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MENSTON
PARISH CHURCH
St John the Divine

**THE PCC OF ST JOHN THE DIVINE,
MENSTON PARISH CHURCH**

WOULD LIKE TO INVITE YOU TO
A SERVICE OF CELEBRATION
FOR THE COMPLETION OF THE

ROOF PROJECT

It will be lovely to celebrate and give thanks for the skill and hard work of all those involved in the project, as well as the generosity of the congregation, the village community, and all others who helped raise funds. After the service there will be light refreshments in the Parish Room to which all are welcome.

SUNDAY 25TH SEPTEMBER – 3PM

WE WOULD LOVE FOR YOU TO JOIN US
TO CELEBRATE THIS MILESTONE IN THE
HISTORY OF OUR VILLAGE CHURCH



**Accredited by the
College of Podiatry**

Welcome to our Guiseley Clinic.

Traditional Podiatry for treatment of

Nails, hard skin, corns, ingrowing toenails, verrucae, etc

Biomechanical Assessments treating

Sports injuries, running/walking injuries, general foot pain, heel pain, lower back and hip pain, knee pain, children's foot pain, etc.

Tendon, muscle and ligament rehabilitation.

Gait retraining for both walkers and runners.

Fascial Manipulation

Fascial Manipulation is used to restore normal, pain free movement and flexibility of joints, muscles, tendons, nerves, etc. Used in the treatment of sciatica, general hip pain, knee problems, ankle and foot problems and many other conditions. This is not a pain free treatment but the effects can be immediate.

Please visit our website for more information

Contact Kathryn Lindsay BSc(Hons)

Andrew Lindsay BSc(Hons)

Phone 01943 872716

Email info@thefootpeople.co.uk

Website www.thefootpeople.co.uk

Bradford North Food Bank

HARVEST THANKSGIVING ~ 25 September

Please do not bring items of food or toiletries.

Once again St John's is supporting the Bradford North branch of the Trussell Trust. Steve has suggested that, as last year, we help the Food Bank with **donations of money only** as there are problems associated with the handling of donated items. Any food items brought will be used in the local homeless collection.

The Food Bank prefers donations of cash used to provide food parcels to people in crisis in North Bradford / Shipley / Rawdon / Yeadon or Guiseley areas. Our donation is vital to their work, especially now that the large supermarkets are scaling down or stopping donations provided. Without help they would struggle to give those referred to them a balanced and nutritious three day supply of food.

There will be a Big Jar at the back of church for cash donations. If you wish to Gift Aid your donation please do so via their website bradfordnorth.foodbank.org.uk/



This month

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Dear Friends

It's been an exciting summer!

Watching the roof project come to fruition after such a long time has been truly satisfying. This work has been hanging over the church (excuse the bad pun!) since way before my time here, and it will serve the community in Menston long, long after all of us are gone. It was particularly gratifying to see all the insulation being installed, especially in light of the record temperatures this year caused by the climate crisis.

Thank you so much to the roofing team from Pickles who have worked so hard on the project and to the PCC and wardens who have driven it forwards. Thank you to all who have given generously and continue to do so and to those who have worked so hard on fund-raising. And thank you to those who have so willingly cleaned a very dusty and dirty building each week so that we have been able to worship in it on Sundays throughout the period of the works.

As we approach harvest season in the church calendar, the final fruition of the roof feels fitting. We must take time over harvest to thank God for all we have; including all that we take for granted that perhaps this summer's temperatures, souring energy prices and grain shortages have awakened us to like never before. We thank God for his particular blessings to us – family, friends, a place to

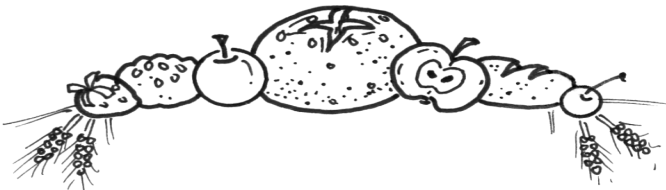
worship God freely and, of course, the new roof with which God has blessed us. We are incredibly fortunate.

