

THE PARISH OF MELTHAM

CHRIST THE KING



**Queen
Elizabeth II**



50p



1926 - 2022



October 2022

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TODDLER CHURCH

Every Monday morning 09.00-11.00am

at Christ Church, Helme, during term-time only

Stories • Songs • Toys • Refreshments

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'Although we are capable of great acts of kindness, history teaches us that we sometimes need saving from ourselves from our recklessness or our greed. God sent into the world a unique person, neither a philosopher nor a general (important though they are), but a Saviour, with the power to forgive.'

HRH Queen Elizabeth II (2011).

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Facebook Page: Parish of Meltham - Christ the King

Gracious God, we give you thanks for the reign of your servant Queen Elizabeth, and for the example of loving and faithful service which she has shown among us. Help us to follow her example of dedication and to commit our lives to you and to one another, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

A note from the editor ...

Hello!

Welcome to our tribute edition of the magazine to our Queen Elizabeth. Who was an example to us all as a Queen should, of how to live our lives in service to others. London seemed so far away, but with the help of Richard Noon and others you will see, we were able to say 'Goodbye' in our own Meltham way.

I would also like to apologise for not updating the parish registers over the summer. This was an oversight and are now included in this months edition.

As we settle into the autumn months and we can read about how the Crossroads continue to help those who need it (pg8) . There are new events happening like Alpha (pg17) and also a sneak peak as to what you can expect on the run up to Christmas (pg 16).

The next deadline for the **November** magazine will be:

Monday 17th October 2022

Please send them 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.

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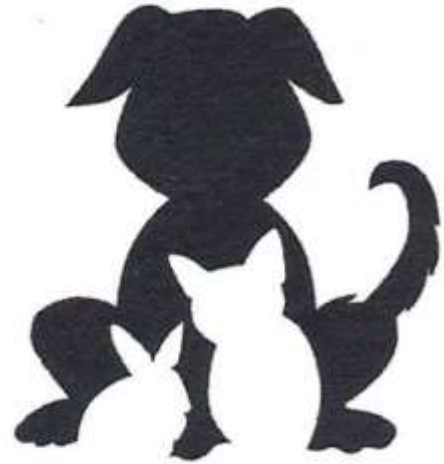
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Letter from your Vicar

'I declare before you all that my whole life, whether it be long or short, shall be devoted to your service' (21st birthday broadcast, 21 April 1947).

Many of us have been shocked and saddened by the recent death of Queen Elizabeth II. For most of us, we've never known another monarch and we're used to the stability of her presence.

Much has been said about her humility, servant heart and commitment to duty over the 70 years of her reign. The secret of the Queen's consistency of character and service was her Christian Faith: *'To many of us our beliefs are of fundamental importance. For me the teachings of Christ and my own personal accountability before God provide a framework in which I try to lead my life. I, like so many of you, have drawn great comfort in difficult times from Christ's words and example'* (2002). It is clear that she drew strength from her faith, seeking to live according to the teachings of the Bible.

However, the Queen recognised her need for forgiveness, which she found through her personal relationship with Jesus Christ: *'Although we are capable of great acts of kindness, history teaches us that we sometimes need saving from ourselves from our recklessness or our greed. God sent into the world a unique person, neither a philosopher nor a general (important though they are), but a Saviour, with the power to forgive.'* (2011).

We can truly give thanks for the Queen's commitment to serving God and the nation throughout her life. She has been a great example of what Paul says about Christian living: *'And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus.'* (Colossians 3:17).

Let us follow her example!

During the period of mourning there were many examples of service and generous self-giving which enabled us to mark her late Majesty's passing in an appropriate manner. I would like to thank all those involved including our mayor and town council, the Lord lieutenants office who sent two deputies, Meltham and Meltham Mills band, St Bartholomew's choir, our uniformed organisations, Swooshed who provided us with a big screen to watch the funeral on. I'd also like to thank everyone who attended the events and signed the book of condolences. None of these things would have been a success without your engagement.

