

june 2021

Time
in
Ordinary

grapevine

50p

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

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grapevine subscriptions

One year's subscription = £5
Postal subscription = £10
Large Print Editions are available in
church or may be pre-ordered.

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grapevine

june 2021

This edition is on the cusp of normality - the first sign of which will be a return to our usual July/August and December/January double editions - although it is wise to treat such absolute statements with a certain flexibility.

With the return of services in church, likewise the Daily Readings on p13 will be our last - suggestions on how to fill that gap are on p8.

Time in Ordinary - that long caesura between the excitement and drama of Easter and the preparation and joy of Advent and Christmas comes very appropriately as we begin to feel our way in everyday life towards something more 'ordinary' than the last fifteen or so months.

So, let's see how it goes . . .

Jude Curtis, Editor



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*Items for the
Jul/August grapevine
should be sent by
Sunday 13 June*

Preferably by email to:
missjudecurtis@btinternet.com

Steve writes . . .

Gradually, we are moving into a new phase: the relaxing of lockdown; lifting restrictions; giving us more personal freedoms. We are looking forward to 21 June — and beyond. We are looking forward to taking holidays, at home or abroad, going out to a restaurant or two, and the resumption of the simplest of pleasures: sitting indoors and having a chat with a friend over a cup of tea.



We are watching carefully, hoping and praying that people will exercise these freedoms responsibly and that there will not be another surge of the virus necessitating further restrictions on our liberties.

I wonder what plans you are making?

The theme of **freedom** has a firm place in the Old Testament:

- the central place of the story of the exodus of the Israelites from slavery in Egypt to the promised land;
- the celebratory year of Jubilee in which the Israelites were to “proclaim liberty throughout the land to all its inhabitants” (Leviticus 25.10);
- the prophet Isaiah’s cry, “The Spirit of the Sovereign Lord is on me, because the Lord has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the broken-hearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners.” (*Isaiah 61.1*)

Go on to read the rest of that chapter in Isaiah and you find that his words about liberty and freedom are all tied up with God’s concern for justice, mercy and right living. These are the words quoted by Jesus at the very beginning of his ministry (see Luke 4.14 ff) where Jesus goes on to say that these prophecies all point — find their fulfilment, their completion, their fullness — in HIM.

Our freedom is in Christ Jesus: freedom from slavery to sin; freedom from the laws of death; freedom in the Holy Spirit. The Apostle Paul picks up the idea of our freedom in Christ in his letters to the churches.

“You were called to freedom, brothers and sisters;
only don’t let this freedom be an opportunity
to indulge your selfish impulses,
but serve each other through love.

All the Law has been fulfilled in a single statement:

Love your neighbour as yourself.

Galatians 5.13-14 (CEB)

Freedom is good! But like all the good gifts of our Father, we need to ask him how we can make use of it for the best. *Love for others*—guided by the Holy Spirit and the teaching of Jesus should be the determining factors in our use of all freedoms given to us. To be truly free, we need to know that we are living in the will of God, serving him and others.

“So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.”

John 8.36 (NIV)

So the question for us, as we enter into a period of increasing freedom, is: How is the Holy Spirit guiding us to use our freedom?

Will those who are lonely be visited more now that we are free to visit? Will the needy be supported? Will the discouraged find encouragement as we use our new freedoms? How can my new freedoms be a blessing to others and give glory to God? What new ministries may the Lord be calling us to explore as we break out of our homes again. Is it time to re-establish some of our church based ministries of outreach (like T & C) ?

I pray that as a church and individuals, the Spirit will guide and encourage us to seek to use our re-found freedoms for his glory, even as we enjoy them ourselves.

Steve



Time in Ordinary



What could be more ‘ordinary’ than this bit of Green Lane on the cover?

I grew up with routine [but blessedly well-spaced] Sunday morning hikes there, *en toute famille*, to gaze at the ephemeral evidence of Great-great-granddad’s farm, The Ballast Hole. This turned into ‘Bal a Sol’ when said out loud in old Rushdenspeak - which led me to believe as an obnoxiously well-informed five year old that this made me the ‘Sundance’ Kid. This was, I must say, long before the movie came out - not to mention adding to my utter confusion over the Protestant Irish and [allegedly] Norman sides of my extended family.

Reaching the farm, crumbled back into nothing more than a sad spring [now off limits] and some scattered stones, was a predictable and inexorable anticlimax and the trip ended, equally inexorably, at The New Inn* for drinks of commiseration and often ended badly. Dad was routinely commissioned to collect me and my brother by car in time for a [very] late Sunday lunch. Tales of those trips are both legion and apocryphal [as of course this is!], including the day that no one noticed that the youngest member of the family was missing from his pram only to be found after desperate searching of Wymington Road right back to High Street South, where he was spotted peacefully asleep in the ditch, still, blessedly in his wrappings.

The references to Time in Ordinary throughout this edition are legion - and, as ever, entirely uncontrived. Since I owe almost all my knowledge of divinity in its broadest terms to John Tombling it will be no surprise that I acquired my fascination for the term and the poetry of George Herbert simultaneously.