Like for every farmer, harvest time may be exhausting, but a farmer must harvest with one eye upon the next crop: the job of farming is never complete. Similarly, we may feel exhausted by the roof and all the fundraising and practical issues attached to it, but we must also, whilst celebrating the end of this phase, be preparing for what comes next. God's mission to Menston and the wider world through us isn't complete.

So, this harvest time, as the roof is finished, let us celebrate and thank God for his blessings. Let us also, as the PCC have already begun to do, discern what comes next for St John's. What is God calling us to do? What kind of people are we being called to be in this next chapter of the life of our church and the life of Menston? Let us pray about these things, praying always, 'Your kingdom come, Your will be done.'

Steve

See also page 15



A View from The Pews by Dominic Hall

In July I fulfilled a lifelong dream by seeing ABBA in concert. Of course, it wasn't really ABBA but the digital show that they have created in London. It was the closest I am ever going to get and the experience was mesmerising and thrilling. The evening was celebrated with bad dancing and even worse singing but all with a huge smile on my face. The most emotional moment, however, came right at the end when there was a video showing Agnetha, Björn, Benny and Ani-Frid as they are today attending the premiere of the show.

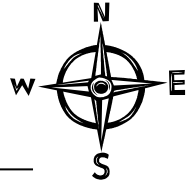
All this has led me to ponder reality versus representations of reality. On television there are 'reality' shows where we are able to invest in the lives and behaviour of people we know nothing about. Whilst they are presented as real, these shows are little more than cartoons and our reactions, particularly on social media, can have cruel and dangerous consequences. So why do we do it? Why do we submit ourselves to the pursuit of the real through the channels of the unreal?

Pursuit of the real equates, in my mind, to the search for truth. We look for it everywhere, but it is rare that we find it. At work, I teach people who are accused of crimes. The courts tell me these people are guilty, the people themselves often explain that this is not true or only part of the story, I, of course, can never know the whole truth.

Ultimately, the whole truth is the preserve of God. We can know the truth as it appears to us, but God sees the whole picture and knows the whole truth. It is our job to strive to find out the truth, but we set off on the journey knowing the final destination is beyond this world. This striving for the truth is what has led geniuses like Michelangelo, Shakespeare and Beethoven to produce art that inspires, beguiles and moves us.

The truth, however, remains rightly beyond our reach. What we have and where we can feel content, is in knowing that the journey towards truth is filled with wonder. Which brings me back to ABBA. In my mind I was, for a couple of hours, in the company of the greatest pop group ever. That is my truth and it is enough for me. It thrills me but it allows me to keep the sense of wonder I need to marvel at the world and to keep striving for a better understanding of my place in it.

Prayer Points



Harvest Thanksgiving prayers which encompass both praise of God for his provision through creation, but also the problems of a world of uneven distribution of resources.

In the fading of the summer sun,
the shortening of days, cooling breeze,
swallows' flight and moonlight rays
WE SEE THE CREATOR'S HAND

In the browning of leaves once green,
morning mists, autumn chill,
fruit that falls, frost's first kiss
WE SEE THE CREATOR'S HAND

Creator God, forgive our moments of ingratitude,
the spiritual blindness that prevents us
from appreciating the wonder that is this world,
the endless cycle of nature,
of life and death and rebirth.
Forgive us for taking without giving
reaping without sowing.
Open our eyes to see
our lips to praise
our hands to share.
May our feet tread lightly on the path we tread
and our footsteps be worthy of following
for they lead to you.

We bless you, God of Harvest,
And we bless each other,
That the beauty of this world,
And the love that created it,
Might be expressed though our lives
And be a blessing to others,
Now and always.

With thanks to Jan Alexander for this month's Prayer Points

OUTREACH GROUP



During June and July the congregation have been voting for the *Local Charity* we will be supporting in 2023. The winner is shown below.

Local June/July: BEACON, Wheatfields Hospice; Caring for Life **Winner: Wheatfields Hospice**

National Aug/Sept: Samaritans; Church Action on Poverty; Transforming Lives for Good

International : USPG; Christian Aid;
Oct/Nov Médecins San Frontières

Voting in August/September focuses on the three National charity choices. Information on each charity is available on the screens in church before services commence. We hope that the PowerPoint presentations explain more fully the work of each charity and help you to decide which one is deserving of your vote.

