



CHURCH AT HOME

Issue 2: March 28th 2020

Welcome, brothers and sisters to the second edition of "Church at Home". Many of you will now have heard that we are a house in isolation as Pippa has the Covid 19 virus. Initially this was quite scary (It's been more than a cough and flu like symptoms!) but we are coming to terms with the situation and looking after Pippa as best we can. Please pray for us.

Thank you so much for your enthusiasm and kind words about this bulletin, I'm glad it is helpful for you and you will continue to find it so. Many of you have sent contributions and if they aren't in this issue, don't worry, they will appear in a future one. It seems one section that is really appreciated is the "what are you up to" one. It is so encouraging to see your faces, even though we are all apart. So even if you're camera shy, try and send us a picture and a message.

I have to also thank you for the tremendous response of those willing to help. We have been able to help everyone we know of already vulnerable and all of you who have asked. I haven't called on some who have offered help, as I've tried to get people as close by as possible. Please be assured you are on the helpers list and if you are needed will be called on.

Follow the guidance, encourage each other, pray and stay safe.

Rev Clive

Church noticeboard

Following the latest guidance from Bishop James all Churches in Bromley & Bexley are to be completely shut. Please speak to Clive or Colin if you need emergency access to our buildings.

Both Alpha and the Confirmation Service have been postponed to later in the year.

The plan is for our APCM to go ahead in the Autumn. Therefore, we still need your reports. If you have been asked to write one please still do so.

Grace Allen has some HP364 printer cartridges she no longer needs. Let her know if you can use them.

Brenda Thompson-Murray who is the co-ordinator of the prayer ministry team has set up a WhatsApp group for shared prayer during the crisis. To join the group, download the WhatsApp app to your phone and send Brenda your number.

brendat.bt87@gmail.com

Julia Davenport is requesting if anyone has any arran or chunky wool, doesn't have to be full balls, could she have them. She crochets blankets for the cattery she uses. Contact Julia and she will collect from your doorstep. juliadav64@sky.com



Home
**SPRING
HARVEST**



Community Notices

Bexley Community Help

1. Helpline

The London Borough of Bexley has set up a phone line to assist people in need during the coronavirus pandemic. Whether you need someone to get shopping, pick up other essentials, or to give you information, guidance and advice, please call us on 020 3045 5398. The helpline will be open from 8am to 6pm.

2. Volunteer Hub

We at the London Borough of Bexley are working with Bexley Voluntary Services Council (BVSC) to support Bexley residents who are able to give their time to support the community during the Covid-19 pandemic. We are inviting people to register with the Bexley Volunteer Hub (<https://bvsc.co.uk/covid-19>) where willing volunteers will be matched to where they are most needed in Bexley at this time.

3. Keeping in touch

We are also keen to build up our understanding of what community support is already being mobilised locally by neighbours and communities and how we can help. If you are involved with a local neighbourhood support scheme, whether it on social media or 'off line' between a few neighbours, we would be really interested to know as we build up our knowledge of what support is on offer where across our borough and how we can support you in this.

We are looking to share the wonderful displays of community spirit on our twitter and facebook page @BexleyTogether so please do share with us what is happening near you and find us on there if you haven't already.

Community Notices continued

Bexley have announced the suspension of garden waste collection and other changes:

This will mean -

- suspending the weekly separate food waste collection
- suspending the collection of garden waste
- collections of recycling wheeled bins (white lid and blue lid) will change from fortnightly to once every four weeks.

The green lidded refuse bin waste collections will remain fortnightly on your usual collection day. Please put your food waste into this green lidded bin until further notice.



This week's prayer

Jehovah Shalom, Lord of Peace, we remember those living in coronavirus hotspots and those currently in isolation. May they know your presence in their isolation, your peace in their turmoil and your patience in their waiting. Prince of Peace, you are powerful and merciful; let this be their prayer.

From 24/7 Prayer.

Prayer

There a many who still need our prayers. Those who have asked for our prayers are : Andrew Bennett, Charles Brooke, Elizabeth Foster and Joan Handy. For Marjorie and Eileen Hoare, Monica Lindridge and Alex and Wai Ming Martin, Christine Meaton and Christine Minns. For little Orlagh, still very poorly. For Carol & John O'Connor, John Ralph and Amanda Ralph. For Jane & George Stafford. For Karen Vaughan (Cameo), Peggy Vidler, Jeanette Watts and Mark Williams.

Please pray for Jackie Robinson and family with the funeral of her Father, Owen this week. It takes place under difficult restrictions at Eltham Crematorium on Wednesday at 12:15pm. Also keep Lauraine in your prayers as she steps in to take this funeral while I'm unable.

Access Church services online

A number of places are offering closed services online. If you are able why don't you try one of the following.

Holy Trinity Brompton – Nicky Gumbel

<https://www.htb.org/sundayonline>.