John would drop into the Church Office back when I started in 2001 to ‘do a little photocopying for Home Group’. Five minutes later we were deep in argument aka ‘constructive debate’. The exchanges would run rather like this: John would explain [at my request: he always played fair] his definition of Evangelical Christianity. I’d carry on typing with my back to him and throw over my shoulder “... So it’s the equivalent of Islamic State - fundamentalist?” John would snap back, “Not at all!” and proceed to tell me why. We’d both end up running late more times than not, but I don’t think either of us thought it time ill-spent, although there was the odd

Prayer [1]

Prayer the church's banquet, angel's age,
God's breath in man returning to his birth,
The soul in paraphrase, heart in pilgrimage,
The Christian plummet sounding heav'n and earth
Engine against th' Almighty, sinner's tow'r,
Reversed thunder, Christ-side-piercing spear,
The six-days world transposing in an hour,
A kind of tune, which all things hear and fear;
Softness, and peace, and joy, and love, and bliss,
Exalted manna, gladness of the best,
Heaven in ordinary, man well drest,
The milky way, the bird of Paradise,
Church-bells beyond the stars heard, the soul's blood,
The land of spices; something understood.

George Herbert

phone call from Jean wondering what had happened to him.

It was he who introduced me to the obscurer corners of The Church Lectionary - which I consulted every week to determine the 'title of the week' in the Church Year for The Church Notices. I'd only vaguely questioned the huge 'empty' space in the middle that began with the First Sunday after Trinity and went on for ... well, it felt like 'ever'! It was John who explained, and ultimately sold me, the beauty of a time unmarked by Church Year landmarks or huge ceremonial.

And here we are again. Time in Ordinary, or as Chris Dalliston and George Herbert call it 'Heaven in Ordinary'. It's our time of choice. How we use it is up to us - as Steve points out so clearly on p4 - as it is with the opening up of life, facilities, shops, holidays, family meetings in the parallel world. Just because something is permissible doesn't mean it's automatically right for us individually. I know there are a large number of things I don't feel comfortable doing yet awhile. But then there's no rush. This is Time in Ordinary!

Jude Curtis, Editor

*Another family connection I never got to the bottom of: we either ran or owned the pub back then - probably both.

St Mary's News

St Mary's Church Office ...

Is now open on **Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 10.00 to 12 noon.** We ask you to please wear a mask and avoid gathering inside the office.

The Children's Society

John's latest quiz 'OH' is now on sale price £1 and can be obtained from **Pam Bailey [313195] or Joy Holloway [318415].**

The Foodbank...

are grateful for everyone's support!

Don't forget, that along with food and toiletries, they are also grateful for **clean and strong carrier bags**. We stress this as **manky, holey, seriously dysfunctional ones are NOT welcome.**

There is **now a second box** to receive your **donations in Church, as well as the one outside the Rectory!**

Carrier Bags may be added to either of these - yes, I did check! Ed



Advice on Daily Bible Readings

The Bible Readings which have been included in grapevine during lockdown are finishing this month (see page 13) as the shops are opening and restrictions are easing. However, I want to encourage you to continue to read the Bible every day and I do not want to leave you without resources!

There are many Bible Reading plans available and I am happy to discuss any questions you have at any time.

We have two distributors of Bible reading notes in our church family. Scripture Union notes may be ordered through Edna Wadsworth (01933 357253) and Bible Reading Fellowship notes through Susan Collins (01933 353956). They would be happy to speak with you about what is available. There are a few free resources at the back of church.

There is also a lot of material on the internet – too much to attempt to list here – if you search on “Bible Reading plan” you will have a choice of both free and subscription material, some of which contains devotional material as well. Steve Prior (01933 312554)

St Mary's News

Friends of Refugees

The next meeting of **Friends of Refugees East Northants** is on **Thursday 1 July at 7.30pm**. This is a Zoom meeting so please contact Andrew Presland [andrew.presland.harborough58@gmail.com] if you would like to be sent the link.

From the Register

Funeral
Diana Smith [83]
Monday 17 May

Flower Rota

June 2021

Behind the Communion Table

- 6 Cynthia Brown
- 13 Jude Curtis
- 20 Jane Brown
- 27 Chris & Kathy MacKenzie

The church is open on Friday and Saturday from 9.30 - 11.00am. Please check for times of weddings and funerals. Also contact Bob Bates [358005] for your expenses to be reimbursed.

Do you enjoy arranging flowers? If so, please contact Ellen Inwood [312874], Marion Bates [358005] or leave a message [412235] or e-mail stmaryschurchoffice@btinternet.com.

Memorial Chapel

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

WANTED!

... A volunteer who regularly shops at the Wellingborough Embankment Tesco. Behind the Checkout counters is a brilliant multipoint Recycling 'installation' with compartments for everything from Britta cartridges to batteries. I used to take all the printing ink cartridges which didn't carry a reward for us there for correct disposal but without a car - and no wish to get another -

I'd like someone to take over with the minimum disruption to their busy lives. Unwanted cartridges could then be left at the Church Office as before and picked up by this wonderful volunteer. If this is **you** let me know on
missjudecurtis@btinternet.com



St Mary's & Other News

Rushden St Mary's Annual Vestry and APCM

The annual meetings for St Mary's were held on **Tuesday 18 May 2021**, socially distanced in the church building.

