



June 2021

**To journey in faith and share
God's love.**

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Please email: stgeorgesbrockworthmag@gmail.com
If unable to email, please deliver hard copy to the
Church Office.

Editorial Disclaimer & church policies :

Any ecclesiastical or political views contained in this magazine are not necessarily those of the PCC or the Editor. This church promotes good practice in work with children and young people. It has a current and active Child Protection Policy that's available to view at St George's Church & St George's Church Centre. St. George's, Brockworth is a Fair Trade Parish and supports the Parish Giving Scheme.

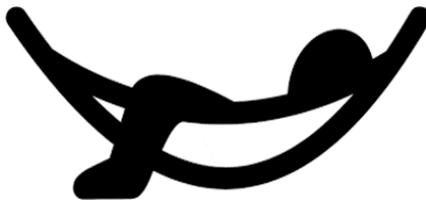
THIS MONTH'S COVER: Bluebells on Crickley Hill

When was the last time you did nothing?

*Busy
Doing*
NOTHING

I don't mean putting your feet up, watching the news, your favourite soap, or listening to The Archers. I mean literally nothing. Sitting in a chair, or laying down, doing nothing else.

The thought of not doing anything can be overwhelming. The noise of the **demanding voices** telling you **what you should have done, what needs to be done, or what you haven't done** can be deafening. So doing nothing can be demoralising, and leave you feeling **thoroughly disappointed with yourself**, and fueling more negative thought patterns.



More and more people are turning to **Mindfulness and meditation** to look after their mental, physical, and emotional health. Mindfulness based meditations have been embraced for many years by the medical community and approved for use by the U.K National Institute of Clinical Excellence (NICE) and is studied by neuroscientists all over the world. The better we can connect with ourselves in the present, not bogged down in our thoughts, the healthier we can become, and be able to **deal with the demands of life**.

The practice of mindfulness, or **meditation is described and encouraged throughout the bible**. Joshua is encouraged to meditate on the word of the Lord day and night (Joshua 1:8), Psalm 1:2 "those who delight in the law of the Lord, and who meditate on his Law, day and night", and Psalm 143:5, "I remember the days of old; I meditate on all that you have done; I ponder the works of your hands." Meditation allows us to better **understand how and why we think and feel the way we do**. The fruit of meditation can be a healthier perspective on life: how we see ourselves, and how we see others, allowing us to grow in compassion for ourselves and others. Recent research monitored people who **meditated** and compared them with those who did not. The reports concluded that those who meditated reported **higher levels of happiness, patience, acceptance, and compassion** - interestingly three characteristics described in the bible as fruit of the spirit. Conversely people who **did not meditate**

reported **increased levels of stress, frustration, and negative and destructive thoughts.**

Biblical meditations encourage the reader to remember, or think about, what God has done, or has promised, "Set your minds on things above, and not on earthly things" Colossians 3:2-4, Ps1:2 [a blessed person] "delights in the law of the Lord. And in His Law, he meditates day and night". The mind is focused on our Creator, and the author of our faith.

Why not try do nothing? Sit down, close your eyes, set a timer for 10mins on your phone or watch. With your eyes open inhale through your nose, then exhale through your mouth and repeat 4/5 times, on the final exhale close your eyes and think about one of these statements or choose one you for yourself.

A joyful heart is a good medicine - Proverbs 17:22

Or ... The Lord is my helper - Hebrew 13:6

Or ... the peace of God, which passes all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus - Phil 4:7.

If it helps, write it down to help you remember. Your mind will wander, thoughts will flood your mind, but every time you recognise your mind has wandered from the words, gently bring your focus back to the statement.

Think about each word, the tense, what the word means to you, what you would like it to mean, and what you think was meant to those who it was originally written for.

Practice it for a month, 10mins a day and see what difference it has made and see if others notice a difference in you.

Let me know how you get on.

Mike
Smith



Gloucester City Mission-bringing Christ into the City

One of the things which kept me going during the last year has been my volunteering work with Gloucester City Mission. Over the last year Gloucester City Mission has moved premises and now works out of various sites in the town. There is no longer one base for homeless and vulnerable people to come and get support, so the Outreach service has grown in line with changing needs and the ongoing Covid restrictions. Volunteers are around five days a week in the town centre with the trolley supplying homeless and vulnerable people with food, hot drinks and welcoming support. Having been out twice a week for the majority of the last 12 months I have got to know so many of our street friends by name, it is wonderful just to smile and let them know they are loved and cared about. We offer practical help and information. For many, listening and praying with them gives them hope. On Good Friday my volunteer colleague and I were delighted to have Bishop Rachel join the team, she donned her tabard and got stuck in handing out food items and chocolate treats for Easter. It was lovely as she already knew some folk by name and asked after others she was aware of. Gloucester City Mission are keen to recruit new volunteers, maybe there is a role for you? On Wednesdays, our takeaway lunches are served from the car park at St. Marys Congregational Church from 11 to 11.45am, we have served up to 25 people. Our Restore facility has now opened, based at Southgate St. next to Southgate Evangelical Church. Homeless people can call in on Tues and Thurs 1-3pm for clothing, toiletries, shoes and equipment. We are accepting donations again from 19th May and these can be left at our Revive Coffee House in Eastgate shopping centre. Revive opens Wednesday to Saturday. If people have larger donations to offer please contact elaine@gloscitymission.org.uk We are in need of toiletries - razors, deodorant, shave gel, sun tan lotion; and also need new water bottles and all sizes of men's clothing, boxers (new only) hoodies, t-shirts, caps, and trainers. We are also doing Home Starter packs, these items are given to those moving from temporary accommodation to permanent, new items please to welcome them into their new home. Kitchen utensils, cutlery, toasters etc. I do hope you have enjoyed hearing about this valuable and exciting work going on in your City. If you are interested to know more and would like to read our regular newsletter you can find us on www.gloscitymission.org.uk

Lorraine Hickson



Message from Bishop Rachel

‘... in everything give thanks, for this is the will of God for you in Christ Jesus ...’