Freedom Church – Sim Dendy

<https://www.freedomchurch.uk>

Watch on TV

TBN (Freeveiw 65 / Sky 582)

Hillsongs TV (Sky 595)

Resources for children and young people

Primary

Veggietales (Netflix)

Superbook (Amazon Prime & Youtube)

Hillsongs: <https://www.youtube.com/user/hillsongkids>

Rend Collective: <https://rendcokids.com>

Bethel Kids

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLUmTiGOxKUOhwvpDtOI62mc4bs9JEUyFP>

Secondary

Bible society short videos -

<https://www.biblesociety.org.uk/explore-the-bible/study-the-bible/gnb-youth-edition/videos/>

Bible Game for Apple or Android - "The Guardians of Ancora"

<https://guardiansofancora.com>

What you're up to. – Pictures and messages



Tim Luff
"Self-Isolating at Home. Two metres from each other but just a heartbeat from the Lord."



The Tylers
Look at what Joanne and Sophie have just made 😊

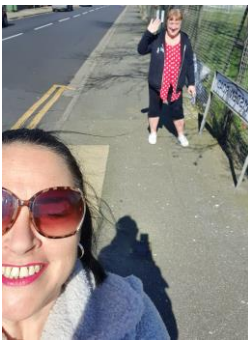


Elaine Fermer

Deuteronomy 31.8 says 'The Lord himself goes before you and will be with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged.'

As followers of Christ we still get fearful, because we are human, but with God we don't have to give in to fear, He can, with his word, give us faith to overcome that feeling of fear. When we pray. By Joyce Meyer.(paraphrased).

My own comment "sometimes easier said than done" this is why it is essential to breathe God in and out slowly. Amen



Ann Easter & Daughter Joanna
Enjoying some exercise but keeping a safe distance.



Bob Lindridge
Bob is keeping busy decorating

Cat, Dean & Harley

We are thinking and praying for everyone from the church, Harley especially misses all the attention. Here is a photo of Harley which I thought may bring some smiles, she is lively and energetic as ever!



Carol O'Connor

thought I'd share with you how we celebrated our son Cavan's 30th birthday. We made our way to The Shard and enjoyed a lovely lunch with stunning views of London. God was kind in respect of the weather because it was a lovely, sunny day.

In the evening we went to an Italian restaurant for a light meal before watching The Comedy about a Bank Robbery at the Criterion Theatre.

On his birthday we went to the British Museum and spent a couple of interesting hours strolling around the many and varied fascinating exhibits.

later we joined the crowd of theatre-goers at the newly refurbished Sondheim Theatre to see Les Misérables is a wonderful production and we highly recommend a visit.

We checked out of the hotel and had a good meal in another of Cavan's favourite eateries, Chez Bob, as we decided to watch a film in the local Everyman cinema.

As you can imagine I was very tired after this wonderful weekend, but John and I were satisfied that Cavan had thoroughly enjoyed his 30th!

Please send me your pictures and messages to each other. Let's encourage each other and stay in touch. It will be good to see familiar faces each week. revclive@hotmail.co.uk

From our Archdeacon, Paul Wright



When this photo was taken last Summer, who would have predicted where we would all be today. No ride-outs for me at the moment – in fact very little 'going out'. We are learning to adapt and for some that will be hard. One thing that has not changed is our capacity to pray and think of others. I know that many Christians are now saying the daily office or compline. In some ways we have more time to do these things but my hope is that when we get back to a more normal lifestyle our prayer life will not slip back. In the same way people have been looking out for neighbours who may have particular needs – trying to help as best they can. I hope that these things do not just STOP!

God bless

Paul

A message from Rev Ann Norman **on Matthew 20:20-28**

To pursue positions of power and authority and be part of the power structures is an ambition that is highly valued in earthy Kingdoms, including in our own. Often the prevailing attitude is that one should aim to be a ruler not a servant. Yet Jesus calls servants great and slaves the first among you.

Jesus own life is the ultimate example of servanthood *the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many.* Jesus left the glory of Heaven, and became a man who suffered and died on the cross to bring us eternal life.

Throughout the centuries many Christians have lived lives of loving service - like Elizabeth Fry whose example changed the Prison Service in this country or Oscar Romero the Archbishop of San Salvador, in El Salvador who was martyred for speaking out against poverty, social injustice, torture and assassinations during his country's civil war.

But what does it mean to live a life of Christian service in our own day – to love God and our neighbour as ourselves? Matthew 25:31-46 the parable of the sheep and the goats says we are called to feed the hungry, give water to the thirsty, welcome the stranger, clothe the naked, care for the sick and visit the prisoner. For whatever we do for the least of these, we do to and for Jesus.