Well done Meltham, I believe our community marked this historic moment well, with dignity and respect and with the help of all those involved a touch of Meltham class too.

God bless

Revd. John Dracup (Vicar)



Meltham Food Bank

August's been a quieter month, as it's still the holiday season. No bad thing, as myself and Anne are still finding our feet with our new roles, and the same can be said for the new Steering Group members, Phil and Jenny. I'm slowly but surely becoming aware of how much the sorely-missed Debbie Still did behind the scenes. As Joni Mitchell said "You don't know what you've got till it's gone". Fortunately, we're also welcoming three new volunteers to our merry band.

The coming autumn will be a test for all of us when the energy price rise kicks in, and "Heating or eating" is fast becoming an unwelcome *leitmotif of the times*. We're acutely aware of the need to take a holistic approach to our clients, so we're delighted that Ziona Last will be helping our Debt and Benefit Adviser Chris Smith. Ziona has been released by her employer Richmond Fellowship for a few hours a fortnight, and she has a wealth of experience in getting vulnerable people back into meaningful employment. Her background is in mental health support, so as well as assessing clients' needs and eligibility, she'll be able to signpost clients to a range of services. Crossroads don't have the resources to support clients *ad infinitum*, and dependency helps no-one in the long term.

In recent months, our outgoings have far exceeded our income, and this isn't a good state of affairs. We feel secure in the knowledge that The Crossroads Project will always be there for us, but we don't wish to treat them like some kind of magic money tree. Our volunteers are champing at the bit when it comes to fundraising, so we'll be back outside Morrison's on October 8th between 10am and 1pm, resplendent in our logoed-up T-shirts! We ask for much needed items from shoppers, and they give freely. Please turn up on the day to support us.

It's been a sombre time, with the sad passing of Queen Elizabeth, after a long life of dedicated service. However, we welcome the accession of King Charles III, and have every confidence in his abilities. He's his own man, and he'll do things his own way, with much aplomb.

God Bless!

Chris Sinclair



GOING GREENER - Moving towards an Eco Church

A change of tone this month, maybe it's following on from the death of Her Majesty the Queen; the approach of colder Autumn days and the general state of the world we love so much! I do hope King Charles, an ardent Eco Warrior for many years, will continue supporting the environment and all things green.

One of my favourite poets is the Rev Gerard Manley Hopkins 1844-1889.

He was a devout Roman Catholic priest, a member of the Jesuit Order. He wrote beautiful, spiritual poetry reflecting his love of God and his love of Nature. He too was distressed by how the world was being spoiled by the actions of greedy, thoughtless mankind. The following poem reveals his despair but also his hope that in the end ***all will be well***. It is called: 'God's Grandeur.'

“The world is charged with the grandeur of God.

It will flame out like shining from shook foil;

It gathers to a greatness like the ooze of oil crushed.

Generations have trod, have trod, have trod;

And all is seared with trade; bleared, smeared with toil;

And wears man's smudge and shares man's smell: the soil

Is bare now, nor can foot feel, being shod.

But for all this, nature is never spent;

There lives the dearest freshness deep down things;

And though the last lights off the black West went -

Oh, morning, at the brown brink eastward springs- Because the Holy Ghost over the

World broods with warm breast and with ah! bright wings.

God bless us in our efforts,

Jenny Mathers, Environment Champion



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"THE WORLD HAS CHANGED" BISHOP NICK'S PRAYERFUL WORDS ON THE DEATH OF THE QUEEN



Following the sad news of the death of Her Late Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II, the Rt Revd Nick Baines offers these words of sombre reflection:

"Today the world has changed. The death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, who has served for over seven decades. We see the end of an era. This will have an impact not only in this country, but also in the Commonwealth and beyond, across the globe where she has been respected, indeed revered, for her commitment to duty and service over such a long time.

