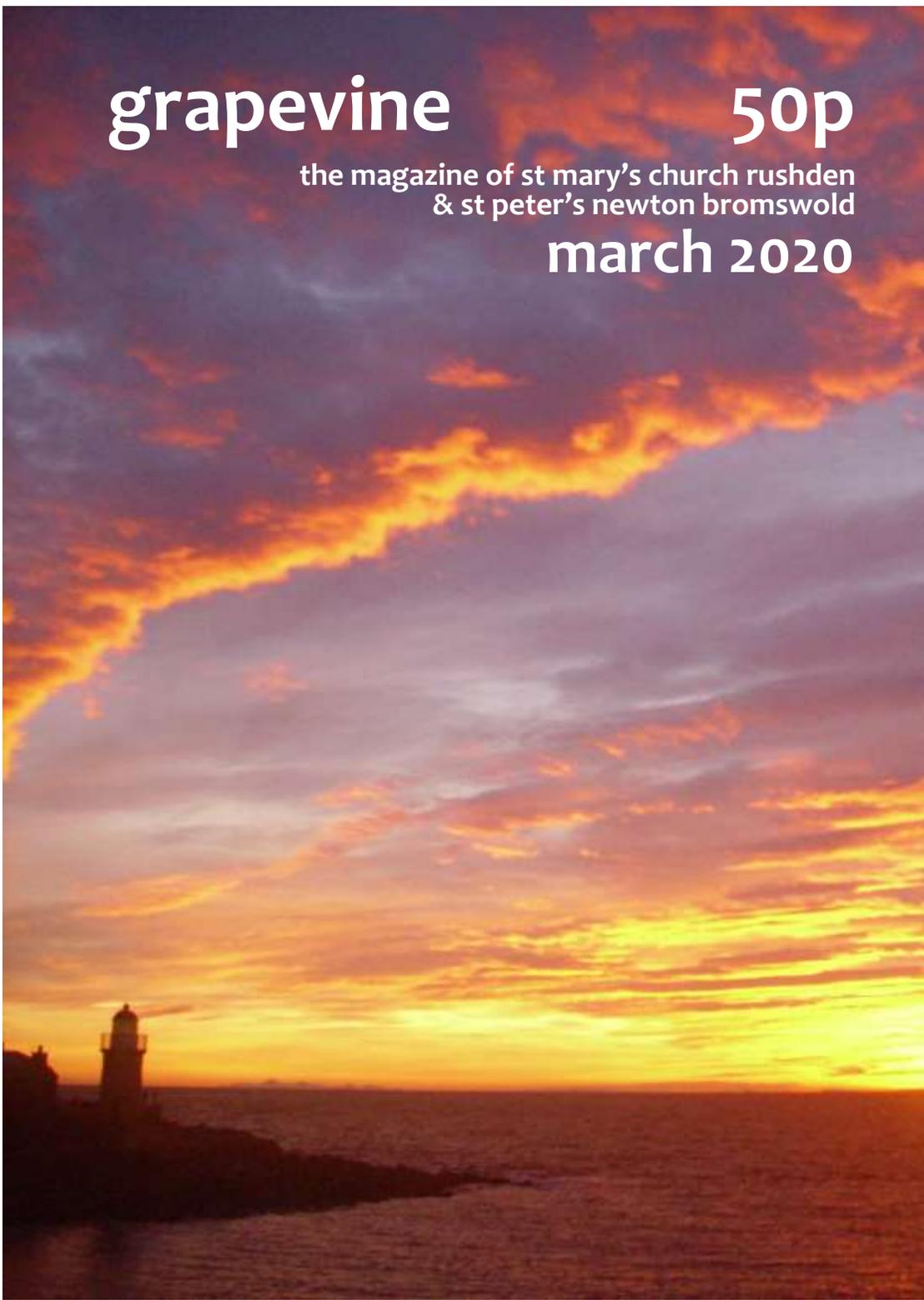


grapevine

50p

the magazine of st mary's church rushden
& st peter's newton bromswold

march 2020



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grapevine
march 2020



Monthly event for dads, stepdads, granddads or male carers and their younger children [0-6 yrs]. Children enjoy a range of toys including bouncy castle, sit-on cars and inflatable ball pool.

Saturday 21 March

9.30am—12noon

St Mary's Church Hall

Adults £4: children free

Just turn up!

Items for the
April grapevine

should be sent by

Sunday 15 March

to Jude Curtis

either by email:

stmaryschurchoffice@btinternet.com

or left in the letterbox outside the church office

Please include your name and phone number with any submission in case we need to contact you.

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The Rector Writes



The coronavirus which began in central China in early January has continued to spread and the number of fatalities increases. Perhaps by the time you read this the tide will have turned. I certainly look forward to being able to abandon the safety measures which have been instituted as a prudent precaution in the administration of communion, passing the peace and greeting people by the door!

The possible threat of a serious pandemic demonstrates how little control we have over some things in life. It reminds us that life is precious, fragile and not to be taken for granted. Even in China, where the Chinese Communist Party Government have nearly total control over many aspects of life, they have not (at the time of writing) been able to contain the spread of the disease, despite the—somewhat belated but nevertheless impressive—countermeasures put in place.

Of course while we in the West have medical resources with which to deal with an epidemic, more worrying is the possible effect on the developing world. So we pray for all those working to prevent the spread of the virus, for those supplying medical resources to those most in need, and for those working on an effective inoculation.

* * *

With the passing of Ash Wednesday on 26 February, we will have entered the season of Lent. Many people have traditionally thought of Lent as a time to give something up. They have a chocolate ‘fast’ or refrain from alcohol for the season. While this can be helpful, the most important thing to do during Lent is to reflect on our lives in the light of God’s Word and listen to what the Holy Spirit is telling us.