SAMARITANS is a registered national charity aimed at providing emotional support to anyone in emotional distress, struggling to cope, or at risk of suicide throughout Great Britain and Ireland, often through their telephone helpline.

They are there 24 hrs a day, 365 days a year for anyone who needs someone. Every 10 seconds, Samaritans responds to a call for help. In addition to their helpline Samaritans provide support services for: people working in health and care; in schools, colleges and youth settings; in the workplace with special courses; in prisons helping to reduce self-harm and suicide; working with the Ministry of Defence and other charities to support serving personnel in the Armed Forces, veterans, and their families.

But none of this would be possible without their wonderful band of volunteers. Anyone who wants to help others, is tolerant and open-minded is welcome to apply. You don't need to have been through a particular life experience or be from a certain walk of life.

CHURCH ACTION ON POVERTY is a national ecumenical Christian social justice charity, committed to tackling poverty in the UK. They work in partnership with churches, and with people in poverty themselves, to tackle the root causes of poverty. Putting Gospel values of justice and compassion into practice they hope to transform the UK into a country where everyone can live a full life, free from poverty.

Church Action on Poverty works to promote initiatives in which local people and communities struggling against poverty can come together, and take collective action to reclaim their own dignity, agency and power.

One very visible form of help is the provision of local Food Pantries. They strengthen communities, foster friendships, loosen the grip of poverty and contribute to healthier, happier lives. Operating as membership food clubs and neighbourhood hubs, they often serving as springboards to other community initiatives.

TRANSFORMING LIVES FOR GOOD brings hope and a future to struggling children through education, coaching and holiday food provision programmes.

The effects of bullying, bereavement, family breakdown, poverty or being in the care system can have a huge impact on a child's education. Some children may be struggling with a lack of confidence, have no positive role models, or just need an adult to talk to.

TLG run **Early Intervention** programmes offering one child, one hour a week with one coach. Did you know?

- 1 in 10 schoolchildren in the UK feel unable to cope with the school day.
- Almost 2/3 of children aged 10 – 11 say they worry all the time.
- 70% of children and adolescents who experience mental health problems have not had appropriate interventions at a significantly early age.

TLG also help students aged 11-16 who find themselves at a crisis point in their educational experience via their **Education Centres**. One is based in Bradford and is an run in partnership with The Light Church, Bradford. The aim is to re-engage young people with learning, helping them develop a value and love for it in its own right - to 'learn how to learn'.

Outreach Group

The ECO CHURCH GROUP

Can you help?

The Eco church group with input from our young people are keen to start growing fruit and veg in the churchyard. Can you help by donating:

- ◆ Water butt (or two) to capture water from the Parish Room roof plus expertise on installation;
- ◆ Large pots for growing veg;
- ◆ Donating and/or giving guidance on an apple tree(s) to plant which could be our Jubilee tree.
- ◆ Your time to help the project?

The young people are also planning to make a bee/bug hotel and we are planning nature trails for the churchyard that can be undertaken at any time.

Will you have spare seasonal fruit that might go to waste? If so, please bring along to church and the team who bake for the bake sales could put it to good use.

On the wider front, I am sure we are all becoming aware for the climate emergency, which can seem overwhelming. All of us can do some small things to make a difference. The Eco church scheme, for which we have a bronze award, has a range of ideas and we would like to encourage more involvement so that we can become a silver or gold eco church. We want to introduce the idea of climate pledges: this could be more walking /less car use; clothes/toy swops. Watch out for further details and contact us if you are interested in getting involved.

Eco Tip - Ditch disposables. Single-use plastic and single-use styrofoam are sourced from fossil fuels and contribute to climate change. Both materials are also known to contain carcinogens that are harmful to human health; this is particularly true when they are used for hot liquids or food, or microwaved. In a season of picnics and busyness, try to remember to 'BYOC' (Bring Your Own Container or cutlery) for your summer snacks instead of buying disposable items.

(Continued on page 11)

Think reusable lunch boxes or *beeswax wraps*. Glass jars are another good option as they are non-toxic, don't hold on to grease or food smells, and can hold liquids well too (but do mind their temperature with hot liquids).

