



# CHURCH AT HOME

## Issue 6: April 23rd 2020

Welcome, brothers and sisters to the sixth edition of "Church at Home".

As we move into our sixth week of lockdown, I feel I have shifted into a new phase of at last having gotten used to this strange way of life that we have been forced into. That probably means that the lockdowns going to end and we will all have to get used to normality!

Of course, the reality is that we are probably facing a good few week of this, and even when we are allowed out, restrictions such as social distancing will continue to impact our lives.

What we mustn't allow to be impacted is our faith. Bob's Article (pg. 15) reminded me that faith is a muscle that we have to exercise in order for it to remain strong. So, I encourage you to open your Bible, pray and listen to God. Now more than ever you need our Lord, so don't make the mistake of stopping that which keeps you strong in faith.

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

Rev Clive

## **Church noticeboard**

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

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](mailto:brendat.bt87@gmail.com)

Please put aside some food for our foodbank each week so our usual supply is still there when we come out of this crisis.



## **Community Notices**

### **Contactless Payments**

You can now pay using a Contactless Card for sums up to £45.

### **Knitted Hearts**

Darenth Valley Hospital are asking for donations of small knitted hearts that they place in patients' hands when they pass away. A second heart is then placed in a memory box for relatives. To donate please e-mail

[dgn-tr.wellbeing@nhs.net](mailto:dgn-tr.wellbeing@nhs.net)

# **Community Notices continued**

## **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.

## **This week's prayer**

May El Shaddai, the Lord God Almighty who loves you, protect you. May Jesus Christ, His Son who died for you save you. And may the Holy Spirit who broods over the chaos and fills you with his presence, intercede for you and in you for others at this time. **AMEN**

From 24/7 Prayer.

### **Prayer**

**There are 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 those key workers still having to go out to work, including Liam and Claire (scout leaders).

## **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>

All Souls Langham Place

<https://www.allsouls.org>

## **Watch on TV**

TBN (Freeview 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=PLUmTiGOxKUOhwpvDtOI62mC4bs9JEUyFP>

### **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



Oliver Sparrow

Oliver has mastered Chicken noodle soup



Donald & William Allan

Happy birthday to Donald on Tuesday



Ron Richards

Ron on his hands and knees cutting round the last of forty-two paving slabs on the lawn.



George Stafford

Band practice at home!



Sophie & Alex Tyler  
keeping the family well fed. This week it is delicious homemade pizza 😊



John O'Connor

A new fashion. Do you think it will catch on?



Linda & Richard Mayes

Son Richard (who is currently living with us since isolation) and myself at Bursted Woods enjoying the bluebells



The Sawyerrs

Out exercising in the sun.

**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](mailto:revclive@hotmail.co.uk)

# All Age worship

**Cheryl, Laura & Sarah from the Diocesan team have sent some ideas for worship at home.**

## Ministry @Home



**These resources are to help equip & enable worship together as "family". They are intentionally intergenerational to allow space, conversation, activity & response together as the family of God. We encourage all ages to be participative & open, being responsive to God and each other.**

### Gather.....

- As you gather find a place that is comfortable and have the resources ready for the activities, prayer or response times ready.
- Choose 3 members to light the 3 candles (engage all ages)

#### **Opening words of praise with lighting of 3 candles -**

I will light a light  
in the name of the Maker,  
who lit the world  
and gave everything life.

I will light a light  
in the name of the Son,  
who saved the world  
and stretched out his hand to me.

I will light a light  
in the name of the Spirit,  
who is present everywhere in the  
world  
and gives me strength.

**Together:**  
**We will light three lights**  
**for the trinity of love:**  
**God above us,**  
**God beside us,**  
**God beneath us;**  
**The beginning,**  
**The end**  
**and the Everlasting one.**

### Welcome.....

**Song:** Way Maker, Leeland

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=29IxnsgOkmQ>  
**(can be sung, read aloud or listened to)**

**Reflection time:** Our theme today is listening to Jesus. Jesus friends are sad and confused, life has not turned out as they expected. Have you ever had a time like that in your life? Share this with those you are with.