Tis is still true, even though today we are living with coronavirus 19. It has changed our lives. Unlike people in most of the previous centuries, we have not lived with a pandemic or the fear of one. We see empty shelves and there is panic buying as people try to feed their families. I am in awe of doctors, nurses, of all hospital staff and those in GP's surgeries and Chemists, but also shop workers, deliver drivers, teachers and school staff, post office workers and dustmen.

But how as Christians how can we live lives of loving service in a world of social distancing and self-isolation. Love God, and trust him, pray to him about the situation and for guidance for all involved, especially our leaders and medical staff. Do not be selfish, think of others, do nothing to put their lives at risk.

Many people will be socially isolated now, prisoner in their own homes. While we cannot physically visit them, we are fortunate that we can phone and email and use social media.

Stay close to God, and remember the words of Romans 8: 38 -39

For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

My love and prayers

Ann

How do we explain Covid 19 to our children?

A message from Laura Webster from Erith Deanery Youth Trust.

1. You need to do what you need to do to stay informed.

2. But then turn the TV off. Children don't need to see the constant media coverage, rising death toll, or photos of the empty store shelves. Too much information, and false information can cause their fears to grow.

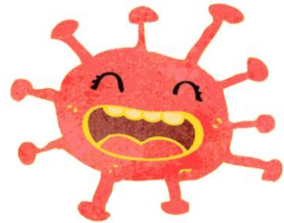
As you listen, you will also be better prepared to guide the conversation to help them navigate this the best way possible.

3. Ask your children what they already know. They will already have some information. It may not be correct, but it will help you guide the conversation once you know what they already know. Talking can also be a good way to help them process what they have heard, and what they think about what they have heard. As you listen, you will also be better prepared to guide the conversation to help them navigate this the best way possible.

4. Be honest with yourself first. We are in uncharted territory. The events of the last few weeks are unprecedented. You don't have anything in history, recent or past, to compare to. And it is that unknown that is causing the fear which is leading to panic. Stores are selling out of toilet paper, and that just doesn't make sense. Your children will ask you questions you don't have answers to, because you have questions yourself you don't have answers for. So when you talk with them, be honest.

HELLO!

**I am a VIRUS,
cousins with the Flu and
the Common Cold**



My name is Coronavirus

5. Now think about it from your child's perspective. They are often afraid of the unknown. They are going to take a lot of cues from you during this time as well. Do what you can to not show them your fears. Helping your children identify and talk about what they feel will help them to process the entire situation. They may not know what they feel or how to express it. To some children, this virus is just something that happened—it is bad, people get sick and some have lost their life, but after mentioning what they know of the situation, they are ready to move on with their day. But your child is an individual and so are their reactions, and that may change. Use what you know about your children and their personalities to help them through this potentially scary time.

6. Pray – we are not in this alone we are being held by the creator of the universe – and that may be a hard conversation to have. So pray - for the safety of our friends and family, and also for those affected by the virus. Pray for God to help you not be afraid. Pray for wisdom for our leaders who have to make difficult decisions.

God knows what is happening. He is not surprised. And he doesn't want us to be afraid. In fact, the Bible tells us 365 times that we don't need to be afraid. That's enough times to read one per day for an entire year!

It's a difficult and potentially scary conversation to have, but it is one you are best qualified to have with your own children. They look up to you. They trust you. They love you. They will listen to you.

What they do need to know is that you will always listen to them and that their questions and fears are not silly. And that you will do everything you can to keep them safe.

At Home with Children & young people

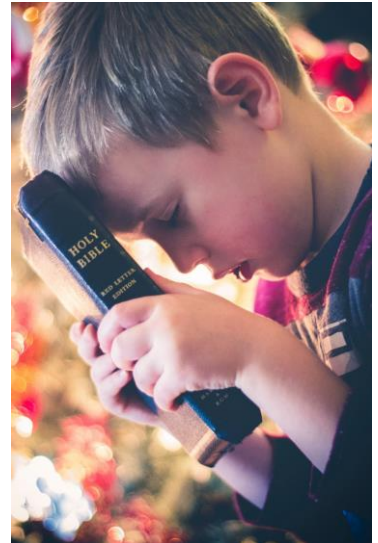
Cheryl, Laura & Sarah from the Diocesan team have sent some ideas for those of us with kids at home.

Family worship in the home

Sunday Morning : We are aware that, during this period whilst gathering together for worship is suspended, Sundays at home could drift into 'screen time', chores and watching Netflix so we are aiming to resource families to continue to worship and pray together. Why not agree a time with other families you know so you know you are all doing 'Church' together?

Here are some top tips to get started:

- Find a time in the day that works for you.
- Don't expect it to be silent - it will be messy! Go with the flow.
- Encourage everyone to contribute
- Be flexible on timing and ready to adapt the session if your children get restless
- Use the events of the past few days to explore where you've each met God



Family Church for 29th March

Big Idea: Thanking God that nothing is impossible for Him

Sing: Our God is a Great Big God. Find it on [Youtube](#)

Starter activity: Brainstorm a list of times when you or someone you know have faced an impossible task? - What was it that made the task particularly impossible?