Is there an area in my life which I know I haven’t given to God?

It may be obvious: for instance, it might be like a cupboard in the kitchen which is so full of dirty dishes that they threatens to tumble out all over the floor. Dirty dishes—like your feeling for that neighbour with whom you don’t talk since arguing a year ago. Dirty pots and pans—like your anger at that person at church who was talking about you behind your back.

Or it may be like a box up in the attic, which contains things from so long ago that you don’t even remember what’s in it—but you know it would be

painful to open that box. You don't want to deal with what you find there. There are old sins with which you still struggle. There are old grudges that would cause you pain—because you have never been willing to ask God to forgive and heal the hurt. There are old photographs there of people that you have lost—and you have never forgiven God for taking them away.

Perhaps Lent can be a time when we recognise that everything is not as it ought to be. This may mean opening up some painful cupboards and releasing some forgotten memories. It will certainly mean expressing our feelings and our sorrows to God - and perhaps to others. But it will also mean asking for the Holy Spirit to heal us, lead us, and give us His strength to clean out the rubbish and do differently, and better, in the future— with Him beside us.

Take some extra time with God: read the Bible, pray the Lord's Prayer, pray some more — and listen to God. That might be a bigger sacrifice than going without some treat or other.

The most important thing to do during Lent is to reflect on our lives in the light of God's Word and listen to what the Holy Spirit is telling us.

Fasting can be helpful but not if it is just an excuse not to wash up (!) and not if our rumbling tummy drowns out the still small voice of the Spirit.

Whatever you do this Lent, remember that the purpose of the exercise is to draw nearer to God. And because we know that we all fall short of His purpose for us, this will include acknowledging our failures and sins and receiving God's forgiveness and strength.

The end goal is not renunciation and repentance but *renewal*. Confession does not leave us diminished but enlarged; God promises to forgive us and empower us. Here is a spoiler to start Lent: the end of the Passion narrative is not Jesus's death on Good Friday, but his resurrection on Easter morning!

But when the kindness and love
of God our Saviour appeared, he saved us,
... through the washing of rebirth
and renewal by the Holy Spirit,
whom he poured out on us generously
through Jesus Christ our Saviour,
so that, having been justified by his grace,
we might become heirs
having the hope of eternal life. *Titus 3:4-7*



One Person at a Time

Every trip to Galloway has been marked by an intriguing instance of serendipity – which, for those not familiar with my recurring obsessions, is an unexpected but fortuitous meeting of two things not previously connected. This year it was the confluence of the most disturbing sunset I have ever witnessed and a talk by *Leprosy Mission Scotland*. Bear with me.

Leprosy is something I'm largely ignorant of beyond meeting sufferers while working in Cairo in 1975, and reading Stephen Donaldson's *The Chronicles of Thomas Covenant*, also back in the '70s. This Guild talk was entirely unexpected, inspirational and, most importantly, carried the tag-line 'One person at a time'. Right, hold that thought.

Sunsets, by contrast are my stock in trade. With Galloway's west-facing living room window I've witnessed well over 700 of them, from the damp squid of a wriggly yellow line being sucked into Donaghadee across the water, to pyrotechnic displays that draw out the whole village – residents and visitors alike – to stand in silence along the harbour railings. I have to join them otherwise I'm left staring at a solid wall of anorak backs; arms aloft holding smart phones. What is most striking is the uniformity of response: the collective awe, the near silence, the shy smiles exchanged, the hint of a wet eye here and there. Years ago one local I've never exchanged two words with turned away from the western sky, looked straight at me and said, "I think I've died and gone to heaven."

But this year it wasn't the actual event that had most significance but its aftermath. Everyone had a 'sunset experience' and this time everyone agreed it wasn't like anything they'd seen before.* Words like 'apocalyptic' entered village vocabulary. Up the road, north west-facing Stranraer had seen some of its reflected splendour: people returning from Glasgow had followed it from the main road. It was described as old

* Ed: the cover photo was taken by Jude.

Hollywood Technicolour, brash, unreal, frightening – more like the battle backgrounds in *Lord of the Rings* than most people’s picture of heaven, as if God was reminding us that part of his nature is ultimate power.

And for a few days, one-to-one and one by one it became a mutual preoccupation – the impression created refused to go away – like God himself – and for a little while it was OK to talk to strangers about faith, belief and God’s nature through a sunset – obliquely admittedly but every such encounter opens a door. I loved the way the over-casual exchanges started mid-flow, ‘You should have been here last Sunday. Oh, you were here last Sunday. Apocalyptic wasn’t it – four horseman stuff. Never seen colours like it. Not natural. From Revelation isn’t it?’ Untapped Biblical knowledge of startling accuracy was humbling. The only suitable answer seemed to be, “Yes, it was amazing. God is amazing.”

And that’s all it takes sometimes to start a discussion. One to one: one person at a time. You could call it evangelism but you don’t have to. The effect is exponential: one becomes two, affects two others and becomes 4, then 8, 16, 32, 64 to infinity.

And the connection with Leprosy? That’s the *inverse* of evangelism. One person *not* infecting another because of proper medication* reduces the number of cases by two, those two potentially affect 4, 8, 16 and so on. *Leprosy Mission Scotland* aim to eradicate leprosy world-wide, one person at a time, by 2035.

I would hate to think we’ll do the same to what we believe in because we don’t talk to people, ‘one person at a time’.

Jude Curtis - Editor



*amazingly the medicine now in use effectively renders the patient non-infectious within two days of beginning treatment. Plenty of interesting stuff to read and learn from about leprosy on line.

St Mary's News

The Children's Society News



The Children's Society Spring Quiz 'Bits and Pieces' is now available at £1 from Mary (01933-315383 or Pam Bailey 01933-313195).

