

Tardebigge and Bentley Parish Magazine

www.tardebiggechurch.org.uk 'St. Barthoomew's Church, Tardebigge, pictured on a sunny day in December.



March 2020 - £1





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Church Services

Sunday 1st March (Lent 1)

11.00am Traditional Holy Communion **with Sunday Funday**

6.00pm Evensong

Sunday 8th March (Lent 2)

8.00am Holy Communion

9.30am **Café Church** in the *Church Hall*

11.00am Traditional Morning Prayer

6.00pm Evensong

Sunday 15th March (Lent 3)

9.30am **Café Church** in the *Church Hall*

11.00am Traditional Morning Prayer

6.00pm Evensong

Sunday 22nd March (Mothering Sunday)

8.00am Holy Communion

9.30am **Family Service** at *St. Mary's*

11.00am **Family Service**

6.00pm Evensong



Sunday 29th March (Lent 5)

11.00am Family Communion

Sunday 5th April (Palm Sunday)

8.00am Traditional Holy Communion **with Sunday Funday**

6.00pm Evensong



March



From Richard, the Team Rector



Some readers will be aware that I have a love of the devotional history of the Early Medieval Church and the remaining artefacts from that period; Sue and I spend time researching and cherishing the earliest Christian locations and remains that we can find, especially in areas that the Lord directs us to. The ancient Celtic chapels and inscribed stones that occur around the fringes of the nation, such as Cornwall, South West Wales, Northern Scotland and the Western Isles, are relics of a bygone age of missionary activity as devoted young men travelled to new territory to evangelise and disciple during the post-Roman period. The prayerful self-sacrifice of the pioneer missionaries who brought the message of Jesus' death and resurrection to hostile pagan tribesmen across Northern Europe remains deeply moving and inspiring. The season of Lent reminds us to sacrifice a little time and effort to prioritise prayer to Jesus, and the reading of the scriptures, during our daily lives.

A mistake that Christians can make is to edit the Bible into something it is not, giving every story a happy ending. We have our favourite sayings and parables, but they are usually from the positive and optimistic parts of scripture, and, sadly, can often be quoted out of their appropriate context. We are perhaps happier to hear the Psalmist say "be still and know that I am God", which is a sliver of Psalm 46, than the beginning of Psalm 47, "O clap your hands, all ye people; shout unto God with the voice of triumph. For the LORD most high is terrible; he is a great King over all the earth". The history of the Church since 1900, however, teaches us that we are far more likely to draw young people to Christ if we present the message of the New Testament in all its fullness.



At the end of month, after Mothering Sunday, Passiontide begins, as we travel with the Easter story down to the darkness of despair and arise to not merely a new hope but the greatest hope we could ever possess. In this we have a distinct advantage over Jesus' original followers, in that we know the story, and most especially its ending, before we begin to read.



The Cross of Christ certainly causes problems for people who would prefer a happy celebration without the recognition of the reality of human sin; for it is that sin that led Jesus to sacrifice Himself for us. It is important that we do not shrink from teaching the Easter story, however, including the all-important truth that Christ fulfilled His earthly mission by dying for our sins. Every Christian must be able not only to recite the story, but to share its meaning, especially with their children and grandchildren.

The church's ministry to children and young people has never been more important or more urgent. With the whole of western culture pulling away from the Christian faith, and treating committed Christians with an increasing level of disapproval and even marginalisation and censorship, it is down to the Church to help children to understand the full message of the New Testament so that they have the equipment to deal with the questioning and challenges they will face during adolescence. Enabling children, and their often very busy parents, to become devoted followers of Jesus, is the greatest and most important challenge that we face.

Richard

Verse for the Month

**Have mercy on me, O God,
according to your unfailing love;
according to your great compassion
blot out my transgressions.
Wash away all my iniquity
and cleanse me from my sin.**

Psalms 51: 1-2

Wardens' World

March 2020



Welcome to Chris's last edition of Wardens' World, and the end of 6 years as Churchwarden and Acting Treasurer for the parish. Chris says "it has been a privilege, and a valuable and rewarding experience, and I am very grateful for the support I have had from other members of the congregation; I must particularly highlight the work of administrative suprema Viv Mackenzie, Chris Watkins's assistance with banking, and Michael Price's solid support and advice on matters ranging from church light bulbs to graveyard regulations! I cannot name everyone, but my thanks go to the heroes and heroines, often unsung, who have taken on new roles or continued to do odd jobs around the parish over the years. I remain hopeful that successors can be found for myself and others standing down in April to pick up the baton and help Jane, because despite her amazing appetite for work, and the amount she already handles, she cannot do it all alone! Although a lot of work, seen and unseen, has taken place over the years, it is a pity that I have not managed to complete all the work needed on the churches (redecorating of St. Mary's and St. Bartholomew's, restoration of the Cookes memorial, rebedding of tiles in the aisles, and so on), but church maintenance is a never-ending job and there is always something to be done. I do hope, however, to have the wall by the churchyard gate rebuilt before I go (it's there, under a pile of ivy!) Fortunately, one of my predecessors had already removed all the ivy shown on the church in this 1904 picture!"

It must be remembered, however, that churchwardens do change from time to time, and Chris is something of a lightweight compared to one former warden, whose memorial tablet on the north-east corner of the church celebrates 36 years as warden – do go and find it! The worship, history and traditions of the Tardebigge churches have been there for a thousand years, and it would be wonderful to know that they will be preserved and continue into the future. Having sung with the choir for 23 years, Chris also hopes that that music will continue to have a place in St Bartholomew's glorious acoustic – and hats off to the determination and skills of Robert Barnett and Dudley Fowkes in keeping organ and choral music alive! As spring approaches the graveyard and the snowdrops flood the ground, let's also make sure that our wonderful churchyard in its incomparable location stays beautiful and open in the future as a place for people to have their final rest.