Bible Story: Here's a Bible story about a time when God's people were going through a really hard time. Ezekiel was a Jewish priest who was captured and taken to Babylon a few years after Daniel. God chose him to prophesy about all of the things that were happening back in Jerusalem. After Jerusalem was destroyed, Ezekiel began prophesying about the hope that God would restore the Jews to their land someday. God showed Ezekiel how he could bring a bunch of old dry bones to life. In the same way God could bring his people back to life if they would turn to him. You can find the story in the book of Ezekiel 37:1-14.

Explore the Story: You will need some dry pasta. Hand the pasta around - it is dry and not very tasty at all. It looks like nothing can help it - nothing good can come of it. But we know that if we boil it for ten minutes and add some sauce, it will be very good indeed. When we face something that is very hard in our lives, sometimes it is hard to think that anything good can happen - like in the valley of dry bones. But just as we know about this pasta, we know that the hard things in our life can become a lot better. Just as God brought life to the valley of dry bones with the breath of his Holy Spirit, God can make bad things better in our lives too. And he will - when we trust him for it. That is what the gospel of Jesus Christ is all about.

Prayer Time: As you hold a piece of dry pasta ask everyone to think about the things they are finding hard right now. Lift them to God and pray together

Heavenly Father, sometimes we face hard things and life seems hopeless. If you can make dry bones live again, you can make something good out of the hard things in our life. We lift to you the hard things in our life. In Jesus' name we pray, amen

Sing: Creator God. Find it on [Youtube](#)

Creative Activity: Use cotton buds and white paint or strips of white paper to make your bones.



Mission Impossible Game

Try picking up a range of household items with your feet. See who can hold things up for the longest or maybe try painting?

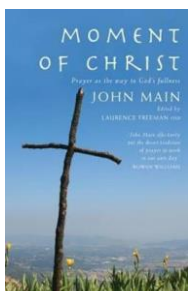
Something for the Over 11's

1. Have you faced, or do you know someone who has faced an impossible task?
2. God could have brought the bones to life himself so why do you think God used Ezekiel?
3. How can God revive you in a personal situation when hope is lost?

Pray for people you know that are facing an impossible situation. Remember that no matter how dried up and useless you may feel, God can restore you to life.

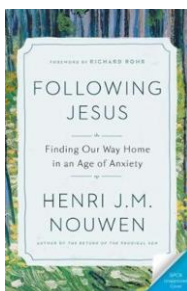
Books

This week's book suggestions come from Church House book shop. Expect them to be a little more challenging than last week's selection.



Moment of Christ by John Main

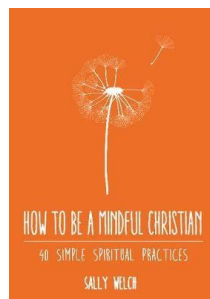
In this, the last book he wrote before his death, the spiritual writer John Main characteristically turns to the source and focus of all his inspirational teaching about prayer - the presence of Christ



Following Jesus By Henri Nouwen

At one of the lowest points in his life, Henri Nouwen gave a series of lectures on the importance of following Jesus in an age of anxiety.

This new work from the archives of the Nouwen estate draws on those talks.



How to Be a mindful Christian By Sally Welch

This introduction to Christian mindfulness offers a practical guide to mindfulness as a way of Christian living.

Mission – CRiBS



These really are unprecedented times. We wanted to take this opportunity to let you know about how the current situation is impacting on our work in CRiBS. As the Easter Play involves contact with over 40 schools we felt it wise to cancel the tour. However we made a weblink available to schools who wanted to see a recording of a previous year's play. So far the video has been viewed more than 60 times, which is a great encouragement!



To adapt to this new season, we are looking at what other aspects of our work can be offered to online. For example, we are actively investigating ways we can make our Unlimited secondary mentoring available online in a way that is safe and respects people's privacy. We are also investigating whether team members might be able to support schools in their provision for vulnerable children and the children of key workers during this time. We want to be there for children and young people who will have questions and uncertainties.

All these initiatives are very much in the early stages at the moment, and we will need to keep on our toes as things develop. But rest assured we are as committed as ever to being salt and light in the educational environment in a way that is safe and sensible at a time of social distancing. Please pray with us for God's wisdom, and His resources to complete what He calls us to.

Thank you, as ever, for your support. If you would like to be in touch with us at this time we are currently working from home. Post will be picked up weekly all the time we can get into the school where we are based. If you call us you will be given a mobile number as an alternative, or you can leave a message which we will try to pick up as soon as possible. But the best way to contact is probably via info@cribsonline.org.

