



THE PARISH OF MELTHAM CHRIST THE KING

50p

SEPTEMBER 2020

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Coronavirus Outbreak Prayer.

Keep us, good Lord,
under the shadow of
your mercy in this time
of uncertainty and
distress.

Sustain and support
the anxious and fearful,
and lift up all who are
brought low;
that we may rejoice in
your comfort knowing
that nothing can
separate us from your
love
in Christ Jesus our
Lord.
Amen.

A note from the editor ...

Hello!

Welcome to the September edition which you may be holding in your hands as it is now printed! Whoop!

Enjoy reading all the updates and all the hard work people have been doing across our Parish like the Graveyard at St James' (pg 35 so you can see the colour photos) and throughout Crossroads. (pg 12-13)

The Churches are (at the time of print) open on Sunday mornings see pages 9 & 11 for peoples' thoughts and ideas about it. Thank you to those that responded and were honest it helps people to decide, I'm sure.

Finally I would like to say a big THANK YOU to all who have contributed to this packed issue, it really wouldn't be a good read without you, especially at this time.

If you would like to contribute to future editions, all ideas and articles are welcomed as this is YOUR magazine. The deadline for submissions is:

Monday 14th September.

You can send in your contributions via:

melthamparishmagazine@gmail.com

or

via the vicarage letterbox.

(150 Huddersfield Rd, HD9 4AL)

God bless, Fiona.

Meltham Prayer Chain

Meltham Prayer chain has representatives from every church in Meltham and serves to pray for any need or difficulty.

Confidentiality is always respected.

If you would like to ask for prayers to be said, please contact

Rev Peter Rolls 340342

Lay reader Hester Deacon 657069

Letter from your Vicar.

In any normal year, as we all return from our summer holidays, September is a time of old things restarting and new things beginning. This is as true for the Church as it is for anyone. The summer is not yet over (hopefully) but autumn will soon be with us. The churches thoughts need to begin to turn to things like harvest festivals, all Saint's Day, Remembrance Day, and Christmas. All these take time and effort to prepare, they require advanced planning.

If I were to say that the year so far has been strange, I don't think anyone would wish to disagree. Thanks to Covid 19 all our plans have had to be changed. We now have all four of our Churches open again, though it feels as if this could change with any news broadcast and, our services are not back to normal or how we would choose them to be. Things are more changeable than the weather, it seems impossible to predict what might be happening next week least of all next month. The last few months of the year may well continue to be very strange.

So, how do we plan for things like Christmas?

The fact is that, whilst nobody really knows what may happen in the next few months, we do know that if we don't plan anything, then nothing will happen. As far as I am concerned, Christmas is not cancelled. There are many challenges; how do we enable families with children to safely return to Church? What will Remembrance Day look like if we cannot all squeeze into St Bartholomew's? How do we celebrate with social distancing and limited number gatherings? What about singing Christmas carols?

September is a good time for the Church to make plans. These plans will have to be carefully thought through and safe, they will need to be flexible and creative, they will have to be different from what we have done before but hopefully in keeping with traditions of the past.

Many of our plans over the last few months had to be cancelled, and it is true that some of our plans for the next few months may have to be cancelled too. But I believe that we should plan for the next few months with a balance of both care and positivity.

I pray that you will all stay safe.

God bless

Reverend John (Vicar)



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Your Church is OPEN!*

Meltham Parish Churches are open every Sunday for a spoken word service, of Communion or Morning Prayer.

St James' Meltham Mill 9.30am
St Mary's Wilshaw 11.15am

St Bartholomew's 9.30am
Christ Church, Helme 11.15am

Also on a Wednesday morning 9.30—11am St Bart's church is open for individual prayer (no formal service will be available)

***All current government guidelines WILL be adhered to so please keep your distance and wear a face covering. It is also subject to any changes advised.**





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So the churches are open, Great! Or is it?

These are the responses from people who were asked what their thoughts of the Church being open are.

Please remember, these are individual responses who gave their honest opinion. Going to a physical church may not be for you yet or maybe you are questioning whether or not to go. Hopefully the below will help to give you an informed choice.

If you are not ready to join us on a Sunday in person, remember you can join in online and see the service with Rev John Dracup whenever you prefer, at a time that suits you. Go to our website and click on the link in the green banner.

I have been for 3 weeks now, felt very safe and was great to be able to take part in communion even if it is only the bread. The short service means I am home before 11am to spend the day with my husband.

It was good to have communion after so long & to see each church family again & everyone is following the guidance and supporting each other. There is plenty of space for distancing.

As someone who naturally prefers to worship God with lots of energy and noise, I must admit I was not looking forward to a spoken service but I have found it so good to worship with others

Found church safe and enjoyed the quiet parts of the service.. Its also fun trying to work out just who is under the mask. I would encourage anyone who normally goes to church to give it a try.

I have only been to one service but I felt extremely safe, enjoyed the service and chatting with others afterwards. I missed singing and listening to the music much more than I had expected and really hated the open door and feeling colder and colder as the service continued!

Editor's tip - Might be worth bringing a cardigan or jumper with you as we have to have air flow around the building.

I went to Doreen's funeral which was very safe and beautifully done, then last week went on Weds to light candles for friends who had died. Lovely peaceful and safe. But I do not feel ready to come back with many people. It's good to have John's service at home in the garden... God is all around us.

As yet I haven't come to a service as I would have to bring my children. I wouldn't want to make any one feel unsafe because of them.

