 2	10.30am	Parish Communion	St M's
	10.30am	Thursday Club	SH/SL
	2.00pm	Art Group / First Impressions	SH
	6.30pm	Clubbercise TBC	MH
	7.30pm	Charter Band	SH
Fri 3	3.30pm	Messy Church TBC	St B
	7.30pm	Gardening Club	MH
	7.30pm	Entertainers	SH
Sat 4	10.00am	Karate	MH
	10.00am	Church Cleaning	St G's
	10.00am	Litter Pick	HP
	12.30pm	Children's Party	MH
Sun 5	<b>4 before ADVENT</b>		
	10.30am	Parish Communion followed by coffee	St G's
	5.00pm	Evensong	St M's
Mon 6	5.00pm	Evening Prayer	Zoom
	5.00pm	Brownies	MH
	6.00pm	Rainbows	SH
	6.00pm	Monday @ 6	St G's
	7.15pm	Guides	MH
Tue 7	9.30am	Coffee Pot	SH
	10.00am	Parish Communion	St G's
	1.30pm	Fun & Free	St G's
	5.00pm	Evening Prayer	LC
	6.30pm	Cubs & Beavers	MH
	8.00pm	Karate	MH
Wed 8	8.15am	Morning Prayer	Zoom
	9.30am	Phonics with Robot Reg	SH
	3.30pm	Slimming World also at 5.00pm & 6.30pm	MH
Thu 9	10.30am	Parish Communion	St M's
	10.30am	Thursday Club	SH/SL
	2.00pm	Art Group / First Impressions	SH
	6.30pm	Clubbercise	MH



	7.30pm	Charter Band	SH
Fri 10	7.30pm	Entertainers to put the stage up ready for the Pantomime	MH
Sat 11	10.00am	Karate	MH
Sun 12	<b>Remembrance Sunday / 3 before ADVENT</b>		
	9.00am	Parish Communion	St M's
	<b>10.20am</b>	Parade & Act of Remembrance at 11.00am followed by refreshments	St G's
	4.00pm	Family Praise	St M's
Mon 13	<b>December/January Crossroads deadline</b>		
	10.30am	Aphasia-Now	SH
	5.00pm	Evening Prayer	Zoom
	5.00pm	Brownies	MH
	6.00pm	Rainbows	SH
	6.00pm	Monday @ 6	St G's
	7.15pm	Guides	MH
Tue 14	9.30am	Coffee Pot	SH
	10.00am	Parish Communion	St G's
	1.30pm	Fun & Free	MH
	2.30pm	Mothers' Union with Barry Simon – Historic Gloucester	SH
	5.00pm	Evening Prayer	LC
	6.30pm	Cubs & Beavers	MH
	7.00pm	PCC	SH
	8.00pm	Karate	MH
Wed 15	8.15am	Morning Prayer	Zoom
	9.30am	Phonics with Robot Reg	SH
	3.30pm	Slimming World also at 5.00pm & 6.30pm	MH
	7.30pm	Refresh	EM
Thu 16	<b>St Margaret's Patronal Day</b>		
	10.30am	Parish Communion	St M's
	10.30am	Thursday Club	SH/SL
	2.00pm	Art Group / First Impressions	SH
	6.30pm	Clubbercise	MH
	7.30pm	Charter Band	SH
Fri 17	7.30pm	Puss in Boots Pantomime 1st performance	St G's
Sat 18	10.00am	Karate (note change of venue)	GB
	2.30pm	Puss in Boots Pantomime 2 <sup>nd</sup> performance	St G's