For more info on Eco church see Sally, Matthew, Catherine and Marilyn or make contact via the Parish Office or website.

CLIMATE ACTION MENSTON (CAM)

For a different take on the climate crisis, do come along to our next meeting on Wednesday 28 September. We will be meeting in the Wharfe Room at Kirklands and hosting Ella and Lizzie who will be running their:- *Writing for the World workshop - Our earth is in pain and so are we.* A climate themed writing workshop and open mic sharing opportunity. Open to all ages and abilities.' Ella and Lizzie are local poets and climate activists. For more information see: <https://ellasandy16.wixsite.com/aspie?s=09> Do join us and there will be a short update on other CAM activities.

COMMUNITY FRIDGE

Would you be interested in getting involved with a project to run a community fridge? A Community Fridge is a space that brings people together to eat, connect, learn new skills and reduce food waste. It is a site where local people can share food. This includes surplus from supermarkets, local food businesses, producers, households and gardens. Fridges are run by community groups in shared spaces such as schools, community centres and shops, their main purpose is saving fresh food from going to waste.

A CAM member and other residents are looking at whether this will be possible in Menston. So if you are interested please contact Marilyn or info@climateactionmenston.org.uk.

CAM will be at Menston Show on 10 September at Kirklands - do come along and find out what we are doing and how to get involved.

Bradford 2025 City of Culture

Bradford 2025 are hoping that each community will do something for Bradford 2025 and I am wondering if there would be an appetite to create a history trail/museum for Menston. If you would be interested in getting involved please contact me on 874220 or marilyn@banisters.org.uk

Marilyn Banister

PCC Notes

These notes cover both the June and July PCC meetings. We have continued to meet via zoom, but are looking forward to our September meeting where once again we will be meeting face to face.

- Prior to the June meeting we all voted on line regarding our preferred option to complete the Church Roof. Various options were put to council, but the majority vote was that we agreed to complete the whole roof project in one go, making up any shortfall with continued fundraising, by temporarily not paying our Parish Share.
- Both our Treasurer and our Secretary had asked to step down, Colin as treasurer after many many years of careful stewardship and service. Iain Johnson has stepped forward to take on the treasurer role(after shadowing Colin for several months first) and Lynda Shelley has agreed to take over from Julie as Secretary. We thanked Colin and Julie, and are grateful to our new team for taking over, please support them in your prayers.
- Colin continues to keep watch over our funds and we

will be able to pay some share payments by the end of the year, but not clear just yet as to how much. We have now adopted a device to allow contactless donations, and are currently trialling it with the cake and crafts and the sponsor a slate project.

- The old 'Finial' (the cross above the bell tower) rusted and fell off many years ago. The PCC were delighted to accept the gift replacement, now proudly in situ, from Steve and Hilary Feathers. This is a great contribution to replacing the roof as it was when first built 150 years ago.
- The Memorial Book has now been brought up to date following lockdown, and we have produced a more transparent system that will help families who want their loved ones name to be recorded.
- The Outreach Group continue helping us to focus on the various options for our mission giving, and the eco-church team are working with the children and young people to implement green projects around the church yard.
- It was agreed to recommence with the Chalice at communion services and we are

looking for people to assist with this each week.

- A Ukrainian refugee café is being hosted by St Johns on a Wednesday morning as a way to support the hosting families in the village. It is hoped that people from the village will also help to host it with us.
- A celebration service is being planned for 25 September after completion of the roof, and we will ensure that all those who have actively supported us in this project will be invited.

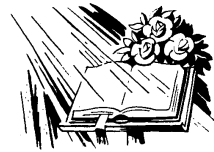
- Finally we had a discussion about what we need to focus on in the future now the roof project is almost complete. Top thoughts included consolidating all that we have started, building on our Happy Church Family activities, and encouraging more small group activities.

As ever the meetings ended in prayer.

Andrew Howorth

MEMORIAL BOOK

Over the recent years there has been confusion over how the names of people are recorded in our Memorial Book. In the early stages of the grief process, people often have other priorities, but later on want to know that their loved one's name is written in the book.