I struggle with my faith, but I've not been frightened at any time during the pandemic. I see people with more faith than me and people who are more frightened than me. The return to church has been very comforting.

In both churches I've attended the atmosphere seemed to be one of joy and relief that we were together again and able to worship beside each other even at a distance.



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I quite enjoyed the audio and visual church services provided by John and Simon. I was always on time for the service even if sometimes I was in my dressing gown. I enjoyed listening to the choir and joining the virtual choir which at times was challenging. However, I did miss the people, sending a message of peace through WhatsApp is not quite the same. So, going back to church felt exciting and it was great to see people I hadn't seen for several months. I thought I would miss the singing, but I didn't. I enjoyed the quiet start with gentle music and then working through some slightly different liturgy which meant I had to concentrate. With very little to distract me I found myself able to listen more carefully and enjoyed working through the story of Jacob.

The service ended with a short opportunity to chat (socially distanced of course) and later also wearing masks but still possible to see how everyone was coping..

I was glad to be back, but I am looking forward to the time when we can all be together again

I haven't been to a service yet but I like being able to listen to the online service at any time, usually in the bath as that's usually the only time I get half an hour of peace and quiet! I don't listen to the all but its comforting to know they're there at any time of day so I can listen when I want to/need to. It's very calming to hear some 'normality' broadcast when life is getting a bit anxious.

Editors note - This sounds like a perfect place to listen and relax.

I had got used, I thought, to socially distanced remote worship. I had my own ritual of making a fresh coffee to have as the service progressed. I was regularly deeply moved by the Virtual Choir.

So I wasn't sure what to expect from an all-said Worship in church involving me & others being present, really socially distanced and then all of us with a mask on.

But I have found the Services thoughtful and very reflective. The quiet is good for me. I enjoy seeing friends again- the body of Christ very visible. I know the Worship has been important for others – I could see that there have been lots of conversations after the service has ended. When we had the first actual communion, the measures that John had to take at one level seemed over pedantic. And yet he did these steps to make sure we could have communion. This reminded me that it was important for us to be able to share again together in the Bread and the Wine.

It is a new reality. I hope others will come who have so far not been able to. Together we are the body of Christ, encouraging one another and praying for each other.



CROSSROADS CENTRE



Since the last update in the magazine everyone concerned with the Project has been very busy.

The shop had a successful reopening in July with a massive effort from lots of people to ensure a safe and workable environment for our customers. What a delight to see the queues and people patiently waiting to shop. Thanks to everyone involved. Welcome back to the returning staff and Hello to new ones. Also, a massive thank you to several staff who have served us faithfully over the years and have now hung up their tabards and retired. They will all be missed.

New ideas have led to online presence increasing and more people being aware of who we are and what we do. Watch out for sales in the Meltham Marketplace (Facebook site) It's not all been hard work. There have been lots of opportunities for reflecting on Gods abundance as people's generosity continued to amaze us. Many in the community and beyond gave money, clothing, bric a brack and books. There were also several house clearances which we managed to cope with!

There were opportunities to help. A new mobile phone was found in a black bag and safely returned to its owner and several pairs of brand-new trousers restored to their owner when they were mistakenly sent to the shop!! We had lots of cups of tea particularly if Debbie was there and an assortment of cakes and biscuits when we forgot to stop for lunch.

Our involvement in supporting 'Cafe in the Square' (and various other places) helped us feel we were getting back in touch with old friends and Meltham folk were keen to come out after months in isolation.

The Crossroads Centre has been fortunate in receiving a large grant to refurbish the basement to create more space and a more hygienic preparation and storage area for the Food bank. Work will begin in September and we hope to reopen the Centre fully by mid-November. The Foodbank continues to flourish with willing volunteers. Book parcels have been added to the food parcels and bespoke parcels are created daily to meet new client's needs.

The volunteer's fitness levels will be tested when we move to new premises while the refurbishment takes place!!

Chris Smith and Ridley & Hall continue to give advice and support to people affected by Covid 19.

To everyone who has supported us, prayed for us and worked with us. 'Thank You'

We hold on to the promise:

Ephesians 3:20 'Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think according to the power at work within us'

The Crossroads team

The Crossroads Shop

We have stopped taking donations for the time being but hope to resume in September. Meanwhile a large and dedicated team are working every day at the Crossroads Centre in the old Town Hall to sort, iron and return the huge amount of donated and quarantined stock to the shop for sale.

Since the wearing of face coverings became mandatory in shops across England on 24th July 2020, a network of 8 home sewers from Meltham have donated over 50 reusable fabric face coverings to the Crossroads Centre and shop as part of the Mask Makers of Meltham project. The face coverings are included with the food parcels from the Crossroads Centre food bank and they are sold for £2.00 each in The Crossroads Shop. More information about the Mask Makers can be found on the Remade In Meltham facebook page.

Our own Facebook page 'The Crossroads Shop' has been created to keep everyone up to date with what is going on and share stories about the charity. Go and follow the page to be kept in the know!

Also, after the overwhelming donations we received at the shop and taking up a very useful suggestion, we have started selling some items on Meltham Marketplace (again on Facebook). There is a great selection of children's fancy dress available at the moment with lots of other items to be added including a large selection of wedding dresses in assorted sizes. – so keep an eye out for us on there too!

