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29 Grosvenor Street, Stalybridge SK15 2JN

St George's Parish Church Stalybridge

 THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND
Diocese of Manchester

CHURCH
FOR A
DIFFERENT
WORLD



35p

THE LORD bless you
and KEEP you; THE
LORD make His face
shine upon you,
And be GRACIOUS TO
you; THE LORD lift
up His COUNTENANCE
upon you, And GIVE
you PEACE.

July 2020

Trees

I think that I shall never see
A poem lovely as a tree.

A tree whose hungry mouth is prest
Against the sweet earth's flowing
breast;

A tree that looks at God all day,
And lifts her leafy arms to pray;

A tree that may in summer wear
A nest of robins in her hair;

Upon whose bosom snow has lain;
Who intimately lives with rain.

Poems are made by fools like me,
But only God can make a tree.

[Joyce Kilmer](#) - 1886-1918
Submitted by Margaret Dyson



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Things are slowly starting to improve so remember

“Be strong and of good courage; be not afraid, neither be dismayed: for the Lord is with you wherever you go.” Joshua 1:9

Six points to keep in mind every day: -

- * Stay positive and count your blessings.
- * Believe that everything happens for a reason.
- * Don't waste energy on gossip, past issues, negative thoughts and things you can't control.
- * Live with the three E's – energy, empathy, enthusiasm.
- * Stop complaining!
- * Think of your mind as a flower bed. If you weed the negative and feed the positive for just one day it doesn't do much, but when you do it every day it creates a magnificent

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The Vicar writes...

Public Worship resumes from Sunday 5th July

Sundays 9am Holy Communion (said) **AND** 10.30am Holy Communion (said)

Tuesdays 10.30am Holy Communion (said)

After the long weeks of lockdown it is wonderful that we have been able to open church for private prayer since Sunday 14th June with all due measures in place to keep us all safe. Public worship can now resume. There are no words to describe how pleased I will be to share Holy Communion with the people of God after such a long time – the absence of our celebration together has caused deep pain for both priest and people, especially in such a time of difficulty.

However, we are not returning “back to normal” just yet. This is a positive step, taken with due caution (see overleaf). There is a limit to how many people we can fit in the building with social distancing – this is why there will be 2 Sunday services and a service on Tuesday to keep the amount of people attending each service to a minimum. Please consider this if planning your attendance.

Worship will look different for the time being – see overleaf. Many of us will still need to remain at home – the Government and Church of England guidance remains that those over 70 or in vulnerable or shielding categories should remain at home as much as possible and we would wish to endorse that. Many of us will choose to remain at home and that is completely understandable. There is no pressure on anyone to attend – please be confident in making the decision that you feel most comfortable with. Group activities and events cannot yet resume.

We remain in days which are different and can be unsettling. Wherever we are, whatever our worship looks like and for however long, we remain God's beloved children, God continues to feed us, physically and spiritually, we continue to keep in touch, to care for and pray for each other, and to pray for healing in our hurting world. If there is anything I can do to support you in these changing times, do be in touch.

With love, prayers and best wishes,
Penny

“Let nothing disturb you, nothing frighten you, all things are passing, God is unchanging. Patience gains all; nothing is lacking to those who have God: God alone is sufficient.” Teresa of Avila

*Some information on the precautions in place to keep everyone safe.
Thank you for bearing with these precautions, which may change.
If you have any queries or concerns, please be in touch.*

- Please respect **2m DISTANCING**, and do not gather together anywhere indoors before or after the service. Household 'bubbles' may sit together. Signs indicate pews which are out of use.
- Please **CLEAN YOUR HANDS** on the way into and out of church, and again before receiving Holy Communion.
- **SERVICE SHEETS** will be single use. Please take it away with you and recycle it. You will be able to download the service order each week via the email newsletter and follow it on your own device
- The **CELEBRATION CANDLE** will remain online via the Parish Enewsletter for the time being.
- **RECORDS** of all attending services are to be kept for *track and trace* purposes - these are kept securely and destroyed after 21 days.
- **COLLECTION** your offering can be left in the plate near the door or given online.
- Congregational and choir **SINGING**, is not currently permitted.
- We remain seated to share the **PEACE** verbally only.
- **WAFERS** will be covered and will not be touched before you receive them.
- The **CHALICE** will not be shared - receiving in one kind only, we receive the fullness of Christ's blessing in Holy Communion.
- To receive **HOLY COMMUNION**, please queue in the centre aisle in single file, respecting distancing. Stewards will guide you and information given in service sheet.
- Holy Communion can be brought to you in your seat if you're unable to stand etc - please let the priest/stewards know and sit near the aisle.
- **BLESSINGS** will not involve the laying on of hands (*ie the priest will not touch the head of the person receiving the blessing*).
- **JUNIOR CHURCH** continue to meet online via Zoom. There will be a special service for Junior Church families only to mark the end of the year on 19th July in the afternoon.
- **REFRESHMENTS** and **TOILETS** are not available.

