



THE PARISH OF MELTHAM
CHRIST THE KING

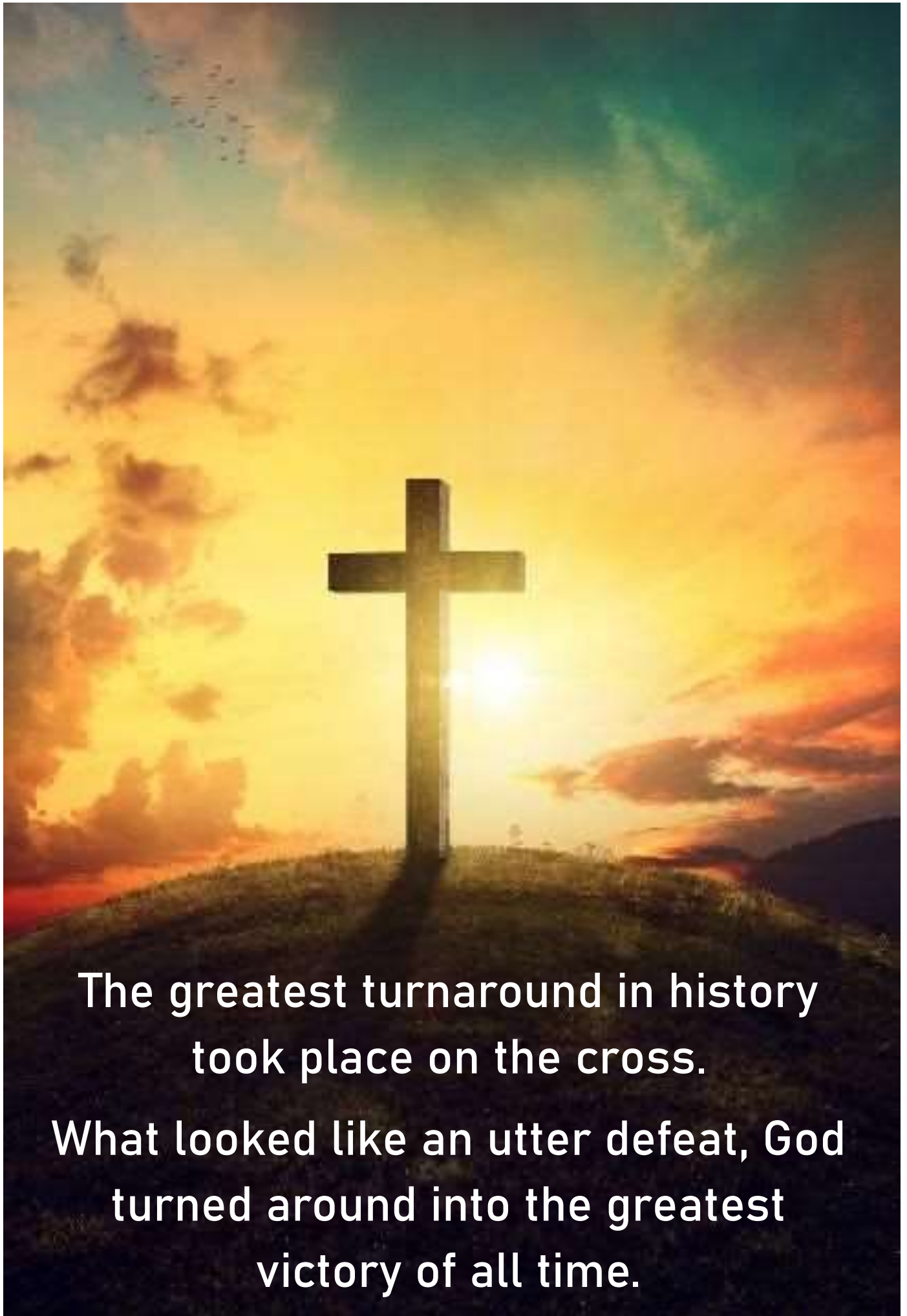
March 2023

*You turn graves,
into gardens!*

*When all I see
is the ashes,
you see the beauty!*

50p

**When all I see is the Cross, God
You see the empty tomb!**



**The greatest turnaround in history
took place on the cross.**

**What looked like an utter defeat, God
turned around into the greatest
victory of all time.**

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Pope Francis' Advice for Lent

Fast from hurting words and say kind words,

Fast from anger and be filled with patience,

Fast from pessimism and be filled with hope, Fast from worries and trust in God,

Fast from pressures and be prayerful, Fast from grudges and be reconciled,

Fast from words and be silent so you can listen

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Facebook Page: Parish of Meltham - Christ the King

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!

