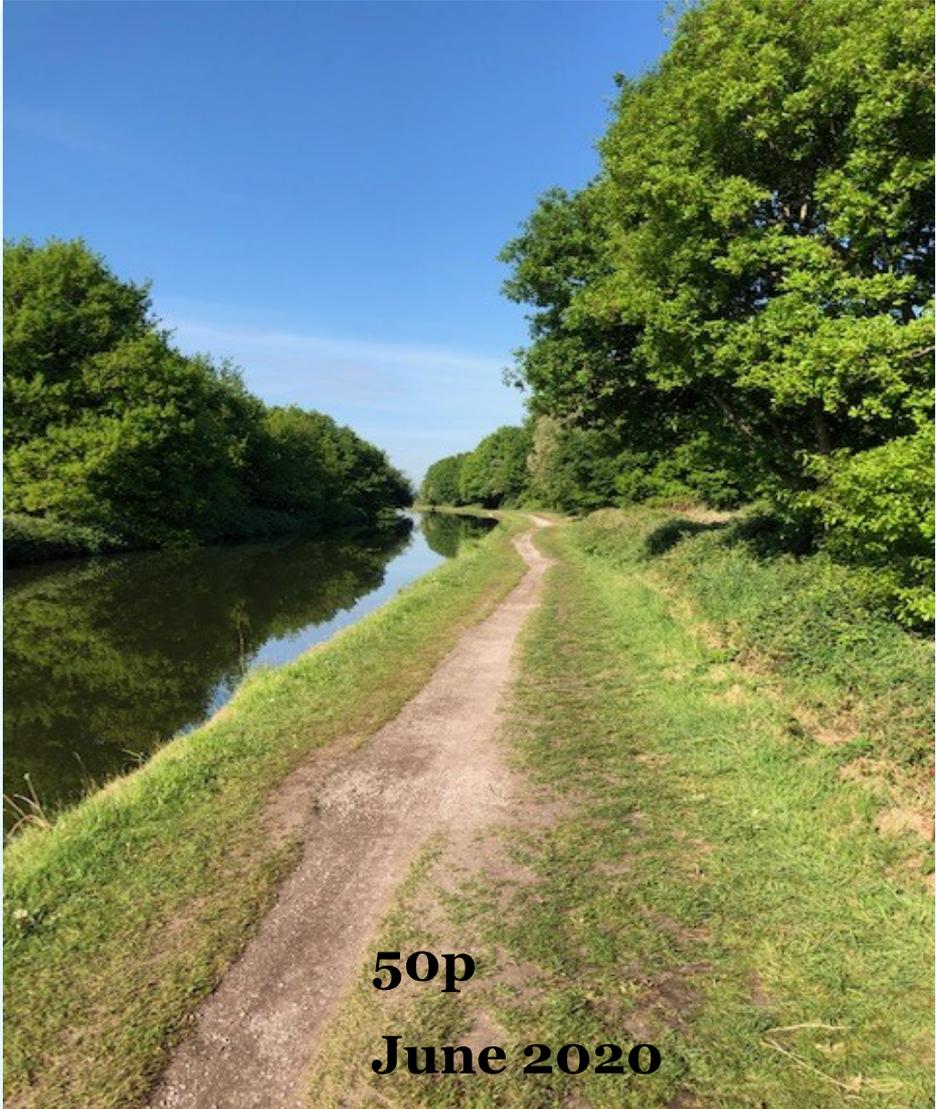


THE PARISH CHURCH OF  
**ST JOHN**



**THE DIVINE**  
BROOKLANDS • SALE



**50p**

**June 2020**

## ***From the Editor***

So, how are you? Not a great question at the moment but how else can we word it? The question is a shorthand way of asking how somebody is physically and mentally and, depending on who is asking, spiritually. Of course as we are British we reply, "fine thanks, how are you", even if we are suffering, sad, fearful, lonely or simply just had enough of the whole thing. A local Vicar I know invited people to send in a photo of themselves showing their thumb in an up, down or sideways position. The comments accompanying the images suggested that a positive thumbs up depended on the day the photo was taken and even the hour of the day. We all have ups and downs but as Philippians 4:6 tells us, when we are anxious we should take that to God. He will listen to our fears.

In taking that anxiety to God we hope for a response. That frequently comes from other people and many of have been touched by kindnesses. One of my favourite scripture passages comes from James 2. Verse 14 says *What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if someone claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save them?* Isabel gives some great examples of deeds in her letter and we should be grateful to her and her team for what they are doing. I'm sure that everybody can point to acts of kindness they have received and we thank God for these.

But what is in the magazine this month, I hear you ask and where was last month's? It was decided that May's could not be safely distributed and apologies for that. Hopefully we are back to normal. This month you can read Isabel's letter; Sharon's Saint; and the usual funnies to cheer you up. Richard discusses rhythms of grace. Mike has penned an interesting note on the 80th anniversary of Dunkirk showing a St John's connection. As we aren't singing hymns in Church currently, there is another worship song to get you thinking. And a remarkable story, in fact four. This May was the Golden Wedding Anniversary of four St John's couples. Ruth has collated reminiscences from each of them.

The Editorial prayer this month is that if you ask somebody how they are, that you really want to hear their answer and that you are given something to listen to.

Be blessed and safe.

