

# THE PARISH OF MELTHAM

# CHRIST THE KING

What a wonderful world!

50p



## October 2021





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## Prayer for Growth

God of Mission  
Who alone brings  
growth to your  
Church,  
Send your Holy Spirit  
to give  
Vision to our planning,  
Wisdom to our actions,  
And power to our witness.  
Help our church to grow  
in numbers,  
In spiritual commitment  
to you,  
And in service to our  
local community,  
Through Jesus Christ  
our Lord.  
Amen.

### A note from the editor ...

Hello!

Putting this month's edition together has been a joy to do. I have really loved seeing the adverts for groups starting up again (see pages 19, 23 & 29) and of course Alpha, a place to explore the Christian faith and to ask questions. (see back page for details). Please do feel free to attend some or all of them, they are all Covid aware.

As we step into Autumn we asked for photos to show off our world around us and you didn't disappoint! Thank you to Alison Whiteley for creating this month's Magazine covers. If you have any more photos please do send them into the address below so we can include them next month too.

Thank you to all who have contributed this month. The next deadline for the much needed contributions will be:

**Monday 18th October 2021**

Please send them via:

**[melthamparishmagazine@gmail.com](mailto: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

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## **Letter from your Vicar.**

Autumn is almost upon us, our harvest festivals are happening, and our thoughts are beginning to turn from summer to winter. Traditionally, this is the time of year when we take stock of things. We celebrate the good things that have happened over the last year and we look to the future. In the past people would be particularly thankful for the food that had been harvested and would be looking to make sure that enough was stored away to see them through the winter months.

Things are different now. The supermarket tends to take care of storing our winter supplies for us and, this year we have all the uncertainties of covid. Are things better than last year? Let's hope so, after all there are many good reasons to believe they will be chief amongst them being the successful vaccination program. Though clearly, there are still reasons to be cautious.

We should however remember that there are many things for us to be thankful for. I'm thankful that all of our buildings are open, our regular services are all running, we can sing and praise God, and have coffee after the services. Fellowship is beginning to seem more normal. The Church Hall is open with social activities and coffee mornings.

Of course, there are the usual challenges. We need to make sure the gutters are clear of leaves and some of the heating system can take a little coaxing back into life. Singing while wearing a face mask will never seem a natural idea, and whilst YouTube and Zoom have proven their worth throughout recent times, technology always seems capable of producing challenges.

Looking into the winter months ahead I am reminded of all the things we did manage to do last year including, an outdoor Remembrance Sunday service and carols in the carpark. This year, we will be starting an Alpha course running on a Monday (on zoom) and Thursday (In person) starting from the 4<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> of October. Anyone who wishes to join I will be very welcome (see back page for more info). It is my firm hope that we will be able to honour those we love and have sadly passed away by holding a memorial service this year, and that our Remembrance Sunday service will be open to far more people. For Christmas, I'm sure that my prayers for unrestricted carol singing will be echoed by many.

Times have been difficult and continue to be challenging but I believe we have a lot to be thankful for and even more to look forward to.

God bless

Reverend John (Vicar)



## Food Bank News

The summer was much busier than we expected in the Foodbank. June was our busiest month on record with over a Hundred parcels supplied. Clearly this is not something we would expect as for Foodbanks generally winter is our busiest time. Sadly many families and individuals will have to choose between heating and eating. Being employed, no longer means you can meet your basic living costs.

For example

People will be aware of the recent energy price increase that is expected to put about £230 per year on the average families, bill. That's about £5.00 per week. Of course if you are disabled or not working for many reasons you are at home more therefore the increase is even greater.

The Government is still planning to remove the £20 uplift to Universal credit, that was brought in to support people in the pandemic.

Then there is inflation running at 3.5% food inflation is running higher, and the CEO of the COOP said publicly on the 17<sup>th</sup> of September that he expects it to increase much further.

Much of this will affect everybody, but clearly those on lower incomes will be most affected.

We therefore do expect the winter to be very challenging for us. But I feel confident that whatever the demand we will be able to rise to the challenge.

Why?

1. I am convinced we have God fighting our battles for us.
2. We have a great brilliant team of volunteers.
3. We get fantastic support from local business's
4. The Local community support both in terms of food donated and financial donations is amazing.
5. We are part of the Crossroads project, which gives us great strength and resilience.