Kate Woodfield and Paul Adams were elected to continue as **Church Wardens**.

The **Reports for the APCM** (which had been sent out by email) were all accepted with thanks. Tony Coles' Report on the **Electoral Roll** was adopted with thanks; it stands at 191 members. The **Accounts and Treasurer's Reports for 2019 and 2020** were adopted with thanks to Rob and Marion Bates.

The Rector reported on the **two years "the like of which none of us have ever experienced"** and thanked everyone for working throughout this challenging time.

Later in the meeting, **prayer and commissioning for the year ahead** were said for the many and varied ministries which take place in our church.

The election of **Deanery Synod and PCC members** took place with the following members for 2021:

Elected to the Deanery Synod:

Brenda Dixon, James Mellor, Susan Prior, Helen Smedley and Tony Smith.

Elected to the PCC: Jean Bass, Marion Bates, Liz Coleman, Martin Compton, Lynne Prior, Paula Williams and James Woodfield. They join those elected in 2019: Gerald Bass, Peter Brooksby, Martin Cromwell, Louise Skinner and Richard Toosey.

And other stuff . . .

Free to a good home

Ordered in error: a pair of 12W, LED Frosted, Daylight spot lamps, large Edison Screw and wide tops. Email missjudecurtis@btinternet.com to arrange pickup/delivery.

Dress to Impress Day

Serve have organised this event on Wednesday June 16.

Join in and wear something fancy for a few hours while you walk the dog, do the shopping or have a tea party! Have a little fun to highlight

Loneliness

Awareness week.

If you would like to take part, please make a small donation to :

<https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/dresstoimpress21>

Photos would be welcome at cso@serve.org.uk





Gaza

The latest edition of **The Big Issue** that I saw on 21 May carried the headline, "To help a traumatised child, he first needs the trauma to end." Eman Basher, a writer in Gaza, is concerned about the psychological impact of the bombing on her young sons. The Gaza Strip is one of the most densely populated areas on earth, with 2 million people caged in an area of 365 sq km. Houses are so tightly built that if one house is bombed at least three more are affected. Some of these house refugees first displaced from their homes in 1948.

Embrace ME are doing all they can to help with the horrors created. "Our partners such as the Al Ahli Arab Hospital (under the Anglican Diocese of Jerusalem) and the Near East Council of Churches (NECC), which runs primary health care clinics in three of the poorest areas of Gaza, are living through desperate times." *From an Embrace Re-Action Email Update: 20/5/21. Go to p.22 to find out what you can do to help. Ed.*

Newton News

Flower Rota - June

- 6 Helen Lines
- 13 Rosemary Coulson & Abby
- 20 Mrs Burt
- 27 Mrs Turner

Village Fete

The Village Fete will be held on Saturday 3 July, starting at 2.00pm. There will be the usual variety of stalls and games. Afternoon tea will be served.

If you would like to be involved then please speak to Jenny Burt - contact details on page 2.

Donations for the Cake Stall, Book Stall, White Elephant and Toy Stall would be gratefully received.



Food for thought and prayer ...



tearfund



Tearfund - and many other charities - would encourage us to pray for the upcoming **G7 Summit on 11-13 June in Cornwall.**

The G7 - the Group of Seven - are leaders of the seven largest economies : UK, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan and the USA. They are joined this year by South Korea, India, South Africa and Australia.

Leaders of the G7 can make commitments that help to get us on the path to a fairer world. They can hold businesses accountable and influence others.

They meet to discuss and commit to tackling global challenges. This is particularly important as we build back from the coronavirus pandemic - in a way that will address climate change.

We can all be part of that by praying for the summit and for world leaders who have the power to set in motion significant action to tackle the crisis.

Tearfund suggest that the following Bible verses be at the heart of what they seek to achieve. Use them as a starting point for this special time of prayer; that this particular Summit will have a lasting and positive legacy.

“If there is a poor man among your brothers in any of the towns of the land that the Lord your God is giving you, do not be hard-hearted or tight-fisted towards your poor brother. Rather be openhanded and freely lend him whatever he needs.” Deuteronomy 15. 7-8

“Defend the weak and needy; deliver them from the hand of the wicked.” Psalm 82.3

Daily Bible Readings for June 2021

*With the easing of lockdown, this will be our last set of Bible readings in grapevine
[For further help in daily Bible study and readings, please see page 8.]*

This month, except for the readings for our Sunday services from Mark, we will look at the letter to the Galatians, probably Paul's earliest letter, containing many themes that Paul develops further in other letters. He confronts the Church in Galatia for thinking they could add to the grace of God by observing certain Old Testament laws. He reminds them that salvation is a total gift of God's love, and does not require religious rituals. He spells out the relationship between faith and works and the human will versus the Spirit.