Lucy Whiteley and Julia Roebuck



TheCrossroadsShop



The Food Bank

We always work hard to respect the confidentiality of people who receive from and give to the foodbank. This magazine is one of the few ways we have of saying thank you. As always thank you to the Co-op and Morrisons for your solid support.

This is just one of the many blessings I receive that gives testimony to the special people of Meltham that make this a special community to live in.

When collecting food from the Co op, a staff member said to me can you give us a list of things you are really short of as every week a Gentlemen gives us some money and asks us to buy some things for the 'foodbank bin' we have been doing it but would really like to know what you need. **(Please turnover for a new list)**

If you read this whoever you are Thank you and thank you too to all of our anonymous donors, you are really appreciated

Debbie and the Foodbank Team.

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Please contribute to Meltham Food Bank

They especially need the following items: (new list!)

Sugar, s s long life milk, tinned veg, tinned fruit, rice pudding, soup, rice, noodles, pasta sauce, custard, cereals, tinned meat, tinned pasta meals, Jams, pet food, washing powder, washing up liquid, shampoo, shaving cream & shower gel.

Drop into the bins at Morrisons or the Coop. Fresh & frozen veg welcome but these must be delivered to the centre only.



Financial donations are also welcome.

Post through the centre door, labelled clearly 'Food bank'. **Mon - Fri 10—12.30.**

Helme Ladies Update Aug 2020

Like everyone else Helme Ladies are in lockdown so nothing is happening. Our theatre trips which were due in April did not go ahead and were rescheduled for August and September. The August one has been rescheduled for next April, so I have cancelled our tickets. I have just been told the September one will now take place in October 2021.

Our coffee morning due in August will not take place, you can't have a coffee morning and social distance as their purpose is for friends to meet and chat. I have been notified that our Christmas lunch which was booked at the golf club has been cancelled, I was hoping we could at least meet for that.

We are in the same boat as everyone else, it has been a very strange year, but we'll meet again.

Hazel Gibson.



Doreen Holmes

The family of Doreen would like to thank all her Church family, friends and neighbours for their kind expressions of sympathy, letters, cards, beautiful flowers and donations to Smart Barts, the Organ Fund and to Ward 8 at Huddersfield Royal Infirmary. A special 'Thank you' to Rev John, Simon and Gwen (Radcliffe Funeral Services) for their excellent arrangements, virtual choir and service also for their help and understanding in this lockdown period.



The support of everyone at this sad time had been much appreciated.

Catherine, John, Richard & families.

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St Mary's Report

It seems such a long time since we did a report for the magazine so I hope my memory is up to it. We also hope you have taken the opportunity to have a rest, to re-charge your batteries during the coronavirus lockdown and that you are keeping well. Throughout June, July and August services continued on Zoom and it has been wonderful to welcome more people to these services on a regular basis.

Kim Howe led our Evening services and challenged us to "Bring in God's Harvest" in the service on June 14th and continued with the farming theme on July 12th. She reminded us that just as the seed sown by the farmer falls on different types of soil so God's Word is received in different ways by those who hear it. On 9th Aug her talk was based on the Bible reading which told of how Jesus walked on water & how He said "Do not be afraid" This was a gentle act of worship with opportunity for quiet prayer while music played.

We enjoyed a wonderful service on Fathers' day, June 21st. This was an All Age Service and was led by Lay Reader Jacqueline France. We sang two action songs and watched some videos of the children talking about their dads. We drew around our hand at the beginning of the service then as we thought about our dads we drew another line outside the first and again as we thought about God our Heavenly Father we drew a line around the first two. We heard the story of "The Prodigal Son" and thought about how his father was strong and loving just as our fathers have to be and how God our Father is. 24 adults and four children shared this happy time on zoom. Jacqueline also led a Service of the Word on July 26th and some people shared this service in St Mary's Church which was open for the first time since lockdown. She took for her theme "Patience" and we have all had plenty practise at that over the last five months haven't we? We learnt a new song, a dance and shared some special things that had happened over the last week,

Rev Judy led two Services of the Word. The first on June 28th when she took for her theme "Testing Times and Costly Commitment" We thought about how Abraham was severely tested but how he and his precious son Isaac point us to God's amazing love in sacrificing his precious son Jesus on the cross for us. We dedicated one hymn "When I needed a neighbour" to our wonderful doctors and nurses and all our amazing community heroes. The second service took place on July 19th and was based on the Parable of "The Wheat and the Weeds". We were reminded that God is generous, loving and forgiving and because Jesus died for us we are no longer tied up like bundles of weeds waiting for punishment but free to be God's children in His glorious kingdom.

Last but not least Rev Dennis Shields has taken two services of Holy Communion. The first one from his home on 5th July on zoom when he took the bread and wine on our behalf. He gave a talk reminding us that even though we make a mess of things God forgives us and Jesus helps us carry our burdens. On, 2nd August, he took the service from St Mary's Church - wonderful! This was shared by people in church but also on Zoom and was the first communion service at St Mary's since March. He spoke about how God can change us and our situation and He provides for us with immense generosity.

I cannot end this report without mentioning all the people who have been involved in reading lessons and offering prayers - Lucy, Kim Jacqueline, Judy, Dennis, Clive and Judith Moore. A big thankyou to them, to Elizabeth & Peter Pearson for providing the music and preparing some of the presentations. To Jacqueline for hosting the Zoom meeting and working the power point each week. Thanks also to Rev John Dracup, Simon Ball, Mark Howe & Peter for working out how to work the technology from church and to all who have joined us week on week to worship our amazing God.