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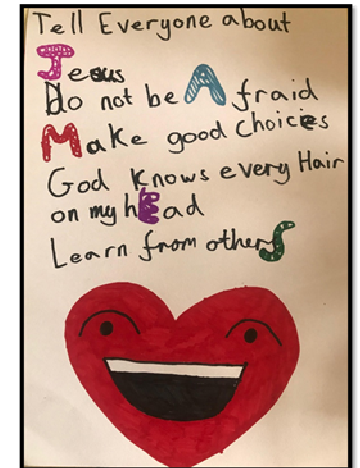
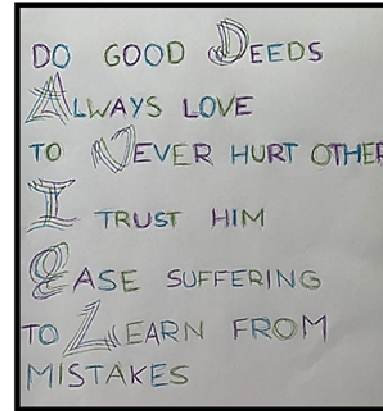
Junior Church

Well, Junior Church have still been meeting during lockdown – online. We started on Pentecost Sunday via Zoom. We had 13 children join us and each week we still do our activities, sing a song/hymn and the prayers are said by an individual child just like our normal sharing time with the congregation.

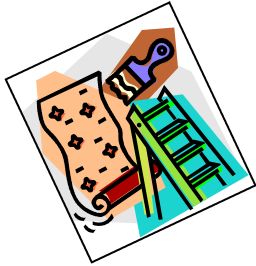
The children have still been so involved, still learning about Jesus and his wonderful work and seeing and talking to their friends in Junior Church. Their adults have taken part too! We are so blessed to have such lovely children. Penny has been joining us and we even had a special visit from Buddy.

Looking forward to seeing everyone again, as soon as it is possible.

We wish we could fit all of our work in to show you but here are just some examples of what we have been up to!



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DESERT ISLAND DISCS



Quite a number of years ago there was an item in this magazine from a lady who no longer lives in the parish. She was imagining herself as a guest on Desert Island Discs and listed her choices of eight pieces of music, her luxury item and her book (other than the Bible or Shakespeare) as per the format of the long running radio programme. She also issued an invitation for readers to follow suit and submit their choices.

I recently rediscovered the piece that I sent in response and it started me thinking that, during these last three and a half months, although we haven't exactly been on a desert island - albeit for some it must have felt pretty close to it - I am sure that listening to favourite pieces of music will have given much encouragement to and lifted the spirits of many people as they have traversed this troubling and anxious time.

Despite the considerable number of years since I compiled my original list, I find that today it has changed only very little and I offer it here:

MUSIC

Intermezzo from Cavalleria Rusticana Mascagni
(Mascagni was really a 'one-hit-wonder' but, in my view, this was a masterpiece)

The Rose Bette Midler

Gabriel's Oboe Ennio Morricone

Ave Verum Corpus Mozart (sung by the Choir
of King's College, Cambridge)

Calypso John Denver

Deep Harmony Black Dyke Mills Band

Stalybridge Wakes The Fivepenny Piece
(You can take the girl out of Stalybridge but you can't take Stalybridge out of the girl)