Monday 31 May
Tuesday 1 June
Wednesday 2 June
Thursday 3 June
Friday 4 June
Saturday 5 June

Galatians 1.1-5
Galatians 1.6-10
Galatians 1.10-12
Galatians 1.11-24
Galatians 1.21-2.5
Galatians 2.1-10



Sunday

Monday
Tuesday
Wednesday
Thursday
Friday
Saturday

6 June

7 June

8 June

9 June

10 June

11 June

12 June

Mark 3.20-end

Galatians 2.11-16

Galatians 2.15-21

Galatians 3.1-6

Galatians 3.5-9

Galatians 3.10-14

Galatians 3.15-22

Sunday

Monday
Tuesday
Wednesday
Thursday
Friday
Saturday

13 June

14 June

15 June

16 June

17 June

18 June

19 June

Mark 4.26-34

Galatians 3.23-29

Galatians 4.1-7

Galatians 4.6-11

Galatians 4.8-20

Galatians 4.21-28

Galatians 4.24-31

Sunday

Monday
Tuesday
Wednesday
Thursday
Friday
Saturday

20 June

21 June

22 June

23 June

24 June

25 June

26 June

Mark 4.35-end

Galatians 5.1-6

Galatians 5.6-12

Galatians 5.13-18

Galatians 5.18-26

Galatians 6.1-6

Galatians 6.7-10

...what counts
is the
new creation.

Galatians 6.15

Sunday

Monday
Tuesday
Wednesday

27 June

28 June

29 June

30 June

Mark 5.21-end

Galatians 6.11-15

Galatians 6.14-18

Psalm 118.15-29

Local News . . .

Top Tips for Fire safety in the Home



Make sure you have working smoke alarms installed in your home. They need to be on every level of your property.

Use your time at home to dust/h Hoover around the edges of your alarm. Alarms can be affected by a build-up of dirt and dust.

Make sure smoke alarms are tested once a month. Remember, 'press to test'. If the alarm needs new batteries, replace them immediately.

If there was a fire in your home, could you escape safely? Prepare a fire escape plan that you and everyone you live with knows, so you know how to get out quickly in case of fire.

To find out about **Home Fire Safety Visits** go to <http://www.northantsfire.gov.uk/safety/home-safety-checks/> or call 01604 797000 or email:

enquiries@northantsfire.gov.uk

Chris MacKenzie



If you're passionate about your local environment Anglian Water are inviting volunteers to help their RiverCare groups. In the last year RiverCare and BeachCare volunteer groups collected a whopping 60,000 kilograms of litter from local beaches and rivers. Take a look on their website at Anglian.co.uk to join in.



The Forum has existed since 2002 and provides its many members of museums, heritage attractions and historic houses with a friendly network of support and representation for the benefit of its members. It is run by a dedicated volunteer committee with a Chair, Secretary and Treasurer, and Charles, Ninth Earl Spencer, is its patron. **Membership of the Forum is open to local churches that are heritage attractions as well as places of worship – e.g. for access to training for volunteers and advice on funding sources.** More details are available on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/Northamptonshireheritageforum/>. A website is also currently under development.

What can I do to help ?



Together
we will end
homelessness

The homelessness charity Crisis have just launched a new way you can support them, by donating your **quality, pre-loved clothing and bric-a-brac by post for free.** They will then sell the items in their **Shops from Crisis** facility.

To get involved request a **Freepost Label from their website - crisis.org.uk** - package your items in any envelope, parcel or box up to 10Kg and up to 60 x 50 x 50cm in size. **Drop your parcel at a local Collect+ point** - you can find your nearest also on the website.

ENFG [The East Northants Faith Group] is dedicated to helping disadvantaged people to live independent and fulfilled lives. Working with a Christian ethos through East Northants Community Services (ENCS), we run homeless accommodation in Corby and Rushden, a residential drug and alcohol abuse recovery programme and three food banks. Each year we report some spectacular results:

- More than 50% of the homeless people entering the homeless projects are found permanent

accommodation and are now off the streets. Across Corby and Rushden this meant 49 people in 2020.

- 68% of those entering the drug and alcohol abuse recovery programme remain free of addiction – 16 in 2020.
- The food banks helped nearly 300 families, delivering 1,526 food parcels in 2020.

This work is mainly funded through Housing Benefit and grants, but there is still a shortfall which we need to address to enable us to keep helping people in need.

This shortfall is forecast to be £84,191 this year and we are looking for *Friends of ENFG* who may be able to regularly donate each month to help ENFG with this cost and help us to continue helping people back to living normal lives.

Below we have indicated what some of our services cost, and any help you can offer to enable us to keep our heads above water would be appreciated.

Can you spare £5 a month, or whatever you can afford, and go to the following link

[https://
account.stewardship.org.uk/
donation/regular/20217071](https://account.stewardship.org.uk/donation/regular/20217071)

Book Review



Richard E Simmons III, *Reflections on the Existence of God*. (Union Hill Publishing, 2019)

This book contains over fifty short essays: each providing a thought-provoking insight into some of the biggest questions we may encounter about God: the fruit of over thirty years of thoughtful reading about the relationship of theology to the issues of modern life raising questions about morality, science and human reason.