Finally congratulations to Morena and Ian on the birth of their little boy Magnus -another precious grandchild for Monteena and John Shepherd.

Daily Bible Readings for the month of September

<u>Date</u>	<u>Old Testament</u>	<u>New Testament</u>
1 st	Ezra 4	Romans 3
2 nd	Zechariah 1:1-17	Romans 4
3 rd	Zechariah 3	Romans 5
4 th	Zechariah 6:9-end	Romans 6
5 th	Ezra 5	Romans 7
6 th (Sun)	Habakkuk 2:1-14	Luke 4:31-5,11
7 th	Zechariah 7	Romans 8:1-17
8 th	Ezra 7	Romans 8:1-18
9 th	Ezra 9	Romans 9
10 th	Nehemiah 1	Romans 10
11 th	Nehemiah 4	Romans 11:1-24
12 th	Nehemiah 6:1-7,4	Romans 11:25-end
13 th (Sun)	Zephaniah 1	Luke 7:36-end
14 th	Nehemiah 9:1-23	Romans 12
15 th	Nehemiah 13	Romans 13
16 th	Daniel 2:25-end	Romans 14
17 th	Daniel 4:19-end	Romans 15:1-13
18 th	Daniel 9:1-19	Romans 15:14-end
19 th	Daniel 10	Romans 16
20 th (Sun)	Daniel 3	Luke 9:57-10,24
21 st	Proverbs 3:1-18	Matthew 19:16-end
22 nd	Esther 3	Philippians 1:12-end
23 rd	Esther 5	Philippians 2:1-11
24 th	1 Kings 11:1-13	Philippians 2:12-end
25 th	1 Kings 11:26-end	Philippians 3
26 th	1 Kings 12:1-24	Philippians 4
27 th (Sun)	Isaiah 48:12-21	Luke 11:37-54
28 th	1 Kings 12:25-13,10	Acts 19:8-20
29 th	1 Kings 13:11-end	Acts 12:1-11
30 th	1 Kings 17	Acts 20:1-6

DAILY PRAYER

Ordinary Time

Opening Prayer of thanksgiving

Bless the Lord all you works of the Lord, sing his praise and exalt him forever.

Bless the Lord you heavens, sing his praise and exalt him forever.

Bless the Lord you angels of the Lord, sing his praise and exalt him forever.

Bless the Lord all people on earth, sing his praise and exalt him forever.

O people of God bless the Lord, sing his praise and exalt him forever.

Bless the Lord you priests of the Lord, sing his praise and exalt him forever.

Bless the Lord you servants of the Lord, sing his praise and exalt him forever.

Bless the Lord all you of upright spirit,

Bless the Lord you that are holy and humble in heart. **Amen.**

The readings for the day may be found on page 18

Prayers of intercession are offered

¶ for the day and its tasks

¶ for the world and its needs

¶ for the Church and her life

The Collect

God of glory,

by the raising of your Son you have broken the chains of death and hell:

Fill your Church with faith and hope;

For a new day has dawned and the way to life stands open

In our saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father , who art in heaven,

Hallowed be thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done,

On earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation, But deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, The power and the glory,

Forever and ever. **Amen.**

Closing prayers

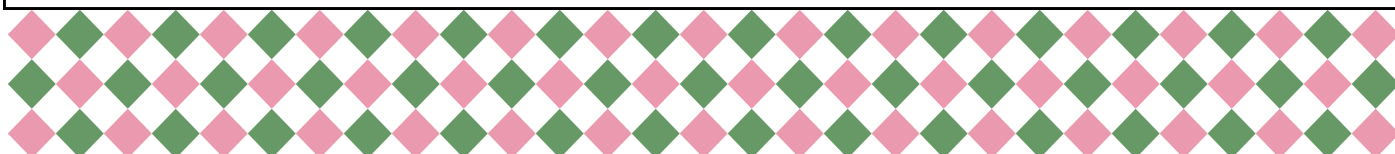
The Lord bless us, and preserve us from all evil, and keep us in eternal life. **Amen.**

Let us bless the lord, thanks be to God, **Amen.**

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FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

Weddings - A gift of God in Creation & a means of His grace

Baptisms - We welcome you into the Lord's family

Funerals - May they rest in peace

Doreen Holmes

Anyone wishing to have their loved ones names included in the book of Remembrance at St Bartholomew's please contact Jean Collison : Telephone 851816
(there is a small fee of £5 for church expenses)

To contact our vicar Rev John Dracup: 07983 937132 parishofchristtheeking@gmail.com

200 CLUB :

August winners:

381	£50 Mrs. M. Tiffany
008	£10 Mrs. G. Taylor
852	£10 Vacant Number
756	£10 Mr. D. Dearnley
422	£10 Mr. J. Welsh
503	£10 Miss B. Peel

There are still several vacancies in the 200 Club.
If you would like to become a member & support the Church Hall, please contact
Michael Farrel 07768258257
m.farrellphd@btinternet.com
David Earnshaw 341968, C Moulson 850171



Meltham Churches Together **'Praying with and for our community'**

Wednesdays 10 - 10.30am

2nd September (Quaker)

9th September (Christ Church)

16th September (Baptist)

23rd September (St Barts)

30th September (Methodist)

Join in prayer from home

Please note ALL services are currently suspended but usually held in St Bartholomew's Church.

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Helme Hall

Usually have their service of

Holy Communion

On the forth Thursday of the month,
at 2.00pm in the lounge.