**Bible passage:** Luke 24: 13-35 (ask a member to read the passage, possibly from a child's Bible & allow space to reflect)

**And/or watch** this is a short cartoon

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ndtnZV-5QTo&t=103s>

But if you have a little more time try this

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vepBqHvZ0Xs>

It is Sunday evening. On the Friday before, their best friend Jesus was nailed to a cross, where he died.

This morning some women went to the tomb where his dead body had been put, but they came back with a very strange story, saying that his body wasn't there! No wonder the friends were confused.

What a puzzle! The friends did not recognise Jesus, and he didn't seem to know what they were talking about. They explained to him why they were puzzled and sad. What did Jesus say to all this? He wanted to show them that God had planned the whole thing many, many years before. In fact, the whole story was there in the Bible.

## Interactive Learning.....



Make the story. Using crackers, green icing and gummi bears re-create the story. Before you eat it imagine you were one of the friends, what would you ask Jesus? What would you most like Jesus to explain to you? Think of a really tricky question you would ask Jesus?

### Guess.....What is it???

You will need: A blindfold (scarf), some familiar objects

Jesus said it was better to believe without seeing. Take it in turns to wear the blindfold. Pass an object to the person wearing the blindfold, can they work out what it is without being able to see it?

You could think about how the object feels, how it smells, if it makes a sound. Maybe you will find out new things about the objects that you hadn't noticed before.

When Jesus spent time with his followers, they did not recognise him by how he looked but they experienced something new about who he was in the way he unlocked scripture to them.

When feeling the object how did you begin to recognise what it was? Was there something familiar, a shape, a texture?

Where you completely baffled? This is how the disciples felt, at first they were completely baffled, not sure but then there was also something vaguely familiar in the experience.

### Create a Family or Group Journal

In your gathering/group, have a bible to hand & journal pages

Call out a book of the bible and group members

Find the book of the bible. Ask the person with the bible to read out a couple of verses. Vary the books being found.

Remind the people gathered the bible is all about Jesus, Jesus taught the disciples the bible is all about him.

Jesus calls **US** to **follow** and **respond** to him.

On the journal page write how each of you can respond to Jesus this coming week. Emphasis that responding means action – to respond to Jesus is to be a follower and requires action. ☺

### Whilst creating chat about the following questions & share stories.....

- Which part of the story did you like the most?
- What is the best bit for you about going through your life with Jesus?
- When do you feel Jesus closest to you?
- How can you help others feel close to Jesus?



## Reflection & Prayer Time.....

**Song:** Every Step, Nick and Becky Drake

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZBhKp5\\_HwE](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZBhKp5_HwE)  
(can be sung, read aloud or listened to)

In our story today Jesus met with his followers while they were on the road. Why not plan a route you can walk in your community. Think of Jesus walking beside you.

If you are allowed out of the house, you could walk your actual route during allowed exercise time – remember to keep at a safe distance from anybody you meet. If not, use google maps “street view” and travel your route from inside your home. Pray for the people and places on the route

### The Lord’s Prayer

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Lead us not into temptation  
but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and for ever.  
Amen.**

## Celebration....

**If any of your members  
celebrate a birthday within the  
next week – sing**

Happy birthday to you  
To Jesus be true  
May God's richest blessings  
Be showered on you.



## Closing.....

**The Grace (with “Messy” actions)**

**May the grace of our Lord Jesus  
Christ,  
and the love of God,  
and the fellowship of the Holy  
Spirit  
be with us all,  
now and evermore. Amen.**

## Closing Responses.....

**Song:** Our God, Chris Tomlin  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=01Yj7H-eSjM>  
can be sung/read aloud or listened to)

From where we are  
to where you need us.

**Jesus, now lead on!**

From the security of what we know  
to the adventure of what you reveal.