The breadth of Simmons' reading is impressive. In the text we hear the voice of God revealed in Scripture, alongside that of philosophers, psychiatrists, psychologists, scientists and many others who have addressed these big questions over three millennia. For example you hear from Aristotle, Plato, Augustine, Nietzsche, Darwin, Freud, Sartre, Dawkins, Einstein, Russell, Lewis, Keller, Yancey, Hawking: some of these identifying themselves as atheists, some openly wavering and confused, and some testifying as believers in the existence of God, the loving creator.

Each of the Reflections is a complete piece of writing, however, some general themes emerge. For example the essays show how many atheists, when challenged, reveal a considerable level of uncertainty

about their reasons for rejecting God. Throughout the book the influence of Darwinism as a cornerstone of this secular narrative is laid bare. Darwin's theories of natural selection from "The Origin of the Species by Means of Natural Selection or the Preservation of Favoured Races in the Struggle for Life" are increasingly being challenged and discredited within the scientific community.

Darwin's alarming view is that it is good for the least favoured races to become extinct. Mounting criticism of such theories in general and the unacceptability of his conclusions on race may trouble modern atheists, such as Dawkins, who need Darwin's theories to be held as true and beyond challenge to authenticate their rejection of God and his moral and ethical values.

In his final Reflection Simmons says that his primary objective in is to help people see how a God-centred worldview makes sense of what we see and experience in life. I think he has met that objective and encourage you to arm yourself with knowledge of his many insights to help you when you are challenged to explain the existence of our creator God.

Tony Smith

Best foot forward!

My tussles with **Mapping Rushden** and its surrounds continue, hampered by finding yet more and more 'new-to-me' places to investigate - hardly a chore, then? Hopefully all will be revealed by the Summer - or at least Best Bits.

Thank you to those who have volunteered/been coerced into joining my growing band of 'track testers'. More - of every ability, age and fitness level - would be welcome. Just email me at missjudecurtis@btinternet.com with your name and I'll keep you posted as material becomes available.

Meanwhile my plan is to launch a map, showing the 'Green Lungs' of Rushden: green open space like Hall Park, along with designated footpaths and cycle routes like The Greenway and the hidden cut-throughs which avoid [almost] touching vehicular traffic.

Did you realise you can cover the ground from mid-Purvis Rd to the Crown Way end of the Greenway only making contact with traffic for a few yards of Glassbrook Rd and neatly crossing Irchester Rd and Wellingborough Rd in a trice? Instead you can dally in Charlotte's Row, nip through The Windmill car park, gaze up at the Water Tower on Pig Lane and positively skip

through Kensington Close barely touching the sides.

Part II will be a couple of suggested "Starter Walks" - probably Tanglewood [aka the part of Manor Park not designated for housing] and The Big Field: the conglomerate of many old fields that has the Rushden boundary running along one side and access from Wymington Rd. Both will come with a basic short trek and suggestions on how to 'enlarge' the experience. For example the Big Field 'basic' is 2 miles round. It's easy to add on what I call Blackfriars Wood [technically Wymington Spinney] and Pig Lane to the Water Tower but beyond the Radio Mast lies the brilliant weir and double hedge path to the fringes of Irchester with the excitement of railway lines above you and probably the most beautiful view of Knuston Hall from any direction. Turn the other way and you almost sink into Green Lane: a proper 'hollow way' at this point. And another starting point for trails that take you through Wymington and on to Podington.

At a different level I tested out a 6 miler the other day, taking in Higham Wharf, part of the Nene Way and beginning and ending at the old market site at the High St end of the Greenway. Ed.

From the Dean of Peterborough

Heaven in Ordinary

As we reach June we enter, what in Church circles is often referred to as “Ordinary Time”. Wouldn’t that be nice?!

Nothing seems to be ordinary anymore and we seem to have exhausted our supply of words to describe the “unprecedented” circumstances under which we have been living. Nevertheless, all being well, this month should see a further lifting of restrictions and some sense that we can ‘breathe’ again: meet, gather and simply be human with one another once more. There are no grounds for complacency of course and after a year of false dawns and misplaced optimism, it’s important that we take small, measured, incremental steps on the path to ‘normality’.

... And for all that we are impatient to recover lost ground, rebuild our congregations, re-engage with our communities, nevertheless we should beware of simply seeking to recreate life before the pandemic. It would be easy to return willy-nilly to the “known” ways, the (allegedly) comfortable certainties of the past. Many of them were perhaps not as life-giving or fruitful as we may have persuaded ourselves they were.

There is surely a need as well as an opportunity to re-evaluate our priorities. Hence this “ordinary” month is actually scattered with the celebration of some extraordinary people who invite us, in their different ways, to consider how the transforming power of Christ is at work in the world.

There is John the Baptist, whose birth we celebrate on 24 June. John called the people of his own day to examine their hearts and minds and lives in the light of the one who was coming after him – soldiers, tax gatherers, the religious leaders were all called to repent, to turn around to face in a different direction and walk in the Way of the Messiah.