Once this is resumed,
all will be welcome

Greenacres

The following services are
currently paused.

Songs of Praise

Usually takes place on the second
Tuesday in the month at 1.30pm

Holy Communion

Usually take place on the forth
Tuesday in the month at 1.30pm
Once resumed all will be welcome


Bell House Report

We are still unable to visit as they
are still in lockdown so please pray
for the residents and staff there that
they keep well and don't feel too
isolated. I am sure they and the
people at Green Acres and Helme
Hall would appreciate a card or a
letter to show we are thinking about
them or the children could draw a
picture to send to them - they would
love that.

Bell House

Holy Communion service has
been paused, this usually takes
place on the first Wednesday of
the month at 10.30am, in the
Lounge.

Once resumed,
All will be welcome.



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We taught ourselves Geography

When I say “we,” I think in a lot of cases I am including “you.”

It all began at about the age of 7 when my mum thought it would be good for us to collect postage stamps. It would give us an interest and widen our knowledge. She was right and like many other children we took up this hobby which we found fascinating.

Most towns had a stamp shop and with spending money and a trip to Halifax with parents we would buy some foreign stamps. However the best way to acquire some was for parents to approach friends who worked at local factories that engaged in foreign trade and ask them to save the stamps. The joy on our faces when we received any was a thrill. At the Saturday morning Junior Club (pictures, cinema or movies take your pick as to how you label it) after the film there was a Stamp Club where you could swap stamps. The triangular shaped ones were always much sought after.

Having started to be “A Philatelist,” you couldn’t wait to mount them in an album, but problems quickly arose as stamps of all countries apart from Commonwealth and the USA were all spelt in the native tongue. To a 7 year old where in the world were Serge, Some, Norse and Dansk? With reference catalogues, tracked these down to the 4 Scandinavian countries. Phew, got there! More problems ahead though; Helvetia, Osterreich, Magyar and Strait Settlements? Go and find out, and this we did.

Stamps of Great Britain were always plain and dull, bearing only the monarchs head, unless it was a special event e. g. Coronation, 1948 Olympic Games. Significantly GB is still the only country in the world that does not bear the country name.

Foreign stamps were an introduction to the world atlas and each stamp told a brief story. Pictures of famous explorers, religious leaders, politicians, dictators, prominent people, natural wonders, native animals, mountains, waterfalls, harbours, military conquests, ancient and modern wonders. They were all there as countries displayed their many and varied catalogues in the shape of a modest stamp. It was quite exciting getting a stamp and checking if it was in your collection or consigning it to the swap tin, the latter being a disappointment.

Of course billions of stamps worldwide are worthless in monetary value but rich in educational value. Like everything else it depends on rarity and sad to say my collection was at the best “a good school boy collection.”

On the subject of rarity a friend mentioned to me 2 years ago he had found in his cupboard a few stamps of Germany bearing only the head of Hitler and felt sure they must be worth a lot of money. What did I think? I assured him all countries printed millions of low value stamps and whoever was ruling had their face on stamps, so evil though the man was, the stamps of Adolf wouldn’t fetch a pfennig.

John Mitchell





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St Bart's Choir Notes – an update from the empty choir stalls!

Obviously during these times, the choir are not able to meet which is frustrating. It's hard to know at this stage just when we might be able to all get together to sing at our services again, but I'm sure when we can, it will be a joyous occasion, though we might need to start priming our voices well in advance – I've had reports of a few rusty vocal chords here and there. I'm sure Steph will be able to give us all some advice on getting our voices back in shape ready for singing. We'll certainly look forward to it when the time comes.

When we do get back together, sadly there will be a gap or two in the choir stalls as both Gwynneth and Beverley are leaving Meltham and moving to the coast – no doubt lured by the prospect of nicer weather – sunshine, sea and sand – and who can blame them? They are however moving to opposite coasts, though being good friends, we hope they will meet up in the middle and visit us in Meltham from time to time - they will always be welcome in the choir.

Gwynneth joined the choir around 1989 as a soprano and has often sung solos and many descants over the years. Beverley joined us as an alto in 2010 after she had moved back to Meltham following her retirement. Both originally sung in the choir at Meltham Mills earlier in their lives. We thank them both for the dedication and commitment over the past 30 and 10 years respectively, and we will certainly miss you both, but give you our best wishes. Hopefully they will both carry on singing at the seaside. Sadly, we haven't been able to meet together and give them both a proper send off.

We were saddened to learn that Doreen Holmes had passed away. Although not a singer, Doreen had a long association with the church and the choir – her husband Dennis was a life long member of the choir as well as having a stint as choir master, and her daughter Cath and Grandson Ben both still sing in the choir. We offer our sincere condolences to Cath, Ben and rest of the family for their loss during these sad and difficult times. Sadly due to the current situation, it was not possible to have a normal funeral service but we were able to contribute to the online thanksgiving service. Doreen had previously written down the hymns that she wanted for her funeral and fortunately we had them all in our existing collection of recordings except for one item – The Nunc Dimittis. We felt that it just wouldn't be the same without the 'Nunc' so after some gentle persuasion, most of the choir members were able to record themselves either at home or individually at church singing along to a recording of it being played on the organ. All the individual recordings were then merged to create a virtual recording which was then used both for the online service and at the graveside. It worked well and sounded like we had all sung it together – though we hadn't! We will certainly miss visiting Doreen on our carol singing rounds.