### **ITS HARVEST TIME**

We thank God for his provision for us, and also remember the millions of those around the world, who do not have enough to eat.

We thank our local churches and schools who donate their produce to us. I will aim to mention them by name next month.





## How Can you support Crossroads Meltham Foodbank?

We could not possibly meet the current demand without our communities generosity and support. Of course our supporters are not supporting a foodbank. But those in our community who for lots of reasons are in real need.

None of the Support that is given directly to the foodbank is taken to provide Administration costs, Salaries ( we are all volunteers) or any other running costs which are covered by Crossroads.

1 Pray for us, give thanks for us, pray for the team, that we would continue to work together in unity. Pray for continuing safety and protection, Especially with the challenge of winter with darker evenings, and more illness. Continuing protection against Co Vid, Thank God that foodbank has continued to function and meet the increased demand. Pray for wisdom That we show Gods love and care as we support those in need.

2 By Direct donation of Food to Meltham and Netherton COOP, The Crossroads shop, The Crossroads Centre or any of our Churches.

3 By Financially supporting the Crossroads Project, either by regular standing order or one off donations. If you want your donation to be specifically for the Food Bank or any particular service within the project please clearly indicate this.

Once again a big thank you to everyone who helps make the Foodbank a credit to our community.

Debbie Still

Foodbank Manager.

### **Please contribute to Meltham Food Bank**

#### **They especially need the following items:**

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

Drop into the bins at the Coop in Meltham and Netherton. 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.**





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## So Will I (100 Billion X)

As we look to Autumn and our thoughts focus on creation, the words of this song came to mind and I would like to share it with you. I hope it helps you to see the 'God of Creation' and your response to His love for you. Fiona.

God of creation  
There at the start  
Before the beginning of time  
With no point of reference  
You spoke to the dark  
And fleshed out the wonder of light

And as You speak  
A hundred billion galaxies are born  
In the vapour of Your breath  
the planets form  
If the stars were made to worship so will I  
I can see Your heart in everything  
You've made  
Every burning star, A signal fire of grace  
If creation sings Your praises so will I

God of Your promise  
You don't speak in vain  
No syllable empty or void  
For once You have spoken  
All nature and science  
Follow the sound of Your voice

And as You speak, A hundred billion  
creatures catch Your breath  
Evolving in pursuit of what You said  
If it all reveals Your nature so will I  
I can see Your heart in everything You say  
Every painted sky  
A canvas of Your grace  
If creation still obeys You so will I

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

God of salvation  
You chased down my heart  
Through all of my failure and pride  
On a hill You created  
The light of the world  
Abandoned in darkness to die

And as You speak  
A hundred billion failures disappear  
Where You lost Your life so I could find it  
here  
If You left the grave behind You so will I  
I can see Your heart in everything You've  
done  
Every part designed in a work of art called  
love

If You gladly chose surrender so will I  
I can see Your heart  
Eight billion different ways  
Every precious one  
A child You died to save  
If You gave Your life to love them so will I

Like You would again  
a hundred billion times  
But what measure could amount  
to Your desire  
You're the One who never  
leaves the one behind

Words and Music by Joel Houston Benjamin  
Hastings & Michael Fatkin  
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*If you would like to hear the music, the  
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## HELP WANTED!

Do you have a Poem to share or found something interesting to share from your travels? Maybe you want to make a public "Thank you" or even seen a funny story or picture.

Then please do send it in to put in the magazine. All contributions will be considered.

Send via email to:

[melthamparishmagazine@gmail.com](mailto:melthamparishmagazine@gmail.com)

Or via the Vicarage letterbox:

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Want to be involved creating the mag?  
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## THE INFLUENCE OF MELTHAM MUSTARD SEED

In last month's Parish magazine, I wrote about the exciting successful first sugar harvest, marking the beginning of the MMS self-sustainability project in Kyema, Uganda.

Becoming self-sustaining will enable KMSYA to continue investing in sugar **and** give enough income to support MS orphans in the future. The orphan support is two-fold:

care within their kindred foster family (currently being promoted throughout the world as the best care for orphaned children) and their education.