The winners of the Autumn Quiz 'The Countryside' were:
1st place—Mrs Porter (Herts)
joint 2nd—Stacey Becks (Derby) and Pam Bailey (Rushden)
£313 was raised. The committee would like to thank everyone who supports The Children's Society by buying the Quiz Sheets .

Mary Hadley



Please join us for a time of informal contemporary worship, intercessory prayer and prayer ministry at 7.45pm on the **Third Thursday** of each month in St Mary's Church

Join us! Thursday 19 March

Flower Rotas

March 2020

Behind the Communion Table

As usual, there will be no flowers behind the Communion Table during Lent. We will hope for a great display to celebrate Easter, however!

If you are able to offer to do the flowers behind the communion table later this year please sign up on the rota at the back of church.

Any questions: Ellen Inwood will always help - 312874

Memorial Chapel

23 March Mrs Margaret Clarke

If anyone wishes to give flowers in memory of loved ones please contact me, Brenda Dixon, 358982

JUMBO

JUMBLE SALE

SATURDAY 7 MARCH

10am—12noon

Proceeds to Mission Funds and ENCS (Recovery House).

Helpers are needed to sort jumble and help on the day. Also, cakes are needed for refreshments.

The Church Hall will be open on Friday 6 March for donations of jumble from 10-3pm

Further details from Edna or ring 357253.

St Mary's News

Ladies' Group

The ladies group will meet on Wednesday 11 March at 2.15pm. It is the time of year for our Annual General Meeting and when we have concluded the business side of things on that afternoon we look forward to hearing from Rev Phil Nightingale with his talk entitled "A Squash Player's Testimony". For further details please phone Cynthia 359590.

Reflective Worship

On the evening of Sunday 29 March at 6.00pm there will be a service of Celtic Worship.



Agape Meal

We will again be joining together for a "love feast" to recall Jesus' Last Supper on Maundy Thursday at 7pm during Holy Week. Tickets £4.00. (Concessions available, please ask)

Mothering Sunday

Don't miss our services on Mothering Sunday 22 March. At the 9.30am service our Guides and Brownies will be helping us lead the service and we will honour all the ladies attending with posies.



RUSHDEN ST MARY'S ANNUAL VESTRY & APCM TUESDAY 7 APRIL 7.30

The Annual Vestry and APCM will be taking place this year on Tuesday, 7 April, 7.30pm in the Church.

Electoral Roll forms are at the back of church if you are not yet on the electoral roll (please check the Board)

Will all groups and activities please submit your reports to Martin Compton by 8 March for printing before the meetings.



St Mary's PCC Report

At the first meeting of 2020 for St Mary's PCC, the following items were under discussion.

Rushden East Development. East Northants District Council (ENDC) have approved a public consultation on the Development which will last around 6 weeks. An Exhibition will be on view at Rushden Lakes on 27 & 28 February (for full details, see the ENDC planning website). The local churches have made it clear that they are willing to progress with the Diocese for the provision of a church school. T Smith was thanked for continuing to keep us informed on the Development.

An Alpha Course is being held on Monday evenings in the Vestry Hall.

Storage. The cost of implementing plans for even temporary storage would be around £35000 and would require both planning and Diocesan permission. S Prior thanked M Cromwell for the time and effort that he has put into researching this project. The PCC agreed to put it on hold for now.

The AGAPE Meal will be taking place on Maundy Thursday 9 April 2020 at 7pm in the Church Hall. This remembrance of the Last Supper while sharing a meal together has become an annual event at St Mary's Teaching will be provided by Rev L Smith and a light meal prepared by Carol Allen. Tickets (£4) will be on sale during March.

From the Registers

Funerals

Wednesday 5 February 2020
Irene Bedford (80)

Tuesday 11 February 2020
Nancy Monaghan (79)

Internment of Ashes
Thursday 30 January 2020
David Ronald Brewerton



Tuesday
3 March
at 10.15am
in the
Church Hall.

March craft demonstration:
glass painting. All Welcome!



You might also like to know ...



Serve is looking for Volunteers:

VOLUNTEER TRUSTEES: we are looking for confident and enthusiastic individuals to join our Board of Directors and become Trustees of SERVE, supporting our Chief Executive. We are looking for people with skills in Social Care Management/Legal/Marketing/Media. If you can spare six evenings a year to attend meetings we would like to hear from you. 01933 315555 or email cs0@serve.org.uk

MINIBUS DRIVERS

We have a brand new minibus!
And we are desperate for volunteers to drive it.



Clean licence needed but no experience necessary. We have named our new bus Bernard after our longest standing trustee Mr Bernard Coker who passed away before Christmas.



An Invitation to the Northampton*

Bishop's Bible Day

Saturday 14th March, 9.30am—4pm

Northampton High School

Newport Pagnell Road, Hardingstone, Northampton, NN4 6UU

You MUST book for this event. To do so please:

Ring: 01604 887049, *E-mail:* bookings@peterborough-diocese.org.uk or
Return the completed Booking Form (available at the back of church or online)
by hand or post by Friday 6th March 2020

News from Newton



This comes from Anna and Bill Giles and concerns a ceremony to have Anna's wedding ring blessed at St Peter's, Newton Bromswold. With permission given to have a couple of hymns, Bill chose, 'Jesus Put This Song Into My Heart'. The Rector thought it prudent to check that the organist, Simon, was familiar with it. This was the response:

"I didn't immediately recognise 'Jesus Put This Song ...' so I looked it up on YouTube. I clicked play, and a picture of a young woman in a swimsuit appeared – my sort of hymn I thought! Actually, it was an advert for Cunard cruises. But, yes I do know the song!"