So, here's where everyone can play their part, if you want to avoid the church buildings lapsing into disuse and poor repair, and silent except for recorded music; come to services,



come to worship, and come to the Annual Church Meeting on April 7th, at 7.30pm in the Church Hall. Enjoy a glass of wine, celebrate the past year, and elect your new officers and representatives. Do also pick up a nomination form from the back of St. Bartholomew's and join the PCC (Parochial Church Council) to have a say in how your church develops. If you can't get to Tardebigge, just contact us or Viv Mackenzie for copies of the forms. Even if you're stuck at home or can't get to the meeting, you can still sign up, or volunteer for one of the many little jobs which need doing – there is something for everyone. We very much look forward to seeing you there, and to a glorious future for St. Bartholomew's and St. Mary's!

Chris and Jane



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2020 Annual Meetings for St. Bartholomew's and St. Mary's Churches

The Annual Meetings for our Churches will take place on

Tuesday 7th April 2020

in Tardebigge Church Hall, as follows:

7.30pm: A meeting of the parishioners for the purpose of electing Churchwardens.

This meeting may be attended by:

- All persons whose names are entered on the Church Electoral Roll of the parish and
- All persons resident in the parish whose names are entered on a register of local government electors by reason of such residence.

7.45pm: The Annual Meeting of the Parochial Church Council

At this meeting, there will be a review of the year in the parish which will include:

- The election of a new Parochial Church Council (PCC), which has 9 elected members.
- All nominees must be at least sixteen years of age; be actual communicants and have been on the Electoral Roll of the Parish for at least six months.
- (All proposers and seconders must be on the Electoral Roll of this Parish.)
- The election of members of the Electoral Roll to represent the parish on the Deanery Synod.

Nomination forms for the positions of Churchwarden, Deanery Synod Representative and PCC member are available from both churchwardens or can be found at the back of the church.

**Tea, coffee and wine, with nibbles
will be served from 7.10pm**

All are welcome, so do come along – your parish needs you!

Parish Safeguarding Officer: Sarah Carless (07789 174099)
Email sarah@doff.org.uk

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for those affected by sexual abuse

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- Guide you to find further help, for example, if you feel you need professional counselling
- Inform you about how to raise concerns about the abuse, if you choose to do so
- Maintain confidentiality except, of course, where this is restricted by the requirements of the law

I will listen - you will be heard

What is meant by 'confidentiality'?

- Confidentiality and secrecy do not mean the same thing
- Confidentiality is of the highest importance but it cannot be absolute in every circumstance
- Some agreed factual information that the meeting has occurred will be recorded and held securely and confidentially
- Any revelation that raises the concern of the listener, that the person being listened to has abused or is a potential abuser, must be referred to the Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser in line with national policy and our legal obligations

Listening Service

For further information on our Listening Service please
contact Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser Hilary Higton
T: 07495 060869 E: hhigton@cofe-worcester.org.uk
www.cofe-worcester.org.uk

Complaints: [www.cofe-worcester.org.uk/diocesancompendium/
safeguarding/complaints-whistleblowers/](http://www.cofe-worcester.org.uk/diocesancompendium/safeguarding/complaints-whistleblowers/)



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The Evergreens

Evergreens is a group that meets in the afternoon several times a year and is open to all people, though it tends to be those who are retired who come along.

If you need further information please ring either
Vivien Mackenzie (0121 445 1245) or Mary Watkins (0121 445 3075).

The Coffee Morning

Braving the aftermath of the weekend's stormy weather, 17 Evergreens and friends gathered in the warmth of the Church Hall on Monday 17th February for Coffee, Cake and a Chat.

Not having met since early December, everyone was delighted to get together to enjoy copious cups of tea and coffee and to eat delicious cake. Mary's famous orange and grapefruit marmalade was on sale and there was a raffle.

We also remembered Norita, who sadly died recently and who, for many years, had been a stalwart of Evergreens, a keen flower arranger, a member of the Choir and the Parish Clerk. We will miss her cheerful personality.

Although not the object of the gathering, £72 was raised at the coffee morning. At March's meeting in the Church Hall on Monday 16th March, at 4.00pm, as well as enjoying tea and cake, there will be an opportunity for everyone to discuss how we would like to use our funds.

Thank you to all who made cakes and helped and also to Chris Milton for getting the tables out and thank you, also, to all who came along.

Vivien and Mary

Diary Date!

The next afternoon meeting of Evergreens will be on Monday 16th March at 4.00pm in the Church Hall.

All welcome and if you would like a lift, please ring Vivien (0121 445 1245) or Mary (0121 445 3075)

Tardebigge Plant Sale – Saturday 23rd May, 11 am

Plant Sale - Change of date!



It seems that many of our helpers for the Plant Sale either have no preference or would prefer the second Bank Holiday weekend in May rather than the last one.

So, the 2020 Plant Sale will be held on **Saturday 23rd May, opening at 11am**. If you haven't contacted either Jean Harper (01527 876436) or myself (07817 067730 - in case I've moved house!) to offer help, then please do so asap!

Many thanks to all of you - hope the cuttings/dividings/sowings are coming along nicely!

Jean (01527 876436) and Lucy (07817 067730)

The Spring Greens

The Spring Greens is our ladies' group for women of all ages with a young outlook.

We usually meet in the Church Hall on the third Thursday of the month at 7.45pm.

For more details please contact Jane Hall (07980 358252); or

Email janeehall73@gmail.com



New members always welcome!