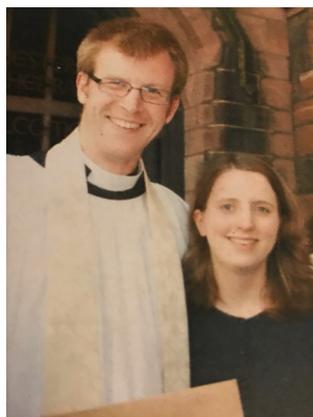
**The Editor**

(brooklandsmag@gmail.com)

## Richard writes...

I hope that you have been keeping safe and well during the past couple of months! I wonder how you are feeling? I guess each of us will experience a variety of emotions during this time and one of the things I have found helpful is daily prayer. We've been reading through 1 Peter together and in the last chapter of his letter the apostle Peter writes: 'Give all your worries and cares to God, for he cares about you' (1 Pet. 5:7). This is an invitation to come

before God as we are with no pretence, to sit and talk to God about whatever is on our mind. During this COVID-19 crisis I have continued to use Lectio365 as a way of framing my prayers, and I have particularly found the recent series based on Pete Grieg's *How to Pray* incredibly helpful. I commend it to you!



In my May Newsletter I encouraged you to use the current crisis as an opportunity to deepen your relationship with Jesus, a relationship that is sustained through a regular rhythm of prayer and Bible reading. There has not been a better time for us to rediscover the *rhythms of grace*. This language is taken from Matt. 11:28-30 where Jesus says: 'Are you tired? Worn out? Burned out on religion? Come to me. Get away with me and you'll recover your life. I'll show you how to take a real rest. Walk with me and work with me—watch how I do it. Learn the unforced rhythms of grace. I won't lay anything heavy or ill-fitting on you. Keep company with me and you'll learn to live freely and lightly.' I love this! The rhythms of prayer and scripture reflect the twin dimensions of relationship - talking and listening.

I have recently re-read *Being Christian* by Rowan Williams, in which he reflects on the essential elements of Christian life, which are delineated in the subtitle: Baptism, Bible, Eucharist, and Prayer. Buy a copy and read it! Its sequel, *Being Disciples* is also wonderful - so much so that Stephen Cherry, a former curate of St John's, says it 'deserves repeated reading'! So there you have it - no excuses!! As we take time to pause daily during this crisis to pray and read the Bible, we become aware of Jesus who is God-*with-us* but we also attune ourselves to the Holy Spirit who is God-*in-us*. This is the message of Pentecost, which we celebrate at the end of May! As Paul writes, 'the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you' (Rom. 8:11).

My encouragement to you is to seek to encounter the Holy Spirit and eagerly desire the spiritual gifts. This begins with prayer, so I have put together two guides to help you frame your day (adapted from material by Kings Cross Church: [www.kxc.org.uk](http://www.kxc.org.uk)). This rhythm of daily prayer and reading scripture will be a blessing to you long after the COVID-19 crisis is over, and how we long for that day!

As we await that day, I would like to sound a note of caution. When we do meet again things shall be quite different from before, nonetheless amidst all our anxiety and uncertainty let us remind ourselves of what Peter says: our 'living hope' is based on the resurrection of Jesus and he will come again to put all things right.

*Richard*

## Rhythms of Grace 1 - Daily Reading

In the Lord's Prayer Jesus taught his followers to ask for our 'daily bread' and it comes to reading the Bible every day there is the temptation to simply race to the end. The acronym BREAD helps slow us down and dive deeper into the passage:

### **Be still**

Find a place where you can encounter God, ask him to fill the space and then take a minute in stillness. Focus on slowing your breathing down and calming your mind. Fix your eyes on Jesus and invite the Holy Spirit to guide your time.

### **Read**

Read through the passage for the day. Pause. Now read through the passage again slowly. Look for one verse that stands out, grabs your attention or interests you.

### **Encounter**

Taking your chosen verse begin to meditate on it. What comes to mind and how does it make you feel? What do you think God is trying to reveal through this verse and allow him to speak to your heart and mind. Write a short reflection on what you think he might be saying.

### **Apply**

Now, turn your focus outwards, think about how you might be able to apply this to your day and write down the one thing you're going to try and live out.

### **Devote**

Finally, close by writing a simple prayer of devotion to God. Ask that God would fill you afresh and commit your day to him.

## **Rhythm of Grace 2 - Daily Prayer**

### **Morning**

Why not try carving out ten minutes to pray using the acronym below:

**Praise:** Spend time praising God for who he is and what he's done for you

**Rejoice:** Spend some time rejoicing in God's blessing through adoration and thanksgiving. This is the most important and enjoyable part of prayer so linger on this step.

**Ask:** Spend a few minutes asking God for his Kingdom to come in the things that lie ahead of you today, in the lives of those you know, and in the world around us.

**Yield:** To yield means to surrender, so spend a few minutes surrendering to Jesus and listening to what he might want to say to you today.

### **Evening**

Before you go to bed, carve out 10 minutes to pray through the prayer of *Examen* - a prayerful reflection which enables you to review the day gone by. Use these four simple steps to frame your time:

Replay the day in order to recognise your emotions and God's presence with you

Rejoice in all the good things of the day Repent of the ways in which you did not follow Jesus wholeheartedly.

Repenting is about choosing to turn towards God, saying sorry where we need to, and turning to him with the things that are facing us that day.