(1 Thessalonians 5:18)

As we prayerfully live these days between Ascension and Pentecost, and tentatively move forward from this time of lockdown into whatever the next season holds, this letter comes with continued thanks for all the ways people are being bearers of Jesus Christ’s light and hope in so many different contexts.

When Paul urges the Christians in Thessalonica to give thanks in everything, he was most certainly not unaware of pain and struggle. Paul himself was no stranger to suffering, not least imprisonment, and it seems that the Christians in Thessalonica were experiencing persecution. Yet, because of the unchanging love and mercy of God and their hope in Jesus Christ, Paul encourages them to be thankful.

That spirit of thankfulness is something we see even now in our Christian brothers and sisters in India. As they grieve the loss of family members and friends, and rather like the writers of the psalms cry out ‘how long oh Lord’ and pour out their questions and longings to God in a spirit of lament, so too they are living the ‘and yet’ of hope in Jesus Christ. Even amid the turbulence, uncertainty and fear in

the face of a virulent strain of Covid-19, they are clinging fast to the love of God and the truth that the hope and life they have in Christ is stronger than even death itself. So they continue to give thanks to God and even send messages of thanks to us for our prayers.

In this country, July 4 has been marked as a national Thank You day, but we don’t want to wait until then as there have already been a number of conversations about how as followers of Jesus Christ we can be catalysts for thankfulness in our local contexts, and that is not in opposition to us also creating spaces and opportunities for people to lament. Aching hearts can still be thankful. Christ is risen and ascended and the darkness will not overcome the light. In these days of looking back and looking forward can we be those who encourage that thankfulness which Paul speaks of, not only in our worshipping communities but across our wider communities and among the people and places of our daily lives?

To that end, I am delighted to share with you a very simple offer which has emerged through conversations with Katherine Clamp, Communications Officer, and Jo Wetherall, Growing Faith and Spirituality Officer, which was discussed last week at a meeting of the Area Deans. It is the offer of beautiful postcards, posters and social media images, which you and those in your worshipping communities and contexts can use to express a

personal Thank You to someone. Of course, any of us can use our own notes and cards to express thanks, but these diocesan cards will enable each individual Thank You to be seen as part of something larger and connected, which stems from our rootedness in the love and hope of Jesus Christ, with the hope that givers and receivers of cards might glimpse something of that. In the coming days it will be possible for you to either order postcards or download and print them locally, including local information or contact details Please visit the website for more details. And it goes without saying that I hope people will share pictures and stories of how the wave

of Thanksgiving ripples across the diocese. Bishop Robert joins with me in expressing our thanks and assuring you of our continued prayers.



+ Rachel



Ascension Day Service

Ascension Day was celebrated by a hardy bunch of early risers with a service at the top of Cooper's Hill at 7am. Mike said it was great to be able to say prayers over Brockworth, even though the mist rendered the whole village invisible from the hill!

Listens, Observes and Acts.

'Love in all sincerity, loathing evil and holding fast to the good.
Let love of the Christian community show itself in mutual affection.

Esteem others more highly than yourself.

With unflinching zeal, aglow with the spirit, serve the Lord.

Let hope keep you joyful; in trouble stand firm;

Persist in prayer;

Contribute to the needs of God's people, and practice hospitality.

Call down blessings on your persecutors – blessings, not curses.

Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep.

Live in agreement with one another.'

Romans 12. V 9-16.

As I write this we have been told that shortly we will be able to hug!
We all like and need a hug at different times in our life!

We send hugs of congratulations and praise to
Evelyn Jenkins who has just celebrated her 90th birthday!

We send hugs and prayers to Jean Corless who is in Cirencester hospital.

We send hugs and prayers to Kay Hensley (Diocesan President) and
we send hugs and prayers to Margaret Edwards (Past Diocesan
President)

(praying also for her husband who is ill.)

And we send hugs and prayers to all of you who have struggled
for different reasons during the pandemic.

Finally, hugs and prayers and many congratulations go to The Reverend
David Sutch as he celebrates 50 years as a Priest on June 27th

Mothers' Union is underpinned by prayer.

Loving Lord, we thank you for your love so freely given to us all.

We pray for families around the world.

Bless the work of the Mothers Union as we seek

to share your love through the encouragement,
strengthening and support of marriage and family life.

Empowered by your spirit, may we be united in prayer and worship,
and in love and service reach out as your hands across the world.

In Jesus' name. Amen.

Many blessings, Rona.

THE SILENT CAKE ARMY MISSION!

Since almost the start of the first lockdown last year a few amazingly kind people have been quietly, regularly, making home made cakes and delivering them to the staff of the two care homes and the three Brockworth Primary schools staff as a thank you from St. George's Church.

These acts of kindness are really appreciated by the staff members of the care homes and schools.

So A BIG BIG THANK YOU to them all for continuing this outreach.

Rona C

Quotes by Theodore Roosevelt who was the 26th President of the United States from 1901 to 1909.

“Do what you can, with what you have, where you are.”

“It is hard to fail, but it is worse never to have tried to succeed.”

“Believe you can and you're halfway there.”