Simon Ball



Staying Connected

Want to keep connected while social distancing?

Here are some reminders on how to keep up to date with what is available to you.

If you have access to email then why not subscribe to the parish website? You will receive an email when new things are posted to the website like the latest service from Rev John or this magazine for example. So just head over to:

www.melthamparish.co.uk find where you can enter your email address and click 'subscribe' it will send you an email immediately with a link for you to confirm. You will then start to receive all the latest news & updates (You can unsubscribe at any time) check your spam or junk folder if you don't receive the email.

Meltham.org

A collaboration of people from, local organisations, the Church and Town Council, coordinated through the Crossroads Centre.

It offers advice, help and support for people in isolation. For more

info go to **meltham.org**

or call

01484 799505

Daily Hope is a service from the CofE for those who may have limited or no internet.



The service is supported by the Church of England nationally as well as through the Connections group based at Holy Trinity Claygate in Surrey and the Christian charity Faith in Later Life.

"Meltham Church at Home!" is a WhatsApp group for people to share thoughts, encouragement and prayer or even photos to brighten up your day. You won't feel alone with over 60 others in the group! (You don't have to be a member of a church to join) To gain access download the app and contact the group admin Nigel Priestly on: **07885 430085** to be included.



'Zoom' is a video conferencing app been used by St Mary's, Wilshaw for weekly **Sunday morning services at 11.15**. To gain access download the app onto a device that has a microphone and a camera, such as a tablet or mobile.

If you would like to go on the mailing list to get the zoom link for our services please contact Jacqueline on 01484 663867 or email Jacqueline.france@interface.com

Note: This is video so make sure you've brushed your hair! Also be aware people can hear what you are saying and doing, so we can be altogether.

Have a facebook account? Follow or 'like' us to get notifications. Share posts on your own timeline or invite other people you know to follow us too.



Parish of Christ the King, Meltham

Helme Church, St Bartholomew's Church, St Mary's Church- Wilshaw
St James' Church- Meltham Mills, Meltham 5 Alive

Canadian Life

I recently heard from Jane, an old client of mine. She had been a failed asylum seeker in the UK, had left before she was deported, having first asked a friend to care for her son in England. Somehow she got into Canada after seeking asylum there. Twice an asylum seeker but only one country offered her a home.

She studied in Canada, got a job and worked on her courses at night after she got home. She gained a number of certificates. She was reunited with her son. He had left England to be brought up by a relative in Uganda until she gained Canadian citizenship. Her son has done well at College and is looking to going to University in two years time.

She came to mind as I reflected on the negative press that the asylum seekers/ refugees get as they try to cross the Channel in very dangerous boats.

How are these people seen? "To this very hour we go hungry and thirsty, we are in rags, we are brutally treated, we are homeless. We work hard with our own hands. When we are cursed, we bless; when we are persecuted, we endure it; when we are slandered, we answer kindly. We have become the scum of the earth, the garbage of the world—right up to this moment."

This passage is to be found in the First letter to the Christians in Corinth. Paul wrote this in Chapter 4 verses 11 to 13. Paul is writing about his own experience of the treatment he and his colleagues received. And yet as outsiders, they knew that they were loved and accepted by God. This description of how they were treated probably applied in most of the towns and cities they came to.

I suspect this treatment is a description that many of the current group of asylum seekers would recognise. How does God our Father view these people? What is our response to be? Are our views on migrants shaped by the approach of the mass media? Jane has shown what just one asylum can do when given a chance. She has brought a family back together, is paying her taxes and contributing to Canadian life!

Nigel Priestly



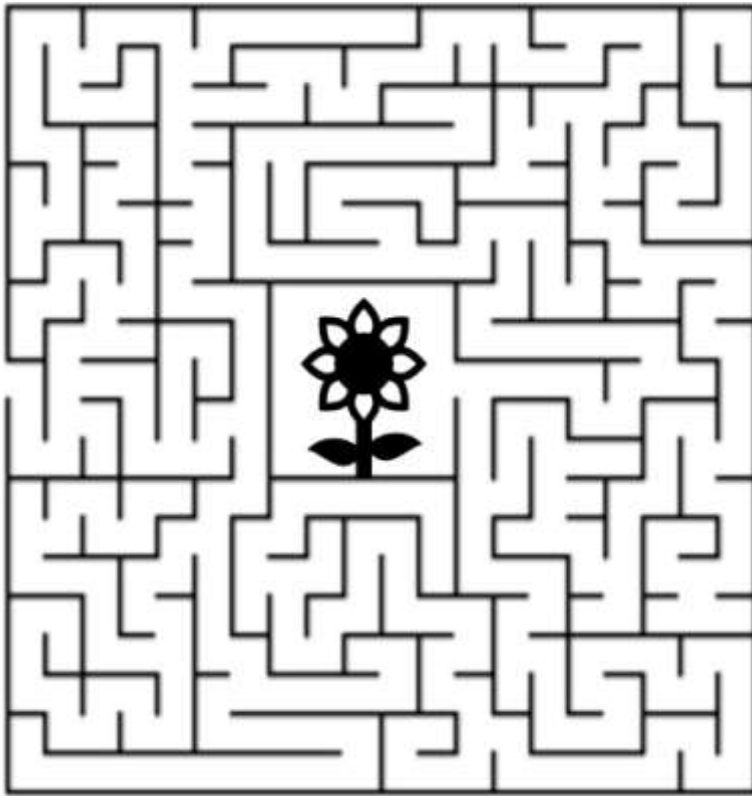
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Just For Fun

Virtual maize maze – Can you find your way to the centre without getting lost?