**Jesus, now lead on!**

To make this world  
look more like your kingdom,

**Jesus, now lead on!**

**Ask different members to blow out the  
candles.....until you meet again**

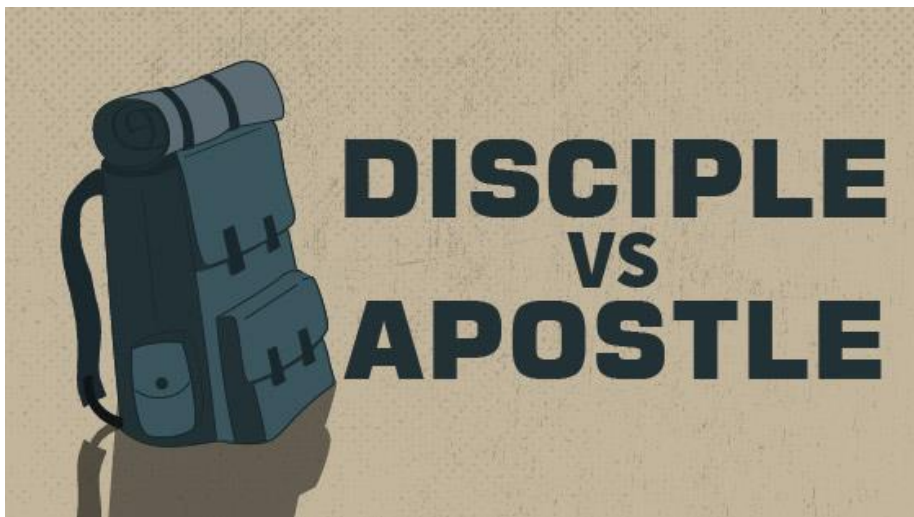
### Extra Ideas

- Build a  model
- Plan a walk together for when we can go further. Maybe past your school or church. Talk with God as you go.

## *Ask Lauraine*

**Our resident theological thinker answers your questions.**

**This week's Questions is: What is the difference between a disciple and an apostle? From Tim Luff**



The simple answer is that while a disciple is a student, one who learns from a teacher, an apostle is sent to deliver those teachings to others. "Apostle" means messenger, one who is sent. ... The word "apostle" today has two meanings, the larger meaning of a messenger and the narrow meaning to denote the twelve people directly linked to Jesus Christ. The term is sometimes also applied to others, especially Paul, who was converted to Christianity a few years after Jesus' death. In Luke 6:13 it states that Jesus chose 12 from his disciples "whom he named apostles," (see also Matthew 10:1-2) and in Mark 6:30 the Twelve are called Apostles when mention is made of their return from the mission of preaching and healing on which Jesus had sent them.

There is also the gift of apostleship which some church leaders have today. See Ephesians 4:11, I Corinthians 12:28, Acts 1:21-22, 1 Corinthians 9:1.

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Do you have a question for Lauraine? Do let me (or her) know. [revclive@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:revclive@hotmail.co.uk)

## Mission

### A message from our mission partners in Lille, France



Lockdown means doing and even learning to do lots of things we wouldn't normally do. For us, this has included:

- Taking the cat for a walk on a lead
- Prayer meetings and oral exams with students via Zoom
- Turning the office into a recording studio to produce a 3-minute sermon (See here for the result: <https://christchurchlille.fr/events/sunday-19-april-2020-worship/> - my sermon is about 5 minutes, 15 seconds into the video )

We've also discovered that we've sometimes given "I don't have time" as the reason for not doing something, but now we do have time it still isn't done! Perhaps, we were kidding ourselves and the real reason was "I can't be bothered". In any case, a couple of those things have now been done and we have learned something about our true motivations.

At the moment it looks as if France will start coming out of lockdown on 11<sup>th</sup> May – this means that our Muslim neighbours will be confined for the first half of Ramadan, which is bound to cause a lot of frustration.

We hope you are all well and finding God's peace in this difficult time.