Spring is in the air! Snow drops and daffodils and other pretty spring flowers are beginning to appear and bring colour to our wonderful world. So I had to feature the snowdrops from Robert Ashton park on the front cover.

Thank you as ever to those who have contributed this month. Its hard to believe this time last year the war in Ukraine was just beginning, T4U offer their reflections on this (pgs 12-13). Jenny shares a prayer for a greener church (pg9). Finally after 18 months the Parish Hall is looking a lot fresher and brighter, read what has been done on page 15.

Have you been going to a lent group and want to share your thoughts or reflections? Then please do send them in.

The next deadline of the magazine will be:

Monday 20th March 2023

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.

Confidentiality is always respected.

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

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Letter from your Vicar's Wife

As we enter that busy time in the Church calendar, Rev John has asked if I would say a few words instead. Having recently read an article by Cannon Paul Hardingham offering his thoughts on Mothers Day, I thought I would share them with you....

“...Mothering Sunday is a day of mixed emotions. For many it's a happy, joyous day, but for others it's one of pain and grief. A day to celebrate love, while acknowledging those who cannot have children or have lost them and those who have no relationship with their mother.

In the dying moments of His life, Jesus honored Mary His mother by showing her love and care. He entrusted His mother to John's protection: *'When Jesus saw His mother there, and the disciple whom He loved standing nearby, He said to her, 'Woman, here is your son,' and to the disciple, 'Here is your mother.' From that time on, this disciple took her into his home.'* (John 19:26,27). While affirming the importance of mothers, Jesus reminds us that the love we show on Mothering Sunday is just a token of our continuous appreciation of them.

Jesus also creates a new way of being family, marking the beginnings of the church. In the past, people would go back to their *'mother'* church on this Sunday, to acknowledge its importance in their lives. Jesus invites us into this new family of love and mutual belonging, where we can find a place, irrespective of our own family circumstances.

Church is not always an easy place to be, because we are shaped by our own experience of mothering. We may find it hard to give or receive love without ourselves getting in the way. However, God's help is available to change things, *'because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.'* (Romans 5:5)..."

We will be celebrating Mothers Day (Sunday 19th March) across the parish at St James's Church at 9.30 and St Mary's, Wilshaw at 11.15am. It is a time to say thank you for all who care for us, whether it be Mums, Sisters, Grandma's or Aunties. I especially enjoy receiving the little posy of daffodils that the children excitedly give to all the ladies in church. It will be wonderful to see you at either of the services.

This year, as a mother to three gorgeous children, I am personally grateful that the special day is on the 19th as the clocks will 'Spring forward' an hour the following week on Sunday 26th March. So I will be enjoying not having to get up an hour earlier. – Jack, take note!!

God Bless
Fiona Dracup,





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GOING GREENER - **Moving towards an Eco Church**

'And God saw that the world and all that was in it, was very good.' Genesis Ch 1v 31

Recently I have discovered the website greenchristian.org.uk filled with poems and prayers, celebrating both the beauty and the fragility of our wonderful blue planet.

I am sharing with you a prayer written by - **Maureen Thompson**. I hope it speaks to you.

Creator God

For our world of beauty and plenty, we praise you - For the earth, the seas, the plants and the animals and all the wonders of the universe. We stand before you in awe and wonder in all you have created. Thank you for your generosity, a world for all to share. Create in us a desire to come together as One World for ...

Now is the Time to Act.

Redeemer God

Have mercy on us for our over consumption of the world's resources, For our lack of responsibility in devastating the habitats of your creatures; For the thoughtlessness in filling the world with our rubbish; For the pursuit of economic growth which leaves our brothers and sisters in poverty. Forgive us our selfishness that has led to this climate crisis, and bring us together as One World for...