Since she has been the sovereign, the world has changed considerably, and she has managed to be rooted, particularly in her Christian commitment throughout those years. A mark, a sign of stability, of solidity, of confidence in a rapidly changing world.

But today we pray not only for the rest of her soul, but also for those she leaves behind, for her family who know her not just as the Queen, but as someone they loved deeply as a mother, grandmother, great grandmother.

We pray for the nation at a time of real and symbolic change with all the fragilities of the world around us. We pray for the Commonwealth and the wider global community at a time of conflict and uncertainty. We pray that what we learn from the Queen's long life and long commitment may be something that we take into the future.

So we pray for ourselves. We pray for the new sovereign. But, at this point, we thank God for Her Majesty the Queen and commend her to the God of mercy and love whom she has served for so long."

The Right Reverend Nick Baines, Bishop of Leeds,

(8th September 2022)



Photos of Yorkshire Post 7th February 1952





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As promised in Septembers edition, the transcript of the article about their singing marathon.

“Sing-in for steam heat - The Meltham Parish Church Choir began a marathon sponsored sing-in this morning – to raise money for the boiler fund. They are attempting to sing the complete Psalter – which has 150 psalms. If successful they hope to qualify for the Guinness Book of Records. It will be

a test of stamina. They started singing at 9am this morning. Throughout the day, the church was filled with people coming to hear the singing of the choir, who were dressed in their full choir robes. Visitors could also buy refreshments to help the fund. The choir started off the morning singing together, then divided into three teams to ensure non-stop singing. The Rev Peter Spivey, Vicar of the parish, helped with the singing and encouraged the teams. Women of the church provided food and drink for the resting teams.”



QUEEN ELIZABETH II

By Pam Murgatroyd

*The Queen has left us to join her Prince
Philip, the love of her life.*

*They had spent so many years as a pair,
Handsome husband and beautiful wife.*

*She promised when she became our Queen,
To serve us until she died
And that is what she has always done,
We knew she hadn't lied.*

*Her people will be bearing their loss
Of this Monarch, of so many years,
And though they'll have lots of happy thoughts,
There will still be a shedding of tears.*

*She's been with me for all of my life,
Inspired me, though we never met.
She made such an impression on others like me,
Queen and woman we'll never forget.*

LONG LIVED OUR GRACIOUS QUEEN

GOD SAVE THE KING

JUST FOR FUN!

(Editor's Note: Denis wrote this for September, it never got included. I ended up getting friendly with his walking stick, so I included it this month. - **Sorry Denis!**)

Determined to beat S.C.S, United Carpets and beds, Coral Windows and all the rest of ITV & BBC Christmas promotion, which usually start in October, and which have no bearing what so ever on the true meaning of Christmas. I have decided to do my bit for the Children at Christmas and hope it makes them smile (& just in case I'm not around any more)

Ho! Ho! Ho!

Santa Claus is Covid and monkey pox secure.
When he enters your house, he'll be a good chap
'cos he's checked in on the NHS app.
He's got not symptoms, he has no fear,
'Cos he lives at the North Pole 364 days of the year.
Santa Claus is Covid & Monkey Pox secure.

It's close to midnight, the Church bells chime
Santa's washed his hands a thousand times,
He's got rules to follow for different tasks,
When he comes down the chimney, he wears a mask.
The presents are loaded to drop on the mat,
The mince pies are individually wrapped,
Santa Claus is Covid & Monkey pox secure.

His sleighs ventilated, The presents as well,
Rudolph's red nose sprayed with Anti Bacterial Gel.
The other reindeers have helped & the Elves played their part
They've placed themselves 2 metres apart.
Santa Claus in Covid & Monkey pox secure.

Things You need to know

The first couple to be shown in bed together on TV was Fred & Wilma Flintstone

The cost of raising a medium size dog to the age of eleven is £10,120. (Our dog Bertie is twelve, which is why I'm skint!)