While on a church mission in Sierra Leone in 2013, my sister Joanna and her husband Peter, visited an orphanage and met a young man Emmanuel from Liberia. It was the Castleford Tiger's T shirt he was wearing that did it!!! As a child refugee he had fled to Sierra Leone to escape - "I was a war affected child during the past brutal, bloody, violence and senseless political civil war in Liberia that led to tremendous loss of lives in 1999-2002". Having been separated from his parents, (thankfully later reunited with them living in a refugee camp) he was brought up in an orphanage in Freetown the capital of SL, where he was given a home and education.

In 2019, after 11 years as a refugee, Emmanuel returned to Sierra Leone and through his work was determined to help orphaned children, his goal to build an orphanage. However, my sister Joanna told him about MMS kindred foster care. I also spoke with Emmanuel about our kindred foster care support and put him in contact with Fred Nyakana our Mustard Seed Coordinator in Kyema who shared his MS story and inspired Emmanuel to become totally dedicate to kindred foster care rather than build an orphanage. Joanna and Peter support by fundraising and sponsorship in the UK. Emmanuel was put in contact with Mick Pease of the charity SFAC - Strengthening Families And Children. (SFAC give professional advice through expert social workers, therapists, lawyers and judges to train adults all over the world involved in helping children to thrive.) I remembered Nigel telling me about his own involvement, and about Mick, who had been to Meltham to speak to the men's group at St James's. With this help, including SFAC's continued involvement, Emmanuel was able to set up and runs the charity 'Gods Kingdom of Hope International', registered in Liberia. This supports and mentors many school children and is beginning kindred foster care.



Naomi, their first kindred foster child, supported from UK.

"A happy Wednesday morning in January. God is proving his endless love to me and my program all the time, I am happy!!!! Mom and daddy Peter were able to support a kid through my support program. Naomi has never been to school before, now she is in school and she is very happy in class.



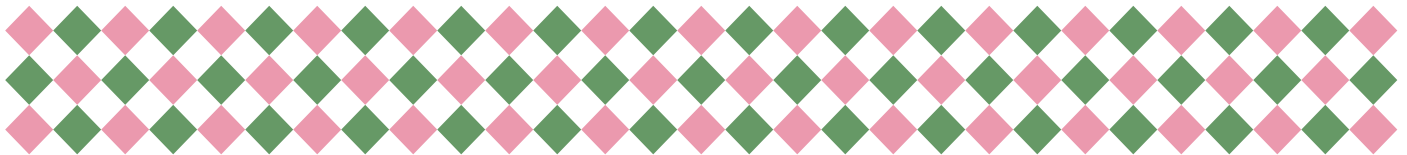
Thanks to you all for your lovely concerns towards our underprivileged children in this part of the world. We are growing strongly together”, Emmanuel.

In August Naomi graduated from her first school, already ready to progress to elementary school. Right - Naomi and her kindred foster carer.



The success of kindred foster care cannot be underestimated, its ethos is spreading, another Mustard Seed, planted in Liberia.

Jane Collins



## **ST BART's - SCREEN INSTALLATION - DON'T FORGET YOUR SPECS!**

When the church buildings first re-opened, it was advised not to distribute service booklets in order to minimise potential spread of the virus, and so we started using the projector and screen that we had previously used for the Good Friday performances. This served us well, but was located high up on the vicar's vestry roof and its age meant it was not as clear as more modern devices and sometimes difficult to see.

After doing a short trial with a very large TV which was destined for St Mary's, and following positive feedback from both the Wednesday and Sunday Morning congregations, we decided to go ahead and purchase one - the TV being much clearer and easier to read, despite being a little smaller than the projector screen.

We decided a suitable location would be next to the pulpit and at a similar height - this being deemed the optimum position. A faculty would be required for a permanent installation, so the challenge was to have a semi-permanent installation which did not involve any invasive work, and could be removed without trace if necessary. It also needed to be sympathetic to the existing surroundings.



I came up with an idea on how this might be achieved, but didn't have the ability to implement it, so I called upon my good friend Lee to cast an eye over it - he likes making things! Lee transformed the idea into a design, along with measurements and specification for the wood required. We were struggling to source said wood so I called upon my brother-in-law Paul (a Joiner), to see if he had any off-cuts. The sizes we required were more than just off-cuts but he managed to source what was required. He then got his brother Lee to add a veneer to the required pieces to ensure a nice finish could be achieved.