Q. Why did the pie cross the road?

A. To meat potato!

I ordered a chicken and an egg from Amazon. I'll let you know.

Q. What do you call a dog who can do magic?

A. A labracadabrador!

Doctor, doctor, I feel like a cowboy.
How long have you felt that way?
About a yee hah!

Q. What do you call a belt made of watches?

A. A waist of time!

Q. Why do seagulls fly over the sea?

A. Because if they flew over the bay, they've bagels!

A few thoughts during the Coronavirus kerfuffle, by Denis A

Until further notice, days of the week are now called; 'This day, that day, t'other day, someday, yesterday and next day.

This is the first time in history we can save the Human race by laying on the settee in front of the T.V doing nothing!

Why I like retirement Questions and Answers:

How many days in a week? 6 Saturdays & 1 Sunday

When is a retirees bedtime? 2 hours after falling asleep on the settee.

Why don't retirees mind being called seniors? The term comes with a 10% discount.

Why are O.A.P's so slow in clearing out their garage? Soon as they do, one of their kids will want to put stuff in there.

Senility Prayer for O.A.P's: Grant me the senility to forget the people I never liked, The good fortune to run into the ones I do like, and the eyesight good enough to tell the difference.

God Bless all who can be bothered to read this, and all who can't. Denis.

Fiona's Family Page

Usually around this time of year St Mary's Wilshaw have a 'Pet Service' in the Croft. Due to the current events this has not been possible. However a prayer of thanks for your pet and all animals is below.

A Prayer of Thanks for Animals

Animals are not only God's creatures, but also a great blessing to us. Those who have pets should love them, provide for them and care for their needs. Loving an animal is a beautiful thing. The care we show an animal entrusted to us is a gauge of personal integrity. The Bible tells us, "A righteous man care for the needs of animals" (Proverbs 12:10). If you want to give God thanks for your pet, pray this prayer:

In Your infinite wisdom, Lord God, when You created the universe you blessed us with all living creatures. We especially thank you for giving us our pets who are our friends and who bring us so much joy in life. Their presence very often helps us get through trying times. Kindly bless my pet. May my pet continue giving me joy and remind me of Your power. May we realise that as our pets trust us to take care of them, so we should trust You to take care of us, and in taking care of them we share in Your love for all creatures. Amen.

This is 'Chip' Rev John's dog. He loves to run in open fields especially Robert Ashton park.. He is very friendly and likes his belly rubbed.



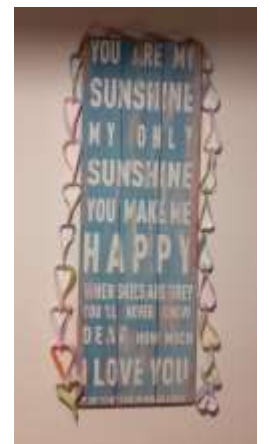
If you have a pet, email in a picture and what they like to do and we will include it in the next edition.

HD9 Club




























































The HD9 Club at Wilshaw, St Mary's have continued to meet once a fortnight on Zoom during the lockdown and have enjoyed cake decorating, craft evenings, games and a quiz. On Friday 7th August they enjoyed a socially distanced picnic in the church croft when they thought about what they would like to do at the next few meetings and just enjoyed being able to see one another and to chat. The girls brought their own mats to sit on and their own food and of course there was plenty of hand gel in use but it was so nice to see them smiling and laughing together.



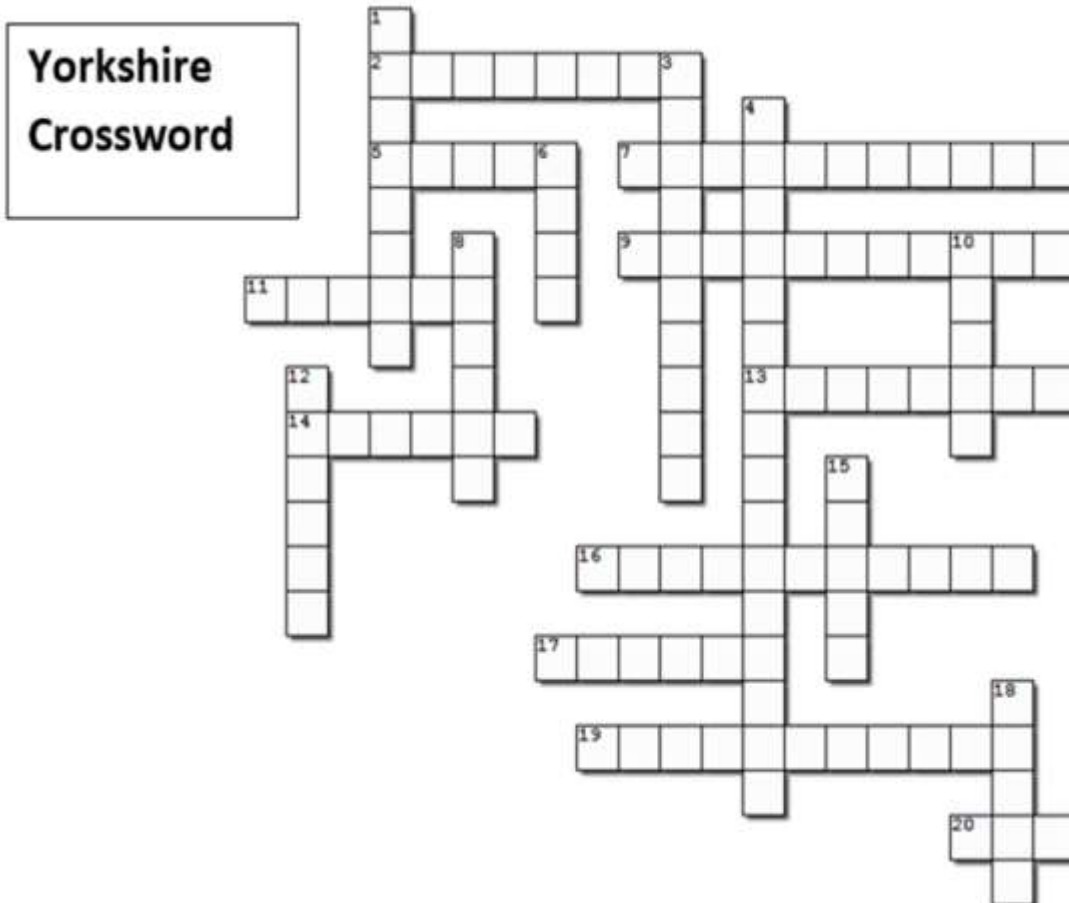
Here are a couple of the crafts they have done with washers and nail varnish on the left and Love heart bunting on the right. Beautiful!