RIDE & STRIDE

*A summary of the Message from Gareth Lugar-Mawson
the Chairman of Northamptonshire Historic Churches Trust*

The 2019 Ride & Stride raised £39,145, plus £6,922 from Gift Aid, resulting in a total of **£46,067**. This excellent result reflects the efforts of people from churches and sponsors throughout the county.

In 2019 the Trustees of Northamptonshire Historic Churches Trust awarded £59,350 in grants and promises of grants to churches and chapels in Northamptonshire. Ride & Stride sponsorship is the Trust's main funding source for these grants and priority is given to those who participate and raise sponsorship in Ride & Stride.



Northamptonshire has some of England's finest examples of church architecture, covering over 900 years of Christian worship. While we are fortunate to enjoy these places of worship; they also involve a great responsibility to look after them. Ultimately, this responsibility lies with the local people. Northamptonshire Historic Churches Trust endeavours to support those who accept the challenge of caring for these beautiful buildings. We all have a duty to ensure that those who come after us can continue to enjoy and worship in them in the centuries to come.

The 2020 Ride and Stride will be held on Saturday, 12 September.

News from Newton

**Mothering Sunday
Service
Sunday 22 March
at 11am**

**St Peter's
Newton Bromswold
Annual Vestry &
Annual Parochial Church Meeting
Wednesday 1 April
7.30pm in Church**

**Cowslip and Fritillary Day
at St Peter's Church
Easter Monday 13 April
from 1pm to 4pm.
Plants for Sale
& Afternoon Teas.**



There are no
flowers in the
church
throughout Lent.

Pew Heating System

On Saturday 25 January, Newton Church was mentioned in an article in The Daily Telegraph for our pew heating system.

The article was about The Church of England turning to heated cushions to help beat climate change as part of its new zero carbon strategy, which Bishop of Salisbury unveiled as the church says it needs to move away from gas and oil heating in favour of more renewable energy sources to heat its 16,000 churches. The Synod's Climate Emergency paper says part of the answer will be to "heat people not building", by using chargeable heated cushions placed on pews, instead of expensive and carbon generating radiators and electric heaters.

Churches will be issued with a new rating tool, which calculates their energy consumption, taking into account factors including the type of power they use, the size of the building and usage. The tool will produce an easy to understand energy rating similar to the ones applied to washing machines and fridges.

Since the article was published, we have received a few inquiries asking about the Pew Heating System.

Helen Lines



Friends of Refugees Thurs 12 March

There will be a meeting on Thursday 12 March at 7.30pm of the Friends of Refugees: East Northants at Rushden Full Gospel Church

DEF AGM Thursday 26 March 7pm

Peterborough Diocesan Evangelical Fellowship AGM on 26 March will be followed by a talk from Rev Andrew Symes on *Current Trends within the Church of England* at St James' Church, Thrapston. Refreshments, including a hot buffet, from 7pm followed by the AGM and the talk.

"Just a thought ..."

... the ancient Celtic people saw the Holy Spirit not as a hovering white dove but as a "wild goose." The meaning behind this peculiar choice is because they saw how the Holy Spirit has a tendency to disrupt and surprise. The Holy Spirit moves in our lives in an unexpected fashion, similar to the actions of a wild goose...

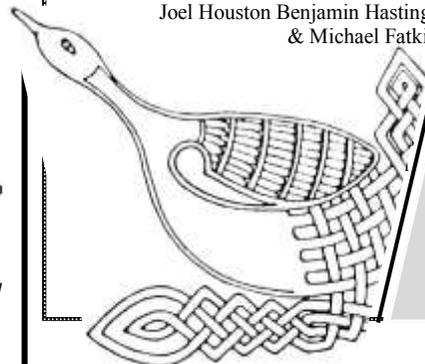
<https://aleteia.org/author/philip-kosloski/>



Prayer Corner

If the stars
were made to worship,
so will I.
If the mountains
bow in reverence,
so will I.
If the oceans
roar your greatness,
so will I.
For if everything exists
to lift you high,
so will I.
If the wind
goes where you send it,
so will I.
If the rocks
cry out in silence,
so will I.
If the sum of all our praises,
still falls shy
then we'll sing again
a hundred billion times.

Taken from *So Will I (100 Billion X)* by
Joel Houston Benjamin Hastings
& Michael Fatkin



St Patrick: beloved of Ireland

St Patrick is the patron saint of Ireland. If you've ever been in New York on March the 17th, you'd think he was the patron saint of New York as well... the flamboyant St Patrick's Day Parade is full of American/Irish razzmatazz.

It's all a far cry from the hard life of this 5th century humble Christian who became, in time, both bishop and apostle of Ireland. Patrick was born the son of a town councillor in the west of England, between the Severn and the Clyde. But as a young man he was kidnapped by Irish pirates, taken to Ireland and reduced to slavery. He was made to tend his master's herds.

Desolate and despairing, Patrick turned to prayer. He found that God was there for him, even in such desperate circumstances. As he spent time in prayer, his faith grew and deepened—in contrast to his earlier years, when he “knew not the true God”.

Then, after six gruelling, lonely years he was told in a dream he would soon go to his own country. He either escaped or was freed, made his way to a port 200 miles away and eventually persuaded some sailors to take him with them away from Ireland.

After various adventures in other lands, including near-starvation, Patrick landed on English soil at last, and returned to his family. But he was much changed. He had enjoyed his life of plenty before; now he wanted to devote the rest of his life to Christ. Patrick received some form of training for the priesthood, but not the higher education he really wanted.

But by 435, well-educated or not, Patrick was badly needed. The mission of Palladius (the first Bishop of Ireland) to the Irish people had failed, and so the Pope sent Patrick back to the land of his slavery. He set up his see at Armagh, and worked principally in the north. He urged the Irish to greater spirituality, set up a school, and made several missionary journeys.