“When you're at the end of your rope, tie a knot and hold on.”

“Knowing what's right doesn't mean much unless you do what's right.”

“Keep your eyes on the stars, and your feet on the ground.”

“Courage is not having the strength to go on; it is going on when you don't have the strength.”

Contributed by Jenny Farmer

More reminiscences from our centenarian Sheila

Just having had an election, I was reminded of a time just after an election, when I was speaking to the celebrant before the start of the service. Thinking he had said “What about the election?”, I replied that I was tired of hearing about it and the less said about it, the happier I would be, to which he replied, “I said, what about the collection!”



Belfry News

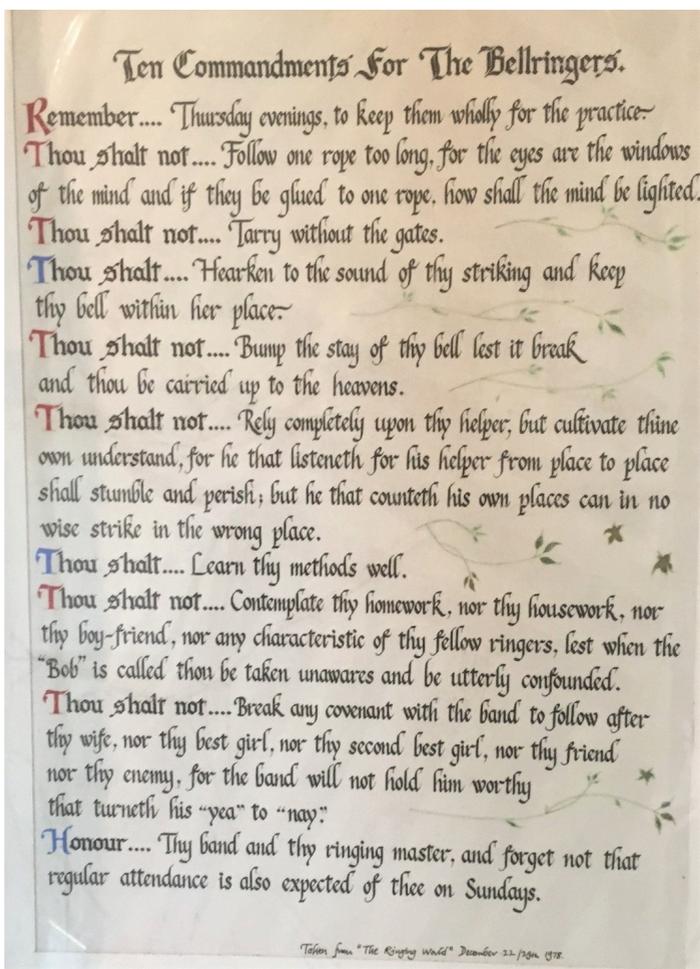
By following the guidelines issued by the CCCBR and the C of E, we have been able to ring three bells for 15 minutes before the Sunday service. As the Government's regulations are relaxed, and are now allowing up to 6 people to meet indoors, the guidelines are changing and we can possibly ring 6 bells and also resume Thursday practices, but only 45 minutes is recommended. We still have the point of social distancing, and we are not more than 2 metres apart if we ring 6 bells, so we are still considering what we can do. So watch (or listen) to this space!

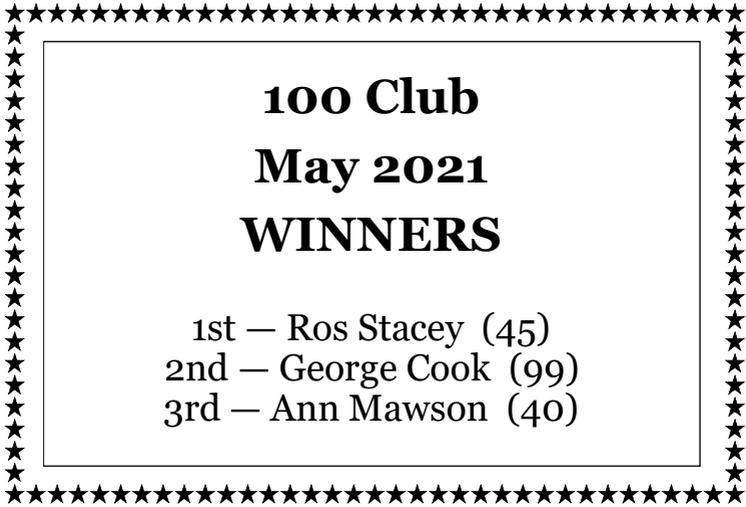
As I mentioned in my annual report to the APCM, there are now only 5 or 6 local members of the St George's bell ringers, who make up the usual Sunday service team. Previously, practice nights were supported by 2 or 3 ringers from Churchdown with occasional visitors from elsewhere. At the moment it is not really possible to teach new ringers, but we would welcome hearing from returning ringers who are interested in joining us.

I would like to arrange an open evening or two to show what goes on in the ringing room. But this will have to wait until certainly after 21st June (Boris permitting). I am afraid that access to the belfry is difficult, so that is not planned, but I have photos and diagrams of what happens up there.

The following is a notice hanging in the ringing room - 'Ten Commandments for bell ringers', which you may find interesting.