There is the Apostle Barnabas, “son of encouragement” who sold his field and gave the proceeds to enable the work of the church; generous in spirit as well as in material matters who sought to reconcile Jewish and Gentile Christians, affirming that whatever your background we all find our true identity in Christ. What an important message in an age of fragmentation and uncertain identity.

Then on 28 June we remember Peter, the Cathedral’s principal patron saint, who so wanted to please his Lord and Teacher and promised the earth, but who, when the chips were down and his own life at stake, denied he even knew him ... and yet found in Christ such forgiveness and such grace that he would be empowered to boldly proclaim the resurrection, lead the nascent church and ultimately find the courage to die a martyr's death.

Ordinary people made extraordinary by God’s grace, who didn’t cling to the past but prepared the way of the Lord and sought to live it out in ways of self-sacrificial generosity, simplicity of life and radical forgiveness. Can it ever really be ordinary time with the amazing God we serve?

The Very Revd Christopher Dalliston,
Dean of Peterborough

Diocese of Peterborough - Magazine Resource – June 2021

Produced by the Diocesan Office, The Palace, Peterborough PE1 1YB

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Meet the Congregation – Roy Presland

Alfred and Phyllis welcomed their first child, Roy, into the world on 8 August 1931. He was followed by sister Eileen three years later. Father was a clicker in Tarry's shoe factory and Phyllis, too, worked in the shoe trade. The couple lived in part of a rented house in Purvis Road, but just after he was born they moved to Highfield Road, where Roy lived until he was married. When Eileen was born, he remembers staying with his grandparents in Irthlingborough and his Grandma taking him for a little walk in the fields. His earliest memory is of crossing a stream by a little bridge.

Roy attended Alfred St School, but left to have one year at the new Tennyson Road Infants School before returning to Alfred St. This was during WWII and on 3 October 1940 a German plane flew over and dropped five or six bombs on the school. One landed on the classroom next to his and six children were killed. The school still has an Open Morning for survivors to go in and talk to the children about it.

Roy moved on to the Intermediate School in Hayway, where he enjoyed P.E. He left school at fifteen and became an apprentice at the Central Electric Company, where he stayed as an Electrical Technician until he retired at 65! Just a little anecdote before we move on. Roy loved experimenting and one day this involved putting calcium carbide into a tin to try to propel a model plane. This resulted in a sudden explosion and the tin shot into next door's roof, resulting in the removal of several tiles! Apparently the explosion could be heard several streets away!

In his early '20s, Roy enjoyed cycling and he joined the Bedfordshire Roads Cycling Club. He went on club runs and time trials and cycled with friends to places in Scotland, Wales and Switzerland. Other areas were covered by the Northamptonshire and District Cycling association.

Then he met a young lady named Janet and he eventually proposed to her in the car park of the Kettering Granada Cinema! They were married in St Giles Church, Desborough, on 3 June 1961 [making it their Diamond Wedding this month!] Their honeymoon was spent motoring around Devon, where they soon realised how much they both liked walking.

In January 1965, they had a son David, who only lived for two days because of a heart condition. In September 1966 they had another son



Andrew [who many of you will know]. He was followed by Judith in May 1968.

Andrew is now a government statistician and Judith a nurse at Kettering Hospital. Judith and her husband Mark have a son, Zach.

When Michael Wilson started the family service Roy and Janet brought their children every week. Later Roy became a sidesman on every third Sunday in the month [usually Parade Sunday]. For about twelve years the couple organised the distribution of the Grapevine - now they deliver just a few. The congregation now is very friendly but they are missing the young people and Roy said they would love to sing some familiar songs.

Roving Reporter

Those questions

Biggest Influence?

My father. I did not know him for long. When I was 11 he was called up for Army Service and was posted abroad. Demobbed in 1946, he died in 1948 when I was nearly 17.

Hobbies?

Woodwork and making things from old materials - I used an old wooden table leg to make two wall lights. Hill-walking; particularly in the Lake District: nowadays it's just round Rushden Lakes! I still enjoy cycling but definitely not gardening!

Guests to dinner?

That would be the family.

What would you serve?

Steak Pie & assorted vegetables, followed by Rhubarb Crumble and Custard.

Proudest Moment?

When Andrew was born safely 20 months after we had lost David.

Favourite Place?

Scafell in the Lake district

Special Treat?

A mystery trip in Andrew's car, visiting several places and including a meal.

Favourite Bible verse?

"Suffer the little children to come unto me".

Matthew 19. 14

Last Minute - Gaza



If you are as concerned as I am with the current situation in Gaza despite the ceasefire which seems to have taken effect as I write on 21/5/21, I've found at least one way to add material help to our prayers.

I've donated to the long-standing Christian charity Embrace ME [the old 'Bible Lands'] which is working to support the medical infrastructure on the ground. The main Gaza hospital has already been bombed, killing doctors living nearby and their families. All the hospitals are dependent on generators since local electric supply is fitful at best.

Embrace work alongside local Christian groups with enough clout and respect to make a difference. They are easily found on line and have already set up specific card donation facilities. Ed.



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...I think I must have missed that module when I was at theological college!