The first novel ever written on a typewriter was 'Tom Sawyer'

Each King in a deck of playing cards represent a great king from history:
Hearts - Charlemagne, Clubs - Alexander the Great, Diamonds - Julius Caesar,
Spades - King David.

If you were to spell out numbers, how far would you have to go to find the letter A?
(Work it out, answer next month.)

Denis A

Denis Armstrong

My darling June is in a care home, I have my faithful dog Bertie, but those of you who have not experienced loneliness need to thank God every day because it is heart breaking.

A little prayer for those of us who are living in similar circumstances.

I live alone dear Lord, stay by my side,
In all my daily needs, be thou my guide.
Grant me good health, for that I pray.
To carry on my work, from day to day.
Keep close my heart, my every deed.
Let me be caring, in my neighbours need.
I live alone dear Lord, Yet have no fear
As I feel your presence, ever near.

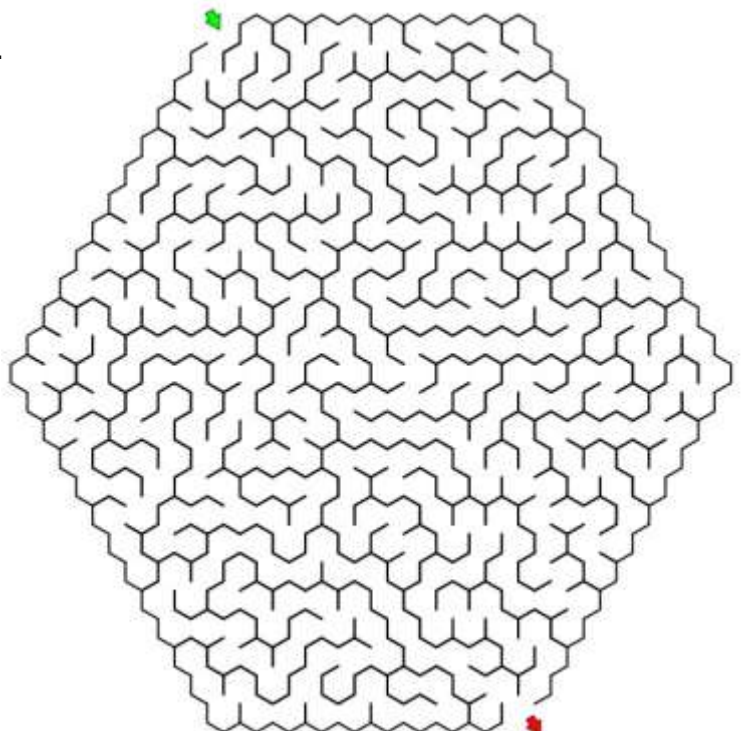
Sorry to sound a bit morbid, but it's the way I'm feeling. Will have to put it aside and start thinking some more idiotic things for the magazine.

P.s - Very proud of our grandson Thomas who recently won the National Cooking Contest for the Best Chef & dish at the Hilton Hotel in Birmingham and came home with the £1,00 first prize and trophy. In doing so beat all the other regional winners who took part. Plus a tour of Germany.

Can you solve these? - Solution to the Sudoku is on the inside back cover.

		3		9	8			
5		2						6
						5		
9				3			2	
	7		9		6		1	
	6			7				4
		5						
7						1		3
			3	2		9		

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“Crisis” Coffee Morning
Saturday 26th November
10am - 12pm

St James’s Church,
Meltham Mills

Please support this event which
raises money for the ‘Crisis’
charity which helps the homeless



You may not like it, but we see it in
the supermarkets, Christmas is on
the way. So put these dates in your
diary, they are not to be missed!

Carols in the Park,
Sunday 4th December
Robert Ashton Park.

Christmas Market
Saturday 3rd December
Parish Hall

Carols in the Pub
Saturday 10th December
Waggon and Horses Pub



Christmas Journey

Apologies for mentioning Christmas, but we need to get people in place to run the Christmas Journey this year. Some of you may remember the event from 2019, I hear that Dennis’ Wise Man was legendary.