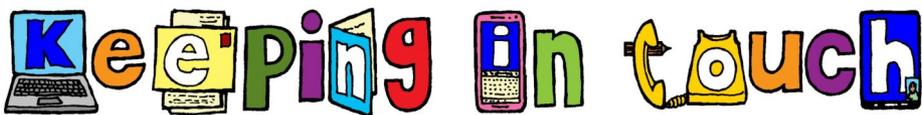
## Keeping in Touch: A letter From Isabel

Dear friends

On 17<sup>th</sup> March the Archbishop of Canterbury announced that all church services were suspended until further notice as the coronavirus continued to spread in our country and throughout the world. It was a sad day for us when the doors of St John's were closed. The reaction of our small pastoral care group was to pray for guidance as to how we could keep in touch with everyone at this strange and distressing time. We invited a few others to join the team and are so grateful that, with no hesitation, they all agreed. With their help, we were able to contact every member of our church family to ensure that each one was safe, to identify any needs or concerns and to offer reassurance and a reminder that we are not alone. Yes, we miss meeting up for worship on Sunday and sharing time together. However, the church is not the building, beautiful as it is. The church is us! We are still together and God is with us wherever we are!

We are all keeping in touch in many different ways, supporting each other and actually getting to know each other better! New opportunities have arisen through our phone calls. New links have been made. A call can make such a difference to someone who is feeling lonely or anxious. Sometimes we just need a chat, especially when we are missing contact with our children, grandchildren, close family and friends. Sometimes it helps to share our feelings and concerns.

We continue to pray for those in need, those who are sick at home and in hospital, and for all NHS staff and carers. Sadly, two members of our church family have died in the past few weeks. We pray for David Cronshaw, who was laid to rest on April 22<sup>nd</sup> and for David Richards whose funeral took place on May 12<sup>th</sup>. Please pray for their family and friends in their sorrow and pain. It is very sad that many family members and close friends are unable to be present at a funeral to offer comfort and support. We have prepared a short reflection to use in this situation. A group of us have met together via Zoom at the time of a funeral to pray for the one being laid to rest and the family grieving the loss of their loved one. This is another way we can connect with our church family at a time when they need our love and prayers.



A good number of us use Zoom at other times, to meet up for coffee and a chat. If you are able to go online and would like help to link up, please don't hesitate to ring and ask. If you do not have internet access, don't worry. We shall continue to keep in touch in other ways. I look forward to the day when our church will be open again, and we shall all be there praising God together.

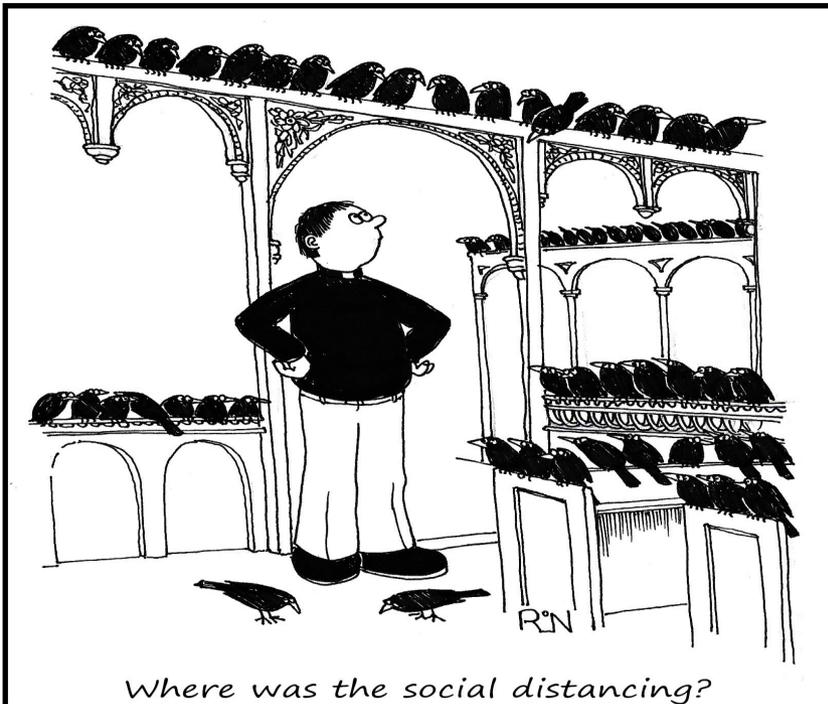
If you would like us to pray for you, or with you, or if you know of anyone who would appreciate a call, please give me a ring on the number below.

Take care and stay safe. With love and prayers.

Isabel

Tel: 0161 980 5762

Keeping in touch



## Golden Weddings May 2020

The month of May 1970 must have been an excellent time to be married. Here at St. Johns we have no fewer than five couples who will be celebrating (or possibly not, in the current Coronavirus situation, ) their Golden Wedding anniversaries. They are- --

Ros and Llew Morris	16th May
Linda and Warner Jackson	16th May
Ann and John Pilling	23rd May
Ruth and Roger Shaw	28th May
Chris and John Padbury	30th May

I know people are living longer these days but I think it is quite a remarkable achievement that we have five couples in our congregation celebrating fifty years together. Each couple has put a few words together.

### Ruth writes

Roger and I were married at St. Johns on Thursday 28th May by the then curate Rev Sebastian Jones. We moved to Sale on marriage and still live in the same house, albeit with lots of extensions and modernisations. I found early on that it was in my interest to be able to wield a spanner and help with all the ongoing repairs to our old cars- especially handy when changing a clutch!! At least if we got the car fixed we could go on our camping holiday!

Like all couples we've had ups and downs along the way but two daughters and three grandchildren later we are in a lovely state of contentment and, like an old pair of slippers very comfortable and very blessed with our life together.