Patrick's writings are the first literature certainly identified from the British Church. They reveal sincere simplicity and a deep pastoral care. He wanted to abolish paganism, idolatry, and was ready for imprisonment or death in the following of Christ.

Patrick remains the most popular of the Irish saints. The principal cathedral of New York is dedicated to him, as, of course, is the Anglican cathedral of Dublin.

Meet the Congregation – Anne Barfoot

Anne was born during the war in October 1940, her father William was a builder, as his father was before him. Her mother Doris Franklin was a Lyons *Nippy* (if you haven't heard of a *Nippy* before they were special waitresses in Lyons Coffee houses). Anne was the first of four children and has two sisters and a brother. They lived in a village called Bolton End, not too far from High Wycombe.



Being born in the war there was a food shortage but that didn't bother the family too much as they grew most of their own vegetables and kept chickens, so eggs were plentiful.

At the age of five Anne started at the C of E School at Lane End. It being a village there were only four classes and Anne was able to stay there till she was thirteen when she moved on to Marlow Secondary School. They were collected by coach each morning. Anne was there till she left school at the age of fifteen. Whilst there she enjoyed Domestic Science (cooking, washing, ironing and cleaning) and PE.

Anne remembers watching the Queens Coronation (1953) when she was 13. She watched it on a 9" screen in black and white! She remembers celebrating with a fancy dress Street Party: Anne dressed as Britannia and won 2nd prize! The contestants were towed around the village by the local farmer on his tractor. This was followed by tea, set up in the street, where they had sandwiches of Haslet, Brawn, potted beef and salmon paste followed by jelly! Afterwards there were games— a good time was had by all!

After leaving school, Anne went to work at an Orthopaedic and Pharmaceutical factory in the village. Six months later her Aunt and Uncle in Rushden suggested she come and work for them at their

business on Fitzwilliam 'Hill' Wright and Young's DIY Store, where she worked in the office, occasionally serving customers. She worked there for eighteen months before moving on to Chapmans Box Factory.

Then Anne met a carpenter - Alan Barfoot - who had just finished his National Service in Hong Kong and Korea. They started dating, became engaged and then married in 1959 at St Mary le Moor at Cadmore End (near High Wycombe), honeymooning in London.

They bought a new-build bungalow in Barker Close, Rushden, where they had two sons — and now have six grandchildren and two great-grandchildren! Alas, at Christmas in 2013 Alan died. However, Anne is delighted that her two sons, her daughter-in-law and her three granddaughters are always popping in and out, and are very helpful.

Anne started coming to St Mary's when Alan Smith was Rector and attends the 11.15 service. She is enjoying the craft group and also belongs to the Ladies Group.

Roving Reporter

Those questions

Person with most influence?

Mr Slater, the headmaster of the village school

Hobbies?

Gardening, Knitting & Jigsaws

Guests to dinner?

The family

What would you serve?

Roast turkey dinner followed by cheesecake and fruit salad

Favourite Place?

Weymouth

Proudest Moments?

When I married my husband
- and having my two sons

Favourite Bible Verse

I am glad the Lord is always with me on my journey through life.

The Lord your God
is in your midst,
a mighty one who will save;
he will rejoice over you
with gladness;
he will quiet you by his love;
he will exult over you
with loud singing."

Zephaniah 3:17

Don't miss the Northampton Bishop's Bible Day

This year's Northampton Bishop's Bible Day takes place on **Saturday 14th March at Northampton High School** (Newport Pagnell Road, Hardingstone, NN4 6UU). The theme for this year is 'The Bible and Prayer', and the event is for anyone who uses the Bible in their ministry, in church, in school, at work, in the community or at home (which should cover most people).

There will be two addresses from Bishop Donald and the opportunity to attend two workshops (from a choice of ten) – plus a question and answer session and several times of worship. All you need to bring is a Bible and a packed lunch! Parking will also be available.

The day will get underway at 9:30am with tea and coffee, with the event



starting at 10:00am. It will finish at 4.00pm. However, you **MUST** book in advance. To do so, email bookings@peterborough-diocese.org.uk or call Nuala Slater on 01604 887049.

Parish Safeguarding Networking Day

Saturday 21 March at St Giles Church Centre, Northampton (NN1 2BN). 10.00am to 2.30pm (9.30am for a 10.00am start)

This event is aimed at Parish Safeguarding Officers, but all are welcome

It's a chance to network with safeguarding officers and other church officers, ask questions of the outside speakers, as well as seeing the DSA team and asking them questions too.

The outside speakers are:

Peter Spindler, a retired Metropolitan Police Commander and Senior Investigating Officer for Operation Yewtree (Savile and others).

Patricia Kirk, a retired Detective Chief Inspector for Northamptonshire Police, who leads on Adult and Children Serious Case Reviews.

Refreshments and nibbles will be provided.

To book a place, please contact sharon.welbourne@peterborough-diocese.org.uk.

Visit www.peterborough-diocese.org.uk/events to find events happening near you.

For **Safeguarding training** at all levels: www.peterborough-diocese.org.uk/news-and-events/events?tags=safeguarding.

Bangladesh and The Leprosy Mission

I'm recently back from just over a week in Bangladesh on behalf of The Leprosy Mission. Bangladesh is not an easy place to visit, to live in, or in which to suffer serious illness. It is a place of desperate and extreme poverty.

The people, at least those I met – ranging from the poorest city slum-dwellers and isolated rural people, to senior government officials – were unfailingly polite and courteous, warm and welcoming. The religious tolerance was remarkable for anywhere, not least that region of the world: Bangladesh is 90+% Muslim, but Hindus and Christians were fully accepted and respected.