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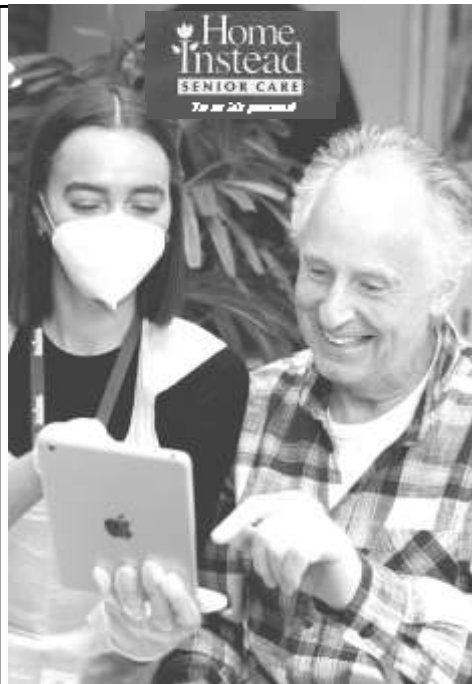
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Looking Back at Parish Magazines

50 years ago

June 1971

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have an outing to the
Malvern Hills on
Saturday July 3rd
including an evening
meal in Banbury. All
particulars in the Choir
Vestry.

The Ecumenical Pilgrimage

... which the Bishop of
Peterborough is leading
to Lourdes in July for
Inter-Church Travel is
now fully booked.

25 years ago

June 1996

WANTED!

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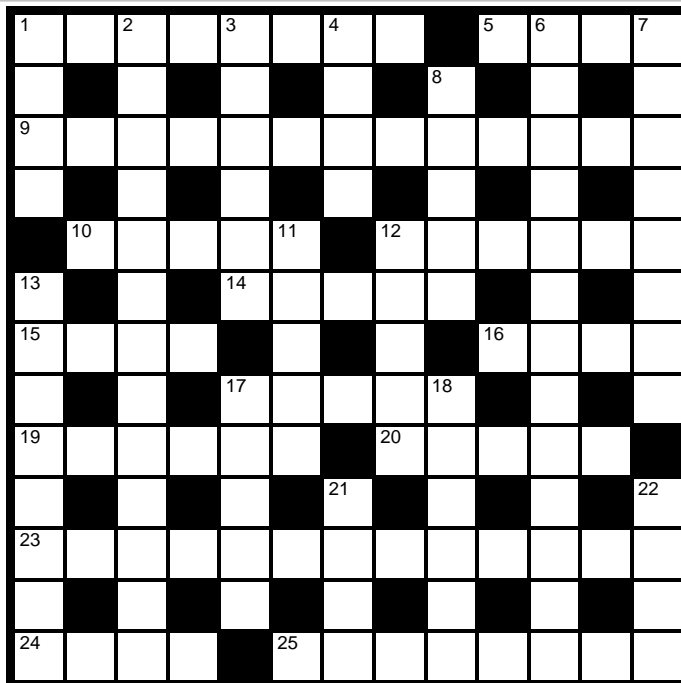
Newton Bromswold Ladies Friendship

The speaker at our
April meeting was Mr.
David Hill who gave us
a very interesting talk
on The history of the
Bible ... Also it was
nice to see the return
of one of our members
who had been ill.
Bessie Lines, "Lovely
to have you back."

Crossword No 379

ACROSS

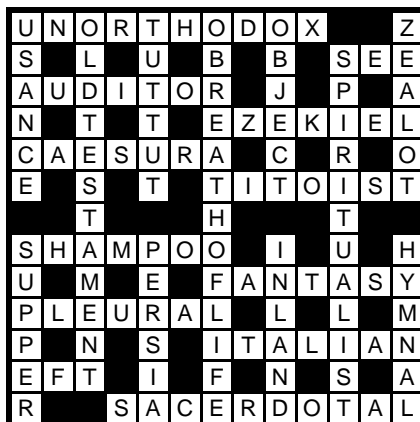
- 1 Purification plant (8)
 5 Monastic hood (4)
 9 Week after Pentecost (7,6)
 10 Play a guitar (5)
 12 Daughter of Job (Job 42:14 AV spelling) (6)
 14 Heathen (5)
 15 Of water (4)
 16 Biblical passage (4)
 17 -- and Gomorrah (5)
 19 Benefice (6)
 20 William --, founder of Salvation Army (5)
 23 High C of E (5-8)
 24 Christmas (4)
 25 Vestry (8)



DOWN

- 1 OT book following Judges (4)
 2 '--- ended, watching, waiting cease', (hymn) (8,5)
 3 A lupin (anag. (4,2)
 4 North Wales resort (4)
 6 Superstitions (3,5,5)
 7 Devastate (3,5)
 8 -- of Sheba (5)
 11 Biblical giant (5)
 12 Esau's twin (5)
 13 Ave Maria (4,4)
 17 Decorative hairnet (5)
 18 -- Teresa of Avila (6)
 21 Great Philistine city in Genesis 10:19 (4)
 22 Practise crystal-gazing (4)

Solution to No 378





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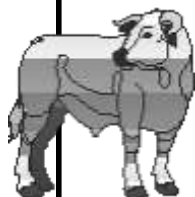
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Mission Matters - Lea & Petra Williams

Yes! We are delighted to announce that **Lea and Petra** are our **new CMS Mission Partners!** When travel becomes possible, they, with Olivia [10] and Ted [8], will be heading for the Czech Republic - Petra's homeland.