### Linda writes

Accepting that neither of us is perfect. Supporting the same football team also helps!

We got married at Withington Congregational Church, Palatine Road. Unfortunately now demolished but it is now part of the Christie development so has been of good use.

### Ann writes

The marriage of Patricia Ann Taylor to John Pilling took place in Saturday 23rd May 1970 at 12 noon at the Church of St. John the Divine Brooklands, the Rev E.S. Buckley officiated.

Well that was 50 years ago! Who would have thought that we would be back living in Brooklands 50 years later and attending St. Johns church again. We have had a very happy and varied life together with a wonderful son, daughter in law and two beautiful granddaughters. We gratefully thank God for his blessings shown upon us

### **Chris writes**

We were married at Christ Church Timperley on May 30<sup>th</sup> 1970

Trust and compromise have played a good part in our marriage. I often joke that it's because John worked away most of his working life that we have reached our Golden Wedding milestone.

### **Ros writes**

We were married at the Avenue Methodist Church on 16th May 1970. Ours was a meeting that might never have happened. After a year of teaching, I was ready for travel, had handed in my notice and arranged a job in the U.S.A. Unfortunately, (or so it seemed at the time) this plan never came to fruition because of the recurrence of a serious illness. Thanks to the kindness of my headteacher, my old job was handed back to me so I was thus established back at Broadoak School in Partington when Llew arrived on the scene, having been assigned there by Cheshire County Council as a newly qualified teacher. The rest is history. We have been very happily married for 50 years, always sharing everything, and give thanks for still being together and in good health. In these troubling times we tell this story as an example of the way in which kindness can turn misfortune into great good. We say thank you for all the friendship and support we have from both clergy and laity of St Johns over the last 46 years.

We had planned to have a celebratory cake and drink with our church family in May. Now we will postpone it until we are clear of the virus, hopefully later in the year.

### **Ruth Shaw**



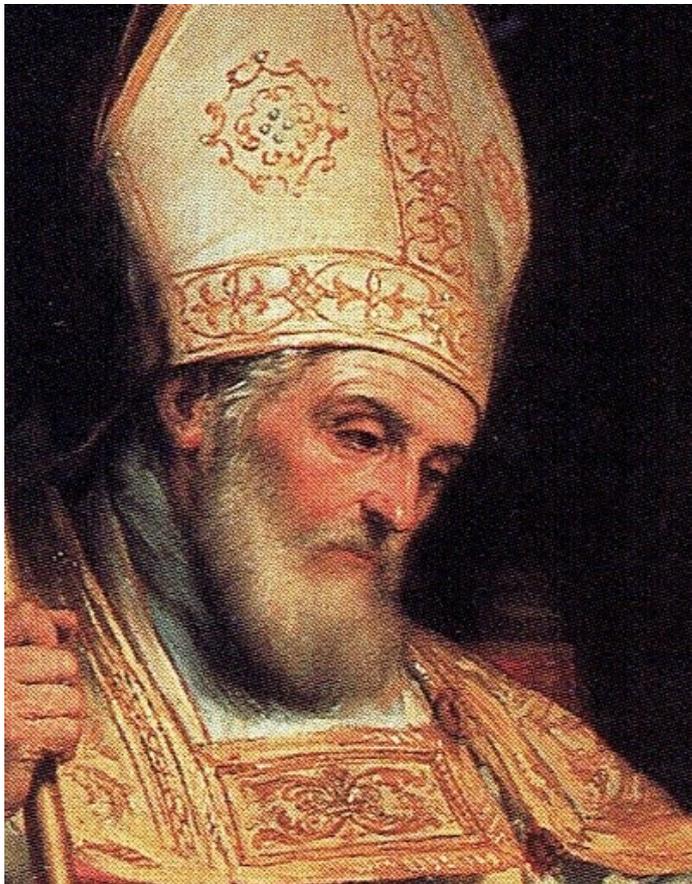
## Saint Isidore

Isidore came from a devout Spanish family. He was a farm labourer at Torrelaguna, near Madrid. An early riser, he visited church each morning and also prayed whilst ploughing. Legend, has it that a team of white oxen, driven by angels, were seen ploughing, next to him.

On one occasion, Isidore gave some hungry birds, half a sack of grain. The remaining half yielding, twice as much flour.

In 1615, Phillip III of Spain, was ill with a mortal fever. Isidore's bones were placed in his chamber and he made a full recovery.

Feast 15 May



## St John's connection with a hero of the Dunkirk evacuation, Captain William G Tennant

As we remember the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the evacuation of Dunkirk (26<sup>th</sup> May to 4<sup>th</sup> June) readers might be interested to hear about Captain (later Admiral) Tennant's association with our Church. At Dunkirk, Captain Tennant acted as 'beachmaster' and he was tasked with organising the withdrawal of more than 300,000 soldiers from the beaches to the armada of small boats that had sailed across the English Channel. Operation Dynamo (as the evacuation was known as) was a success thanks to a large part in the organisational skills of Captain Tennant.