The climate is quite extreme, with a long hot rainy season bringing flooding, increasing year on year, and a very dry cooler winter, but not quite cold enough to kill off the ubiquitous mosquitos. (I was fortunate to share my very basic guest house room – and even my bed – with a small family of geckos: they don't hurt people, but they do eat mozzies.) The river delta in the south, where millions live, is at serious risk of being submerged if sea levels rise.

Leprosy has been fully curable, if caught in the early stages, since the early 1980s. A simple drug treatment, provided free to patients by the manufacturers Novartis, and distributed by the World Health Organisation, does the trick. The problems lie in catching it early (really difficult when there is not much fear of it and ignorance of the cure), in



Bishop Donald at a 'pop-up' skin clinic in Dhaka

treating the horrible complications of the more advanced cases, and in overcoming the stigma attached to those affected by leprosy. There are still 4,000 new cases diagnosed in Bangladesh every year, and one every two seconds across the poorest areas of the world.

That is where The Leprosy Mission comes in. It was so impressive to see their doctors, researchers, nurses (all Bangladeshi but funded mainly from this country) and a growing number of volunteer workers doing such a wonderful and sacrificial job. I had the privilege of preaching three times to very different groups, as well as meeting all sorts of people. I know that our interest and support are succeeding in getting the Bangladeshi government, and the churches there, more involved in the great and achievable aim of eradicating leprosy in their country.

Please pray for Bangladesh, and for The Leprosy Mission.

With best wishes

+Donald
Bishop of Peterborough

Diocese of Peterborough – Magazine Resource – March 2020

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#LIVE LENT

CARE for GOD'S CREATION

The Church
of England
Lent Campaign
for 2020



#LiveLent offers readings, reflections and actions to help you live in harmony with God, neighbour and nature.

Join in with booklets for adults and children, download the app or sign up for daily emails.

www.churchofengland.org/livelent

"This Lent, we hope both adults and children might engage in God's plea for us to care for creation." The Archbishops of Canterbury and York

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Mission Matters:

tearfund

Following Jesus where the need is greatest

During Lent, St Mary's is asking people to collect money for Tearfund. Working in over 50 countries – in close partnership with local churches and Christian organisations -Tearfund helps in emergency appeals, training and education, and encouraging changes in lifestyles (even ours in the UK!) to try eradicate poverty everywhere. See their website: tearfund.org

EMERGENCY YEMEN APPEAL

The people of Yemen are struggling to survive in what is currently the world's biggest humanitarian crisis.

Over 24 million people need urgent aid, including safe water, food and sanitation. The country is on the brink of famine; already since 2015, over 85,000 children have already died from hunger or disease.

With their partners in Yemen, Tearfund are responding, to reach those who are most vulnerable. They have been helping protect people from diseases such as cholera; providing safe water and food; giving seeds and tools to enable people to grow their own vegetables. They are working to help reach more people before it's too late.

LESS IS MORE

Tearfund also works with local churches and Christian organisations to unlock hidden potential. Here is Joy's story:

For as long as she can remember, Joy had tried to grow enough to feed and

provide for her family. However, she couldn't do it; their land never produced enough food. For as long as she can remember, life had been a struggle. Joy knew what she needed was more fertiliser, but it was just too expensive to buy.

Then one of Tearfund's partners in Nigeria, RURCON, started working in Joy's village. They invited local families to take part in a training course.

The course was a revelation! Joy discovered that she could make her own organic fertiliser out of chicken poo – something she used to throw away.

Joy now grows more than enough food, and even sells what is left over. Now she can pay for her children to go to school. 'I'm so happy,' she says. 'I pray that people will learn from me.' There are thousands more people who would love to unlock that abundance. A few days of training is all it takes. Everything changed for Joy with one simple change to her life – using her chickens' poo!

Local Events and News



How to report suspicious activity

Take note of as much detail as possible. Day/Date/Time/Place. Is the person white, Asian, etc. what age, how tall, fat/slim. What was he/she wearing. What colour hair or bald. Any distinguishing features e.g. scars, did the person limp, broken tooth, missing ear, tattoo, had crutches, handbag, carrier bag etc. wearing a hat, what kind? Accent? spoke well or uneducated. Was there a vehicle involved? what make, colour, registration. What was the condition of the vehicle, was there advertising on it. What made you suspicious?

Report online

www.northants.police.uk
scroll down to 'Suspicious activity'

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Looking Back at St Mary's Magazines

50 years ago

March 1970

Around and About

"Music from The Messiah" is the title of the Palm Sunday evening to be given by the Choir. At a future date we are looking forward to a full performance of The Messiah, so this carefully selected Passion Music for Holy Week will whet our appetite.

[... Although today's editors know that the work under scrutiny is "Messiah" not "The Messiah", Ed]

Coffee Break

... in the vestry hall, between morning services, is being undertaken by volunteers from all the organisations of the church. Please don't feel shy at offering your help for an hour in this way. It would be lovely to see more of the 11a.m. congregation mingling with the worshippers from the Family Service

25 years ago

March 1995

Editorial

Recently a group of committed women felt driven to help homeless people who have nowhere to go in the daytime. It was a big challenge to ... The Mothers' Union in our diocese and the result is The Daylight Centre in the middle of Wellingborough.