Mark

CRiBS CEO

**But, Lord, what about that time
when there's only one set of
footprints?**

**Look closer, my child. That was
2020; I was still walking with
you, but at a social distance.**


#Live Lent

This Lent, we hope both adults and children might engage in God's plea for us to "Care for Creation". It is an opportunity for us to rebuild our relationship with our planet, and in turn with the God who is Lord of everything.

Archbishop Justin Welby & Archbishop John Sentamu

Find out more and sign up here -

<https://www.churchofengland.org/our-faith/living-out-our-faith/lent-holy-week-and-easter/livelent-care-gods-creation>



Gift Aid

**Do you support our mission and ministry by regular giving?
Do you pay tax?**

If you answered yes to both those questions then we can claim an extra 25% from the government at no cost to you.

It's very easy to sign up

See Charles Brooke or Dot Turner and they will help you.

Bible reading Apps

There are many of these available. Here are two suggestions, but let me know what ones you use.

Youversion – <https://www.youversion.com>

Wordlive - <https://content.scriptureunion.org.uk/wordlive>

Ask Auntie Lauraine

Our resident theological agony aunt answers your questions.

This weeks Questions is: Why doesn't God stop the Coronavirus? From Anon



There are many reasons why I believe it may make sense for God to allow us to go through a certain amount of suffering. After all, it's not God's job to keep us safe, secure and pain-free. God is concerned with bringing us into a relationship with him as fully human people, often shaped by both the joys and challenges of life

Likewise, I don't believe God causes suffering (on the contrary it's our own free will that brings about much of the evil in the world) but I do believe that God is wise, powerful and loving enough to use the pain of our circumstances for his greater purposes. As I said last week the Christian view is that the whole created order is in some sense 'out of kilter' at a cosmic level. But remember Paul also says that one day "the creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the freedom and glory of the children of God" (Romans 8:21). The Coronavirus is just one more example of the broken world we live in. Life is a God-given miracle of extraordinary engineering and complexity.

By creating a world of free creatures – both physical and spiritual - God has granted a level of freedom to the whole of the created order. That means that God won't simply step in and wave a magic wand to take away the suffering in the world. We are part of the problem of evil, and God has chosen us to be part of the solution too.

Inevitably, different Christians will come to different understandings of how to reconcile God and suffering. What we can agree on is that God is good, suffering is bad, but that his love and purposes will win out in the end.

There are many questions we will never see answered this side of eternity. Sometimes we will come to an end of trying to explain things and can only throw ourselves on the mercy of God, weep with those who weep, and continue to stand up for truth and love wherever we can.

The good news is that, whatever questions remain, we are called to trust in the God of the cross and the resurrection. The One who turned the greatest injustice and defeat in the world into the ultimate triumph. He specialises in turning evil into good.

50 Ways To Survive Coronavirus

Stay in your flat, Pat,

Don't visit your nan, Stan,

Don't buy all the bread, Ted,

Just listen to me,

Don't hop on the bus, Gus,

Don't hoard all the cous cous,

Leave some bogroll for me, Lee,

And maybe some brie.

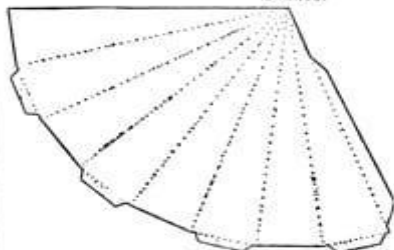
And now for something a little lighter!



9. North aisle, with roof



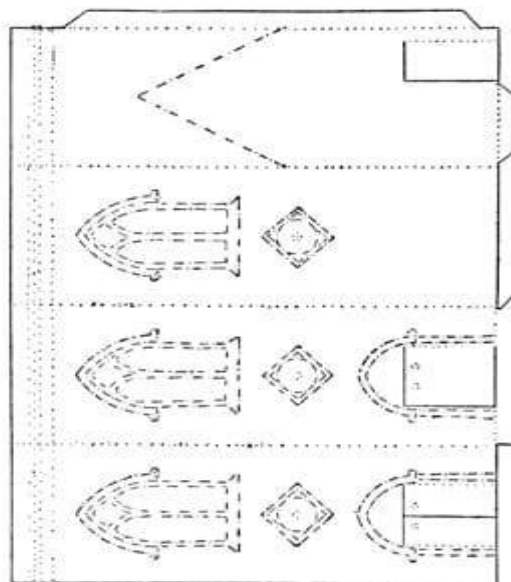
10. Folding the chancel



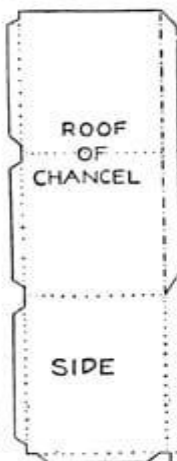
14. Plan of steeple half-scale
Use scale-rule B