Jane Hall

Celestial Corner

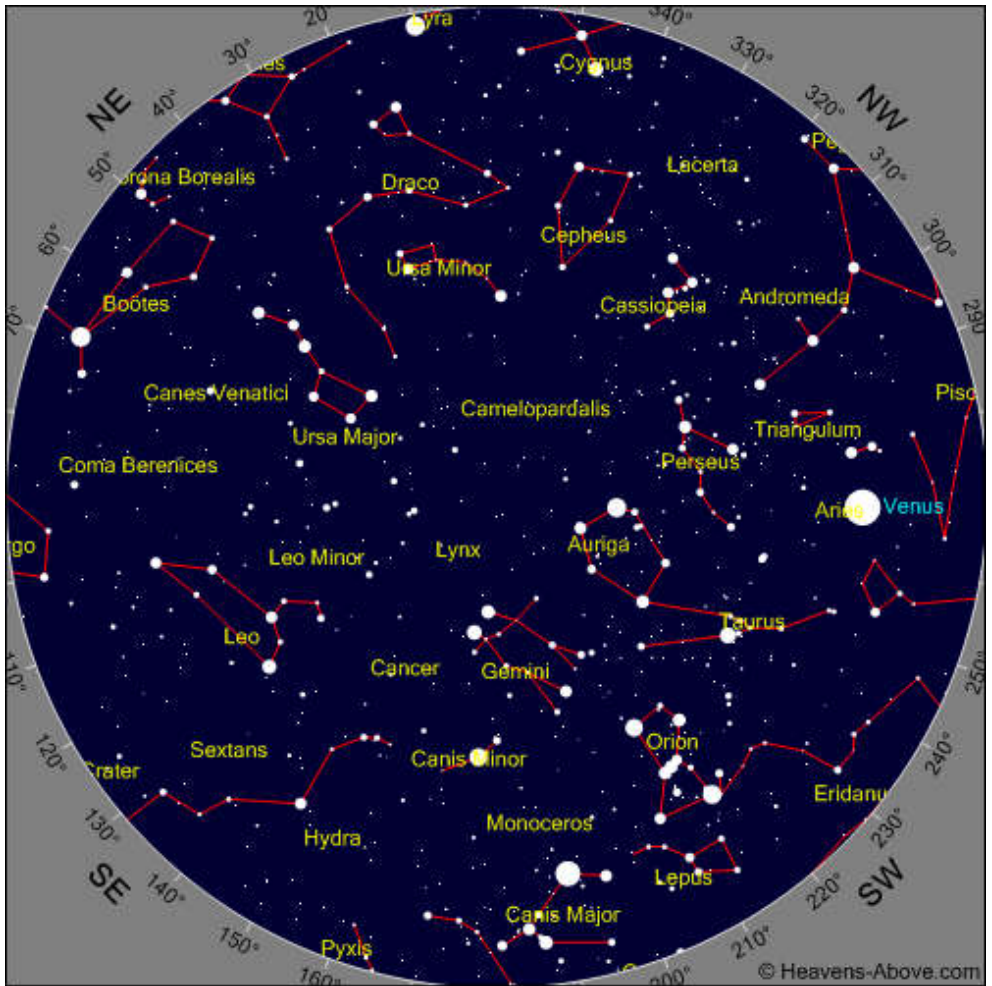
March 21st, The Spring (Vernal) Equinox, Eostar in the Celtic calender. The day the Sun is directly overhead at the equator on it's journey north, with the promise of warmer weather.

Venus is now very prominent in the West at around 8pm. At it's brightest Venus is the third brightest object in the sky after the Sun and Moon. Like the Moon, Venus shows phases. When it appears from behind the Sun in the evening sky it shows a gibbous phase which gradually reduces through half phase to crescent as it catches us up, it disappears as it overtakes us, re-appearing in the morning sky as a crescent, opening out to half phase and on to gibbous before disappearing again behind the Sun. Mercury exhibits the same, the reason being that both planets lie closer to the Sun than the Earth. All the other planets are morning objects but if you are up around six you may see that Mars and Jupiter are very close to each other in the Southern sky with Saturn to the left of them. Mercury will be difficult to see in the dawn glow.

The map is for 8pm on the 14th and you will see our old friend, Orion, is still high in the South South West. To the right and slightly higher we come to Taurus (the bull) with Orange Aldebaran, also known as the "eye of the bull". You will see that Aldebaran lies at the top of the left arm of a "V" formation of stars. These stars are the brightest of a very loose open cluster known as the Hyades. Through 10x50 binoculars you would see that two of the stars in the "V" are nice double stars and that there are more, fainter, stars in the group. The "V" represents the head of the bull, the star pointing to Gemini is at the end of his right horn and the one shared with Auriga the end of his left. In the South is Sirius, the brightest star in the sky, also know as the "dog star" as it is the main star of Canis Major (the large dog). Sirius is one of a pair but the other is much fainter and so close to Sirius that you need a telescope to split the pair. This companion star is known as the "Pup". In Canis Major is the open cluster M41. It lies roughly South of Sirius and about half the distance between Sirius and the next bright star below. At 4.5 mag, it should be just visible to the naked eye on a cold clear night. Unfortunately the other Messier in the two constellations, M1, in Taurus, is only magnitude 8 and so needs at least a low powered telescope to see it.

To the right of the "V" of Taurus is the well known open cluster, M45, the Pleiades, or "Seven Sisters". They are so named because on a dark, clear sky people with good eyesight can make out seven stars. Binoculars show a good deal more. A time exposure through a telescope can show a lot of nebulosity surrounding these seven stars. This is the nebular which is the birthplace of these stars. They show a distinct blueish colour which suggests that they are young and hot! It would be interesting to come back in a few million years time and

see whether they have settled on the main sequence and become normal stars, or if they have gone wild and heading for Super Nova destruction!



R.B.