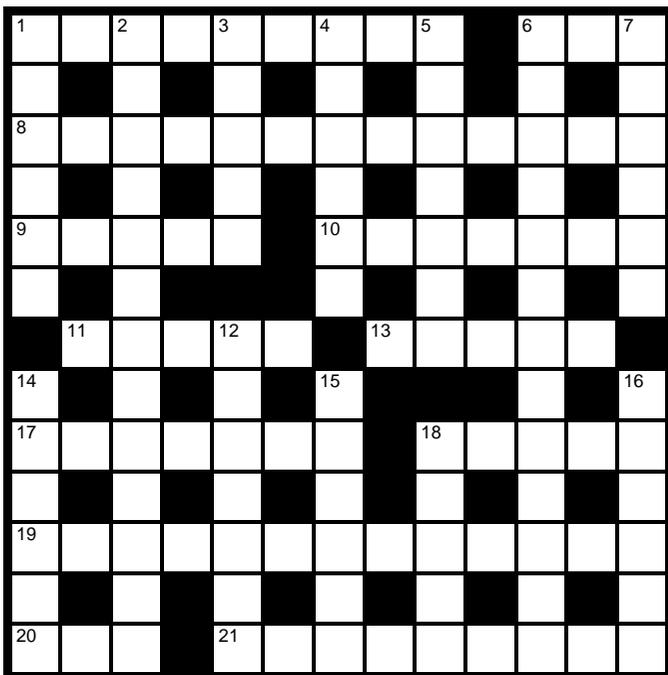
Many homeless people sleep in unsatisfactory places or outdoors. Some in bed and breakfast accommodation have to vacate during the day, and some have children. The Centre offers a two course meal for 50p, and free bread and butter and tea to ensure that no one goes hungry. It also provides showers, laundry room, telephones, a doctor and chiropodist.

It was a big challenge to members of the MU but intensive fundraising began last March and with a £40,000 grant work got underway ... It makes one proud to belong to the Mothers' Union.

Crossword No 364

ACROSS

- 1 'When I needed a ---',
(hymn) (9)
- 6 Bone used to make
Eve (3)
- 8 'When I survey the
-----', (hymn) (8,5)
- 9 Sensational (5)
- 10 Tender (music) (7)
- 11 Believer (5)
- 13 Talking bird (5)
- 17 Autumn festival (7)
- 18 Monarch (5)
- 19 'I know that my ---
---', (hymn) (8,5)
- 20 Distress signal (1,1,1)
- 21 Punctuation mark (9)



DOWN

- 1 Christmas in carols (6)
- 2 Scottish islands (5,8)
- 3 Biblical king (5)
- 4 Visual (6)
- 5 Vicarage (7)
- 6 'For the love of money is the
'-----'' (1 Timothy 6:10AV)
(4,2,3,4)
- 7 Senior cleric (6)
- 12 Biblical coins (7)
- 14 Singing group (6)
- 15 Brook (6)
- 16 Literary word for prayer (6)
- 18 Souvenir (5)

Solution to Crossword No 363





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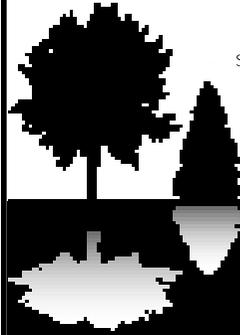
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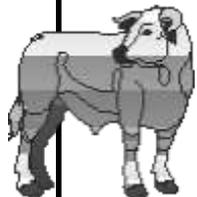
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Belfry Gossip

Our Sunday morning Service ringing continues—mainly on six bells, but with occasional ringing on all eight bells. Kaylee continues to progress well and now Tony (Kaylee's dad) has started to learn as well.

Our Annual Belfry meeting, mentioned last time, has now taken place, kindly hosted by Jim and Sarah. We reviewed 2019 with Minutes and Reports of our last year's activities. Our officers were re-elected to their posts with the addition of Cathy becoming Assistant Ringing Master. We aim to keep the bells ringing each Sunday, as well as ring quarter peals for St George's Day, special anniversaries - VE Day, VJ Day, Birthdays - and any other notable events, not forgetting to progress ourselves with new methods and a quarter peal with Kaylee. We will again be joining with the Branch Outing instead of having one of our own and a BBQ will be held in July at Simon and Cathy's. It was also suggested that occasional joint practices with Irchester may be an idea, especially when towers would be short during holiday times. Some suggestions were also aired as to how we might attract more people to learn to ring, so if anyone is interested please come and talk to one of the ringers. After the meeting refreshments were consumed while chatting together.

The Wellingborough Branch of ringers have held a practice at Bozeat (6 bells) and the AGM at Higham Ferrers (10) which took the format of ringing, service, tea, meeting and then more ringing. Following a substantial hot tea, the meeting reviewed 2019 with reports of our busy year's ringing activities, financial situation and maintenance assistance. Eight new members were elected into the branch, including Kaylee, and a First Quarter peal certificate was also presented. The election of Branch Officers included retaining three of St Mary's ringers in the positions they previously held, so we are still well represented. A programme of ringing and social events for the next year was presented and discussed. These were accepted subject to locations being available when required. Earls Barton informed us that modifications to their bell frame were necessary and they would like some financial help later in the year. We were then informed that the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers have asked all towers to ring on the 8th May for the 75th anniversary of VE Day. News and other information from around the branch, and thanks to everyone for coming, concluded the meeting. More ringing at Higham Ferrers took place before liquid refreshments concluded the day.

Tintinnabulum

Diary

March

- 2 **Monday: 4pm - Theological Study Group** - 70 Harborough Rd, NN10 0LP
- 3 **Tuesday: 10.15-12.15pm - Craft & Coffee (or Tea)** - in the Church Hall
- 4 **Wednesday: 12 noon - Lent Lunches begin** - in the Church Hall
- 6 **Friday: 2pm - Women's World Day of Prayer** St Peter's RC Church (pg 30)
- 7 **Saturday: 10-12 noon - Jumbo Jumble Sale** - in the Church Hall (see pg 8)
- 11 **Wednesday: 12 noon—Lent Lunch—**in the Church Hall
- 11 **Wednesday: 2.15pm - St Mary's Ladies' Group - AGM** plus Speaker Rev Phil Nightingale *A Squash Player's Testimony*, in the Church Hall
- 12 **Thursday: 7.30pm - Friends of Refugees meeting** at the Full Gospel Church
- 14 **Saturday: 9.30-4pm - Bishop's Bible Day** in Northampton (see pg 11)
- 18 **Wednesday: 12 noon—Lent Lunch—**in the Church Hall
- 25 **Wednesday: 12 noon—Lent Lunch—**in the Church Hall
- 26 **Thursday: 7pm - Peterborough DEF AGM** at St James' Church Thrapston
- 28 **Saturday: CLOCKS GO FORWARD**