They will be living in its second city, Brno, a busy centre of technology, engineering and research, whose population includes a growing English-speaking community and 80,000 students. Their remit is to lead a small Anglican congregation, which came into being ten years ago. Their vision is to see this grow into a vibrant, welcoming Christian community where both Czechs and people of other nationalities may explore faith, meet Jesus and grow as disciples.

The Czech Republic is one of the most secular countries in Europe. Atheism was imposed during the Soviet era, and believers were persecuted. The effect of those times is still felt, but today there is a growing interest in spiritual things - not always in a positive way.

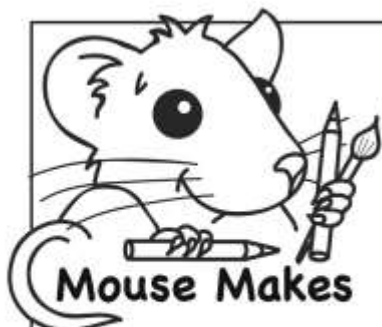
Lea and Petra's assignment is an exciting challenge, but they and the family will need much support. May the Lord help us all to stand with them as faithful, prayerful and loving Mission Partners.

Sue Eagles on behalf of the Mission

Committee: Sue Eagles, Josie Smith, Sue Prior, Edna Wadsworth and Martin Compton

To read more about Lea and Petra go to **churchmissionsociety.org** and, on Facebook, **Williams' on Mission**





JESUS HEALS

Who was the first person
Jesus healed?

John 4:46-54

Who did Jesus heal
from fever?

Mark 1:29-31

How was the the
paralysed man
brought to Jesus?

Mark 2:1-12



What did Jesus say made
the woman well?

Matthew 9: 20-22



"There are **many** things that
Jesus did. If every one of them
were written down, I suppose the
whole world would not have room
for the books that would be written."

John 21:25

Jesus **healed** and
made the...

SICK	ABLE
DEAD	WALK
BLIND	FORGIVEN
DEAF	ALIVE
CRIPPLED	SPEAK
SINNER	MOVE
MUTE	SEE
PARALYSED	WELL
DISABLED	HEAR

Where did the
demons ask Jesus
to send them
when he drove
them out?

Mark 5:1-20

How long had
the man by
the pool been
disabled?

John 5:1-15

How many men were
healed from leprosy?

Luke 17:11-19

What did Jesus heal
Bartimaeus from?

Mark 10:46-52



Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead,
how many days had he been buried?

John 11:1-45

Belfry Gossip

The country is beginning to open up as restrictions are being eased. Hopefully by the time you are reading this we will have started to ring for the service on Sundays again, and it should have sounded better than last year because now we are able to ring on six consecutive bells instead of on alternate bells. The fittings have been checked and the flies have been cleaned off the belfry floor again.

Currently we are still maintaining contact through a virtual practice on Zoom and Ringing Room. It is hopeful that it will soon also be possible to hold a proper practice evening. We will find it quite strange to meet in the tower again after such a long break.

The Peterborough Guild will be holding its AGM in June and this will be via Zoom again, as it was last year, so we will be supporting Simon as Master. I will report on this next time.

Tintinnabulum

"Sunday club is back up and running on Sunday mornings, and with the new easing restrictions there are more and more re-opening of children's groups."

Helen Smedley



Helen's children activities are now **live** instead of on Facebook:

Monday 10am - Bumps&Babes@Church – meeting outside with songs, prayers, crafts and activities

Sunday Club during the 9.30 am Sunday morning service
(except for Parade Sundays)

Buggy Buddies is also available to parents and guardians with children under 5: a socially distanced walkabout and natter. Slots can be booked for this with Helen on 07495 304974

Services in Church - June 2021

St Mary's
Rushden

St Peter's
Newton Bromswold

Sunday 6 June - First Sunday after Trinity

9.30am	Holy Communion		
11.15am	Morning Prayer	11.00am	Family Service

Sunday 13 June - Second Sunday after Trinity

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

Sunday 20 June - Third Sunday after Trinity

9.30am	All Age & Parade Service		
11.15am	Holy Communion	11.00am	Morning Prayer

Sunday 27 June - Fourth Sunday after Trinity

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

Midweek Service in St Mary's Church

Thursday June 3, 10, 17, 24 at 10.30am Holy Communion [BCP]

On Line Services

For those who wish to worship in this way services will continue on line as before. To access these go to our website: stmaryschurchrushden.org which displays both the **Facebook** and **YouTube** links.

Sundays: 6, 13, 20, 27 - 10.00am - Morning Worship

Thursdays: 3, 10, 17, 24 - 10.30am - Thought for Thursday

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