We want to ensure that we meet the pastoral needs of those bereaved and maintain a memorial of people who have been part of our Church family here in Menston.

There is now a simple form available at the back of church for people to complete and pass on to the administrator for inclusion in the book, and we hope that a regular note in the Parish Magazine and website can also serve as a reminder, linked in with the 'sponsor a flood light' and the All Souls service.

Worship this month

4 Sept The Twelfth Sunday after TRINITY
Readings: Philemon 1-21; Luke 14: 25-33
Reader: Wendy Thornhill

9.30am Zest
11.00am Parish Eucharist

11 Sept The Thirteenth Sunday after TRINITY
Readings: 1 Timothy 1: 12-17; Luke 15: 1-10
Reader: Colin Alexander

9.30am Zest
11.00am Parish Eucharist
6.00pm The Junction followed by the Den

18 Sept The Fourteenth Sunday after TRINITY
Readings: 1 Timothy 2: 1-7; Luke 16: 1-13
Reader: Adele Maddy

9.30am Zest
11.00am Parish Eucharist
6.00pm The Junction followed by the Den

25 Sept The 15th Sunday after TRINITY - Harvest
Readings: Revelation 14: 14-18; John 6: 25-35
Reader: Geoff Druett

9.30am Zest
11.00am Parish Eucharist
6.00pm The Junction followed by the Den

2 Oct The Sixteenth Sunday after TRINITY
Readings: 2 Timothy 1: 12-14; Luke 17: 5-10
Reader: Dominic Hall

9.30am Zest
11.00am Parish Eucharist
6.00pm The Junction followed by the Den

MID-WEEK SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

9.30am Thursdays: 1 / 8 / 15 / 22 / 29 September

Service of Celebration for the completion of the Roof Project Sunday 25 September at 3pm.

It will be lovely to celebrate and give thanks together for the skill and hard work of all those involved in the project and the generosity of the congregation, the village community and all others who helped raise the necessary funds.

After the service there will be light refreshments served in the Parish Room to which all are welcome. Do join us to celebrate this milestone in the history of our village church.

This celebration is a chance to thank all those who have contributed to the project, not least our own community at St John's who have given so generously. The celebration falls on the same day as our harvest festival in the morning services, which feels particularly fitting. At harvest we remember all that God has given us, and at the afternoon celebration, we dedicate a new roof back to God's service, paid for by our grateful offering in response to God's generosity. In effect, we will see the whole circle of blessing working within one day!

To thank God without giving back would risk a lop-sided slide into self-serving - saying thank you and then keeping those blessings for ourselves. Whereas to give back and dedicate to God without thanking him for what he has blessed us with risks us seeing ourselves as self-sufficient or grudgingly giving to a 'needy' God rather than giving back a portion of what God has given us. Please put in your diaries your commitment to come to both if you can as a way of ensuring we corporately do both as a community of God's people. If nothing else, two celebrations in one day is rare, and something we can be excited about!

READY to ROLL?

Not pastry but a different way of thinking about how we share our faith!

At one of the various Church meetings I go to, we were discussing how hard we find it to share our faith - even clergy it seems! Then I was asked to share some thoughts at another meeting in May. So this is a bit of a summary of what I said:

Culture of sharing stories about Jesus

Have a think about something that excites you/you're passionate about. What do you talk about - football/cricket/Star Wars/ Bake Off/ the Archers!! Do you talk about your faith with that level of enthusiasm?

I don't. Why not? We have this amazing story/transforming lives and yet a lot of us shy away from sharing it.

For me, it is no easier with friends or family - maybe even harder than with strangers. Why is that? Am I scared of rejection? Risk averse? Being judged? People will think I am weird? People will expect different behaviour? Higher standards!

But this is all about me, isn't it? Me relying on me rather than on God?

I have found that I need to think about it differently.

It is about God acting through me at a particular time and in a particular place. **Not about me.** It is about my relationship with God - I can trust him.

So that's the 'R' - RELATIONSHIP.

Next, I think it is about grasping opportunities.

When I have taken the **OPPORTUNITY** to talk about church/faith I have not been rejected. I might have been judged but I have realised that even if I am being judged, I am not as concerned as I was beforehand.