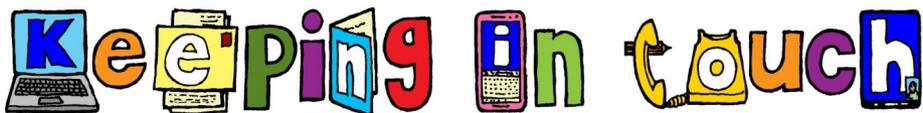
William Tennant's connection is through his Mother, Mary Eliza Tennant (nee Lowe). She married Edmund William Tennant at St John's on 24<sup>th</sup> November 1886. Mary's parents were James and Ellen Lowe and the family was living in Chorlton-cum-Hardy at the time of the marriage. Two years earlier James and Ellen had dedicated a stained glass window in memory of their son Eddie and this can be seen on the first window on the left hand side of the nave.

Edmund and Mary settled in Upton Upon Severn, Worcestershire where Edmund died in 1924 aged 64, and Mary in 1959 aged 96. William was born in January 1890.

Admiral Sir William George Tennant, K.C.B., C.B.E., M.V.O.

He served in the Royal Navy from 1905 to 1949. There is a lot of information on his career on the internet for any reader interested. Briefly, he was at Jutland in WW1 and in WW2 was given the task of organising the evacuation of troops from Dunkirk for which he was awarded the C.B.E.. Following Dunkirk he was appointed Captain of HMS Repulse which was sunk by the Japanese - fortunately he was rescued and escaped the horrors of being a Japanese POW. He was involved in the Normandy landings being given the responsibility of organising naval supplies. He died in 1963.

Mike Lawrence



## Lauren Daigle: You Say

Lauren Daigle is a phenomenon. Still in her 20's she has had astonishing success in the Christian music world. So successful has she been that her music has crossed over into the conventional music charts. Her biggest hit song is 'You Say'. You may not know that there is a music chart called Hot Christian Songs, but there is and Daigle had an incredible 80 weeks at Number 1 with this song. It also had critical acclaim, winning a Grammy as well as other major music awards. The Editor was fortunate enough to see her perform in Manchester last year and can report it was a joyous evening.

Commenting on her music in a Billboard interview, Daigle says, "I don't shy away from singing about my faith. I think it conveys honesty, and people see authenticity. More people are going to relate to my music if it's sincere. I believe that wholeheartedly. That's how you reach people that might not have felt that [the Christian genre] was their home before." And on this song, "You Say." "I knew this would be a song of my identity. 'You say I am loved.' That's the truth."

The official video for the song has so far accumulated 153 million views with a later one showing the lyrics having a further 62 million. If you type 'You say' into youtube it pops up at the top of the list.

*I keep fighting voices in my mind that say I'm not enough  
Every single lie that tells me I will never measure up  
Am I more than just a song of every high and every low  
Remind me once again just who I am because I need to know*

*You say I am loved when I can't feel a thing  
You say I am strong when I think I am weak  
And you say I am held when I am falling short  
And when I don't belong, oh You say I am Yours  
And I believe  
Oh I believe  
What You say of me  
I believe*

*The only thing that matters now is everything You think of me  
In You I find my worth, in You I find my identity*

*Taking all I have and now I'm laying it at Your feet  
You have every failure, God, You have every victory*

*Oh, I believe  
Yes I believe  
What You say of me  
I believe*

## Zoom Church

The announcement that Zoom Church will start at St John's on June 14<sup>th</sup> might leave some readers slightly perplexed. Going back a long time, 'Zoom' was the name of a multi-flavoured ice lolly. Slightly more recently, 1982, it was a hit song by Fat Larry's Band. Neither piece of information helps us very much. Zoom nowadays is an online communication programme. It describes itself as "the leader in modern enterprise video communications, with an easy, reliable cloud platform for video and audio conferencing, collaboration, chat, and webinars across mobile devices, desktops, telephones, and room systems". So, that's all clear then. Any more questions.

In fact, Zoom does appear to have taken over the world. The subject of cartoons and sketches it is used by businesses and families to keep in touch and by many churches. Isabel mentions it in her piece earlier in the magazine. Family Editor has a weekly Zoom night and Mr Editor has also attended a number of prayer and discipleship groups using the software, including one with over 200 participants. That large group never met face to face previously and the online meetings have been wonderful. Strange how it took this crisis to do something so positive that could easily have been done before. Other groups had met face to face previously and are using the software to carry on.

Zoom works on a PC, laptop or tablet as long as you have a microphone and speakers. Ideally you also need a built in camera. It even works on a smart phone. Richard will be sending out further details shortly but interested readers can contact him at vicarbrooklands@gmail.com



## Crux

The monthly Crux insert is no longer included in the magazine. It can be found online at <https://www.manchester.anglican.org/documents/category/crux/> If easier you can simply insert 'Crux Manchester' into your search engine. Mrs Editor was buzzing this month over the article on the cathedral beehives.

## The Joy of My Garden

A couple of weeks ago when Roger was languishing in bed with a high temperature, I took myself outside to potter in the garden. It was a wonderful warm and sunny day and the air was filled with birdsong. Goldfinches, bluetits and robins were on the feeders and pigeons and blackbirds were on the ground waiting for bits of nuts to fall down.

The Spring bulbs and shrubs were looking good and our apple tree bursting into leaf again, with the promise of lovely apples later in the year. Everything seemed to be bringing much needed cheer to the difficult days we are in.

As I sat with my cup of tea, I was reminded of a verse my Mother always had on display in her home.

The kiss of the sun for pardon,  
The song of the birds for mirth,  
You are nearer God's heart in a garden,  
Than anywhere else on earth.

I have to say I felt extremely close to God at that time.