Now is the Time to Act

Sustainer God

Be generous in your gifts of wisdom, understanding and courage, to help us see the interconnectedness of climate, nature and our lifestyles; our responsibility to secure a future for children, and the urgency to act now. Inspire us to change personally, in our local communities, as nations and at a global level for we are One World, climate changes everything, and...

Now is the Time to Act.

Amen

God Bless us in our efforts.
Jenny Mathers

CROSSROADS CENTRE



'One of those listening was a woman from the city of Thyatira named Lydia, a dealer of purple cloth'. Acts 16 v 14

When Paul went to Philippi Lydia offered her home and hospitality

Hospitality includes 'the ability to warmly welcome and receive people who are unknown to them' A warm welcome awaits you at the Crossroads Centre

Come and join the Sustainable Sewing Bees

Do you like sewing? Maybe you used to sew but haven't done it for some time Would you like to join a group that enjoys all kinds of sewing using machines or just sewing by hand. Learn new sewing skills and meet new friends. Cups of tea and Coffee available.

The Sewing bees meet on a Friday morning in the Crossroads Centre between 10am and 12 noon and you would be very welcome to join them.

Come and see the new and extended Haberdashery area. Fabrics, threads buttons zips and all manner of things available. FREE or if you prefer you can make a donation.

We look forward to seeing you.

Sue Priestley



Please continue to contribute to Meltham Food Bank

They especially need the following items:

Semi Skimmed or Whole long life milk, Canned meat meals, Tuna, Eggs, Breakfast Cereal, Jam. Other helpful items include: Coffee, Sugar, washing up liquid, Toiletries e.g shampoo, shaving cream, shower gel, toothpaste, soap and feminine hygiene products.

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.**



Crossroads Foodbank News



Foodbanks across the country make a huge difference to the lives of the clients who they serve – a lifeline for all too many. It's actually part of a bigger wonderful cycle. There's the means to service the operations, namely the donations in foodstuffs and cash from a caring community. There's a space to work from, and we couldn't wish for better than our premises in the heart of the village. There's the information network that spreads awareness of us and what we can do.

Last but not least, there's the dedication of the people who make it happen - it's the final link, and completes the cycle. It's rewarding in its own right, and it's the very real levelling up that's always been going on in our community.

Working as a team is vital, so we need to feel like one. With this in mind, we had our annual get-together at The Carlile in January. It's a great chance to get to know each other better, and it didn't disappoint. In the distant past, I've been on a "team building" experience entailing negotiating crossing a river, and it didn't make e feel like part of team. This did.

Finally, our lovely Lorna, who's been on maternity leave, gave birth to bonny babe Eleanor, and they're both doing just fine (see photo of little cutie!) We do like to raise her profile, to show that we're not all old fossils here... Lorna's sorely missed, as she's the only one who truly understands our IT issues, but I'm guessing that she's busy enough right now !

Bless you all
Chris Sinclair



356 Days in Ukraine - Article by Teams4U.

February 24th 2023 marks one year of the war in Ukraine. It culminates numerous 1,715-mile trips, transporting tonnes of aid to the Romanian/Ukraine border city of Suceava. It marks the tireless work done with the children and the building of a toilet block in an orphanage in Chernivtsi, the spread of shoeboxes to children who have fled from the frontline of Mariupol. It helps us remember the two trucks of hospital beds shipped far into Ukraine health facilities. Thousands of families and children have been supported with food parcels throughout Ukraine, as well as refugees crossing into Romania and Moldova. This was only possible by the generous financial donations of our supporters.



It began suddenly at the exit of the shoebox campaign and within a week our warehouses across the country were at capacity. Like a slow-moving queue on a bustling high street, you had to negotiate your way around bags of blankets, boxes of toiletries, and the general chaos that comes in responding to a crisis. The relief at the sight of a truck to be loaded, it would free up space and boost morale of the volunteers.

The war didn't feel close, but the community did, and the coming together to help people who we had never met helped us to get through the long days... The appeal garnered enough attention that we had to turn people away from the warehouse, the sense of charity was undeniable.