The Lord Bless You and Keep You John Rutter

LUXURY ITEM

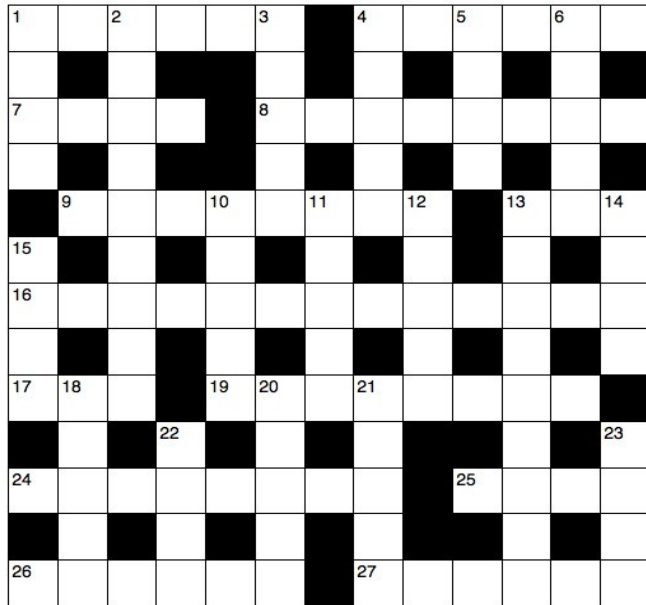
A Large Luxurious Hot Tub

Despite the sea lapping just inches away and being surrounded by water - I can't swim!!

BOOK

The Oxford Book of English Verse

July Crossword



Across

1 'I pray that out of his glorious — he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being' (Ephesians 3:16) (6), 4 'Saul's father Kish and — father Ner were sons of Abiel' (1 Samuel 14:51) (6), 7 'Praise the Lord, O my — ' (Psalm 103:1) (4), 8 See 5 Down
 9 Laws (1 Kings 11:33) (8), 13 'Who of you by worrying can — a single hour to his life?' (Luke 12:25) (3), 16 Artistry (Exodus 31:5) (13), 17 'Your young men will see visions, your — men will dream dreams' (Acts 2:17) (3), 19 How David described his Lord (Psalm 19:14) (8), 24 'If this city is built and its — — restored, you will be left with nothing in Trans-Euphrates' (Ezra 4:16) (5,3), 25 'The holy Scriptures, which are able to make you — for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus' (2 Timothy 3:15) (4), 26 Intended destination of arrows (Lamentations 3:12) (6), 27 Eve hit (anag.) (6)

Down

1 'For I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find — for your souls' (Matthew 11:29) (4), 2 Where Peter was when he denied Christ three times (Luke 22:55) (9), 3 Remarkable early 20th-century Indian evangelist, a convert from Hinduism, — Sundar Singh (5), 4 'Now the king had put the officer on whose — — leaned in charge of the gate' (2 Kings 7:17) (3,2), 5 and 8 Across The Lover describes this facial feature of the Beloved thus: 'Your — is like the tower of Lebanon looking towards — ' (Song of Songs 7:4) (4,8), 6 'Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled — your waist' (Ephesians 6:14) (5), 10 Trout (anag.) (5), 11 Easily frightened (1 Thessalonians 5:14) (5), 12 The ability to perceive (Ecclesiastes 10:3) (5), 13 One of the clans descended from Benjamin (Numbers 26:38) (9), 14 "It is one of the Twelve," he replied, "one who — bread into the bowl with me" (Mark 14:20) (4), 15 Resound (Zephaniah 2:14) (4), 18 Traditional seat of the Dalai Lama (5), 20 Precise (John 4:53) (5), 21 Build (Ezekiel 4:2) (5), 22 Beat harshly (Acts 22:25) (4), 23 Darius, who succeeded Belshazzar as king of the Babylonians, was one (Daniel 5:31) (4)

Readings and Psalms for July 2020

- Sun 5th** **4th Sunday after Trinity**
Zechariah 9.9-12; Psalm 145.8-15; Romans 7.15-25a; Matthew 11.16-19,25-end
- Tues 7th Hosea 8.4-7,11-13; Psalm 103.8-12; Matthew 9.32-end
- Sun 12th** **5th Sunday after Trinity**
Isaiah 55.10-13; Psalm 65; Romans 8.1-11; Matthew 13.1-9,18-23
- Tues 14th Isaiah 7.1-9; Psalm 48.1-7; Matthew 11.25-27
- Sun 19th** **6th Sunday after Trinity**
Wisdom 12.13,16-19; Psalm 86.11-end; Romans
- Tues 21st Micah 7.14-15,18-20; Psalm 85.1-7; Matthew 12.46-end
- Sun 26th** **7th Sunday after Trinity**
1 Kings 3.5-12; Psalm 119.129-136; Romans 8.26-end; Matthew 13.31-33,44-52
- Tues 28th Jeremiah 14.17-end; Psalm 79.8-end; Matthew 13.36-43