Derek Harbottle





**100 Club
May 2021
WINNERS**

- 1st — Ros Stacey (45)
2nd — George Cook (99)
3rd — Ann Mawson (40)

From the Registers—
APRIL 2021

Baptisms

No baptisms during April

Weddings

No weddings during April

Funerals

No funerals during April

Please remember all who are sick or bereaved and who need our prayers:

*Heavenly Father, giver of life and health;
comfort and restore those who are sick and bereaved,
that they may be strengthened in their weakness and have
confidence in your unfailing love;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen*

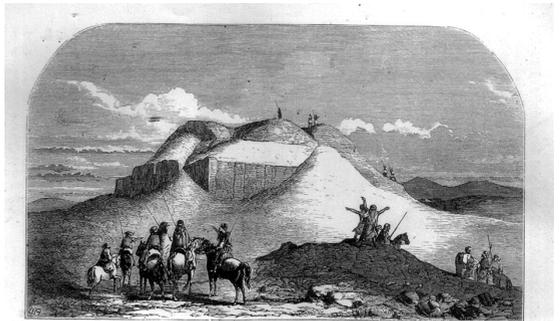
BIBLICAL CITIES CONTINUED- UR of the CHALDEANS

Dear Readers, I wonder how many of you followed the recent tour of Iraq by the Pope. His visit culminating in a visit to Abraham's purported birthplace, Ur of the Chaldeans. This gave me the incentive to continue my Biblical series by telling something about Ur. Why do I say purportedly? That is because of conjecture regarding Ur. The recognised view is that the Abraham's birthplace was in the great city of Ur in southern Mesopotamia. But there is an older and longer view that the birthplace of Abraham was in fact in modern day southern Turkey in the city of Urfa. Both sides in this argument have used careful readings of Genesis to support the theories. Abraham was from the city of Ur according to Genesis 11:31. The problem is that there are several places called Ur. It is mostly translated as "Ur of the Chaldeans." Abraham's father Terah took his family from there on a pilgrimage of faith to Canaan but when they came to Harran not far from Ur they settled there. Genesis chapter 12 recounts God's instruction to Abraham to leave his present country and go to the land I will show you. "I will make you into a great nation and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. In my mind Ur of the Chaldeans near

the current city of Haran in the S E of Turkey in what was Mesopotamia was the true birthplace of the Patriarch Abraham and was the Cradle of Civilisation visited by the Pope. Sadly, like so many Biblical cities that I have reported on, Ur is merely a ruin.

Finally, when I worked in Kuwait which together with Southern Iraq was part of ancient Mesopotamia near the border with Iraq one evening a business Arab colleague invited me to go with him into Iraq where he wanted to buy a car, much cheaper than in Kuwait. I would have loved to have visited that biblical area. But it was very close to Basra which at that time was unsafe for Christians, 90% have fled from there leaving only 300 in a population of over a million hence I had to refuse. Basra lives in fear of terrorist attacks, bribery, corruption, and thieving.

Allan Delves



The Great Temple at Megger, from the west.

Churches Count on Nature Week, 5 to 13 June **Churches across the Diocese are encouraging people to come and count species in their local churchyards this summer.**

Churches Count on Nature is a citizen-science event covering churchyards across England and Wales.

The week is open to anyone with a love of nature and churches are being encouraged to link with local schools, local wildlife groups, and those who may not have visited before to discover churchyards. Visitors will make a note of the animals, birds, insects, or fungi in their local churchyard and their data will then be collated on the National Biodiversity Network. The project is being jointly run by the conservation charities Caring for God's Acre, A Rocha UK, the Church of England, and the Church in Wales.

It is thought church land, often uniquely unploughed and undeveloped, could be a habitat for precious and endangered plants and other wildlife. During Covid-19 restrictions, churchyards have offered a quiet space for communities particularly in urban areas.

St John Baptist Church in Cirencester is one of the churches taking part locally and 28 other churches have been learning more about it. Check the Churches Count on Nature website to see what's happening near you.



Litter picking teen raises £2,000

Teenager Heather Kent from Fairford has cleared 115 bin bags of rubbish from her local area and raised over £2,000 for the Great Western Hospital, in support of Captain Tom Moore.



Heather's initial goal was to protect wildlife by collecting 100 bin bags of rubbish during Lent. She went out daily in sun, rain and cold throughout Lent.

She was joined in her efforts on Good Friday morning by Pauline Farman, who has litter picked weekly (Coronavirus restrictions and snow allowing) since her retirement, and Heather's mum, Julie and grandmother, Ann.

The four of them collected seven bags of litter together in one morning, including 17 glass bottles, which may have been a danger to wildlife.

One of the glass bottles, pictured left, was an antique which they believe might be pre-1940.

This same team is dedicated to tackling roadside litter and usually meet up several times a year to tackle any particularly litter-strewn areas.

Pauline said, "So often young people are, wrongly, blamed for the litter problem, but Heather is a shining example to us all to play an active part in loving and caring for our environment – God's wonderful creation."



The Diocese of Gloucester has committed to becoming carbon neutral by 2030 and to do that, we all must play a part. Your church might be working towards an A Rocha Eco Church Award and each member of your worshipping community has a role to play in that goal. Here are our top three things that can make a difference and help your church along the way to its next Eco Church Award.

Take a carbon footprint audit for your own home or for yourself. There are a number to try, such as climatestewards.org/offset which allows you to make a donation to help you offset your own carbon footprint. You can look at your diet, your transport and your overall spending to see where you can cut emissions and donate to offsetting projects.

Walk, cycle (or lift share if you can do so safely under covid restrictions) to church to reduce your carbon footprint. You can get some exercise, strengthen friendships and enjoy the outdoors.

How ethical are your bank accounts? It's worth doing some research online to see your bank's eco credentials. Triodos Bank and Starling Bank are worth a look, as are the building societies, as they don't need to answer to share-holders on the stock market.