13. Cope of tower



17. Plan of tower: half-scale. Use scale-rule B



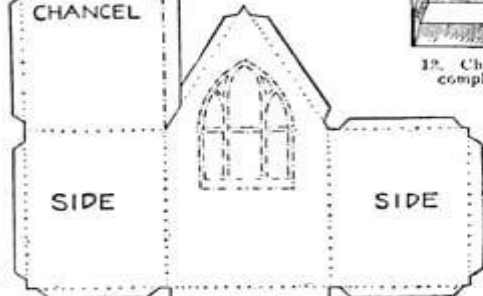
ROOF OF CHANCEL



11. Altar floor



12. Chancel complete



SIDE

SIDE



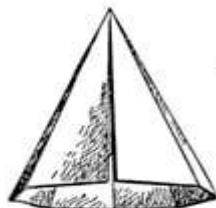
15. Plan of chancel half-scale
Use scale-rule B



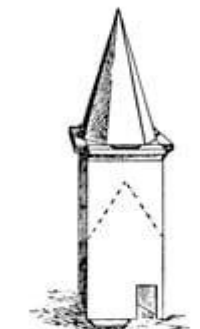
16. Folding the tower



FLOOR



18. Folding the steeple



19. Tower, with steeple



20. Plan of corners of steeple

Mrs T's quiz page

CRYPTIC TOWNS AND CITIES (2)

The following clues provide the names of towns and cities within the UK.

1.	PEOPLE'S ROCK	
2.	A COMPLETE BACON	
3.	CALLIGRAPHY WITH AN "H"	
4.	HOME OF SALE OF THE CENTURY	
5.	SHIPSMAN	
6.	TYING MEAT	
7.	LATEST FORTIFIED WINE	
8.	RELIGIOUS SKULL	
9.	TEND FIRE	
10.	IS THIS PIGGOTT'S TOWN?	

Fun Quiz

1. Which poem ends "Yours is the Earth and all that's in it"?
2. What mountain was climbed by a host of celebrities for Comic Relief?
3. If your surname is Coward, one of your ancestors was not a very brave person – true or false?
4. Whose 1970s' hits included *Baby I'm A Want You* and *The Guitar Man*?
5. Which pair of Disney cartoon characters later became *Rescue Rangers*?
6. The residents of Pompeii shouldn't have built their town next to which volcano?
7. What insect carries the Bubonic plague bacterium?
8. Who was president of the USA from 1963 to 1969?
9. What gas is produced when Calcium Carbide reacts with water?
10. Norway often got no points during the 1990s, but which country won Eurovision four times?
11. What do the rivers Tay, Humber, Rhine and Weser have in common?
12. Harry Potter – which giant becomes teacher of the Care of Magical Creatures?
13. Which ocean do you cross when sailing from Madagascar to Australia?
14. According to the adverts a happy housewife used to use this to put the freshness back into her carpet
15. In which decade did Benny Hill die?
16. Which was the last UK Prime Minister not to have a wife?
17. What would do you do with a hookah?
18. In the *Ghostbusters* movie, what was the Stay Puft Man made of?
19. Which classic hit begins "If you see me walking down the street"?
20. A Lipizanner is a breed of which animal?

**Answers on
Page 20**

Poet's Corner

Chris Meaton suggested a poetry section. She has sent one of her favourites below. You can send you ideas, but bear in mind copyright. The best thing to do is send in your own compositions. I'll start you off with one of mine.

Hope is a Thing with Feathers

Hope is the thing with feathers That perches in the soul, and sings the tune
without the words, and never stops at all,

And sweetest in the gale is heard; And sore must be the storm That could
abash the little bird That kept so many warm.

I've heard it in the chilliest land, and on the strangest sea; Yet, never, in
extremity, it asked a crumb of me.

Emily Dickinson

This metaphorical poem describes Hope as a little bird that perches in the soul at the hardest times. Chris

Tree A

Sprawling boughs, spanning the wilderness of history.
Observer of kingdom and dominion,
Empire strong and government sturdy.
The world passes at a blur while you sit in peace.
Immune to the cares of Man.

I look at you, majestic creature,
And see that I'm just part of the bigger picture.
You don't know I'm here,
Part of the scenery.
But I look at you and think
that maybe God is real.

Clive Beazley-Long

Ann's simple recipes for everyone

St Paul's resident culinary queen Ann Easter shares some of her recipes with you.

Butternut Squash Soup

"This is my favourite soup and is one of the easiest to make"

Ingredients

- 1 Butternut Squash – Approx. 1Kg
- 1 Large red onion
- 1 Pint of chicken stock
- Croutons (optional)



Instructions

Dice the butternut squash & onion, then boil until soft.

Drain and allow to cool for a few minutes.

Place the squash and onion carefully in a blender and add the stock.

Blend until smooth. Can be eaten straight away or refrigerated and heated in a pan on a medium heat until bubbling.

Add croutons and enjoy.