**Ruth Shaw**



## Giving

Thank you for your continued financial support as we seek to be a parish that is extending God's welcome to everyone! As always, your generosity is appreciated, and it will be especially important in these coming months ahead. I have begun working with Adele Lane, our treasurer, to put together some financial projections. There are four ways you can help us in our financial planning:

If you currently give through the collection plate either giving cash or using the blue envelopes, this might be the perfect time to join our Planned Giving Scheme and set up a monthly Standing Order (*our bank details are below*).

If you currently give through the envelope scheme please consider switching your method of giving to a monthly Standing Order (*our bank details are below*). This also has the added benefit of reducing the amount of administration required, including the practicalities of counting the money and taking it to the bank.

If you currently give through the envelope scheme, instead of setting up a Standing Order you may wish to either: (a) make a payment direct to our bank account if you bank online, using the bank details below; or, (b) send a cheque made payable to 'St John the Divine, Brooklands' to our treasurer: Mrs Adele Lane, 81 Broad Road. Sale. M33 2 EU.

If you are a tax payer please could you complete a Gift Aid form which allows us to 'top up' your gift by reclaim a further 25% at no cost to you?

*An example:* If someone gave £10 weekly by envelope then they are

giving the equivalent of £520 annually (£10 per week  $\times$  52 weeks). They could give the same amount by setting up a Standing Order of

£43.33 monthly (£520  $\div$  12 months). If they are a tax payer and Gift Aid their giving, £520 is worth £650!

### **Our Bank Details**

**Bank:** NatWest

**Sort Code:** 01-07-71

**Account No:** 02596334

**Account Name:** St John the Divine, Brooklands

**Reference:** *Please use your full name*

## God in the Arts: 'I am the true vine'

Editor: The Revd Michael Burgess continues his series on God in the Arts with an icon of Christ the true vine, from the 16<sup>th</sup> century. It is in the Byzantine and Christian Museum in Athens. This image is tagged as being in the public domain, and can be found at [https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Christ\\_the\\_True\\_Vine\\_icon\\_\(Athens,\\_16th\\_century\).jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Christ_the_True_Vine_icon_(Athens,_16th_century).jpg)

Jesus the Good Shepherd has been a popular inspiration for artists from the earliest days of Christianity. But this month we focus on another image that has been just as powerful and influential from the first centuries of the Church: Jesus the vine.

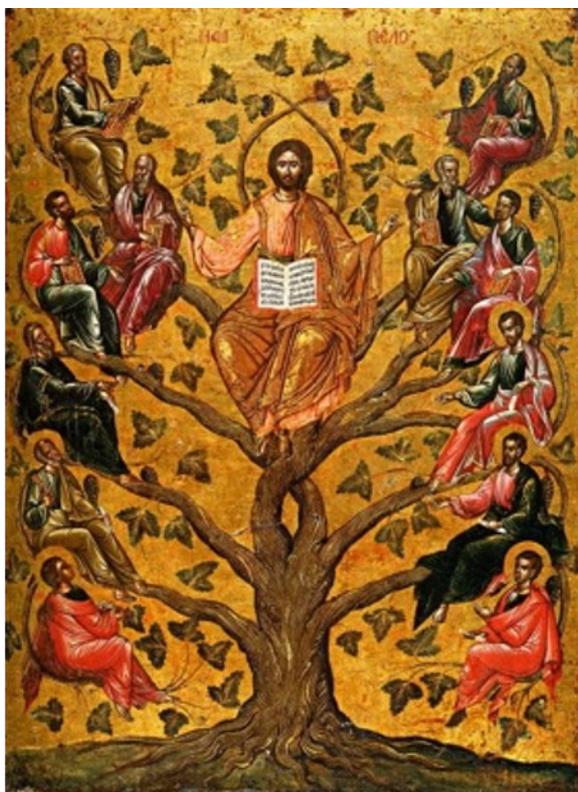
We think of grapes and the vine as symbols of the Eucharist and the sacrifice of Jesus, but early artists borrowed their inspiration from Greek and Roman sources with Dionysos (or Bacchus), the god of wine. For pagan believers, wine was a sign of intoxication and renewal of life, and Dionysos was a god who died and rose again. Under that influence, sculptors would carve vines on Christian tombs as a sign of that promise of new life.

But those artists were also influenced by the vine as an image of the people of Israel in the Old Testament, with God as the vintner tending his vine, as they were influenced by our Lord's own words in St John's Gospel. When Jesus talked of Himself as the vine, He was pointing to two truths. The first was the connection between the vine and the grapes: it was a symbol for the intimate relationship between Jesus and His followers. They are the grapes, because they receive their fruitfulness from Jesus. Without Him, there would be no growth, no maturity, no fruit. 'Whoever remains in Me, with Me in him, bears fruit in plenty.'

The second truth in this image is the wine that can bring life a new taste. Just as Jesus changed water into wine, His whole life was one of transformation - bringing water to the thirsty, sight to the blind, light to those in darkness, forgiveness to the sinner, and eternal life to those burdened by this world and the reality of death. The wine is a symbol of that goodness and flavour, both in creation and in salvation - the wine at the dinner party, and the wine in the chalice in communion. Jesus as the true vine brings that flavour and goodness to us.

Both truths speak out to us from this month's image of Jesus in an icon. In the Orthodox Church the icon is a window into the kingdom of heaven. As we stand and pray before the icon, if we can bridge 'the distance of the heart' (the space between the human eye and the icon), then God can reveal His glory to us. Here we see the face of Jesus in a 16<sup>th</sup> century icon, which is in the Byzantine and Christian Museum in Athens - the icon of Christ the true vine. He looks out at us, the Gospel book in His lap and His hands outstretched to bless the 12 disciples. The icon illustrates very vividly that metaphor of Jesus when He says that He is the vine and they are the branches. But those hands are also welcoming us to be with the 12: they invite us to offer our lives to live in Jesus.