Here is an example: last year, I did the Transforming Work course with a small group at St John's and during the period of '*Thy Kingdom Come*' I made a commitment that I would pray for my team at work but I needed to tell them I was doing that. So I did. I told my team I wanted

to pray for them. It opened up a conversation. People were interested. I got some challenging requests!

Another opportunity might be, posing the question, 'How are you?' and maybe asking it again to show that you really mean it. How often do you say *fine* when that is not the case? Other people do too, so maybe there is an opening to find out a bit more.

So 'O' is for opportunity.

So having taken the opportunity, I need to **LISTEN** - not speak. Maybe ask what is bothering them? Stop worrying about what I am going to say. Give space.

When I listened to my team, I heard about people searching for good relationships, recalling singing and school prayers. An outpouring from people who wanted to be listened to.

So 'L' is for listening.

And then, if words are needed, speak from the heart. Show them God's **LOVE**. From your experience of God acting in your life/loving you .

You can acknowledge that you don't have the answer to their problem. But you can pray for them.

You can acknowledge that the Bible is challenging. That Jesus is challenging

But, and this is the bit you need to work out how to say, that with your faith you feel you are not alone and you feel loved/saved etc./that you feel you are on a journey/that you are being transformed.

God is with you!

So 'L' is for love

So for me, encouraging a **Culture of sharing stories about Jesus** is about:

- Trusting in your **Relationship** - your relationship with God giving you the security to step out in faith
- Being open to **opportunities**- in shops, in the street, anywhere!
- Being ready to **listen** more than wanting to speak. Two ears and one mouth.
- Being prepared to speak with **love** in your heart when you do say something.

So let's **ROLL!**

Marilyn Banister

Book review - 'Free of Charge' by Miroslav Volf

During the Spring and early Summer, in the run-up to the sermon series on generosity, I've been slowly reading 'Free of Charge' by Miroslav Volf. Volf is a famous theologian, originally from Croatia, and he is famous for his reflections on the ethnic cleansing during the Yugoslav war.

I mention that I'm reading this book slowly because I'm finding it so interesting that I have to slow down and reflect on each section. It's a book about giving and forgiving, and although dense to read, it is filled with really memorable ways of putting things. Reading it slowly whilst preparing for our generosity series has challenged my thinking about the Christian discipline of giving, rooting it once again in God's generosity to us.

That might sound simple, but Volf takes it apart, asking all the questions we might find ourselves asking, like how God's free gifts to us can possibly place any obligation on us, or how can we think of giving in a way that doesn't make someone else 'just a recipient' but instead brings about the kind of mutual generosity that exists within God's trinitarian self.

OK, maybe these are a bit high-brow kinds of questions, but I

think that they actually do relate to our puzzles about the worthiness of recipients and causes for our giving, and about why we should give at all.

I've found that, as I've read slowly, Volf has been able to articulate many of the issues I have with giving and receiving in a way I'd never have been able to do, and in doing so, brought these things some clarity and focus, so that I can use his insights to further my own reflections. It's for that reason that I'm recommending it to everyone as summer holiday reading. You too could read slowly, over a trip away for example.

'Free of Charge' was the Archbishop of Canterbury's Lent book in 2006, so you might even have a copy lying around, but if not, because so many people will have bought it back then, there are lots of cheap second-hand copies floating around online, so it shouldn't even break the bank. I think as an interesting but challenging book, it would be a great one to suggest for your holiday reading.

Enjoy! *Steve*

Editor: Sorry this missed last month's edition. Many of us take holidays in the autumn!



This month:

After our short summer break, our first meeting of the new 2022/23 programme will be:-

6 September 2.15pm Short opening service in the Parish Room followed by: *Mrs Jane Pratt – My Buckingham Palace Garden Party Experience* (Non-members welcome)

By this date all members should have received a copy of an MU Programme for the next twelve months, which will give advance notice of all our future meetings - something which was unfortunately out of our hands during the Covid pandemic.



Appointment of new Bradford Area President

It has been confirmed that the Revd Jenny Kimber has taken up her duties as Area President for Bradford and will preside at the next area meeting at St James' Church, Baildon on 29 September.