February Anagrams: Answers - Asian Countries

- | | | |
|---------------|------------------|-----------------|
| 1. Vietnam | 6. Cambodia | 11. Thailand |
| 2. Singapore | 7. Sri Lanka | 12. South Korea |
| 3. Indonesia | 8. Afghanistan | 13. Mongolia |
| 4. Armenia | 9. Malaysia | 14. Philippines |
| 5. Bangladesh | 10. Turkmenistan | |

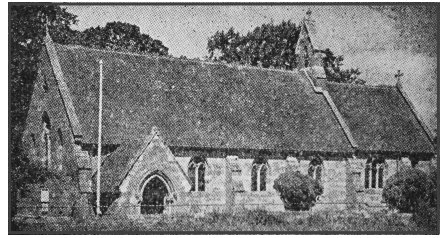
St. Philip's Church

Webheath

150

1870-2020

This year, St. Philip's, Webheath celebrates its 150th anniversary.



The land for the church was given by Richard Hemming of

Bentley Manor, and building was commissioned by Lady Harriet, Baroness of Hewell, at a cost of £3,000. The foundation stone was laid by Canon Dickens, Vicar of Tardebigge.



Do you have any photos, memories, or information about the church you'd be happy to share and be on display in St. Philip's? If so, please contact Rev. Richard Clark.

Annual Magazine subscriptions

£10 collected or hand delivered; £16 by post.

Payments can be made pay by cheque (*made payable to Tardebigge PCC*), cash or via BACS (*quoting MAGA & your surname as the reference please*)

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For enquiries contact Jane Hall
(contact details inside back cover)

*Thank you for supporting
St. Bartholomew's and St. Mary's Churches*

April Magazine

Please send your articles and items to our central email address:
contact@tardebiggechurch.org.uk by FRIDAY 20th March

News from School

We are focusing on reading and on ways of encouraging the love of reading. We encourage parents and carers to listen to their children read at home and note this in their home reading book; children can choose a book to borrow which can be changed regularly.

There are many benefits of reading: it improves concentration; teaches children about the world around them; improves vocabulary and language skills and develops a child's imagination.



Children also enjoy being read to. At school, the staff have chosen a selection of books that will be read to the children throughout their time at Tardebigge First School; they will be familiar with many authors and a variety of classics. Bedtime stories at home are also encouraged. Reading is fun!

For World Book Day, we asked children to dress as characters from 'The Beano'.

J.E.H

Contact details:

Telephone: 01527 872886

Email: office@tardebigge.worcs.sch.uk

Website: www.tardebigge.worcs.sch.uk

Head Teacher: Julie Cutler

Pictured: Two pupils dressed as Minnie the Minx and Dennis the Menace

Church Legacy

A lasting gift to Tardebigge Parish



'And now these three remain: faith, hope and love.
But the greatest of these is love.'

1 Corinthians 13: 13



'Where your treasure is, there your heart
will be also. Luke 12: 34

A lasting gift to St. Bartholomew's and St. Mary's

Once you have made provision for your loved ones, you have the opportunity to make a lasting gift to God, by leaving a legacy to His church. A gift in your Will to the church is one of the most valuable and lasting ways you can continue to support its mission and ministry in the community.

A gift can be an expression of your gratitude and thanksgiving towards God, and can help keep the parish and transform its future. We would be most grateful to receive:

- Legacies which can be used for the general purposes of Tardebigge Parish.
- Legacies specifically for mission and children's work.

N.B. If legacies are restricted, the money cannot be used for anything other than that specified.



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www.churchlegacy.org.uk



If you would like to talk to someone in confidence about setting up a legacy for Tardebigge, please contact one of the Church Wardens.

Alternatively you can contact the National Legacy Officer,
at the Church of England on 08445 870875

March 1975

Vicar: Rev. David Copley; **Reader:** Mr Peter Frowley

Church Wardens: Mr W P Beck and Mr F H Gateley

PCC Secretary: Mr H G Kidwell **PCC Treasurer:** Mr E V Sadler

* * *

Shared Worship in a Shared Church

We have been invited to share the morning service at 11am on Sunday 16th March with the congregation in the new church at Matchborough, Redditch New Town. This Church is used by both Anglicans and Methodists, but at 11am on Sunday 16th March the service will be the Church of England Series 3 Holy Communion service. Tardebigge Church along with other churches in Redditch contributed towards the furnishings of the Matchborough Church, and Tardebigge Church Council thought that it would be a good idea if we, an older established congregation, were to visit the newly established church and join in their worship. So I do hope you will come.

Unless you already live in Redditch, I think the best thing will be for those who are coming to meet at Tardebigge Church at, say 10.30am so that we can go in convoy, then you need not worry about getting directions beforehand. But if you live in Redditch and do not think it worthwhile coming to Tardebigge first, and you are not sure of the way to Matchborough, ask beforehand and we will tell you how to get there. This means that there will not be a service at Tardebigge Church at 11am on Sunday 16th March. Any people who would like to come to Matchborough but have not got cars will be given lifts. Let us know before or just come to Tardebigge Church for 10.30am and we will fit you in, and of course bring you back.

How much does a Grecian Urn? - An Apology

When I referred in the last magazine to the kindness of the family and friends of the late Philip Harris for their donation towards the cost of our replacing urns on Tardebigge Church, I inadvertently referred to Philip Hill. I am very sorry for this mistake and for the distress it may have caused to the family.

Philip's brother Peter rang me the other day with the suggestion that he would run a discotheque to raise some more money for the urns; a further kindness for which I say a sincere thank you. Other gifts have come in from various people to help us pay for this restoring work, and I do thank you all again. I have of course thanked all the donors individually.

David Copley

February 2020: *"I was interested to read the item from the archives, February 1975, about the urns, in the magazine. We made the new fibre glass urns at Norgrove Studios, and I think I made the mold for the fibre glass. Clive and John Hyde fixed the urns on the tower. I don't think Ben was involved as he was 13 at the time."* **Noel Sinclair**



Bumps, Babes and Toddlers

at St. Philip's Church, Webheath



Thursday mornings 9.30am-11.30am

Suggested donation £2 per family
Includes tea, coffee and biscuits.