## **Mission 2**

### **A message from our mission partners - Tearfund**



#### **Our global team is providing a truly global response to help tackle this pandemic**

Tearfund is present in more than 50 countries and we are doing all we can to stand with the most vulnerable people at this time.

People in poverty will be hit hardest by coronavirus. Millions do not have access to healthcare. Vital medical equipment, such as ventilators, is scarce. And for many families, being in lockdown means they are no longer able to earn money to feed their children. In places where malnutrition is already a problem, even more people face starvation.

We are adapting our programmes and finding new ways to safely support people in need, making sure no one is left behind.

Such as in Afghanistan, where one of our local partners is providing counselling services for staff, patients and their families at a hospital set up to treat patients with coronavirus. We are working alongside the health ministry in Afghanistan to distribute Personal Protective Equipment, to limit the spread and help those on the frontline safely serve people in need.

In Burundi more than half of all children suffer from malnutrition. Our feeding centres provide lifesaving support to new mothers and their babies. Determined to continue this vital service if the country goes into lockdown, our local partners have made plans to use home delivery kits. This will make sure vulnerable families still get the food and help they need to overcome malnutrition and survive.

### **The church is at its most effective being salt and light (Matthew 5:13-16)**

Rosa Camargo de Bravo, who leads Tearfund's work in Latin America and the Caribbean says that 'the temple is closed, but the church is not.' And I couldn't agree more as I see churches around the world united in stepping forward to help people in need.

Tearfund was born out of the compassion and generosity of the local church. And the church remains our greatest partner. We're training pastors to raise awareness of coronavirus to counter misinformation and limit the spread. This will make sure that vital public health information reaches even more people – particularly those who are marginalised and at risk.

### **Generosity knows no bounds**

We're so grateful to have supporters like you, who even in the midst of a lockdown, are looking for ways to help people living in poverty battling this new threat. Thank you for your faithfulness to those we serve. As I speak to our teams around the world, they continue to share how much they value your prayers and support.

The threat is significant, and we want to do all we can to adapt and set up new programmes to make sure that vulnerable communities are not devastated by coronavirus.

These are challenging times for us all. But I know God remains in control. He is close to poor and broken-hearted people. We will weather this crisis as we have always done – by standing together in prayer and by following Jesus where the need is greatest.

God bless,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nigel Harris', with a stylized flourish at the end.

**Nigel Harris**

*CEO, Tearfund*

## Mission 3

### A message from our mission partners - CRiBS



We hope you're well and staying safe during this unprecedented time. Whilst some of our team are furloughed, we continue to look for ways we can provide support for schools when they reopen. We understand that the needs may be very different when we are finally able to get back into schools and we know we will need to be nimble and prepared to adapt very quickly. Mental health issues are right at the front of school concerns when the

children and young people return and we want to be there ready to support them and the staff when that happens. In the meantime we are joining the 2.6 challenge to raise some funding for our work. We're also inviting you, your family and friends to take part in The 2.6 Challenge from Sunday 26 April to help us.

The 2.6 Challenge will launch on Sunday 26 April – what should have been the date of the 40th London Marathon, the world's biggest one-day annual fundraising event. People of all ages are taking on The 2.6 Challenge with a host of activities – from walking, running or cycling 2.6 miles, juggling for 2.6 minutes, to holding online workouts with 26 friends. The ideas and options are endless!

#### **There are just five simple steps to take:**

- 1.** Dream up your 2.6 challenge – if you need help there are lots of ideas [here](#).
- 2.** Head to [twopointsixchallenge.co.uk](https://twopointsixchallenge.co.uk) to donate £26 – or whatever you can afford - to **CRiBS**
- 3.** Ask all your friends and family to sponsor you and challenge them to do their own 2.6 Challenge
- 4.** Complete your challenge
- 5.** Share a photo or video of your challenge on social media with #TwoPointSixChallenge

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Best wishes to you all.