47 Days

It was not until Simon, Dave and Mimo travelled to the Siret border crossing that the war felt closer. The devastation of war is clearly known at borders, woman and children are led by the police across a border, walking with nothing but backpacks and carrier bags. Their life squeezed into some plastic, canvas, or nylon. A bit earlier, on March 3rd, in one of those can't move in the warehouse days, we had no idea that 8,000 women and children had crossed over this same border. Since February 24th 2022, 18,843,973 people had fled Ukraine and were spread across Europe. Over 10,500,000 of those have now gone back. Separately, more than 7,000,000 remain internally displaced.

We witnessed fathers saying goodbye to their wives and children for what could be the last time. Handing them over to passport control before watching them walk across no-man's land into Romania. The men stayed in the country to fight for their freedom.

On the same visit in Suceava, at our partners warehouse in the university run by Professor Lucian Pascut, we helped Aleksandra load her transit van. Aleksandra told us she was driving to the front line with the donations we had sent. It was extremely dangerous and brave work, but she said it was her duty. She mentioned her friend was doing the same and would be returning in a few days for another load. Her friend never returned.

Lucian was the man from Suceava who held the campaign together. He ensured the 'free shop' was fully stocked with donated items for the refugees and arranged deliveries to Ukraine to be sent over the border to where they were needed most. It was on this first trip that we visited the orphanage for children with disabilities for the first time. Prior to the war it was an orphanage for 10 children but following

the start of the conflict 42 more children had moved from the Donetsk region but with no staff to help. The staff desperately struggled with overcrowded rooms and had to resort to tying children to benches so they did not fall off. We decided there and then that we needed to help.

120 Days

Simon and Dave returned to the orphanage with staff from Great Ormond Street Hospital to help plan what was needed. They spoke to the staff and set out the plan for us to work too with medical professionals going forward. The shower block was in desperate need of replacing. Even without the extra children it wasn't fit for use and we agreed to fund a replacement.

141 Days

Following our previous trip and after hearing of our work, a film crew from the BBC joined Simon and Dr Ruth Wyn Williams. They visited the orphanage to work closer with the children and get to know the workings of the university.



In the city of Chernivtsi, you could forget that the country was at war. Hundreds of miles from the front line this city remained mostly untouched. On a walk in the city, we asked ourselves 'where are the men? We were reminded they had gone to fight. In a small village outside of Chernivtsi we saw a mother at her sons grave the day after she had laid him to rest. You are constantly reminded that war affects everyone in Ukraine and everyone has lost friends and family members.

To support the aid getting to where it is needed Teams4U purchased another Transit van in Romania. Whilst loading this van with donated body bags I realised that each one I loaded would be carrying someone's loved one. Death is something we often excuse ourselves from in ordinary life, we make every effort to sidestep it consciously and unconsciously. In Ukraine death is in a lot of conversations and if it isn't, its waiting on the side-line ready to interrupt.

335 Days

Simon travelled to meet Vova who had previously visited Wrexham in November and he had requested shoeboxes for displaced children from the Mariupol region. Teams4U had gladly provided these. Whilst there we gave shoeboxes out to children in a bomb shelter as it wasn't safe anywhere else.

On the way back from Lviv, driving through the Carpathian Mountains, we talked about the war and friends fighting on the front line. Dasha (translator) told Simon, "We have come to terms that we could die anytime and every day is a gift." They have all said "goodbye" to their life already.

Teams4u are continually raising awareness of the need in Ukraine. Articles in the local news, speaking and presenting at organisations and groups, sharing on social media. Teams 4U is continuing to send financial support to our partners to deliver aid locally. During the shoebox campaign, we still collected aid for Ukraine to be sent out early in the new year and continue to do so.

Organised by Judith Powell and her team at Meltham Shoeboxes, people of Meltham sent a transit van full of donations to the T4U warehouse last year.

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(I am registered deaf, so texts or WhatsApp are preferred)

18 months! - And finally done

Back in August 2021, after having the previous application rejected, we contacted Kirklees regarding replacing the windows along the back of the Parish Hall Building. For lots of reasons this took a long time but finally in February 2022 we were given planning permission and in May 2022 work started on replacing the windows.

In July 2022 the Main and West Doors were replaced and August 2022 the plastering was done. The building had extensive work done to the roof, guttering and pointing to make it water tight. Unfortunately the heavy rain we had at the end of December / beginning of January proved otherwise and more work had to be done.