St Philip's Bumps Babes
and Toddlers

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Contact Rev. Richard Clark (07970 823462) email: trhtredditch@gmail.com



'Though it is the smallest of all seeds, yet when it grows, it is the largest of garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds come and perch in its branches.' Matthew 13: v 32

Pips

at St. Philip's Church, Webheath

Stories, Songs and Games For 3-7 year olds

Every 2nd Thursday of the month
3.45pm - 4.40pm

Starting with a drink and a biscuit!

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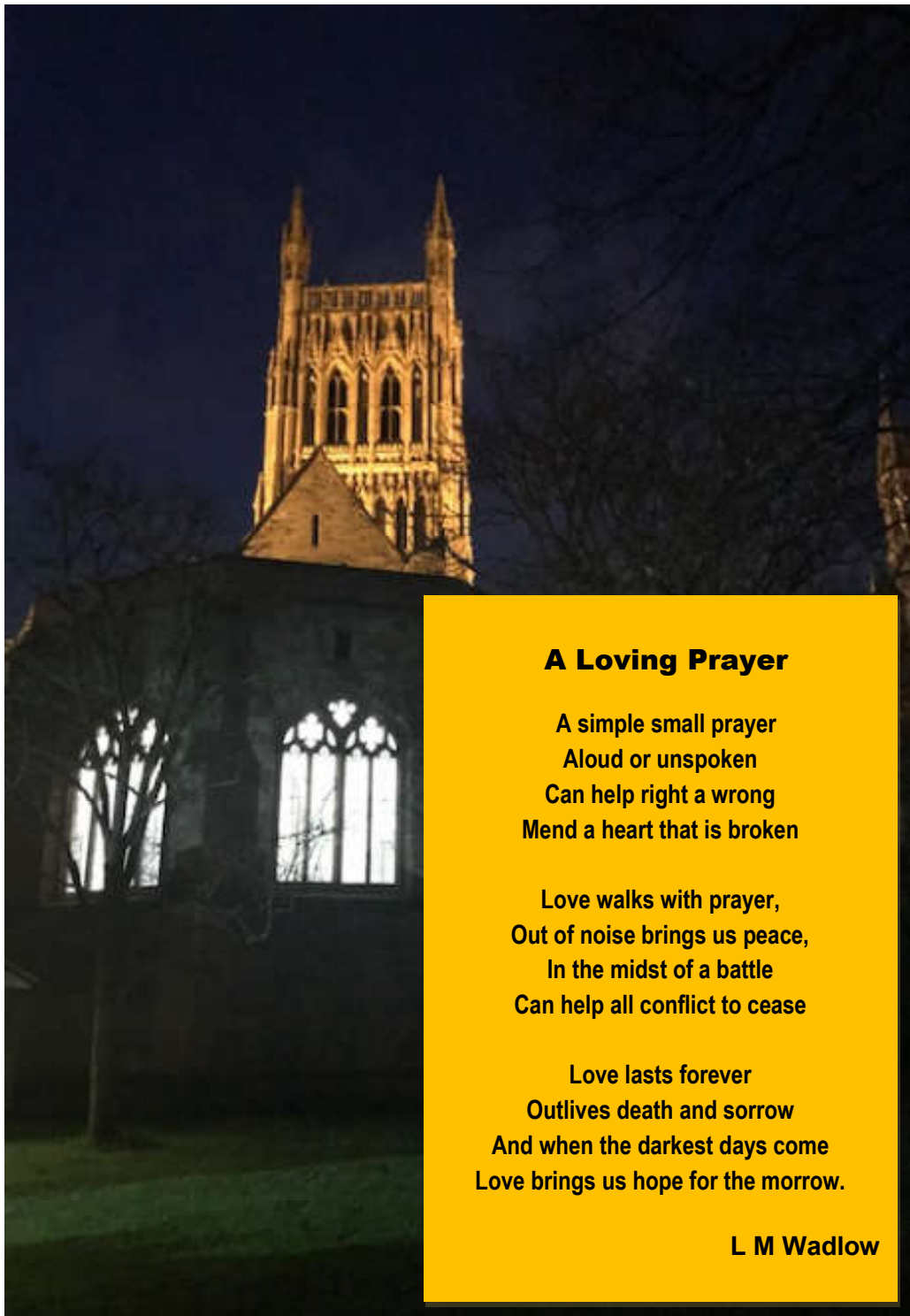
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A Loving Prayer

A simple small prayer
Aloud or unspoken
Can help right a wrong
Mend a heart that is broken

Love walks with prayer,
Out of noise brings us peace,
In the midst of a battle
Can help all conflict to cease

Love lasts forever
Outlives death and sorrow
And when the darkest days come
Love brings us hope for the morrow.

L M Wadlow

Songs of Praise

Sunday March 29th 6.00pm at

St Philip's Webheath

If you have a favourite hymn or worship song this is your chance to request it then come along and join in singing it at Songs of Praise. It may bring back memories, have words of special meaning, or just be a hymn you like, old or modern it doesn't matter. Simply contact me **as soon as possible** using the details below.

Singing hymns in a full church is really special, so please do all you can to spread the word to fill St Philip's and enjoy a really good sing.

Please get requests in early, we are limited to just 10.