Events and training

More details for these events and more, at
gloucester.anglican.org/events

Everyday Mindfulness Course – Open to All

Wednesday Mornings 9am –
11am

9, 16 and 23 June

7, 14 and 21 July

First 2 sessions will be on Zoom,
thereafter St Philip's and St
James' Church, Cheltenham

We live much of our life on autopilot.

Mindfulness is simply waking up from
the autopilot to become aware of
what is going on. Research has shown
that mindfulness can help with anxiety,
stress, low mood and sleep disruption.
Mindfulness also helps us become
more aware of ourselves and our self-
destructive habits.

This course will teach you a number of
practices which you can try at home
such as paying attention to your
breathing, your body, or the sounds
around you. Find out more and book
at <https://bit.ly/3u8k71Y>

Have your say

Visit Facebook [f/Diocese.of.Gloucester](https://www.facebook.com/Diocese.of.Gloucester), email Katherine at
kclamp@glosdioc.org.uk, follow us on Twitter [@glosdioc](https://twitter.com/glosdioc), view
videos on YouTube **Diocese of Gloucester** or visit our website
[Gloucester.anglican.org](https://gloucester.anglican.org)

Christian Youth Forum (Eco)

Tuesday 22 June, 6.30pm to 8.30pm
on Zoom

If you are 11-18 and keen to connect
their Christian faith with environmental
concerns. The introduction will discuss
the climate and biodiversity crises and
there will be time to share your
passion for nature and creation with
one another. Book your space here
<https://bit.ly/3vo2rQ6>

Greening our preaching

Friday 2 July, 10am to 11.30am

For any preachers, lay or ordained who
would like to learn more about
including environmental concerns in
their messages. Ruth Newton, priest of
a Silver Eco-Church and currently
doing a PhD in teaching green theology,
will share tips and ideas to help inspire
and motivate your congregation to care
for your local patch of creation. Find
out more and book at
<https://bit.ly/3nyxpSZ>

June 2021

Daily Bible Readings:



Tuesday 1st June
Wednesday 2nd June
Thursday 3rd June
Friday 4th June
Saturday 5th June

Tobit 2:9-end; Mark 12:13-17
Tobit 3:1-11,16-end; 1 Peter 1:18-end
Tobit 6:10-11; 7:1-15; 8:4-8; Mark 12:28-34
Tobit 11:5-15; Mark 12:35-37
Tobit 12:1,5-15,20a; Mark 12:38-end

Monday 7th June
Tuesday 8th June
Wednesday 9th June
Thursday 10th June
-26
Friday 11th June
Saturday 12th June

2 Corinthians 1:1-7; Matthew 5:1-12
2 Corinthians 1:18-22; Mark 5:13-16
2 Corinthians 3:4-11; Matthew 5:17-19
2 Corinthians 3:15-4:1,3-6; Matthew 5:20
2 Corinthians 4:7-15; Matthew 5:27-32
2 Corinthians 5:14-end; Matthew 5:33-37

Monday 14th June
Tuesday 15th June
Wednesday 16th June
Thursday 17th June
Friday 18th June
23
Saturday 19th June

2 Corinthians 6:1-10; Matthew 5:38-42
2 Corinthians 8:1-9; Matthew 5:43-end
2 Corinthians 9:6-11; Matthew 6:1-6,16-18
2 Corinthians 11:1-11; Matthew 6:7-15
2 Corinthians 11:18,21b-30; Matthew 6:19-
23
2 Corinthians 12:1-10; Matthew 6:24-end

Monday 21st June
Tuesday 22nd June
Wednesday 23rd June
Thursday 24th June
Friday 25th June
Saturday 26th June

Genesis 12:1-9; Matthew 7:1-5
Genesis 13:2,5-end; Matthew 7:6,12-14
Genesis 15:1-12,17-18; Matthew 7:15-20
Genesis 16:1-12,15-16; Matthew 7:21-end
Genesis 17:1,9-10,15-22; Matthew 8:1-4
Genesis 18:1-15; Matthew 8:5-17

Monday 28th June
Tuesday 29th June
Wednesday 30th June

Genesis 18:16-end; Matthew 8:18-22
Genesis 19:15-29; Matthew 8:23-27
Genesis 21:5,8-20; Matthew 8:28-end

SAINTS ALIVE OR MEMORIES OF MINISTRY

by David Sutch

Exodus

The previous Vicar had left six months ago. By the time I had worked out my three months' notice and moved, the interval would be nine months. We announced our move to the children and swore them to secrecy. They shared their secret with their best friends, only.

The announcement was made to a stunned Church Council and to saddened congregations. The situation was worsened by the odd set up in the Methodist Ministry that gives its Ministers and members 2 years notice that a move is to happen. Both Methodist colleagues were moving, one, later in the same year and the other the following August/September.

Many were kind enough to express their sense of loss and sought to find an explanation to the sudden move. I just passed the buck – “Blame the Bishop” I said.

We were asked to provide three estimates from removal firms. The quotations ranged from a high one done by post, to a very low one which had to be estimated after 9pm as the manager was also the driver and had been driving all day. He banged and crashed his way around the house looking in all the cupboards and boxes and muttering “O dear, O dear” at everything that was larger than a chair. It was a wonder that he did not disturb the three boys asleep in their bedrooms as his tour of inspection progressed around the house.

We eventually opted for the middle firm – a well-known transportation and removal company who included in their price some of the packing, and in a friendly yet deadly competitive way warned us about the cheap cowboy firm who were not members of the Removers Association.