The decorator started on January 4th and finished Friday February 10th. New LED lighting has been fitted in the kitchen, corridors and LED down lighters to middle classroom. The middle classroom has new blinds and our grateful thanks go to Tim at Lawton's Carpets Meltham, for his generous donation of a new carpet.

All radiators have been fitted with thermostatic valves, we hope this helps with our energy bills by only heating the rooms that are in use. The loft above the kitchen has been fitted with a ladder. Firstly for health and safety reasons and secondly, our 2 ladder extension that we used has gone missing! (instead of an egg hunt, maybe it should be a ladder hunt this year!)

The internal doors have new handles and new coat hooks have been fitted. The gent's toilets in March will have 2 new sinks fitted; taps have already been changed in the ladies and the gents.

Our thanks go to the hirers of the hall for working with us while all this work took place, and we are sure you will all agree, all the work that has been done has greatly improved the appearance and overall cleanliness of the building. Making it now a safe and comfortable space for the community to use.

The Steering Group will now draw breath before looking at the window/stonework at the back of the hall before we can start thinking about refurbishing the main hall.

Thank you for all your support.

Church Hall Steering Group



Lent Groups

The Lent groups began week commencing 27th February.
They will last for 5 weeks. This year the material has been prepared by Rev Tim Mountain from Meltham Baptist Church.
You would be welcome to any group.



Monday 8pm - 6 Woodland Walk

Tuesday 2pm - St Bartholomew's Church

Tuesday Eve - via Zoom (see you leader for details)

Wednesday 11am - Meltham Methodist Church

Thursday 2pm - Meltham Baptist Church

There is still opportunity to join any of these groups if you wish. Please speak to Rev John Dracup for more information or just turn up!

Care Home Services

Greenacres

1:30pm for 2pm start. Tuesday 14th March- Songs of Praise
1.30pm for 2pm start. Tuesday 28th March - Holy Communion.

Helme Hall

1.30pm for 2pm start. Friday 3rd March - Holy Communion
1.30 for 2pm start. Friday 31st March - Holy Communion



These services are popular with the residents and it would be lovely to have a couple of helpers to help support these services.

Please get in touch with Rev Denis Shields if you can be of help.

Women's Fellowship, St Bartholomew's.

The next meeting will be in Church on 28th March at 2pm.
Our speaker will be Fiona Dracup.

Sat 25th March 'Lady Day' we are hosting our Coffee Morning in the Church Hall 9.30 - 12.00
Usual cakes, tombola and help please. Catherine M.

As agreed at our Parochial Church Council (PCC) meeting on the 30th November 2022. Until April, there will be a Sunday church service at 9.30am & 11.15am weekly. Normal services to resume on Easter Day.

Service pattern for 2023

March

5th St James 9:30am and St Mary's 11:15am

12th St Bartholomew's 9:30am and Christ Church 11:15am

19th St James 9:30am and St Mary's 11:15am (Mother's Day)

26th St Bartholomew's 9:30am and Christ Church 11:15am

April

2nd - Parish Communion 10.30am at St James, Meltham Mills.

9th - Easter Day, Normal Service pattern will resume as follows:

St Bartholomew's 9:30am & St James' 9:30am

Christ Church, Helme 11:15am & St Mary's, Wilshaw 11:15am

Please Note:

- The first Sunday in the month (9.30am) will be a Family Sunday service where people of ALL ages can join in the fun.

- On Easter Day (9th April) all Parish Churches will resume their normal Sunday service pattern.



Many are enjoying being able to worship together.
Especially when there's cake afterwards!

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St Mary's Report

On Sunday 22nd January Rev Judy led a service of Holy Communion. The theme of the service was "Good News - The Kingdom of Heaven is here" and we were reminded that we are called to follow Jesus our King and to spread His love and light. It was lovely to welcome visitors from Christ Church and Rev Kate Boardman who was brought up in Netherthong and was a former brownie there (when Rev Judy was her Brown Owl)!!

There was no service at St Mary's on 29th January giving many of us the opportunity to attend the Morning Service at Christ Church Helme. Rev John led the worship and Lay Reader Jacqueline France gave a talk about "Prayer "We were made very welcome and even had cake with our coffee - delicious.