For those who don’t know about it the Christmas Journey is an interactive re-telling of the story of the Birth of Jesus. We invite classes from the local schools to come and take part. There are six scenes that the children visit ; In the Beginning, Mary’s Kitchen, A Hillside near Bethlehem, In a Stable, The Wise Man’s Palace and a New Beginning. The session lasts about an hour and a half and we offer refreshments to the children and staff.

This is being organised by Meltham Churches Together and is being held in the Methodist Church the week commencing 5th December.

We need people to take part in the story telling, to guide the groups around the scenes and to prepare and serve the drinks and biscuits. We also need people on Monday 5th December to help set up the scenes. If this is something you would like to be involved with please let me know, we do not have exact times and dates yet but will try to fit in with the schools.

You can email me sarahglover2@gmail.com or leave a message on 854042.

Sarah

Weekly Parish Services for October

On the fifth Sunday (30th October) there will be a Parish Communion at 10.30am hosted by St James' Church, Meltham Mills. All are welcome as all four churches join together. Please Note: As we will be joining together, there will be no other services available that Sunday.

Sunday 2nd October is the Parish Harvest Festival across all four churches. Please bring tinned & packet contributions as we support the Meltham foodbank at this uncertain time.

You are all welcome to join us at any of the following weekly Services:

St Bartholomews Church, Meltham - 9.30am

St James' Church, Meltham Mills - 9.30am

(1st Sunday of the month is usually a 'Family Sunday' service)

St Mary's Church, Wilshaw - 11.15am

Christ Church, Helme - 11.15am

Please keep an eye out on the Church facebook page: 'Parish of Meltham - Christ the King' for updates on services and events.

Alpha Course - Starting Thursday 6th October.

At the Crossroads Centre at 7.30pm

Also available on Zoom from Monday 10th Oct,
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For a much loved Queen. R. I. P

Our lady removed her crown today,
And climbed into her bed.
She knew her time had come to rest
Forever her weary head.

She glanced round the room
With her family by her side.
And each would share a tear and smile
Upon their Queen with pride.



She closed her eyes for one last time
Knowing that Philip awaits
For his darling wife to join him
Beyond those pearly gates

For 70 years of service
She has graced us at the helm
From the time of great austerity
For Nation, Commonwealth and Realm

A woman loved by many
By countries far and wide
A beacon for the people
With her husband by her side.

“We interrupt this broadcast”
Shown on every TV screen
“The world is now in mourning
At the loss of our great Queen”

Today is marked in history
A new wea will begin
As we lay our Queen to rest
And see Prince Charles set to be King

Each generation feels this loss
For all that she had been
But now we say “Good night, God bless”
To our loyal and gracious Queen.

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St. Mary's Report

On Sunday, 28th August 2022 the wedding of Matthew Bamforth and Sadie McCraig took place at 1 p.m. at St Mary's Church. Wilshaw. Rev. Judy Kenworthy took the ceremony, Elizabeth Pearson played keyboard and Lynn Shackleton read a special poem. Andrew Lindley operated the technology and Zac and Lottie lit the special 'family' candles. The Best Man was Richard Sykes and Sadie was supported by seven Bridesmaids. She was given away by her father John and their witnesses were Sadie's Mum Alison and Matthew's Dad Kevin. It was a very happy and joyful service. It was so lovely to see the church full of people who will love and support them in their new life together. We send our very best wishes to Sadie and Matthew.



Lay Reader Jacqueline France led a Service of the Word at St Mary's Church on Sunday, 4th September with some people in church and some on zoom. Claire read the lessons; Elizabeth played the keyboards and Kim led us in prayer. The theme of the service was "Discipleship" and Jacqueline spoke about how we need to put Jesus first in all that we do and that this is not always easy.