The main preoccupation with all the estimates was the number of books in my study. I have seen studies with more books, but perhaps the owners are not requested to move so often. The shelves were along one wall, and so it did seem a large amount. Many were novels that my wife had read and re-read. The rest were mine, some I read and re-read, and some I could do without. In every event, we said we would be responsible for moving the books.

After an official visit to our new Vicarage with the Archdeacon and the Diocesan Surveyor to inspect the property and see what was needed in the way of decorating, we were able to move the books in boxes, several at a time as we travelled back and forth to decorate the upstairs throughout. The Archdeacon and the Diocesan Surveyor had offered us £50 towards the cost of materials, until we let it be known that we were prepared to do the work ourselves. Then the offer was trebled!

It was on one of the later trips that we observed our next-door neighbour. April lived in the Old Vicarage with her husband Craig and six children – hence their need of a larger house. I

noticed her from one of the bedroom windows. She appeared to be bobbing up and down from behind the beech hedge that divided the new Vicarage from the old. My immediate conclusion was that she was spying on us, trying to catch a glimpse of us from various parts of the hedge; or keeping an eye on the vacant property. As I went across to meet her, I realized, in fact, that she was weeding the hedgerow and planting some small plants. After our greetings and introductions were over, she apologized for being seen in her “cow coat”. April kept a Jersey cow, called Daisy, to provide milk, butter and cheese for her large family. She kept a coat for wearing outside to tend Daisy. I accepted her apology on condition that she accepted mine. I was wearing my painting outfit of overlarge jeans puckered at the waist by a wide belt, an old shirt already splattered in various shades of paint, and my hair was going prematurely white in spots of emulsion which had splashed from the ceiling I had been rollering. On a later visit, I met Farmer Good who kept some cows on part of the Glebe not already in use, either as new vicarage grounds, or the school buildings and playing fields. He was tidying up the field after rather heavy use by his cattle due to the long wet winter, by cutting down old trees. His relaxing hobby after running his farm was watching wrestling. This day, being a Saturday, he was in a hurry to finish work, so I decided not to keep him long. Our new house had an open fire to augment the central heating, our first house to have a real fireplace. I asked him if I could have some the logs he was cutting, and he readily

agreed to leave them behind the hedge until I could collect them. At last, we had some logs to burn on our first open fire. At last, a fireplace would be the focal point and not the “box”, the TV which up to now had dominated our sitting room to the effect that as soon as the boys came in, or felt they had nothing to do, they would plead to watch telly – whatever was on. To fit our new room, we ordered a portable small screen television. It arrived the same day as a letter saying that our order was being attended to, but due to demand and difficulty in supply, there would be a long delay before we received our set. Our move, our exodus, seemed to approach with alarming speed. We would never be ready. It always amazes me how much we had acquired. A certain amount in our roof space had been transferred from the roof space in our previous house and would go straight to the roof space in our new house, which, mercifully was well boarded in and electrically lit. When the removal van arrived on the Friday before we were due to move on the Monday, they were late. We had waited in all day, and, of course, when they realized there was so much to pack, despite a thorough going examination by their estimator, our telephone was pressed into service to complain to the boss that the job would never be done, especially as we had planned to visit the new house on the Saturday to finish the decorating. When, later in the afternoon, the estimator telephoned me to complain that men of my profession always had so many books, I gently reminded him that we had already moved the books,

as we had promised.

Charlie, the packer, was cheerfully packing. Fred was helping to load on some of the furniture we would not need over the weekend. The driver/foreman was the one who was sure that everything could not be done. So, they came back on the Saturday to complete the packing.

Looking back, it was not really a good idea to move on a Monday, especially when I had to work on the Sunday.

Camping in your own home with most of the furniture gone is unsettling for the children, and rather depressing, a sort of limbo, neither heaven nor hell, neither slavery nor the promised land.

At 9.30pm that Saturday evening, Megan was lying wrapped in a towel after a bath, I was in the bath when the doorbell rang. Megan slipped some clothes on and went down to open the door to Father Pike, the Roman Catholic priest with whom I had worked. He had called to bid us farewell. Megan announced in a loud voice for me to hear that “David is washing his hair.”

A few minutes later I entered the sitting room with my hair dry. I hadn't time to start. With the Irish gift of storytelling, he stayed some time relating how his parish boat trip had fared. He had arranged for a parish party to enjoy a trip up the river, where, he said, “they could not get away from him (a tee totaller) to the local pub”. They all enjoyed the trip and asked if he could arrange another the following year. He has already booked, and when asked if another trip is to happen, he will, democratically, ask what dates are preferable, but on contacting the boat owners will find

that only one date is available – the one he had already booked. He is a loveable typical Roman Catholic priest caught between the authoritarianism of the old and the new breath of wind fanned by the democratic moves in the Roman Catholic Church since Vatican 11. A real Father Dudswell character.

Our last day dawned. Ahead of me were the usual Sunday services and a special farewell service in the evening. It is always hard to leave friends and step into the unknown. It is hard too, to decide what the last sermon should be about. I resisted the urge to say all the things I felt they ought to hear, and preached a sermon based on the Sunday bible readings to emphasize that even though I was leaving, the worship of the local family of Christians, the saints, would continue long after I had been forgotten.

The special service in the evening, I knew would be difficult in so far as it was special and my last. The church was full of people who were there to say “farewell” and to make sure I was going properly.

At the end, Megan and I were made to sit in front of the altar to receive farewell speeches and gifts. What more could we say but a heartfelt “thank you” as they expressed their “thank yous” to us. Afterwards, over coffee and biscuits we put on a brave face as we helped quell the tears of people who were special to us, and who were also special to God.