Once we had the wood, with a little trial and error, we managed to stain it to match the existing wood colour in church (though this is quite varied when you start looking closely). We then assembled the wood and attached the TV bracket, then fixed on the TV.

So, a great team effort from family and friends - not only a job well done but also for zero cost (other than purchasing the TV itself and the bracket, and probably a few beers). A grateful thank you to Roebuck & Holmes Joiners (Paul & Lee Holmes) for providing the wood and veneer free of charge, and to my friend Lee Jagger for the design and installation (though it's a good job I was keeping an eye on him ) 😊

We now have a clear display of our service and hymn words and hopefully look forward to putting the screen to good use in new and exciting ways to enhance our services - just don't forget your glasses! You never know, Rev'd John may become virtual, and appear on it whilst preaching one of his wonderful sermons from one of our other churches - he could literally be in two places at once - which is becoming more and more, a requirement for our Vicar! 😞

Whilst writing this article, it came to me how well this story fits in with the popular hymn - 'Father, I place into your hands'.....

v1 - Father, I place into your hands, the things I cannot do (that's me!)

v2 - Father, I place into your hands, my friends and family (that's Lee, Paul and Lee)

v3 - Father, we love to sing your praise, and in your name rejoice (that's all of us, following the words on the screen during the services)

Simon Ball

## **Anglican Evangelicals ...a force to be reckoned with!**

I've just finished reading the biography of the Rev James Packer. He was a "mover & shaker" within the Church of England and one of the foremost 20<sup>th</sup> Century evangelical scholars. He played an important part in the revival of the evangelical movement in the Church of England during the 1960's and 1970's before going on to exert an influence internationally.

His faith was deeply influenced by Calvinism and by the general thrust of Reformation theology.

It was during those two decades, that evangelicals stressed: -

- The supremacy of Scripture
- The majesty of Jesus Christ
- The Lordship of the Holy Spirit
- The necessity of conversion (either instantaneous or gradual)
- The priority of evangelism, and
- The importance of fellowship.

As a young Christian, during my teens and twenties, these six theological points featured so strongly in my life as a young Christian whilst I worshipped at St James Church, Slaithwaite, during the Rev Barry Harper's ministry in the 1960's and 1970's. There would be at least 30 teenagers crammed into the vicarage, every Sunday evening after attending Evening Prayer, who were eager to learn and grow in our faith as Christians.

During this time, I felt the Lord calling me to serve Him as a Church Army Evangelist and applied to Church Army headquarters. After a day of interviews, in London, followed by a weekend Selection Conference I was successful in my application and commenced my 3-year training at the Church Army College in Blackheath, London, in January 1975.

Whilst in my third and final year at the Church Army Wilson Carlile Training College, I was selected to represent the College at the National Evangelical Anglican Congree held at Nottingham University in 1977. It was a wonderful experience for me to personally hear some brilliant talks from the likes of Rev James Packer, Rev John Stott and Rev Michael Green. To be able to sit at the feet of these leading Anglican Evangelicals was a mind-blowing experience for me. This conference was referred to in Packer's biography, when the following Statement from the conference was made which set out an eight-point vision of church families as being: -

"Renewed individuals and a new and revived church,  
Alive with the life of Christ,  
Subject to the word of Christ,  
Filled with the Spirit of Christ,

Fulfilling the mission of Christ,  
Constrained by the love of Christ,  
Preaching the good news of Christ, and  
Thrilled in its worship by the glory of Christ.”

This is a powerful vision, from the NEAC 1977 conference, for church fellowships and individual Christians to embrace...to be Christ-centred and base our life, work and witness on the authority and inspiration of the Bible.

When James Packer passed away in July 2020, at the age of 93, Archbishop Justin Welby paid the following tribute to this great yet humble man of faith: -

“Dr James Packer’s death ends a wonderful service to God by a disciple of learning, wisdom and holiness. A giant of his time”.