Buy the butternut squash ready diced into cubes

Ann's top tips
For an extra kick add some chilli flakes at blending stage

Blast from the Past

From "St Pauls Church News" September 1965.

"Meeting-Point" for Women: This is not just a new name for Young Wives, but a change in concept, too, for it is intended that "Meeting-Point" will be the centre of all the women's work of our Church. It's purpose is to meet others, and together to meet the challenge of Christ. The essence of "Meeting-Point" is to meet new friends at each meeting, and there are no qualifications (which usually result in being dis-qualifications!) for membership. Meetings—always open for all women—on the first Tuesday in the month at 2.45 p.m. in the Church Hall (also Baby Nursery) and on the third Tuesday at 8 p.m. at the Vicarage. Please come along and join us!

Mothers' Union: The Fortieth Anniversary as a branch was celebrated with a Tea on 12th August. Several members who had moved to neighbouring branches returned to greet old friends. Mrs. Clayton, quite young in her 94th year, was also present. We were glad to welcome Mrs. Newlyn from the Women's Fellowship. Tea was served by the Committee. Our thanks to Lynda Miles for making the Anniversary Cake.

Note the Jumble Sale on Friday, 3rd September at 2.30 p.m., at the Community Centre. Our next meeting is on the 9th September. L.R.

Men's Association: The 14th Annual Horticultural Show will be held on Saturday, 11th September. It will be opened by the Matron of Oakhurst at 3 p.m. Prize distribution will be at 6 p.m. approx., and Mrs. Gane has kindly accepted our invitation to present the prizes.

The usual number of classes are available as last year, including Handicrafts and Cake Making. We look to you for your support and hope the Church Funds will benefit from this show. There will be a Bring and Buy Sale and all produce will be gladly welcomed. Schedules and admission tickets are now available.

A.G.M.

— OUR 1965 HOUSEPARTY TO SWITZERLAND —

The Parish Houseparty, held abroad for the first time in 1964, was so successful and richly blessed that we had little difficulty in deciding to return this year to the very small habitation of Gurnigelbad, half-way between Berne and Thun. There is, nevertheless, always the danger that what appears to be a ready-made success, if God does not bless it, will be a disappointment.

How far the houseparty was again blessed can best be judged from the following, written by a member of both houseparties.

"Thun Castle, Switzerland—magical words! Can you picture it? The grey walls rising from the calm, peaceful lake, the surrounding mountains, and the air like wine. And Berne! Think of the bears enjoying the universal and international admiration of the spectators, not to mention the plentiful supply of carrots. Then the famous balconies of the Berne houses, the decorations on the walls, and the well-known clock-tower. These were just two of the places we visited.

"One of the happiest evenings was that spent with the "Lukas" Youth Club of Thun. Here on the Friday we met the members, who made us feel very much at home. We all enjoyed seeing the film slides of the development of the Stockhütte over the past few years undertaken by the Club. Our main meetings were in the morning, when Romans chapter 8 was the passage studied. We were all greatly helped by this. Everyone worked in well together, and it was indeed a wonderful holiday."

The houseparty is numerically best supported by the young in body, but every year feels the very welcome influence of those who are merely young at heart. While the fitter members displayed their abundant energies, at all hours of the day—and, occasionally, of the night—the older members made their contribution, and the understanding and appreciation of the viewpoints of others of another age group grew deeper day by day. The younger members will probably remember the sense of achievement at the 19-man (and woman) ascent of Gantrisch again, and the far more arduous ascent of the Stockhorn, only a few metres higher, but involving a 30 km. walk, in addition to all the climbing from our mountain home for the fortnight at 3,500 ft. Probably the older members will remember the return of the five young men, faces streaked with dried out salt, on a day in which the sea-level temperature had hovered in the 90s. But they remember other things too

"The first thing all of us felt was, I believe, a great thankfulness to God and His Son for making this houseparty possible, and for being with us; we were all, I am sure, conscious of His presence with us at all times, and for bringing us safely home. How can you describe in a few words a golden sunset behind the Jura mountains over 100 miles away, or snow-capped mountain peaks clear and sparkling against the background of a clear blue sky, or the precious Christian fellowship which, I believe, we enjoyed most of all? Come and see some of these things for yourselves at the reunion. Nearly everybody I know would like to go again—what better recommendation?"

Usually the houseparty takes one or two members who are not from the parish and an indication of the true sense of fellowship and the presence of the Holy Spirit can be derived from considering the way in which they were made to feel at home. This is what the houseparty meant to one of them.

"Our Swiss houseparty was a time of very great blessing as our Father drew us each closer to Himself and to our brothers and sisters in Jesus Christ. We have had much to learn in our Christian lives, we have seen some of the beautiful things in God's creation and have had a great deal of fun.