Hymn Request

First line of hymn:

Why requested: (if you would like to tell us)

Name:

Contact telephone number:

Please return to:

Roger Powell 15, Cyprus Avenue, Astwood Bank, Redditch, B96 6HF

Tel: 07971888776

Email: rmpowell@btinternet.com

Murder Mystery Evening

Saturday 28th March 2020

7.00pm

St. Philip's Church, Webheath



Death by Chocolate

Tickets £10 in advance

Available from Church Wardens

or phone 07980 358252

Proceeds in aid of the annex building project at St. Philip's

& The Cherish Fund, supporting children in Africa

Ploughman's supper included

Bring own drinks

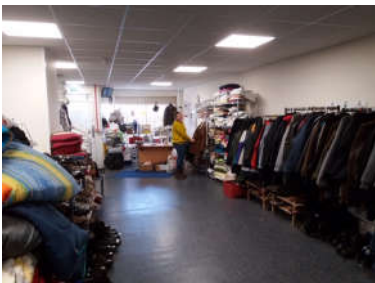
A morning at Maggs Clothing Project, by a volunteer

Maggs operates the only Day Centres for homeless people in Worcestershire, with one in Worcester and one just opened in Malvern. We assist around 450 individuals each year. Each day, about 40 people access our services. We provide homeless people with food, clothing, and help them to access medical services and support their way back into permanent housing. We work with the most marginalized groups in society, many unable to fulfill the most basic of needs, and face significant barriers to integrating back into society, due to for example mental health issues or lack of skills. Alongside addressing basic needs, staff signpost clients to other relevant agencies, such as hostels, drug and alcohol support services and housing providers.

One of the projects that we run is the Maggs Clothing project. The clothing project provides free clothing and other items. The clothing project is located on the Tything in Worcester. It's basically a shop front and looks like any other shop. Inside there are shelves and clothes rails filled with ladies and gents clothes. They are all organised according to type and size. The only difference is that in this shop the customers don't need money.

As well as clothes, the project provides sleeping bags and blankets. For those who are lucky enough to find a home, we provide the essentials for them to start up in their new home – basic kitchen equipment, bedding, towels and curtains. Toiletries – soap, toothpaste etc – are also available, as are packet foods –tins of soup, and other packet food.

The project is open 3 mornings a week, 9-12 noon, to provide clothing and to receive donations. Behind the shop is the sorting room, where the volunteers sort the clothing donations. When I arrive at 8:50am on Wednesday morning, two other volunteers, Mandy and Chrissie, are already there and hard at work. They open each bag of donated clothes and quickly work through them like lightning. Each item is checked for cleanliness, condition, and general suitability. All the pockets are checked and emptied. Those clothes which are good enough, are sized, labelled, and put out. Those which are marked, torn or worn go in the rag bags.



The quality of donations varies massively. One man this winter bought two large boxes of new padded winter coats and donated them to Maggs – they have proven to be very popular. Some donations go straight in the rag bag – if they are not clean, frayed or with zips that don't work. The rag bags are sold for recycling.

Heavy wool blankets are sometimes donated, which are not practical for street sleepers because they are impossible to dry. These are passed on to Forest Dog Rescue. So nothing is wasted.

Tony and Margarita are on the shop floor, dealing with the service users as they come in and browse the shelves. They know many of them by name, and their rapport is great to see.

Two homeless young men come in together and browse the shelves. One of them poses in a green broad brimmed hat – “Suits you, mate!” quips his friend and they both laugh. Despite their situation they can still know joy. They don’t take the hat, but leave fully kitted up with clean, fresh clothes.

The volunteers never stop working as there are usually donations to be sorted. If they have time they will tidy the shelves on the shop floor, or vacuum the floor. The work is nonstop between 9 to 12 noon, with barely any time to have a drink. There’s very little chatter – everyone is so busy.

Tony has been volunteering at the project for 10 years, 3 mornings every week. It’s a huge contribution to make. Mandy and Chrissie come to Maggs on the train – they pay their own fares, no expense accounts here!

At quarter to 12 someone comes in with half a dozen bags of clothes to donate – it’s all hands to the wheel to try to get them sorted. Phew! We manage to get through them all before the project closes at 12 noon. The project will be open again on Friday and it’s always nice to leave a tidy sorting room for the next shift of volunteers.



More information next month.....

Sidespersons Rota

1st March

11.00am - E Price and V Richardson

6.00pm - P Hopkins

8th March

8.00am - D Hall

11.00am - D Stubbings and P Hopkins

6.00pm - M Price

15th March

11.00am - V Mackenzie and P Hopkins

6.00pm - P Hopkins

22nd March

8.00am - G R Underhill

11.00am - L Parkes and J Oldaker

6.00pm - T Powell

29th March

11.00am - D Stubbings and P Hopkins

6.00pm - 'Songs of Praise' at St. Philip's

5th April

8.00am - D Hall

11.00am - E Price and V Richardson

6.00pm - P Hopkins



11th March

Maureen and David Stubbings

Flower Rota



1st March

Lent (no flowers)

8th March

Lent (no flowers)

15th March

Lent (no flowers)

22nd March

Lent (no flowers)

29th March

Lent (no flowers)



22nd March

Elizabeth Price

23rd March

Dudley Fowkes

24th March

Pat Hopkins

Sheila Gibbs - A Tribute



Mum was born at Old House Farm, now known as the Jinney Ring in 1930 to Wilfred and Dorothy Heard, joining her older sister Joan. She cycled to school in Hanbury and helped on the farm with milking, looking after the sheep and crops.

The family moved to Hollowfields, near Hanbury where they took paying guests. Mum was a young girl during the war years and the family had evacuees to stay on the farm, it being safer in the countryside. Lifelong friendships were formed in these difficult years. Mum knitted with her mother, my Nana, with the Hanbury WI for the soldiers at war.

Mom's love of horses started when Grandpa Perks gave her a 13.2 pony called Firefly which she schooled, giving him great pleasure. Mum joined the pony club and started hunting on a lead rein. She has supported country sports all her life.

Her father Wilfred owned racehorses which Mum started to ride at point to point. He was also a co-founding member of the Hanbury Horse Show which still thrives today. This is where she met my father John as he helped with the ropes and jumps. Quite a lengthy courtship ensued until they married in October 1953. Everyone thought Dad needed a housekeeper at Forest Farm where he was bailiff for Colonel Gray-Cheape. Mum attended the first Hanbury Show in 1947 and was the longest serving committee member; she has only missed two shows in all that time. Last year she was too poorly and in 1955, the year I was born. With Dad sitting on a stump in the main arena worrying about her – no mobiles then, nor men allowed to attend the birth!