# The Armour of God



A few months ago, I went to my Granddaughter Esme's school to talk to her class about life as a Roman soldier. They were studying the Romans in their history lessons. They really enjoyed meeting a real live Roman legionary and had lots of questions to ask. Esme's school is very close to where they live but has no parking facilities. This meant that I had to change in Esme's house and walk to her school. People who I passed on my way were very amused.

I was reminded of the visit to Esme's school when Ephesians 6 verses 10-20 was given to us in our Daily Bread bible readings recently. The subject of the passage is "the Armour of God". After reading the passage I went into our office to look at the photo of me dressed in my legionaries' outfit. This well-known passage uses the various components of a suit of armour of the time - presumably Roman, as a visual aid to various aspects relating to the Christian Life: -

The breastplate	righteousness
Footwear	readiness to spread the good news of the Gospel
Shield	faith
Helmet	salvation
Sword	...of the spirit - the word of God
Belt	Truth

We need to put on the Armour of God to deal with this virus that is affecting our lives.

In this passage, Paul tells the Ephesians to pray in the Spirit on all occasions using all kinds of prayers and requests. Now is the time to "bombard" God with our pleas to end the spread of the Coronavirus.

Bob Lindridge

## Books

This week's book suggestions come from SPCK.



### Baby Change by Anne Calver

I thought having a baby would complete me. I was wrong. I believed I'd be a great parent and a natural 'mum'. I wasn't. I thought I'd know what to do. I didn't.

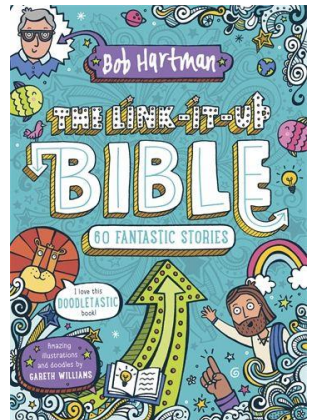
What happens when two become three? When sleep is a myth? When friends used to see you – but now see your baby? Is your identity lost in motherhood? Does your brain still work? 'In those early years I could barely follow an episode of Peppa Pig,' says Anne, 'let alone pick up a Bible.' Anne uses examples from her own struggle, together with biblical insights and other people's experiences, to help you know you are not alone.

Anne Calver is a Baptist minister.

### The Link-it-up Bible by Bob Hartman

Highly visual and interactive, this is a Bob Hartman Bible like never before. Containing over 60 stories, this book highlights the links between stories and draws attention to the wider themes of the Bible.

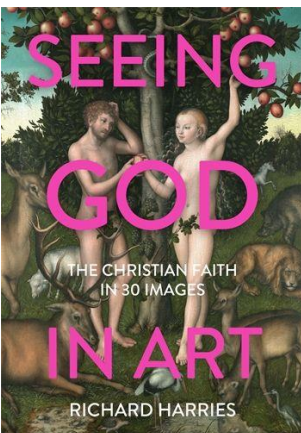
With arrows zipping across the page, pull-out text boxes asking the reader questions and illustration elements bringing each story to life, this book sees the whole Bible linked up and connected to show the bigger story at work - and the God behind it all.



### Seeing God in art by Richard Harries

Over the centuries some of the world's greatest painters have explored and expressed their faith in God through their art. Here, Richard Harries invites you to reflect with him on thirty such artists, and to see how their paintings illuminate important aspects of Christian faith and teaching.

Encompassing masterpieces by Rembrandt, Leonardo, Titian and Caravaggio as well as modern works by Chagall, Spencer and Rouault, this book presents the essentials of the faith in a way that will move the reader to respond with heart as well as head.






## #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>

# Poetry Corner

## TRYING TIMES

T is for testing, our strength and our faith.  
R is for ready by God's good grace.  
Y is you, are you whole or in bits?  
I is illness, severe and unknown  
N is nothing--we can feel so alone.

God is the key to saving or dying.

Tomorrow what will happen?  
I am so sad to see  
Millions succumb to this killing spree.  
Everywhere death threatens, who will be next?

Save us oh Lord, put us not to the test!

Carol O'Connor.