What nursery rhymes do these emojis represent?

1.  	8.     
2.      	9.    
3.    	10.    
4.        	11.   
5.    	12.     
6.   	13.     
7.   	14.   

Answers on the back page!



Created using the Crossword Maker on TheTeachersCorner.net

Across

2. Barbara _____, sculptor of Mother & Child (8)
5. Mardy (5)
7. Site in the Yorkshire Dales is said to have inspired Charles Kingsley 'Water Babies' (6, 4)
9. William _____, a famous resident of Hull and MP between 1784 and 1812 (11)
11. Simon _____, talent show judge who owns the Yorkshire terriers Squidly, Diddly and Freddy (6)
13. City once known as the 'wool capital of the world' (8)
14. Famous single-span suspension bridge crosses this river (6)
16. UK's first ever National Trail (7, 3)
17. Bonfire night treat (6)
19. Wallace and Gromit's favourite cheese (11)
20. Ken Loach film set and filmed in several Barnsley villages (3)

Down

1. Narrow street in York/a state of disorder (8)
3. Home stadium of Yorkshire County Cricket Club (10)
4. Fruit shape between Wakefield, Morley and Rothwell (7, 8)
6. Brithplace of Guy Fawkes (4)
8. Moor well known as the inspiration for Yorkshire's 'county anthem'? (6)
10. Cathedral city, third smallest city in England (5)
12. Dracula's seaside town (6)
15. Largest city in Yorkshire (5)
18. To which Saint is York Minster dedicated? (5)

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Graveyard Gardening

The work on the lower graveyard all began when Richard and I decided to tidy up the war graves in time for the centenary of the end of World War 1.



This made us think about the appearance of the lower graveyard which was looking tired after the application of weedkiller. The area was cleared with the help of a couple of working parties.

We then thought about the possibility of creating a graveyard that would allow the graves to be accessible, that would be attractive to wildlife, that could be maintained without the use of weedkiller and also be a pleasant place for people to walk through or to stop and think.

First of all, a flower border was created, with all the plants being donated.



In Autumn 2019, wildflower seeds were sown in a second area and some plants were grown from seed at home. We were delighted when so many flowers appeared and were noticed by people outside St. James', generating some discussion on the 'Meltham in the know' Facebook page.



The third area is still a work in progress and the aim is to fill it with plants that are good for pollinators. We would appreciate any donations to go in there. We are also going to plant a clover lawn in front of the first border we created.

It has been an interesting learning experience (Did you know that teasels collect water to make an insect 'soup' that they use to help them make more seeds?) and there have been times when we've wondered if we could achieve what we set out to do. However, the use of strimmers and a lawnmower (instead of chemicals), the positive feedback and the presence of the different wildlife suggest we are well on the way.

Your help may be needed again in the future, but for now please take a few moments to have a look and enjoy God's creation.

Alison and Richard Whiteley

Photos from around the Parish



All these photos have been taken whilst out for a walk around Meltham.

Can you guess where any of these may have been taken?



Emoji Answers:

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. Baa Baa Black Sheep | 8. Ring a ring a roses |
| 2. Old McDonald had a farm | 9. Hey diddle diddle |
| 3. Rub a dub dub | 10. Are you sleeping? Are you sleeping? |
| 4. Five little monkeys jumping on the bed | 11. Rain, rain, go away |
| 5. Hickory dickory dock | 12. Row, row, row your boat |
| 6. One, two, buckle my shoe | 13. Itsy bitsy spider |
| 7. Three little kittens | 14. Little red hen |

Across

2. Hepworth
5. Moody
7. Malham Tarn
9. Wilberforce
11. Cowell

13. Bradford

14. Humber
16. Pennine Way
17. Parkin
19. Wensleydale
20. Kes

Down

1. Shambles
3. Headingley
4. Rhubarb
- Triangle
6. York

8. Ilkley

10. Ripon
12. Whitby
15. Leeds
18. Peter

Puzzle Answers