Lady Day September 15th 1955, Lower Bentley Farm became vacant, so we moved in; I was 3 months old. The winter was very hard, the hot water cylinder froze and burst, flooding the electricity supply cupboard leaving them powerless with a young baby. Times were hard but Mum's determination won through. Dad could not afford to rent the whole farm so my Grandad Jack rented the half over the road. Unfortunately soon after Grandad died so Dad took on the rest of the farm employing Jan, a Polish displaced person who couldn't return home; he lived in a prefab on the farm until he retired in the 1970's and moved into Woodgate Cottage.

Mary was born on October 1st 1958 and life looked rosy until a few years later, Dad became paralysed from the waist down as a result of an old rugby injury. He endured many months of traction, where they put him on a rack ultimately having 3 vertebrae fused together. Over a period of 12 months Mum kept the farm running with Jan and Jeff Ludlow.

Mum loved animals, her dogs, most recently Ben and Bongo and of course the German Shepherd Toby. Bongo arrived at the farm as a cattle dog but didn't take to it; he felt Mum needed a guard dog, so he kept running down the road to Mother's. Finally, it was agreed he could stay. There was a sign outside Mum's saying " Stay in the car and sound your horn" – otherwise you might get bitten. The previous vicar thought it didn't apply to him but sadly his trousers found out it did!

Over the years Mum bred many horses for Mary and herself to ride. She had a broodmare called Lettpin and another Zania who started the many generations of horses. She was good at breeding and nurturing animals but rubbish at selling them. Mom died only two days after her last horse by chance passed. Mum loved to teach the finer points of riding; lots of people called her Auntie Sheila for the help she gave them to improve. She had a big voice for a little person that carried long distances which could make you jump out of your skin.

In August 1990 we swapped houses, Mum and Dad moving into Common Barn Farm. Mum being a bit of a hoarder, three silage trailers went down the road and only one up. Later, Christine asked Mary Mitchell if it was noisier with two young children next door, and she replied, it was much quieter as someone was not calling horses and chastising pupils. She often taught at the Worcestershire Pony Club and was very honoured when later asked to be their District Commissioner. She loved to see horses improve and develop along with their riders who often became friends.

Her lifelong interest in dressage led her to become a BHS judge so she went to Warwickshire College to get the qualifications needed to judge to a Novice standard. In great demand she travelled large distances in her battered Mondeo until the scrappage scheme came along changing it for a Picante. Judging competitions gave her great pleasure.

Mum inherited flower arranging skills and green fingers from her mother, and this led to her love of gardening. Some plants became overgrown but Mum would say they were fine, so when she was out Dad would slaughter them. She organised the Church Plant Sale raising thousands of pounds over many years and was a Church Warden. She rarely missed a Sunday service.

Mum (with Dad), has always supported Bromsgrove Farmer's Club. She was on the Ladies Committee for many years but also the main committee and became the first woman President. She was delighted to be made an Honorary life member.

In 1984 and 1986 she became Nana to Graham and William, then Great Nana in 2009, 2013 and 2018 to Jack, Henry and Sam. She will be greatly missed by all the family and so many

friends.

Many thanks must go to her carers Izzy, Helen, Tina, Justine, Rachel and Christie. Also to Mel the palliative care nurse and the Heathbrook House Care Home where she spent her final days, all for their care and compassion.

Anthony Gibbs

(N.B. Sheila's funeral was held at St. Bartholomew's Church, Tardebigge in December 2019)

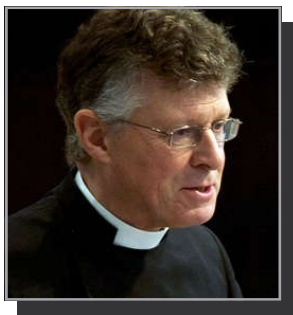


Bishop Martin's Installation as an Honorary Canon at Worcester Cathedral, at Evensong, 23rd February 2020.

March Anagrams: Bonnie Scotland

- | | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. gags owl | 6. Nerve sins | 11. Even bins (2 words) |
| 2. Files yokes (3 words) | 7. Behind rug | 12. Less oil wife (3 words) |
| 3. Bare Eden | 8. Ohm con doll (2 words) | 13. Monkey fill rut (3 words) |
| 4. SS clone H (2 words) | 9. Off frith rho (3 words) | 14. Want dress (2 words) |
| 5. Nit girls | 10. Movie ear | |





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A Letter from the Archdeacon of Dudley

This year the whole of March falls within Lent. That makes it too late to talk about Ash Wednesday and how we should be keeping Lent, and too early to talk about Easter, the great day for which Lent is the time of preparation. So instead, let's remind ourselves that the word 'Lent' is an old English word simply meaning 'spring'. In other languages, the word for Lent refers to the forty days (such as the French Carême) or the season of fasting (such as the German Fastenzeit). Our language invites us to ponder the fact that Lent and Easter occur in the spring.

The connection to new life and rebirth is obvious. As the natural world comes back to life, as leaves and flowers appear, as animals come out of hibernation, as the days lengthen and we spend more time out of doors, so too Christians celebrate the new spiritual life that flows from the dying and rising of Our Lord Jesus Christ.

In St John's Gospel, Jesus compares his own death and resurrection to the planting of a seed: 'Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. Now, when I am lifted up from the earth, I will draw all people to myself' (John 12: 24, 32). He is the seed, buried in the earth, but raised up in glory, extending his risen life to all who follow him.