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June Crossword Solution

Across

1 Care, 3 Paradise, 8 Null, 9 Profaned, 11 Legalistic, 14 Closed, 15 Stores, 17 Missionary, 20 Covenant, 21 Thai, 22 Trade-off, 23 Eden

Down

1 Conflict, 2 Religion, 4 Arrest, 5 Affliction, 6 Iona, 7 Eddy, 10 Allegiance, 12 Preached, 13 Assyrian, 16 A son of, 18 Scot, 19 DVLA

Monday 5 & 7pm
St George's Church
With Terry

Tuesday 5 & 7

Wednesday 9.30

ST

11.15

7.30

Revive Church
With Marie

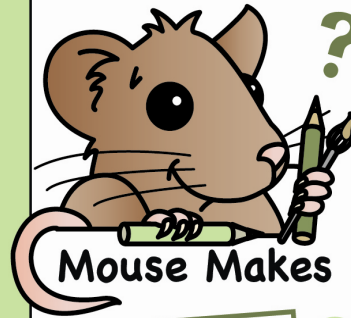
Saturday
7.30 9.30 & 11.30am
The Bridge Inn
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Thursdays 7pm
West Hill School
With Marie

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Children's Page



Mouse Makes

WHO AM I?
The last letter of one name is the first letter of the next name.

P L

- Wrote 13 New Testament letters
- He wrote the third Gospel

E

• Mother of John (Luke 1:3)

• Sarah's servant (Genesis 16:21)

R

• Joseph's mother (Genesis 29:35)

• His wife turned to salt (Genesis 11:31)

I

- Paul's friend (2 Corinthians 8:27)
- A brother of Jesus (Matthew 13:55)

N

• Ruth's mother-in-law. (Ruth 3:1)



FIND THE MISSING HUSBANDS

Match the wife to their husband

- | | |
|-----------|-----------|
| MARY | BOAZ |
| SARAH | JACOB |
| RUTH | ZECHARIAH |
| REBEKAH | JOSEPH |
| RACHEL | ABRAHAM |
| ELIZABETH | ISAAC |

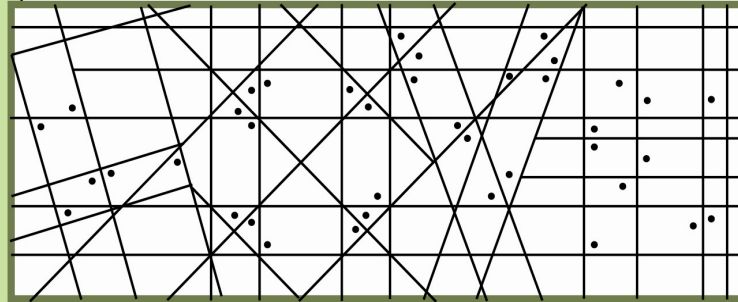
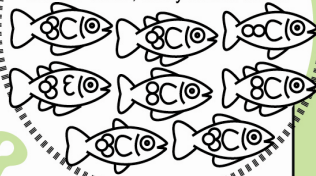


IT'S A PUZZLE!
God sent 9 plagues on Egypt...
What were they?
Change each letter to the one after it in the alphabet to find out.

- AKNNC
- EQNFR
- FMZSR
- EKHDR
- CHRDZRD
- OKZFTD
- GZHK
- KNBTRSR
- CZQJMDRR

FIND THE FISH

The Disciples have been fishing and have caught TWO fish the same, can you find them?



Colour in all the shapes with a DOT to find out what Jesus wants us to do

Paws for thought

Happy Birthday to me!

1st July is my birthday and this year I am 4 years old – in dog years, that is 28 years old. My birthday is my favourite time of the year because it is the one time that I can eat cakes- “pupcakes” – yummy!



These are not your ordinary cupcakes (or ‘buns’ as Penny says they are often known as here) These are far better! Instead of all that unhealthy sugar and chocolate, these have cheese, peanut butter and carrots in them – delicious! Some even have carefully crafted carrot and cheese bones or gravy bone biscuits on top. Don’t they sound delicious?! I can ask Penny to make some for you all when we can all meet again if you like?!