The following Sunday we welcomed visitors from Christ Church and St Bartholomew's as well as friends on zoom. Rev Dennis Shields was celebrant at a service of Holy Communion and gave a talk reminding us that whatever questions we have and whatever guidance we need the Holy Spirit is there to help us. Jacqueline led the prayers, Kim assisted with communion and Elizabeth played the keyboard.

There was no service at St Mary's on 12th February giving us the chance to attend Holy Communion at St Bartholomew's or the Baptism service at Christ Church. How wonderful to share in Orlaith and Ronan's baptism along with their lovely family as baptisms have been a bit thin on the ground since covid.

On 19th February it was a joy to welcome Ruth Murray -Webster to lead a service of the word. Once again we held this in the Sunday school and we were joined by people on zoom and from Helme. Rev Judy gave a talk about the Transfiguration of Jesus which marked the time when God told us to listen now to His well loved Son instead of the Law and the Prophets. It marked a moving from the old to the new covenant with God and looked forward to Jesus' coming glory. Shirley read the lessons and Jacqueline offered prayers.

Our thanks go to all who prepare our services and the PowerPoint presentations and choose the hymns each week and to those who provide coffee and wash the pots



Bell House Carehome Report

On Wednesday 8th February the residents at Bell House enjoyed an afternoon service led by Rev Judy Kenworthy. The theme of the service was "Love" and the reading was taken from 1 Corinthians 13. Rev Judy spoke about St Valentine and of how we should love God and one another and we sang two hymns.

Thanks to Jackie for her help.



FINAL MUSTARD SEED AGM 10th March

Crossroads centre 2:00pm

Dear Supporters.

Thank you everyone for your continued support of the Mustard Seed Project.

You are kindly invited to attend the annual General Meeting as detailed above. You will be able to hear reports from Kyema and judge for yourself what difference your contribution has made since the start in 1996.

Also updates on the sustainability projects planning to continue MS, once we in Meltham, finish our support in its present format.



JJH PLASTERING



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Can you do this Sudoku?

Answer on pg 25

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 2 | 4 | 3 | 8 | | | | |
| | | | | | 6 | | | 7 |
| | 5 | 8 | | | | 4 | | |
| 4 | | | | 1 | | | | |
| | | | 7 | | 5 | | | |
| | | | | 2 | | | | 8 |
| | | 1 | | | | 6 | 7 | |
| 3 | | | 5 | | | | | |
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The Alpha Course

Alpha is a course that creates a space, online or in person, where people are excited to bring their friends for a conversation about faith, life and God. We began with two Alpha groups – one meeting face-to-face at the Crossroads Centre led by Captain John Smith; the other was a Zoom meeting. Both courses have now finished.



Both the groups were equally important – there are those who want to be able to actually see how others are responding and feed off those responses. Zoom allows people to take place who can't be physically there. At our last Alpha session, one participant was in Longwood, one in Oxford, one in Bradshaw near Bradford, and one so quiet because their child was sleeping in their bed next to her - so that her cameras and microphones are off until a response is needed.

Alpha has brought into the discussions people with new faith, those searching for something more including several who don't come to church alongside those with a history of coming to church but who want to learn more. Without Alpha, many profound conversations would never have taken place. I can honestly say that in both this Alpha series and the previous one there was a trust that was built up in the groups between the members so that there was a real sharing of personal thoughts, doubts, hopes and dreams. I'm sure that these wouldn't have happened over coffee after the service, important though those times are.

Does it change lives? One participant told me it had been a gamechanger in her life. She came from a different faith background. She said it had taught her the importance of prayer – and how to pray. She wasn't alone. Several said that it had changed their prayer life. Some have gone on to join the house group that takes place at Matt and Dawn Golton's home. One is restarting church having stopped many years ago.

We have constantly been reminded that God loves us as we are – and that he wants us to journey with him to discover for ourselves that he really meant it when Jesus said he came to give us life in all its fulness, not for ourselves but so that together we can build his Kingdom in Meltham.

We shall be having the next Alpha groups in the Autumn. I already know of one person who wants to take part. May be you can join her – and invite a friend!