"To our Swiss friends and the Houseparty Committee may we say 'Thank you for all your hard work which made the houseparty the success it was?' To our Father may we return grateful thanks for a wonderful holiday? 'Always and for everything giving thanks in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to God the Father' (Eph. 5 : 20)." L.G.H.

On TV this week

Freeveiw Sky Virgin Freesat BT

Saturday

09:25 – 20:00: Call the Midwife: Drama (20 143 130 158)

14:05: The Dead Sea Scroll Detectives: PBS (91 174 273)

20:00: Britain's Viking Graveyard: Channel 4

Sunday

06:00: Hour of Power: Sky1 (106 110)

07:25-21:20: Call the Midwife: Drama (20 143 130 158)

09:00: Father Dowling Mysteries: CBS Drama (71 147 197)

09:30: Sunday Brunch: Channel 4 [With Christian Rapper Guvna B]

10:30: The Big Questions: BBC1

13:15: Songs of Praise: BBC1

15:35: Evan Almighty: Sky Cinema Comedy (308 408 508)

16:20 – 20:20: Father Brown: Alibi (132 126 312)

20:00: Antiques Roadshow: BBC 1 [Letters from Mother Teresa]

Monday

07:10: Secrets of the Bible: Yesterday (25 155 129 159)

08:00 & 16:05: Father Brown: Alibi (132 126 312)

15:15: Sister Act: Sky Cinema Musicals (304 404 504)

17:00: Sister Act 2: Sky Cinema Musicals (304 404 504)

Tuesday

07:10: Secrets of the Bible: Yesterday (25 155 129 159)

08:00 & 16:00: Father Brown: Alibi (132 126 312)

11:55: Chariots of Fire: Sky Cinema Drama (310 410 510)

13:05: The Prince of Egypt: Sky Cinema Family (306 406)

20:30: The Art Mysteries: BBC4 (9 116 107 107)

Wednesday

08:00 & 16:00: Father Brown: Alibi (132 126 312)

Thursday

08:00 & 16:00: Father Brown: Alibi (132 126 312)

00:30: Walk the Line: Sky Cinema Musicals (304 404 504)

Friday

08:00 & 16:00: Father Brown: Alibi (132 126 312)

14.20: Sister Act: Sky Cinema Musicals (304 404 504)

16:05 Sister Act 2: Sky Cinema Musicals (304 404 504)

21:00: Pilgrimage, The Road to Istanbul: BBC2

21:00: Mumford & Sons live from South Africa: Pick (11 152)

Streaming



This country – BBC iPlayer

Spoof documentary about two young people living in rural Wiltshire. The hapless lead characters are helped along by their understanding Vicar.

By the conclusion of series 3 (The just aired final episode). Kurtain & Kerry are devastated that the vicar is moving to a new parish. Contains strong language.

Do you have any TV or Streaming suggestions? Let us know.



Radio programs

Prayer for the Day daily at 5.43am on Radio 4

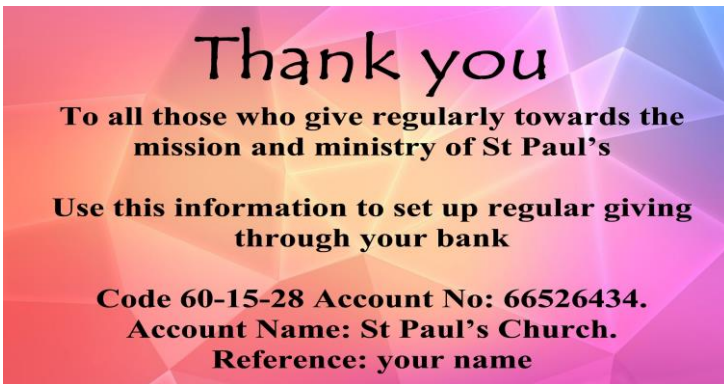
Sunday Worship Sundays at 8.10am on Radio 4

Daily Service Monday to Friday at 9.45am on Radio 4

Longwave and DAB

Lent Talks Wednesdays at 8.45pm on Radio 4

Choral evensong- Wednesdays at 3.30pm and the same service is repeated Sundays at 3pm on BBC Radio 3



Quiz answers

Cryptic towns and cities

1. Folkestone, 2. Fulham, 3. Penarth, 4. Norwich, 5. Crewe, 6. Nottingham, 7. Newport, 8. Holyhead, 9. Stoke, 10. Leicester.

Fun Quiz

1. If, 2. Kilimanjaro, 3. False (a coward was in charge of a herd of cows), 4. Bread, 5. Chip & Dale, 6. Vesuvius, 7. Flea, 8. Lyndon B Johnson, 9. Acetylene, 10. Ireland. 11. All flow into North Sea, 12. Hagrid, 13. Indian Ocean, 14. Shake'N'Vac, 15. 1990s, 16. Theresa May, 17. Smoke it, 18. Marshmallow, 19. Walk on By, 20. Horse.