Jenny has moved here from Wales, now lives in Cottingley and has joined the church and MU there. She has undertaken a huge task with her new appointment and we hope she receives the help and support she needs from the MU membership in this area, and those who have held the position in the past.



Marjorie Boddy & Ann Dixon

Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in
Mt. 13: 3-8, Mk 4: 1-9, Lk 8: 4-8

Crowds of people now came to hear Jesus, so he used stories to teach them; those who really wanted to learn would work out the meaning.

A farmer went out to sow a field of corn.



Some seed fell on the path



and some on to rocks.

Some fell among thorn plants and

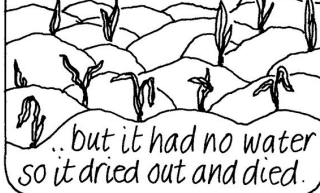


some fell on good soil.



The seed on the path was eaten by birds

The seed that fell on the rocks sprouted...



..but it had no water so it dried out and died.

The seed that fell among the thorns grew well to start with,



then it was outgrown by the thorn plants.



But in the good soil the seed grew well and gave a fantastic harvest!

Jesus explained to his disciples what it meant.



Some people don't even listen to what he says.

For some it is the best thing ever!



But soon they move onto another 'best thing.'

Some listen gladly...



but then worries and busyness take over.

But some hear what Jesus says and learn from it,



and that makes all the difference!

CHURCH FOLK

We meet many different people in church, but we don't always know their names, I wonder whether you have met the Tate's? They turn up everywhere.

First there is the old man Dick Tate. He likes to control everything. Uncle Ro Tate on the other hand likes to change everything. Their sister Agi Tate often enjoys stirring things with the help of her husband Irri Tate.

If new projects are suggested Hesi Tate and her sister Vegi Tate always want to leave it for another year, whilst their aunt Imi Tate just wants her church to be like all the others that she has visited.

The relative we don't speak about is Ampu Tate who has cut himself off from the rest of the family and no one can quite remember why!

Sitting on the other side of church however is the other side of the family. Facili Tate tries to be helpful wherever possible, and cousins Cogi Tate and Medi Tate will always think things over very carefully and prayerfully, offering wise advice. And last but by no means least is the blessed soul Felici Tate, who always tries to be positive and happy.

We don't know everybody's names always, so I just wondered if you were related to any of them?

Love to all.

Ed: With grateful thanks to Andrew for this humorous yet thought provoking piece!

The .Beauty of Mathematics!

Look at this symmetry:

$$1 \times 1 = 1$$

$$11 \times 11 = 121$$

$$111 \times 111 = 12321$$

$$1111 \times 1111 = 1234321$$

$$11111 \times 11111 = 123454321$$

$$111111 \times 111111 = 12345654321$$

$$1111111 \times 1111111 = 1234567654321$$

$$11111111 \times 11111111 = 123456787654321$$

$$111111111 \times 111111111 = 12345678987654321$$

Parish Pump News Service

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FROM THE REGISTERS

HOLY BAPTISM

17 July

31 July

We welcome into the Lord's family:

Luke and Blake Beynon

Arthur Watson

HOLY MATRIMONY

30 July

We extend our congratulations to:

Richard Baines and Charlotte Wise

FUNERAL SERVICES

12 July

29 July and

1 September

We commend into the hands of Almighty God:

Joyce Simpson R.I.P.

David Johnson R.I.P.

Memorial Service for David Johnson

ALTAR FLOWERS

3 September

18/25 September

Marjorie Boddy

Judith Knaggs

Thank you to all who have signed up to provide altar flowers on the new rota. Quite a few dates remain empty so if you've never trying flower arranging before why not give it a go! Bunches of flowers arranged in a vase are just as lovely as a more formal arrangement and avoid the use of oasis or flower foam - something that we are increasingly urged to do.



Copy for the OCTOBER magazine is due by **Sunday 11 September**. Please email copy to both editor and Parish Office (office@stjohnmenston.org.uk) or leave copy for typing with the office.

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| ✓ Hang pictures | ✓ Replace light bulbs | |
| ✓ Help with computers | ✓ Mow lawns | |

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