Nigel

If you want to know more contact me on 07885430085 or email me at Nigel.priestley@ridleyandhall.co.uk

DIMPS

by Ville

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tel. 01484 850960**

Helme Ladies Report

The 31st January was our Annual General Meeting or referred by some as the Annual Gripe and Moan. This is the day when everyone can have their say as to what happens in the future. I, as leader, gave my annual report which was a brief resumé of what we had done over the past year. The treasurer reported that our finances were in a good place after we had given £550 to various charities and good causes. The next item was the election of officers and committee, this is where it went wrong for me, I was hoping that after 10 years as leader I could stand down and let someone else have a go, not a chance, no-one else wanted the job, so here I am still leader. The ladies voted unanimously to have our meetings in the Church Hall. The morning ended with tea, coffee and biscuits and lots of chatter.

14th of February, Valentines Day, Helme Ladies had a morning of poetry with a Valentines theme. There were ones about love, some funny ones, some hilarious ones and some written by the ladies themselves. One of the ladies writes her own poems and very good they are too. After she had read about love, she read a lovely poem she had written for her Granddaughters wedding. We had a morning of laughter and fun and quite a few poems were written by Pam Ayres who is always good for a laugh. Over coffee we discussed the earthquake in Turkey and Syria and decided to send a donation to help with the relief effort.

Upcoming meetings, 10am Meltham Church Hall (unless otherwise stated)

- 14th March Illustrated talk “The strange life of Richard Ryden”
28th March Lunch out at Compo’s, meet at 12 Noon
11th April Recipe swap with tasters



The choir and friends are hoping to sing Olivet to Calvary by J H Maunder on the afternoon of Palm Sunday (2nd April) - 4pm at St Bartholomew’s (please pencil it in your diaries, and note that this will be instead of the usual Good Friday performance).

Now more than ever, we do however need to augment the choir with additional voices in order for this to go ahead. As usual we would be delighted to welcome singers from across the Parish and further afield - whether you are experienced or not. If you are interested please let me or any of the choir members know (or contact via the parish office: parishofchristtheking@gmail.com). We shall be having some rehearsals in the weeks prior (dates and times to be confirmed).

Saturday Coffee Mornings

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

4th March - To be held at the Methodist Hall.

11th March - Hospice

18th March - St Mary's Church

25th March - Women's Fellowship

1st April - Meltham & Meltham Mills Band



Congratulations

AND

I'm Sorry!

Magazine Subscription is still £5

Yes! You passed the test! Congratulations, to the eagle eyed readers who spotted my mistake regarding the magazine subscription. My thanks and apologies go to Catherine Moulson who gallantly stepped in and sorted it.

The annual subscription remains at £5 for 10 issues,
and **not** £10 as was previously stated.

If you would like to subscribe to our magazine, then please get in contact with Catherine Moulson who will be able to help, (-more than me.) Tel: 850171

Thank you and Happy Retirement!

Sheen Wood at Kirklees print room is retiring! Sheena has been printing and putting together our magazine for many years. I first got to know her when I joined Kirsten as part of the magazine team and then later took over the role of editor at the beginning of 2020, just before Covid hit.



As you all know I have numerous roles in the parish, an unofficial PA to the Vicar, a member of various groups for various things and a busy mum of 3. So after a while mistakes are made (see above!) and time gets pushed. However Sheena always manages to fit in our magazine print run at short notice. She works with my last minute emails and when I come to collect them she is there ready with a smile.

Thank you for all your support and on behalf of everyone in Meltham Parish, we wish you a happy retirement.

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

Orlaith & Ronan Gleadall

Funerals - May they rest in peace

Mamie Sharples, Jeffery (Jeff) Bagnall

Seesio 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 : February Winners:

| | | |
|------|------|------------------|
| 786. | £50. | Vacant Number |
| 344. | £10. | Mrs. J. Walker |
| 493. | £10. | Mrs. A. Halstead |
| 210. | £10. | Mrs. S. Fraine |
| 309. | £10. | Mr. M. Ward |

Want to join the 200 club?

It costs just 25p per week (£13 pa).
For more info, please contact either:
Michael Farrel 07768258257
m.farrellphd@btinternet.com
David Earnshaw 341968,
C Moulson 850171

St Bartholomews Flowers



During the season of Lent, it is traditional not to have flowers in church.

Flowers are a lovely way to remember loved ones or to celebrate that special occasion.