**I look around and see a world of sorrow  
A world our Lord would surely not allow.  
Oh Lord you must be deeply disappointed  
that we have wronged and sadly let you down.  
But we CAN turn this dreadful world around,  
With God's love, it will be done.  
But Lord, we CAN turn this sad world around,  
With God's love, with God's love.**

**We can begin to care a little better  
And show our Lord that his will can be done.  
God's love will surely show us how to tend to  
the needs of all his people and his kin.  
So Lord we WILL turn this sad world around  
With God's love, with God's love  
So Lord we WILL turn this sad world around  
With God's love , with God's love.**

**Hilary Haslan**

# Mrs T's quiz page

## CRYPTIC PHRASES.

1. 2 S of a LT

2. 3 B in a T

3. 10 L on a C

4. 12 GM & T

5. 27 CF in a CY

6. 40 Y in a RWA

7. 59 B in the NL

8. 3 BM,SHTR

**Answers on  
Page 27**

### Mixed up stars

**Anagrams of famous film stars. Can you unravel them?**

1.	MICRO SUET	
2.	FIND LIFE RACE LAD	
3.	DISLOCATE TOWN	
4.	RAJAH NOT VOLT	
5.	CHEETAHS PROWL RINK	
6.	CHINCHILLA REAP	
7.	A HERALD LAUNDRY	
8.	NO BARMAN LORD	
9.	REALLY HERB	
10.	OCEANIC GALS	

# Ann's simple recipes for everyone

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

## Coconut cake



### Ingredients

8oz / 225g Self raising flour  
4oz / 120g Butter  
2oz / 60g Desiccated coconut  
2oz / 60g Sugar  
2 eggs  
6oz / 170g Icing sugar

### Instructions

Sift the flour into a mixing bowl.

Beat the eggs and add to the bowl along with the sugar, butter and desiccated coconut.

Mix the ingredients well until they form a creamy consistency.

Grease a 7" / 18cm cake tin.

Add the mix and level with a spoon.

Bake at gas mark 4 for 1hour or 150c for 50 minutes. Check with a skewer that the cake is cooked.

When the cake is cold, mix the icing sugar with a small amount of water until it is a thin paste. Mix in a handful of coconut and spread onto the cake.

# Photography



Garden in Bloom by  
Margaret Richards



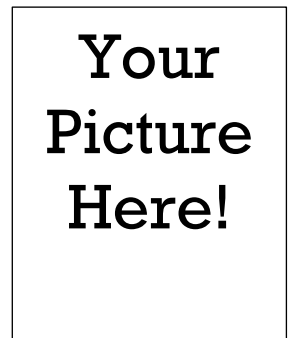
NHS Rainbow  
By Cavan O'Connor



Sunburst on Bursted Woods  
By Tim Luff



Woodland carving  
By Elaine Fermer



The winner of this week best  
Photograph goes to George and his  
lockdown practicing. He will receive  
a copy of "Seeing God in Art" by  
Richard Harries

## Blast from the Past

From "St Pauls Parish News April 1975"

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### PARISH PROFILE

A SERIES in which Len Hollingsworth finds out about personalities in the parish:

Full church membership can be greedy of both time and talents. Yet the church which lives only to itself is a denial of its witness, and so it is that BRENDA REID has not become a member of any of our church organisations, in order to be the efficient Secretary of BECHA - the Bexley Churches Housing Association.

"I'm not evangelically-minded as far as words are concerned, nor a proselytizer. My interests are more practical - hence the job I do. Ten years ago, shortly after the family had moved to our present house in Park Crescent, I was approached by the Rev. Peter Absolom who, with Mrs. Dorothy Sharpley, was the driving force behind the founding of BECHA at that time. They knew that I was a qualified secretary until my daughter Susan was born and was at the time 'not gainfully employed'. So I started work, for an Association whose workers are all voluntary and whose offices are our fourth bedroom!"