Anselm Grün, a German Benedictine, tells how one of his fellow monks wondered what a difference there would have been if Jesus had said, 'I am a slimming camomile tea.' But no, He says to us in the Gospel and in the icon, 'I am the true vine': live in Me like my 12 disciples and your lives can be fruitful in my service.



## Something to be thankful for

Even though church buildings are closed, many more people than normal are 'going to church'. Bishop David reported to Sky News that over 400,000 people had watched the Palm Sunday service streamed from his home. Impressive but dwarfed by the 5 million plus who watched or listened to Archbishop Justin's National Virtual Service, recorded just before the lockdown.

A survey undertaken by Tearfund suggested that a quarter of this country's population had watched or listened to an act of worship during the lockdown with over a third of young adults saying that they had participated. 5% of those surveyed said they had started praying with The most frequent subjects of prayers being family (53%), friends (34%), thanking God (24%), the person praying (28%), frontline services (27%), someone unwell with Covid-19 (20%), and other countries with Covid-19 (15%).

In a slightly less serious survey, Christian Aid found that the fictional priest we would most like to lead us through the crisis was the Vicar of Dibley. The much missed Father Ted Crilly came third.

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## Online Version

Please pass on the link to friends and family via whatever social media you use. It can be found hidden on the Church website under <http://www.stjohnsbrooklands.org.uk/contacts-and-links/parish-magazine/>

## ***And in case you thought there were no funnies...***

### **Two Spiders**

Two spiders meet in the aisle of a church. The first, asks the second 'Why do you roam?'

Second spider I've got no home. I used to live I the pulpit, but the vicar moves about so much, I got no rest.

First spider You should come and live with me. I live in the collection box at the back of Church, I haven't been disturbed for months. (Ed. Thanks Sharon)

### **Best Joke of the Month**

A priest, a minister, and a rabbit walk into a bar. The rabbit says, "I might be a typo."

### **Covid Jokes**

Every morning, a little girl would go in the bathroom to watch her mother as she was putting on her makeup to go to work. But during coronavirus, the mother stopped bothering with makeup, much to her daughter's confusion. "Mummy," she cried early on in the lockdown: "Come back! You forgot to kiss the toilet paper goodbye!"

"The congregation was wonderful," said the visiting minister after the Zoom service. "They were so polite that they even covered their mouths when they yawned."

People who think it's all over now and we should remove lockdown restrictions are those people in a disaster movie who think the danger is over but we all know it isn't because we're only 30 minutes into a 2 hour film.

Who knew the apocalypse would feature so much dog walking?

Me: This is the worst television show I've ever seen.

My Boss: This is a Zoom meeting.

I'm limiting myself to one drink a day during lockdown. By my reckoning it's currently the 29th of September 2022.

They have Dial-a-Prayer for atheists now - you call up and it rings and rings but nobody answers.

## "Have you a computer problem? If so, I am local and here to help..."

Here are just a few of the services I can offer

- Virus removal and health checks
- Internet & Email set up
- New computer installations
- Upgrades & repairs
- Help and advice on how to get the best out of your computer
- Back up & data recovery
- Training & support
- Laptop & computer repairs
- I can supply computers & laptops at very competitive prices and include data transfer, full set up & full guidance

Quite simply my aim is to provide an effective, quick, reliable and friendly service without unnecessary jargon.

**I CAN SUPPLY COMPUTERS & LAPTOPS AT VERY COMPETITIVE PRICES & INCLUDE SET UP, DATA TRANSFER & GUIDANCE**

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## From the Archive

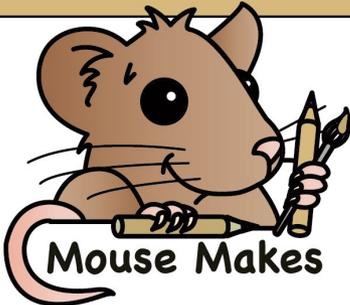
### 1920

The big news from the May 1920 magazine was that the first meeting of the Parochial Church Council was held. This followed a Parish Meeting which elected 15 members of the new PCC. One of these members was a Mr Kinnell. He was also mentioned in the May magazine as having resigned from the choir after 27 years of service. The magazine notes that a small gift was to be made to him in memory of this. It does not say whether his election to the PCC was in anyway connected to his resignation from the choir. The June magazine made further reference to the PCC and noted the appointment of a Lay Vice- Chairman and an Hon. Secretary. A Finance Committee was also appointed. It was also noted that the war memorial erection was delayed due to a shortage of stone.

### 1970

The May 1970 magazine contained two appeals. One related to Saint Ann's Hospice and a request from the Bishop for 'wealthy parishioners in Brooklands, who could do something for his plan. to contribute'. Reverend Buckley commented that the church would hold one or two efforts for the project but that in the meantime 'one or two really generous gifts would help it enormously and would certainly gladden the Bishop's heart'. A second was one that everybody could contribute to. which was a request from Oxfam for support towards its work with war victims. This asked for clothing particularly men and boys. Reverend Buckley also mentioned that he had been rereading a book by the German Christian Dietrich Bonhoeffer written while in prison and before his execution in 1945. This mentioned a parcel he had received from his sister and the joy that this had given in receiving some outward token or sign to reassure him that he had not been forgotten. While being in lockdown cannot compare to what happened to Bonhoeffer it does remind us that those on their own at this time do need to be reminded that they aren't forgotten.