So if after Easter, you would like to put flowers on the Communion Table in church we do have dates available.

Please contact:
Catherine Moulson (850171)

Thank you

Many thanks for all the flowers, cards and Letters received, also the memories of past colleagues of Jeffery (Jeff) since he died recently. We are very grateful to you all.

From Mabel, Phil, Ric Bagnall and all the family.

Thank you to everyone for the love and support I have had. Thank you for remembering me in your prayers. I thank God for giving me "strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow, Great is your faithfulness Lord, unto me" Mabel.



Solution to the Sudoku
on page 20

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

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JUST FOR FUN!

By Denis A

Recently I re-labelled all my jars in the spice rack, Some of them, I suspect, incorrectly. I'm not in trouble yet, but the thyme is cumin.

When you come to church at St Bart's, you may hear the call of God.... On the other hand, it is not likely that He will contact you by phone, so please turn off your phone.

If you would like to talk to God, come in, choose a quiet pew and talk to him.

If you would like to see him in person, send him a text whilst driving your car!

At a Grammar School re-union in 2000, June kept staring at an obviously inebriated man sitting alone at a table. I asked her if she knew him, & she said that years ago he was her first boyfriend & that she had heard that after they had split up, he had started drinking & hadn't been sober since.

"My goodness!" I said "Who would think a person could go on celebrating that long?" and that's when the fight started. True? Well at least the Grammar school reunion in 1950 bit was. We held it in the Durker Roods Hotel.

If someone was to ask me what was on T.V tonight, I would reply "Dust".

I've discovered that my short term memory is..... , what was I going to put?

When I was in business someone asked me "How many people work in your company"? I replied " About half of them".

Did you know? A single ant can live for up to 25 years. 'Really' I said, "What about a married one?"

My Grandson made the mistake of telling me I was being overdramatic, so I just changed the Wi-Fi password. We'll see who's overdramatic in about 5 minutes.

My employer used to call me 'The Computer'. Nothing to do with intelligence. It's just that I used to go to sleep if left unattended for 15 minutes.

- Regarding Fiona's comments last month about my page. You may find that you have an empty page in the magazine next month. As if! Also why is it that it always has mistakes on my page?

God Bless One and All! Denis A.

Editors comment - Denis, I only write what you write, and this page wouldn't be the same without you!

Meltham Family Page

Tuesday 21st February was Shrove Tuesday - Pancake Day!

I love Pancake Day I remember making them as a little girl using my Mum's recipe and this exact recipe was used by about 40-50 children as they all got to have a go at mixing the batter ready to be cooked by the eager team of volunteers at the after school Pancake Party held in the Parish Hall.



The children loved having a go at cracking eggs and mixing the ingredients. The adults loved that we had included this as part of the event. Anne Halstead was relieved that she had booked for the new carpet to be laid the very next day!

While pancakes were made the children waited patiently while colouring and completing pancake day related wordsearches. The pancake toppings ranged from the healthy banana and blueberries to the sticky syrup and chocolate spread. Everyone had a great time. - Especially Mike Still who had a 'flippin' great time.

Some of the comments from the day included how it was a wonderful thing we were doing. How much of a relief it was that we had saved lots of frying pans around Meltham from getting stuck with pancake batter! And also where did I get that wonderful hand whisk from?

It is most certainly an event to be repeated, next year.



These pictures have been kindly shared by a couple of parents as we were so busy we forgot to take any!

April - a time to reflect and celebrate

2nd April - 9.30am

All Age Family Communion at St James to celebrate Palm Sunday

Fun and engaging worship in a safe loving environment

Monday 3rd - Friday 7th April 7.00am-7.30am

Reflection on the events of Holy Week

in the stillness and quiet of St James

7th April - 11.30am

Good Friday outside St Bartholomew's

A Time of Reflection at the Cross

Saturday 8th April - 10.00am-3.00pm

Easter Trail for all Families

Grab a coffee and Start the Trail
on the Greenway

Sunday 9th April

Cock Crowing Stone

Top of Wessenden Head Rd

Easter Day Sunrise Service at dawn

Bacon Butties and Cereal in Meltham Church Hall

For details of Easter Sunday Services

www.melthamparish.co.uk

or call 07867951512