We returned home at 9.45pm and dropped exhausted into our two remaining chairs. Then the telephone rang. My work had not ended yet. I spent the next two hours in the hospital with a distraught wife whose husband had been admitted earlier in the

evening and was about to undergo emergency surgery. Removal day was Megan's birthday. Her present was a new home, which she had decorated and cleaned in readiness. The removal firm arrived and very quickly our last possessions were loaded in, when the van left, our boys left too with their grandparents and Megan and I left with a carload of last minute things. After a pub lunch on the way we arrived in time to unload our car before the van arrived. With a very helpful and appreciative crew we had unpacked the van, and sorted the large amount into their rightful places, we sat down to birthday tea at 5.00pm. Only later did we celebrate the move

and Megan's birthday with pate and champagne. The weather had been dry, the move had happened, here we were in our new house. The next day it poured with rain all day. Thank goodness we had not chickened out of our decision to move on the Monday when the option was put to us. So, we had moved, we had crossed over on dry land, to our new promised land, just as the Israelites had passed over on dry land in the Book of Exodus.

To be continued.....

To all my friends at St George's,

Thank you for the flowers and card, delivered in person by Linda on my 90th Birthday, it helped to make my day very special.

Now only 10 years before I catch up with Sheila.

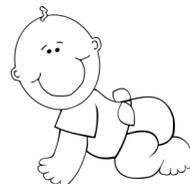
Evelyn Jenkins



Good news!

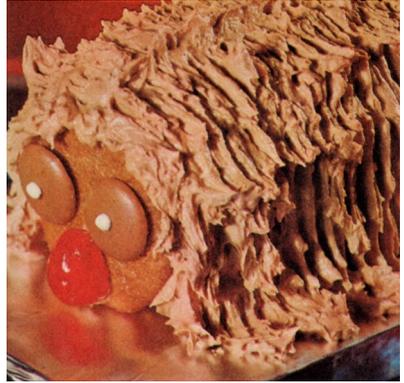
On the 29th of April. God gifted me with a 4th great-granddaughter. Mother and baby are doing well. Now I have Hattie, Florence, Lilly and Ivy and another little girl due this month (May). How blessed I am. I am waiting eagerly for my first cuddle!

Wendy Rodwell



Animal cake

225g./8oz. Butter
350g./12oz. Icing sugar, sifted
2 Tablespoons cocoa powder
Boiling water
1 Teaspoon vanilla extract (or essence)
About 24 Ginger biscuits or Jaffa cakes
1 Chocolate finger biscuit for tail
2 Chocolate buttons for eyes
 $\frac{1}{2}$ Glace cherry for nose



Serves 10-12

Cream the butter and sugar together until fluffy.

Reserve $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon. Mix the cocoa to a smooth paste with the boiled water and leave until cold.

Beat the vanilla extract (essence) into the buttercream.

Sandwich the biscuits (or jaffa cakes) together with the buttercream and stand on a board horizontally. Cover all but one end completely with the remaining buttercream and ridge with a fork (as shown in photo). Put the chocolate finger biscuit at the covered end for the tail, then decorate the uncovered 'face' with 2 chocolate button eyes and a cherry nose, holding them in position with reserved buttercream and put 2 small blobs of buttercream in the centre of the chocolate buttons to represent the eyeballs.

Rona Clifford



In spite of May's unpredictable weather, the Spring Sale went ahead and was blessed with a nearly dry couple of hours. It was lovely to see people enjoying getting out and meeting friends and an amazing £525 was raised for Church funds. Thank you all!

My Favourite Poems:

Peace Prayer

Dear Readers, thinking about my next Poem it occurred to me that I had not written a Religious poem although Happiness mentions the Blessings of the Lord.. After all I thought here am I writing for a Church magazine it is time to include a religious poem, so here we go.

The Poem/Prayer I have chosen has attributed to St Francis of Assisi and is widely read in many Christian Churches especially Roman Catholic ones.

But surprisingly it does not appear in the Book of St Francis prayers. It was a quite common prayer in both World wars as troops prayed for peace.

Although associated with St Francis there is no evidence to state that it was written by him. The Author remains unknown, although it can be traced back to year 1912 in French Spiritual magazine called spiritual magazine

called *La Clochette* (The Little Bell), published by Catholic Church organisation in Paris named La Ligue de la Sainte-Messe (The League of the Holy Mass).

It was published anonymously. The author could possibly have been Father Bouquerel who was the Editor of the magazine.

In 1986, Pope John Paul II recited the prayer in bidding farewell to the global religious leaders he hosted for the first "World Day of Prayer for Peace", in Assisi at the Basilica of St. Francis. Indeed, the prayer "over the years has gained a worldwide popularity with people of all faiths"; and in 2013, Pope Francis chose his papal name as a tribute to St. Francis, "the man who gives us this spirit of peace". So, in this day of so many conflicts in world take a moment and slowly read this prayer as you pray for peace.

The Peace Prayer of Saint Francis of Assisi.

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace.
Where there is hatred, let me sow love;
Where there is error, truth;
Where there is injury, pardon;
Where there is doubt, faith;
Where there is despair, hope;
Where there is darkness, light;
And where there is sadness, joy.
O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek
To be consoled as to console;
To be understood as to understand.

To be loved as to love.
For it is in giving that we receive;
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned;
It is in self-forgetting that we find;
And it is in dying to ourselves that we are born to eternal life.
Amen.