Sometimes when we go to visit cafes they even sell “pupcakes”. Penny says she wonders what the world is coming to and that I’ll have to go out and earn my keep. I don’t know what she means... I do work hard for little reward. Believe me, there are no royalties for this page!

Please do join me in a piece of cake to celebrate my birthday! Its little treats from time to time that keep us all going.

With love to you all,



Buddy



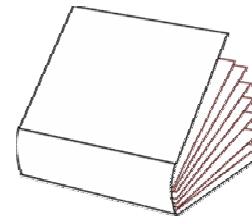
Dementia Café



Congratulations to St George’s Dementia Café who have been awarded a £200 grant from Tameside Rotary Club.

The application made was for a grant to buy indoor games equipment; indoor bowls set, quoits set, skittles and a Play Your Cards Right set. Well done to Chris Crabtree and the team and thank you to Tameside Rotary Club. We are looking forward to the Dementia Café being able to get started again as soon as it is possible. For more information, please get in touch with Chris Crabtree.

NEW!!! Summer Book Club



Over the summer you are invited to read “Surprised by Joy” by C.S Lewis.

Simply read the book over the summer then we’ll arrange a discussion group for those who wish to join in (via Zoom if needs be) in early September or if you’d prefer we can pair you with a “book buddy” who has also read the book so that you can chat about it together on the phone.

The book is available to buy online or via Kindle, or Rev Penny can order a copy for you at £7 each – just be in touch on 07393 420763 or email revdpennywarner@outlook.com

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Terrorists no longer scare me. Not after the past months at home with my partner, three children, two dogs and a moody cat. - Anon

Parish Life in Lockdown

There was no blueprint for any of us as how to respond to the suspension of public worship, the closure of churches and lockdown. Everyone responded the best they could at the time – there will have been inevitable failings and missed opportunities but hopefully a lot more that has been positive and encouraging. St George's Church has continued to be active in our ministry and service in the local community during this time. Here are some of the things that have been happening – there will certainly be more besides!

- The Eucharist has been said on behalf of the parish and prayer requests continue to be offered throughout the week
- 9 funerals have been taken during lockdown, alongside pastoral care of these families
- Junior Church has met online via Zoom weekly since Pentecost Sunday with 9-14 children (plus adults!) attending
- Volunteers have been calling those on the electoral roll to keep in touch and offer support from church throughout lockdown. We have tried our best to reach everyone we have contact details for either by email, phone, text, WhatsApp or post.
- We opened church for private prayer as soon as we were able on Sunday 14th June (after thorough cleaning and the completion of the risk assessment).
- As soon as possible after lockdown the churchyard team resumed their work in the churchyard.
- The PCC have continued to keep in touch via email to discuss and make decisions.
- We have continued to contribute to Tameside East Foodbank, with items and financial donations.
- Tea and Evening Prayer on Tuesdays and Coffee and Morning Prayer on Thursdays have been happening via Zoom
- We have donated regularly to Tameside Hospital's Care Pack Appeal
- We gave hampers of goodies to staff at Holme Lea Care Home and Stamford Court to say thank you for all they are doing
- We gave sweet treats to Revell's funeral directors to thank them for their work in a busy and difficult time
- 2 members of the congregation produced c.100 hand made Easter cards to help us send Easter greetings
- Volunteers delivered Mothering Sunday prayer packs before full lockdown commenced.
- The magazine has continued to be produced (2 online only versions and 2 printed versions)
- The church website has been revised and updated (more work to go!) as

has our "A Church Near You" page.

- We have had an increase in people giving to church via standing order (thank you).
- We have set up "easyfundraising" so that those who shop online can raise funds for church for free (we have 15 supporters so far – do join them if you can!)
- We have a new weekly email newsletter (this is published to Twitter and Facebook also)
- We have re-established our church Twitter page
- We have continued to communicate via Facebook
- Prayer booklets and information have been sent by post at key times, with additional paper mailings to those not online. We received a generous grant of £200 from Action Together to contribute towards this and enable us to keep in touch with people.

At this point, we cannot yet go back to "normal", if we ever can or should. We now often hear the phrase "the new normal". All of us will have reflected on priorities during this time and as we emerge from lockdown, we as a church community will need to do so as we look to the future. Please pray for God's guidance as we do this, for inspiration, for wisdom and for courage. If you have thoughts, ideas and suggestions, please do be in touch with Rev. Penny – we remain in all of this together!



Eric took social distancing while bell ringing very seriously.