In this 21<sup>st</sup> Century, the Church appears to be in decline in many parts of the UK, but evangelicalism has gone against the flow and has seen a rise in influence and popularity within the Church of England: -

40% of Anglicans attended evangelical churches

Since the mid-1970's, there have been three Archbishops of Canterbury who were evangelicals

In 2016, 70% of Ordinands were reported to be evangelicals and 18 out of 42 dioceses had evangelical bishops.

The future of the Church of England is certainly not all doom and gloom.

By taking onboard the eight-point vision that came from the National Evangelical Anglican Congress back in 1977, as individual Christians and collectively as church families, then there is hope for the future as we reach out to our communities and share the message of God’s love.

“God’s Spirit is in my heart,  
He has called me and set me apart;  
This is what I have to do,  
What I have to do.

He sent me to give the Good News to the poor,  
Tell prisoners that they are prisoners no more  
Tell blind people that they can see and set the downtrodden free  
And go tell everyone the news that the Kingdom of God has come  
And go tell everyone the news that God’s Kingdom has come.”

Chris Dronsfield



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## Helme Ladies Report August 2021

Helme Ladies Summer walk on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> August was in the area of Meltham Cop. Supper was booked at Wills O' Nats and the kind people there said we could park in their car park whilst we went on our walk. We gathered in the car park at 7pm and raincoats were the dress of the day. The ladies who were doing the walk set off down the road then along Dunnock Road, the track along the base of Meltham Cop. It was dry underfoot even though it had tried its best all day to rain. The views were outstanding in the evening light. We returned on the path at the side of the catch water, noticing on the way that the vegetation had been cleared out of the water and it was flowing fast and free. Up the road to the 'Wills' to re-join our ladies who hadn't been on the walk for supper. We just had time to get a drink and then supper was served so the chat had to wait until we had eaten. We had had a lovely evening, fortunately the rain kept off, the food was very good and the staff at the 'Wills' were very friendly, warm and welcoming.

Our last walk of the Summer season was on the evening of Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> August. After a dull and cloudy day, raincoats were again the mode of dress, all hoping that they wouldn't be needed. After meeting in Carlile Street car park we reconvened in Netherton for our walk. We set off along Henry Frederick Avenue to venture into the woods along a very good track. After a while it became a narrow path with a steep drop on one side, personally I didn't like it as I have a thing about heights. We all negotiated the woodland path safely and emerged into the road just below South Crosland. Up the hill past the water troughs and into the village where we soon took a path through the fields back to Netherton. Whilst walking through the fields we encountered the drizzly rain, but it looked a lot worse over Castle Hill. Supper was again booked at the Beaumont Arms, this time pie and peas, where we all caught up with the chat and gossip. Once again the welcome and food was very good and it was quite late when we left.

Our series of walks had been very enjoyable and it was nice that we could meet again. My thanks also go to the venues who have provided us with the Suppers, all have been excellent and welcoming.

For our next meeting we will be back in Helme Church having a Poetry evening.

Upcoming meetings:

Sept 28<sup>th</sup> Auction

Oct 12<sup>th</sup> Talk from Susan Whitwam

Oct 26<sup>th</sup> Lunch Out venue TBD



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## St Mary's Report

We hope you have all had a good summer and perhaps a few days away relaxing and recharging your batteries and enjoying a bit of sunshine.

Rev Judy Kenworthy was celebrant at a service of Holy Communion on Sunday 21st August with some people on zoom and some in church as is our normal pattern. John Andrews read the lessons and Kim Howe offered the prayers and assisted with the chalice. Elizabeth Pearson played the organ and Peter operated the power point. Rev Judy spoke about how the presence of God is found in Jesus and we need to stay close to Him so that our lives can be lived to the full and our spiritual hunger satisfied.

There was no service at St Mary's the following week as there was a United Parish Communion at St Bartholomew's Church. This was the first united service we have been able to hold since the Covid pandemic hit the country 18 months ago. Rev John Dracup led this service and it was so wonderful to be able to share worship and to spend time with God and one another and to sing, praise and pray together. We were reminded by Rev John that God's heart burns with love for us and in response we should love and praise Him from the depths of our being. It was so lovely to be able to share coffee together following the service.