Born in South Chingford just before the War, and always a church-goer, Brenda moved to Belvedere on her marriage to husband Eric. In 1971 she was calling upon the then new incumbent of St. Paul's to introduce herself and her association when she noticed a pile of cards promoting the Tortoise Club. Susan, then ten, became a member and later joined the Guides, and Mum began attending our Family Service.

"But I'm nobody's saint", explains Brenda. "Since I try to listen with patience and compassion to those in need who unburden themselves, I'm sometimes irritable with the family as a result. For relaxation I enjoy reading, such as catching up on the classics or a good historical novel. I also like listening to Mozart, Gilbert and Sullivan, and can even say that I prefer one screaming teenager to another on 'Top of the Pops'. Apart from that, I like travel and have begun to share my husband's interest in archeology, which has taken us to Tunisia, Rhodes and Crete. Finally, I like watching football on television. I'm a 'Spurs supporter!"

"The very fact that voluntary Housing Associations exist seems to indicate that something is wrong?"

"Yes, of course. Since 1945 there has been a very steep decline in privately-rented accommodation. This is largely the result of a number of acts since the war which have given greater security to tenants. Elderly landlords, fearing difficulties in evicting an unsatisfactory tenant, have decided not to offer housing. In London one must have one's name on a council housing list for at least eighteen months (double in Inner London) before being considered for a home. For many a mortgage is out of the question, and so the voluntary associations have a part to play."

"Since we commenced operations in November 1966 we've housed 140 families in our 23 units. Most of them are at our end of the Borough, where property is cheaper, for almost all our units are being purchased with a mortgage from the Borough. With the passing of the 1974 Housing Act we can look forward to the continued expansion of our work if we so wish, for with more than about 35 units one needs permanent paid officials. Wherever possible we try to help families, and the average group is four in number. We don't cater for the elderly, but do look after one-parent families. Frequently our customers are referred to us from the Borough, but they must all be either living or working in Bexley. We'll then give them a roof over their heads for from six months to three years."

"You probably have well-intentioned offers of all sorts of furniture, regardless of its suitability, don't you?"

"Yes, but our major need at present is for someone to offer premises as a store for the furniture. It might be a garage, or any waterproof premises which we could use. If any reader has this sort of accommodation, or knows where some might be found, I'd be very pleased to hear from them."

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GRANNIE'S GRATITUDE: All Mrs. Baker's friends at St. Paul's were delighted to hear news that God had blessed her with a grandchild - Esther Emma Hansell.

NEWS JUST IN...Beryl Baker, well known to many of us and at present nursing in East London, has recently moved to a new address: The Flat, 36 Hoxton Square, London, N.1. 6NN (01-739 2064).

S P R I N G   S E L E C T I O N

Congratulations to Keith McGill and Gill White, who recently announced their engagement. This month includes two weddings featuring familiar names. On the 5th, the Vicar has the privilege of conducting the marriage of Margaret Holloway (former girls' leader of our Holiday Club) with Philip Lloyd at Holy Trinity, Dartford. For the last Saturday in April (26th at 3.30 pm) the bells ring out on Northumberland Heath as we rejoice to see Raymond Clark and Ann (daughter of John and Jean) Bennett happily wed.

Change of Leader - Continuing Need! We record our deep appreciation of Mrs. Newlyn's long-standing oversight of the Catering Committee. This task she has now passed into the equally capable hands of Mrs. Joan Handy, and we wish our new "chef" every happiness in seeing to it that the local Christian army continues marching on its stomach. Mentioning the Handys, we look forward to the baptism this month of Debbie, daughter of Gareth and Brenda Handy.

Stand By, Everybody to play your full part once again in Christian Aid Week (May 19 - 24), in preparation for which our energetic leaders, Derek and Joan Forrester, are arranging the showing of one of the organisation's recent films in our church hall following the Lord's Supper on April 27.