The June magazine gave an extract from the annual meeting. This talked about some of the things that the church had done in the previous year. It mentioned the delivery of 4,750 Christmas cards and that over 750 church magazines were distributed each month. The Revd. Buckley commented that he saw the magazine as one of St John's most important activities. 73 weddings were conducted at Saint Johns in 1969 although it was noted that only four of those couples remained in the parish. Sadly both the number of magazines and the number of marriages has declined greatly over the years, as has the number of baptisms it being noted that 87 babies had been baptised in 1969.



## Mouse Makes

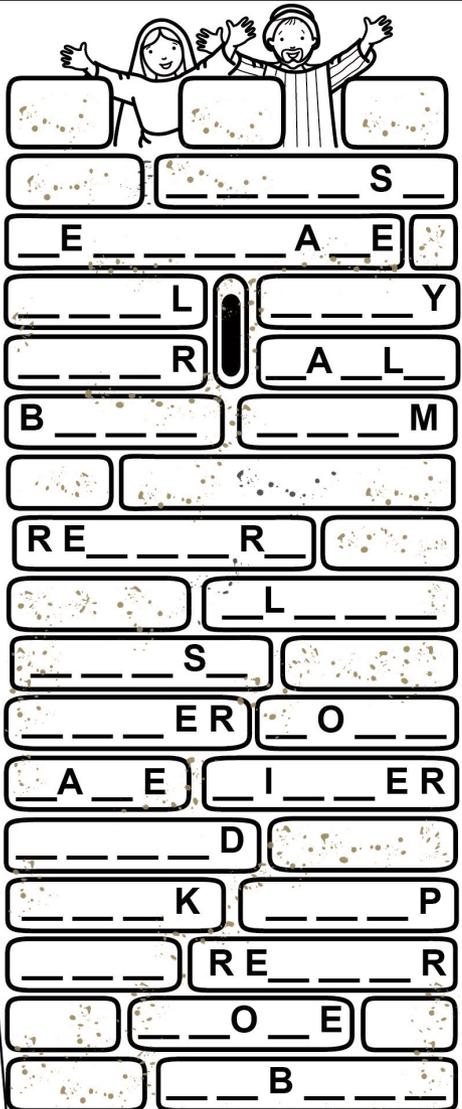
When Nehemiah heard that the walls of Jerusalem were in ruins he sat down and wept. For days he fasted and prayed before God.

Finally the opportunity came for him to return to Jerusalem to rebuild the walls, but it was not going to be easy...

**READ** Nehemiah's story in the *Old Testament* book of **Nehemiah**, chapters 1-7

Here is Nehemiah's list of all the things that needed to be done to rebuild the walls of Jerusalem. Fill in the missing gaps on the tower to help rebuild the wall.

- |             |            |
|-------------|------------|
| ○ PRAY      | ○ GATE     |
| ○ RUBBLE    | ○ BEAM     |
| ○ REPAIR    | ○ BOLT     |
| ○ RESTORE   | ○ BAR      |
| ○ BUILD     | ○ STEP     |
| ○ WORK      | ○ TOWER    |
| ○ STONE     | ○ HOUSE    |
| ○ TIMBER    | ○ POOL     |
| ○ WALLS     | ○ FINISH   |
| ○ FLOOR     | ○ DEDICATE |
| ○ ROOF      | ○ DOOR     |
| ○ CELEBRATE |            |



How many gates were repaired?  
Who re-built them?

How long did it take to finish the walls?

# The Parish Church of *St. John the Divine, Brooklands*

*In the Deanery of Withington, In the Diocese of Manchester,  
In the Province of York*

Website: [www.stjohnsbrooklands.org.uk](http://www.stjohnsbrooklands.org.uk)

## SUNDAY SERVICES

During the coronavirus crisis, in common with other churches, no services are being held in the building. Services via Zoom are scheduled to start on 14 June. For further details please contact Revd Richard Sherratt by email [vicarbrooklands@gmail.com](mailto:vicarbrooklands@gmail.com)

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ASSISTANT WARDEN	Angela Mather	282 7656
ASSISTANT WARDEN	Simon Mather	282 7656
(Health And Safety)		
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CARETAKER	Vacancy	
SCOUTS etc.	Clive Winby	973 6507
GUIDES etc.	Jackie Eastwood	976 4613
BROWNIES	Janet Shaw	973 8238
BEAVERS & CUBS	Greg Hart	07506 584579



June 2020

<b>bitterness</b>		<b>selfishness</b>
<b>revenge</b>	patience	<b>derision</b>
<b>abuse</b>	generosity	<b>greed</b>
<b>scorn</b>	goodwill peace	<b>grudge</b>
<b>avarice</b>	thoughtfulness	<b>emnity</b>
<b>malice</b>	love care hope	<b>loathing</b>
<b>hatred</b>	joy forgiveness	<b>sneering</b>
<b>disdain</b>	consideration	<b>animosity</b>
<b>contempt</b>	goodness	<b>resentment</b>
<b>hostility</b>	sympathy	<b>prejudice</b>
<b>arrogance</b>	kindness	
	courtesy	
	politeness	
	self-control	
	support	

**Shine as a light to the world Mt 5:16**