On 11th September Rev. John Dracup led a Service of Holy Communion. We thought about our wonderful Queen Elizabeth and her long and faithful reign. We prayed for her and thanked God for this very special lady. Rev. John explained that God was with her every step of the way and that she had a strong faith.

On the following Sunday, 15th September Rev. John Dracup led a family service and Baptism of Finley. Rev. John spoke about being trustworthy and about how we cannot serve both God and money. God must always come first. Rev. John used a fun way of explaining this by using marshmallows and a £10 note and there was plenty of congregation participation! Finley was such a happy little chap throughout the whole service. It was lovey to see all his family and friends supporting him.

Bell House Report

The service at Bell House took place a week early due to holidays. Rev. Judy Kenworthy led a Songs of Praise and we enjoyed singing six hymns. The readings were from Psalm 148 and the prayers took the form of thanksgiving for all that God does for us. Rev. Judy based a short talk on the Hymn "All things bright and beautiful". We are now looking forward to our Harvest Festival

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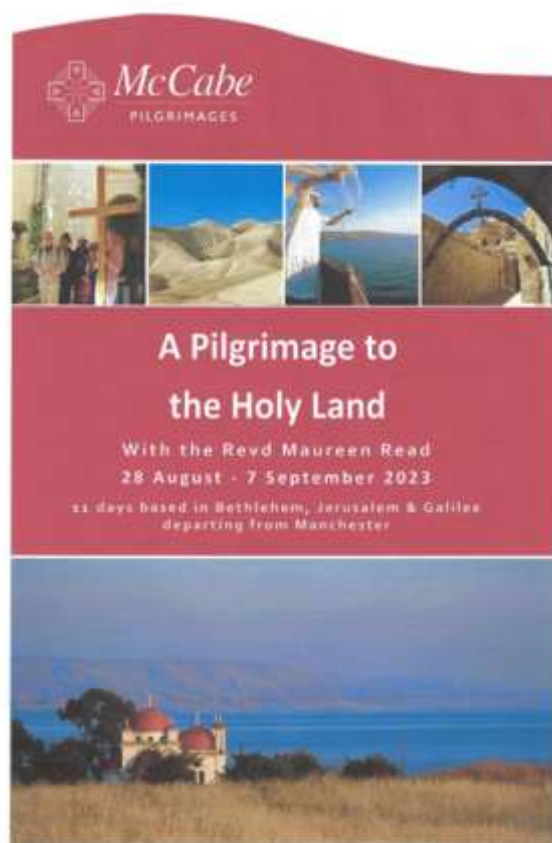
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Holy Land

28th August – 7th September 2023



After the disappointment of 2020 and 2021 Revd. Maureen is leading a pilgrimage to the Holy Land in 2023.

If you would like to join her, there are 24 places available, please go to the McCabe Pilgrimages website or contact Revd. Maureen for a booking form.

Her address (up to 22nd October) is

The Rectory,
Shrewsbury Road,
Cockshutt,
Ellesmere
Shropshire
SY12 0JQ

'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

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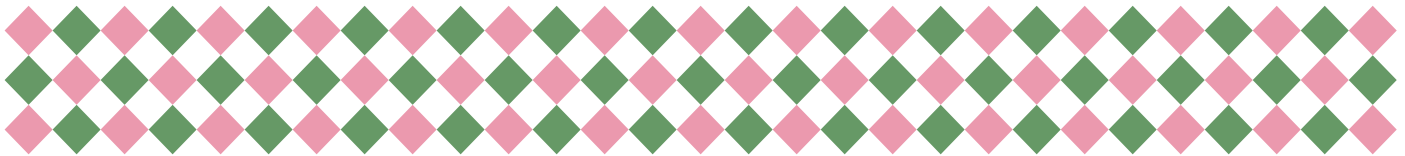
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FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

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

Darren Worrall and Lisa Worrall (blessing/25th anniversary)
Kieran Sill and Charlotte May, Dominic Chadwick and Holly Crowe,
Matthew Bamforth and Sadie McCaig.