Month for Mission. Our prayers are asked for Ian Hobbs, studying for the ordained ministry. From the 6th to the 13th he goes on a mission from Oak Hill Theological College to the parish of Brinsworth, Rotherham. This same week, our Vicar is engaged in a Children's "Holiday Special" in Miss Muriel Pargeter's parish of Purfleet and West Thurrock. A number from St. Paul's are hoping to assist him in this ministry.

Duly Elected:- At this year's Annual Parochial Church Meeting the following were appointed to the Parochial Church Council and we congratulate them on this achievement:

Mr. John Bennett

Mr. Derek Forrester

Mr. David Foulger

Miss Grace Jago

Mr. Leslie Mohrman



## On TV this week

Freeview Sky Virgin Freesat BT

### Saturday

09:00: Father Dowling Mysteries: CBS Justice (39 148 193)

13:05: Sister Act: Sky Cinema Comedy (308 408 508)

14:55: Sister Act 2: Sky Cinema Comedy (308 408 508)

**18:10: Pointless Celebrities: BBC19 [Rev Kate Bottley]**

18:00: Exodus, Gods and Kings: Film4 (14 313 428 300)

### Sunday

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

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

**10:45 Sunday Worship: BBC1**

**13:15: Songs of Praise: BBC1**

14:00 - 20:00: Father Brown: Alibi (132 126 312)

14:00: The Prince of Egypt: Sky1 (106 110)

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

### Monday

11:00 & 17:00: Father Dowling Mysteries: CBS Justice (39)

**14:15: Father Brown: BBC1**

09:00: Father Brown: Alibi (132 126 312)

17:00 The Prince of Egypt: Sky Cinema Family (306 406 506)

### Tuesday

08:10 Ben-Hur: Sky Cinema Greats (304 404 504)

09:00: Father Brown: Alibi (132 126 312)

11:00 & 17:00: Father Dowling Mysteries: CBS Justice (39)

**14:15: Father Brown: BBC1**

### Wednesday

09:00 & 22:00: Father Brown: Alibi (132 126 312)

11:00 & 17:00: Father Dowling Mysteries: CBS Justice (39)

**14:15: Father Brown: BBC1**

14:55 O Brother Where Art Thou?: Sky Cinema Greats (304)  
25

## Thursday

09:00 & 22:00: Father Brown: Alibi (132 126 312)

11:00 & 17:00: Father Dowling Mysteries: CBS Justice (39)

**14:15: Father Brown: BBC1**

## Friday

08:15 Sampson: Sky Cinema Action (307 407 507)

09:00 & 22:00: Father Brown: Alibi (132 126 312)

11:00 & 17:00: Father Dowling Mysteries: CBS Justice (39)

**14:15: Father Brown: BBC1**

20:00: Father Brown: Drama (20 143 130 158)

Times correct at publication, but do check to avoid disappointment.

## Streaming & Box Sets



### Greenleaf – Netflix

Drama Series about a family who run an American mega church. Things are not what they seem on the surface. Corruption, scandal, lost faith & power play

All feature heavily but God usually gets his way as the intertwining plots conclude. Executive produced by Oprah Winfrey this has been a hit in the US. Four seasons for you to catch up with.

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



Thank you

**To all those who give regularly towards the mission and ministry of St Paul's**

**Use this information to set up regular giving through your bank**

**Code 60-15-28 Account No: 66526434.**

**Account Name: St Paul's Church.**

**Reference: your name**

## **Quiz answers**

### **Cryptic Phrases**

*1. Two shakes of a lamb's tail, 2. Three books in a trilogy, 3. 10 Legs on a crab, 4. Twelve good men and true, 5. Twenty-Seven cubic feet in a cubic yard, 6. Forty years in a ruby wedding anniversary. 7. Fifty-nine balls in the National Lottery, 8. Three blind mice, see how they run.*

### **TV Programmes**

*11. New Tricks, 12. Question Time, 13. The Generation Game, 14. Top of the Pops, 15. Location, Location, Location, 16. Last of the Summer Wine, 17. Open All Hours, 18. Gardener's World, 19. Look North, 20. Top Gear.*