On 5th September Lay Reader Jacqueline France led a family service based on 'Kindness' We watched a video, sang an action song and thought about how we can be kind to the people who are different to us and to our neighbours and our friends. We also considered what unkind things sometimes happen that make us sad. Jonah, Evie and Dillon helped Jacqueline with this and with the prayers. Lucy read the lessons from a Children's' Bible and Elizabeth played the keyboard.

The following week we joined together again at St Bartholomew's, for a Civic Service. The theme of the service was on God's beautiful world and the nature around us. A light lunch followed in the Church Hall.

On Friday 17th September the Funeral of Nellie Fielding took place at St Mary's. The service was taken by Rev Judy assisted by Jacqueline and was preceded by a committal at Parkwood Crematorium, Elland. Nellie has been a member of our church family for over forty years and was well loved by us all. Her four children and two grandsons paid tribute to their special mum and grandma. The church was full and decorated with beautiful floral arrangement to celebrate the life of the special lady. She will be missed.

Sunday 19th September Rev John took a service of the word. Elizabeth played keyboard. Shirley Langrick read the lessons and Judith Moore led the intercessions. Rev John spoke of how God turns the world upside down and what is great in the world's eyes is of little importance in God's Kingdom. We should consider ourselves servants with fewer rights than even a little child for the last shall be first and the first last.



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## 'Side by Side'

'Side by Side' is a small group run by volunteers who meet to offer friendship and support to people who are beginning to have memory problems or have recently been diagnosed with dementia or Alzheimer's disease.

The group, which has been running now for six years, meets every Monday morning from 10.00-12.00 at the Methodist Church, Meltham.

There is a small charge of £3.00

We aim to provide a relaxed atmosphere with opportunities to chat; share memories; enjoy a range of activities which all encourage conversation, confidence and generally have a good time on a Monday morning!



If you would like more information please contact:

Judith Powell- 859460 or Jenny Mathers - 850839

## "Crisis" Coffee Morning



**Saturday 27th November**

**10.00 – 12.00**

**St. James' Church, Meltham Mills**

Please support this event raising money for the "Crisis" charity which helps the homeless.

# M.R.V



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# FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

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

Declan Bailey + Clarrissa Ashton

Baptisms - *We welcome you into the Lord's family*

Yvie Roys, Liam Corneille

Funerals - May they rest in peace

Nellie Fielding, Anthony Bernard Tate, Gerald Draper  
Wilhelmina Shuttleworth, (Edith) Eileen Shaw, Trevor Drinkwater

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 parishofchristtheking@gmail.com

## **200 CLUB :** **September Winners:**

775	£50 Mr. P. Large
618	£10 Mrs. S. Wood
358	£10 Mr. J. Holmes
904	£10 Mrs. P. Barrett
801	£10 Vacant Number.

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

## **BELL HOUSE CARE HOME**

Life goes on much the same at Bell House. We continue to trust that the carers and residents are keeping safe and are now enjoying regular visits and occasional outings. Please continue to keep the carers and residents in your prayers.

## **Thank you Hester!**

**After 33 years of dedicated service to St James' Church and the Parish of Meltham Christ the King, Hester Decon has retired from Lay Reader. On behalf of the Parish I would like to thank her for all the love, support and dedication she has given to us through the years.**

**Also I know that Hester would like to Thank you all for your support given to her over the years too.**







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# Meltham Family Page

## HD9 Club

Will meet again in October after taking a summer break.

This group is for young people aged 11+ yrs. If you would like further information on how to join in please contact Kim on: 852811

### Care and Share

As many of the people return to 'normality' this group have taken some time out for the moment to enjoy the sunshine.

These meetings are usually held on zoom on Tuesday evenings between 8pm-9pm so you can join in from your home. For information on how to join in please contact Kim on 852811



### COMMUNITY CARDS – MELTHAM GROUP Working to support the work of the Welcome Centre.

Our Meltham Community Card group met last Friday, in a socially distanced way, for the first time in 18 months. Over this time we have been able to send a remarkable £900 to support the work of the Welcome Centre and this was mainly due to the work Jane and Jill did making and selling cards over these last months. We are now working hard to build up our stock of Recycled Greetings Cards so we can supply our outlets once again and alongside this prepare some cards ready for Christmas.