April

- 1 **Wednesday: 7.30pm - St Peter's Newton Bromswold AGMs** in the Church
- 1 **Wednesday: 12 noon—Lent Lunch—**in the Church Hall
- 6 **Monday: Easter Holiday Club**
- 7 **Tuesday: 10.15-12.15pm - Craft & Coffee (or Tea)** - in the Church Hall
- 7 **Tuesday: 7.30pm - Rushden St Mary's AGMs** in the Church (see pg 9)
- 8 **Wednesday: 12 noon—Lent Lunch—**in the Church Hall
- 8 **Wednesday: 2.15pm - St Mary's Ladies' Group** - Speakers: Peter & Gloria Wright - *History of the Romany*, in the Church Hall
- 9 **Thursday: 7pm - AGAPE meal** in the Church Hall (see pg 9)
- 13 **Monday: 1-4pm - Cowslip and Fritillary Day** - St Peter's Newton Bromswold

May

- 5 **Tuesday: 10.15-12.15pm - Craft & Coffee (or Tea)** - in the Church Hall
- 9 **Saturday: 10-12noon - Children's Society Coffee Morning** - Church Hall
- 13 **Wednesday: 2.15pm - St Mary's Ladies' Group** - Speaker: M Armitage



Book Review

The Rations Challenge by Claud Fullwood; published by Lion.

If you are looking for a Lent book that is a little different then this may fit the bill. The sub-title of the book “*Forty Days of Feasting in a Wartime Kitchen*” sets the scene.

Some of us can remember the food rationing that came into force at the start of the Second World War and continued for several years after hostilities came to an end. Claud Fullwood challenges her readers to live on the food rations of the 1940’s for the forty days of Lent. In practical terms this means no imported food and very limited amounts of meat, dairy products and other types of food.

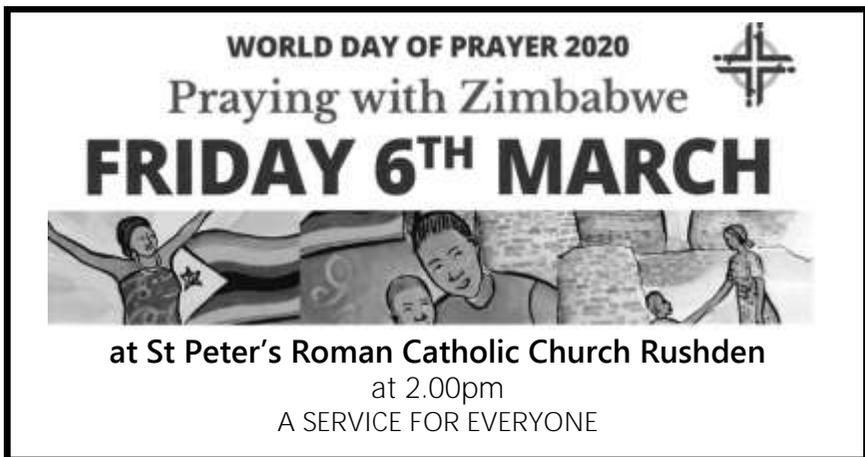
For example, the weekly adult ration of milk was 3 pints (1.7 litres), of meat 1 lb (450g), of sugar 8 oz (200g), and of butter 2 oz (50g).

In the 1940’s kitchen there were no “sell by” dates, no “best before” dates and no refrigerators but no food was thrown away. Importantly, nobody starved.

In this book you will find recipes and menus to guide you through the 40 days of Lent as you live frugally but healthily. You can enjoy Barmbrack (dried fruit, sugar, cold black tea, self-raising flour and an egg), barbecued artichokes, mock cream and many other delights that may be unfamiliar to you, as well as some delicious soups.

Claud offers a very “hands on” Lenten meditation that can remind us of some Christian virtues; make do, share, use everything we have, waste nothing and be true stewards of God’s creation.

T.S.



WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2020

Praying with Zimbabwe

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at St Peter's Roman Catholic Church Rushden
at 2.00pm
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Services for March 2020

St Mary's
Rushden

St Peter's
Newton Bromswold

1 March—First Sunday of Lent

9.30am	All Age Holy Communion		
11.15am	Morning Prayer	11.00am	Family Service
6.00pm	Evening Prayer		

8 March—Second Sunday of Lent

9.30am	All Age Service		
11.15am	Holy Communion	11.00am	Family Communion Service
6.00pm	Evening Prayer		

15 March—Third Sunday of Lent

9.30am	All Age Service		
11.15am	Morning Prayer	11.00am	Morning Prayer
6.00pm	Holy Communion		

22 March — Mothering Sunday

9.30am	Mothering Sunday Parade Service		
11.15am	Morning Prayer	11.00am	Mothering Sunday Family Service
6.00pm	Evening Prayer		

29 March—Fifth Sunday of Lent

9.30am	Informal Sunday Service		
11.15am	Morning Prayer	11.00am	Family Communion Service
6.00pm	Evening Prayer		

Spring
Forward!

Also Weekdays at St Mary's

Monday 10.00am Bumps & Babes @ Church – every week in term time

Thursday 10.30am -- Holy Communion [BCP] every week

Third Thursday of the month - 7.45pm - Prayer, Praise & Presence