	7.30pm	Puss in Boots Pantomime 2 <sup>nd</sup> performance	St G's
Sun 19	<b>2 before ADVENT</b>		
	10.30am	Parish Communion followed by coffee	St G's
		Pantomime clear up	
	5.00pm	Evensong	St M's
Mon 20	5.00pm	Evening Prayer	Zoom
	5.00pm	Brownies	MH
	6.00pm	Rainbows	SH
	6.00pm	Monday @ 6	St G's
	7.15pm	Guides	MH
Tue 21	9.30am	Coffee Pot	SH
	10.00am	Parish Communion	St G's
	1.30pm	Fun & Free	MH
	5.00pm	Evening Prayer	LC
	6.30pm	Cubs & Beavers	MH
	8.00pm	Karate	MH
Wed 22	8.15am	Morning Prayer	Zoom
	9.30am	Phonics with Robot Reg	SH
	3.30pm	Slimming World also at 5.00pm & 6.30pm	MH
	7.00pm	Gardening Club Committee	SL
Thu 23	10.30am	Parish Communion	St M's
	10.30am	Thursday Club	SH/SL
	2.00pm	Art Group / First Impressions	SH
	6.30pm	Clubbercise	MH
	7.30pm	Charter Band	SH
Fri 24	7.30pm	Entertainers TBC	MH
Sat 25	10.00am	Karate	MH
	11.30am	CiT Litter Pick	EM
Sun 26	<b>CHRIST THE KING / SUNDAY BEFORE ADVENT</b> <b>December/January Crossroads available</b>		
	9.00am	Parish Communion	St M's
	10.30am	Parish Communion followed by coffee	St G's
	10.30am	Messy Church - tbc	GB
	2.00pm	Whaddon Garage Community meeting 1	St B's
	4.30pm	Charles Igbo group meet	SH
	6.30pm	Whaddon Garage Community meeting 2	St B's
Mon 27	10.30am	Aphasia-Now	SH
	5.00pm	Evening Prayer	Zoom

	5.00pm	Brownies	MH
	6.00pm	Rainbows	SH
	6.00pm	Monday @ 6	St G's
	7.15pm	Guides	MH
Tue 28	9.30am	Coffee Pot	SH
	10.00am	Parish Communion	St G's
	1.30pm	Fun & Free	MH
	5.00pm	Evening Prayer	LC
	6.00pm	Cubs & Beavers	MH
	8.00pm	Karate	MH
Wed 29	8.15am	Morning Prayer	Zoom
	9.30am	Phonics with Robot Reg	SH
	3.30pm	Slimming World also at 5.00pm & 6.30pm	MH
Thu 30	10.30am	Parish Communion	St M's
	10.30am	Thursday Club	SH
	2.00pm	Art Group / First Impressions	SH
	6.30pm	Clubbercise	MH
	7.30pm	Charter Band	SH

## DECEMBER

Fri 1	3.30pm	Messy Church - TBC	GB
	7.30pm	Entertainers TBC	SH
	7.30pm	Gardening Club	MH
Sat 2	10.00am	Karate	MH
	10.00am	Church cleaning	St G's
	10.00am	Litter Pick	HP
	7.30pm	<b>Let Me Entertain You</b>	St G's
Sun 3		<b>ADVENT 1</b>	
	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, V = Vicarage,  
 LC = Lady Chapel, MH = Main Hall, SH = Small Hall, SL = Softley Lounge,  
 EM = English Martyrs Catholic Church, St B's = St Barnabas' Church,  
 GB = Grange Baptist, HP = Holmleigh Park

*Remember that dates can change, be cancelled or added so keep an eye on our weekly Signpost Newsletter for the latest information*

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

Jack used to go out with a giraffe, but when he'd take it to the pictures, Jack said that he'd always get some bloke complaining that he couldn't see the screen. It's a giraffe, mate replied Jack. 'What do you expect?' 'Well, she could take her hat off for a start!'"

Jill rang up her telephone provider the other day and said: 'I want to report a nuisance caller.' The operator said, 'Not you again.'

Jack said, "My girlfriend is absolutely beautiful, body like a Greek statue, completely pale and no arms."

Jill went into a chemist's the other day and asked for a bar of soap. The assistant asked, 'Would you like it scented?' To which Jill replied, 'No, I'll take it with me now.'

Jack said, "My phone rang at 2.00am this morning and Jill opened one eye and looked at me and said, "Who's that calling at this time of the morning?" I said, "I don't know, if I knew I wouldn't need the phone!"

Jill asked her gym instructor, "Can you teach me to do the splits?" He said I can, "How flexible are you?", She said: "I can't make Tuesdays."

Jill told Jack that her mother had fallen down a wishing well, Jack told her that he was amazed, as he never thought they worked.

Jill was out for the night with her best mates, and they were discussing their husbands over a few drinks and Jill said that when Jack proposed to her she told him "I love the simple things in life, but I don't want one of them for my husband"

Jill asked Jack, "How would you describe me?" Jack replied, "ABCDEFGHGIJK." Jill asked, "What does that mean?" Jack explained, "Adorable, beautiful, cute, delightful, elegant, fashionable, gorgeous, and hot." Jill said, "Aw, thank you, but what about IJK?" Jack ducked and said, "I'm just kidding!"

One evening, Jill was at her college course and the tutor asked the class, "Which book has helped you the most in your life?" Jill called out, "My husband's cheque book!"