It was really good to meet together last Friday and get on with producing our cards. We thank everyone for the used cards that have been donated in the past and if you have old greetings cards that you can donate we would be happy to receive these (but not Christmas Cards please)

We meet each Friday at St James' Church from 10.00-12.00 and maybe it's something you might feel you would like to help with – if so please contact me. No experience or fantastic skill required just a willingness to work alongside others to produce the cards – and let's face it where else can you get a really good quality Greeting Card for 50p.

Christine Rolls (01484 340342) (p.c.rolls@hotmail.com)

**We are pleased to announce that the Saturday Coffee Mornings have started again in the Village Hall.**

**Its great to all be back together again. 9.30am – 12pm**

2nd Oct - Dog Rescue    9th Oct - **St Mary's Church**

16th Oct - Christian Aid    23rd Oct - WI

30th Oct - Stage Co.



# JUST FOR FUN!

Did you know you can find humour in the Bible? Here's a few examples:

Did you know that Noah nearly drowned in the rising floor water as he ws waiting for two snails to crawl up the gangplank in the ark?

An Ant-eater went to the Complaints Department on the Ark and said " You only brought two ants on to the ark. What am I supposed to live on?"

"There's a big storm brewing torrow" saidone Unicorn to his wife. "Then I'm glad we are not going on that cruise with your friend Noah" replied his wife.

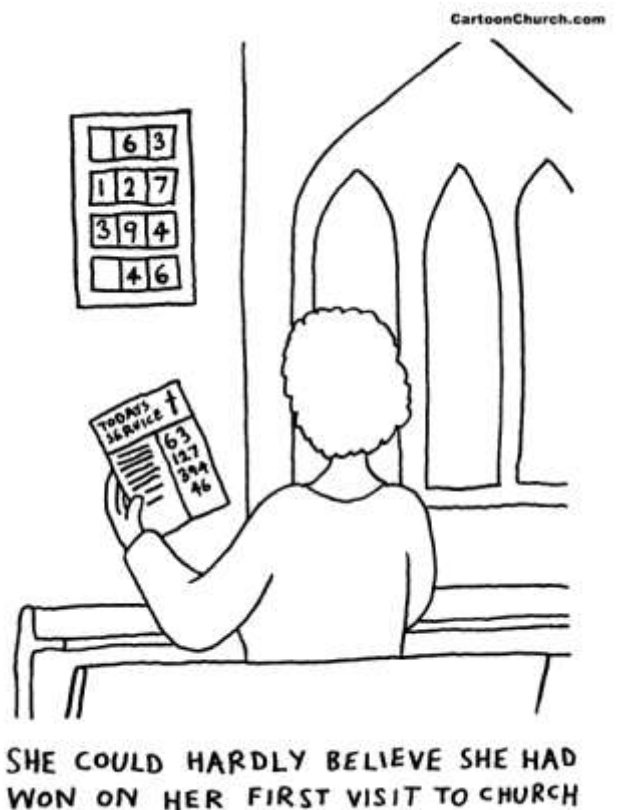
Mary called our to Joseph, " What's the weather like today Joseph?" Joseph replied, " Hail!, Mary".

Feeding of the 5000. As Jesus performed the miracle of the 5 loaves and 2 fishes he heard these comments from the waiting crowd. " I can't eat those I'm a vegan" Another said " Is that bread gluten free?" and another said " Has that fish been tested for Mercury?"

Three men having a barbecue at the bottom of the mountain saw Moses clutching the two tablets of stone on which were etched the 10 commandments. Stupefied they said, " We heard that you were bring us 10 condiments."

As a disciple it wasn't easy to sneak away from Jesusfor a game of golf. Peter said "Can't join you today Lord, I've got a very bad cold". "You're healed!" replied Jesus.

God Bless, Denis A.









# Why don't good things last forever?

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question to ask your  
boxset.

...But is the best question to ask at ALPHA

**Join in via Zoom from Mon 4th October  
at 8pm or in person from Thurs 7th at  
7.30pm at the Crossroads Centre.**



**#AskAtAlpha**

For more info and the Zoom link

email: [Nigel.Priestley@ridleyandhall.co.uk](mailto:Nigel.Priestley@ridleyandhall.co.uk)

or call Nigel: 07885 430085