A.K.Delves

1971 – June 27th - 2021

On Sunday 27th June 1971, a young man – under the Church of England rules I was too young to be Ordained, but had been granted permission by the Archbishop of Canterbury with a Faculty document affixed with the seal of the Faculty Office as established by Henry V111th (I don't tell too many that it was signed on April 1st) - stood waiting to be Ordained as a Priest in the Church of God. I had been

Ordained a Deacon in Bristol Cathedral on Trinity Sunday (May 21st 1970) and College terms had been lengthened so I waited until Petertide to be Ordained a Priest. What a privilege to lead the Christian Family gathered around the Lord's Table for communion – in Church, in homes, and later as a Chaplain to the Forces in barns and Nissan huts, or on parade grounds. I have served in the Bristol Diocese, in the Gloucester Diocese and in the Diocese of Europe.

For 2021, I have been graciously granted permission to take part in the Sunday morning service for 27th June, by the Revd.Mike.

As I write we are planning under current Covid restrictions, (30 people, masked and socially distanced).

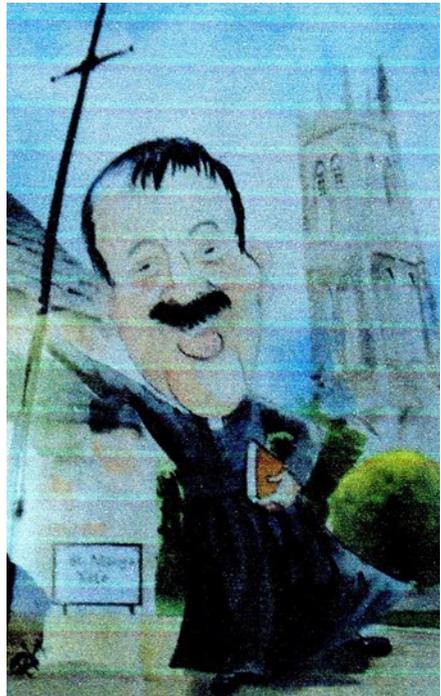
If we can gather together, the Service will be at 9am as the Revd.Mike has a Family Service in the Church Centre at 10.30am.

I have been invited to Preside at the Eucharist at 5pm at St James

Quedgeley, and a bring and share supper will follow.

As we celebrate God's goodness, please remember in your prayers Fran Croxon-Hall as she is to be Ordained Deacon on 3rd July in St David's Cathedral. Some will remember her time with us at St George's.

David Sutch



CHURCH DIARY—June 2021

2 nd	9.30am	Communion : Church Centre
6 th	9.00am	Communion Worship Service : Church Broadcast live on YouTube (or watch via Facebook)
	10.30am	Family Worship Service : Church Centre
9 th	9.30am	Communion : Church Centre
13 th	9.00am	Communion Worship Service : Church Broadcast live on YouTube (or watch via Facebook)
	10.30am	Family Worship Service : Church Centre
16 th	9.30am	Communion : Church Centre
20 th	9.00am	Communion Worship Service : Church Broadcast live on YouTube (or watch via Facebook)
	10.30am	Family Worship Service : Church Centre
23 rd	9.30am	Communion : Church Centre
25 th	12.00pm	Wedding : Church
27 th	9.00am	Communion Worship Service : Church Broadcast live on YouTube (or watch via Facebook)
	10.30am	Family Worship Service : Church Centre
	1.30pm	Wedding : Church
30 th	9.30am	Communion : Church Centre

We have now returned to our normal pattern of worship and all services can be attended in person (with limits on capacity).

Please remember, if you would like to be at a Sunday service in church or the Church Centre, you must contact the Church Office by email or phone to request a place; we will then confirm to you that your place has been booked.

Please can we emphasise, in order to keep everyone safe, do not arrive at a Sunday service if you haven't received confirmation that you have a place.

You no longer need to book a place at the 9.30am Communion in the Church Centre on a Wednesday.

**Please ensure you wear a face covering to every service.
Thank you.**

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Initial assessment, nail cutting, filing of skin & foot massage (including purchase of equipment)	£27
Routine toenail cut including filing of nails & foot	£17
<i>Additional services in addition to toe nail treatments above if conducted at the same appointment:</i>	
Routine fingernail cut	£5
Nails varnished (each set)	£5
Foot & lower leg massage	£5
Hand & arm massage	£3

Help!

This is *your* magazine. We need your interesting stories, facts, jokes, poems, quotes, recipes, brain teasers, photos, notices or anything else that others would enjoy reading.

All contributions will be gratefully received by the church office or, preferably, please email:

stgeorgesbrockworthmag
@gmail.com

**The DEADLINE
for the July/August double issue
is 15th June
Thank you!**

Thank you!

Help Guide Dogs for the Blind

Please save your plastic
milk bottle tops
(they can be any colour,
but **only milk bottle tops**)
and pass them to
Jenny Farmer or into the Church
office
to help
raise money for
Guide Dogs for the Blind

Thank you!





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ARE YOU LOOKING FOR A VENUE

**for your children's party, family
gathering, meeting or other event?
St. George's Church Centre is available to hire.**

The hall is located in the centre of Brockworth village on Court Road, GL3 4ET and has good facilities, including a private car park for hall users.

The main hall holds up to 100 people - perfect for larger events, and can be hired for £16 per hour, or £55 for four hours.

The lounge can accommodate up to 25 people, ideal for smaller meetings, for £11 per hour or £40 for four hours.

(Hall and lounge capacity may be affected by government restrictions, please contact the office for the latest information)

For further details, call Karen at the Church office on **01452 550554**
Email: hire@stgeorgesbrockworth.org

Or see our website,
www.stgeorgesbrockworth.org