Baptisms - we welcome you into the Lord's family

Edward James Norcliffe, Levi Callum Smith, Edie Rose Cooper,
Finley Scott Mountford, Elkie Grace France.

Funerals - May they rest in peace

Leslie Wattam, Pauline Lockwood, Betty Beardsley,
Patricia Beastow, Makhotso Mary Serutla.

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:

413.	£50.	Mr. P. Kaye
235.	£10.	Mr. J. Harrison
508.	£10.	Mrs. S. Farrell
951.	£10.	Mrs. S. Priestley
093.	£10.	Ms. D. Walsh

For more info, please contact either:

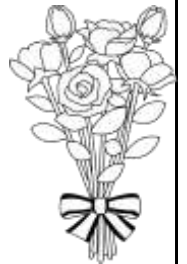
Michael Farrel 07768258257
m.farrellphd@btinternet.com
David Earnshaw 341968,
C Moulson 850171

St Bartholomew's Flowers

02/10/22	Mr & Mrs M Farrell
09/10/22	Mrs C Moulson
16/10/22	Mrs S Hirst
23/10/22	Vacant
30/10/22	Mr R Billington
06/11/22	Vacant

If you would like to put flowers on the altar in memory of a loved one we have dates available.

Please contact Catherine Moulson: 850171



Saturday Coffee Mornings

9.30am - 12pm at Meltham Parish Hall, hosted by local organisations.



1st October - Gilbert and Sullivan

8th October - Will be held at the Methodist

15th October - Christian Aid

22nd October - Duke of Edinburgh Candidate

29th October - Church Hall



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5-6pm age 9 to 13

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The Vicarage in the sleepy English village of Merton-cum-Middlewick is thrown into chaos when a German prisoner escapes from the Internment camp and disguises himself as the Vicar!

MELTHAM CHURCHHALL

6TH, 7TH and 8TH OCTOBER

EVENING 7:15PM,, SATURDAY MATINEE 2:15PM

Adults £8 Concessions £5

The Stage company - Meltham is proud to present 'See how the run!' a hilarious farce in three acts by Philip King.

The story is set in the sleepy village of Merton-cum-Middlewick in the early years of WW2. The Church is preparing for the Harvest Festival when there is news of an escaped Prisoner of War who was seen heading for the village! The action takes place in the vicarage where events are complicated by the arrival of an old theatrical friend, a visiting vicar, a Bishop, an Army Sargent and an angry parishioner. The Vicar, his wife and the maid have never known such an awkward and tiresome day!

The play is produced with kind permission of Concord Theatricals on behalf of Samuel French Ltd.

Tickets available from the Flower Box, Market Place, Meltham.



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Could you make a positive contribution to your local school?



Helme C of E Academy is looking for new governors to join our team. Being a school governor is a rewarding way of making a contribution to the lives of local young people. It is a challenging but rewarding role which requires a commitment to attend regular meetings and consider all that is involved with running a successful, happy and well-led school.



We would be delighted to hear from anyone who has:

- an open and enquiring mind and the ability to look at issues objectively
- The confidence to ask questions and join in debate
- A willingness to listen and make informed judgements

A school governor **does not** need to have a background in education!

If you are interested, please contact Mrs N Dyson, Chair of Governors
office@helseschool.com



Toddler Church update.

Monday 12th September we enjoyed our first session of the newly created 'Toddler Church'. This is not just an ordinary play group, it's church. A place to hear stories about Jesus and sing songs and of course play! There's even time for a biscuit or two.

Over the first couple of sessions we have met 5 different parents and 7 children. There was a lovely relaxed atmosphere and we have had enjoyable mornings.

If you or someone you know might like to come and see what it's like the sessions are held every Monday during term time from 9am - 11am.



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6	4	3	5	9	8	2	7	1
5	9	2	7	1	3	4	8	6
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Meltham in Mourning