In the natural world, plants produce more seeds, which in turn produce more plants. So too the followers of Jesus are not only the 'fruit' of Jesus's death and resurrection, we are that new generation of seeds which must be planted in order to bear more fruit. Each Christian life is a life of dying and rising. Each Christian life replicates the pattern of Christ's dying and rising. 'We die with him', says St Paul, 'in order that we may live with him'. How do we 'die'? We die to self, we die to selfish and self-destructive instincts, we die to all that separates us from Christ. And how do we 'live'? We gratefully remember the promise of Jesus that he has come that we may have life, and may have it in all its fullness. We allow the risen life of Christ to live in us.

Peter Atkinson

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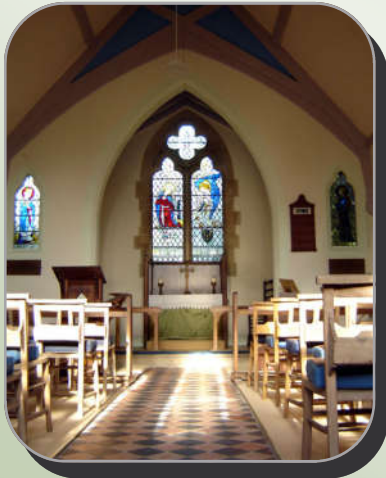
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Bentley Pauncefoot WI

Unfortunately, our last meeting had to be cancelled due to the wild weather generated by Storm Ciara. However, undaunted we are planning our next event in March when we are hosting the Lenchford Redditch Saltway Group of WIs at Bentley Village Hall. Philip Bowen will be talking to us about the Gunpowder Plot so we will be recreating bonfire night in March with themed food and decorations. Should be interesting!

On a more serious note Bentley members are also deliberating on the vision statements for the Women's Institute proposed by the National Federation. These are only in draft form at the moment and subject to discussion. However, they have stimulated a lot of thought from Bentley's Committee. At present the Women's Institute is the largest voluntary women's organisation in the UK - 206,00 members to date. Throughout its history the WI has gathered women together, encouraging them to acquire new skills and to develop their talents. It has played a significant role in extending women's rights and promoting their interests. Every year it campaigns on resolutions chosen by its members. The WI was one of the first groups to publicise the damage done by plastic waste.

A lot has been achieved in the 105 years of our existence. However, we need to think about the next hundred years and not sit back on our laurels. We are reflecting on how we want our organisation to be perceived. We are not defined by "Jam and Jerusalem" and we want to build on our past to strengthen our future. Accordingly, we are thinking about strategies to enable us to become more inclusive and flexible. We will be consulting members regarding their opinions. We will be reviewing our activities and perhaps be bolder in what we do. We will try to vary the timing of events to accommodate the different needs of members, current and potential. We are very successful at present and we have a lot of fun, BUT we cannot stand still. If anyone in the wider community of Tardebigge and Bentley have any constructive thoughts and/or might like to join us, I would be delighted if you would contact me.

Lynne Reading

(01527 559 207).

Webheath Digital Photography Club

Our year really began on January 13 with a Technical Night where members tackled some interesting photographic problems such as reflections and splashes as well as coming to grips with computer software. These events are popular, allowing members to test ideas on lighting, composition and other aspects within the restrictions of the Village Hall.

Dave Maries, a one-time Club member, returned on January 20 for a studio session with his model. Members had an opportunity to learn about lighting, flash and framing the subject. Here he discusses with a couple of members a shot which has just been taken.



The following week we had an Assignment on either "Picture in Picture" or "Brown". As ever some members went for a combination of both.



Becky Cordwell found this example of wall art in Dublin while Dave Rodgers caught the artist at work in Spain, both nicely capturing one of the themes on offer in quite different ways.



February 3 saw Carl Wright take us beyond "point and shoot" with a talk "Getting off Auto". Modern digital cameras can do a lot of the thinking for the photographer but by using the various modes for aperture, shutter speed and ISO, the equivalent of film speed, so much more can be achieved with the greater degree of control in capturing the image. His analogies with the flow of water from a tap for the light going into the

camera were apt and even hardened veterans went away with some reminders of what can so easily be forgotten while our newer members found much to think about and put into practice in their approach to photography. This was an evening devoted to photographic and camera technicalities, leaving the artistic side to others at a later date.

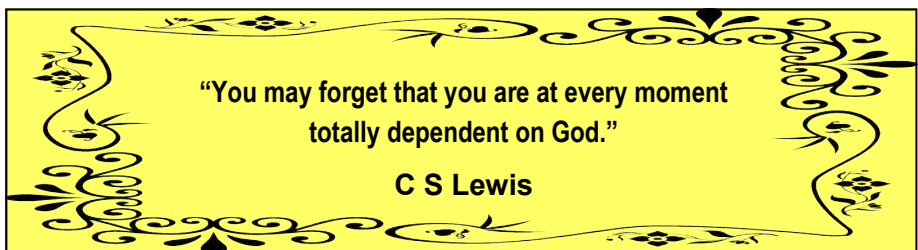
Our annual contest with Kempsey Camera Club took place "at home" on February 10. Terry Livesey was the judge for the night, offering some valuable observations on the images from both clubs. Although he promised hard marking because of the excellent images presented he still held 21 back, needing a further selection of eight. The final four were each given 20 marks, all from WDPC. The final score was 434 to 417, avenging our defeat of last year.

Our March programme begins on the 2nd with an Assignment night, the themes being "Song Titles" or "Blue". No doubt someone will combine them into an image to illustrate "The Blues". On the 9th we have a knockout night – a simple idea but selecting which image has to go always gets harder as the end approaches. The following week we have our Spring prints competition. Claire Carter returns on the following Monday to tell us "The Camera Lies ..." and we round off a five Monday month with another Assignment on "City Landscapes" or "Flora", a wide enough field.

The Village Hall, Webheath, is our usual venue on Monday evenings at 7:30, except Bank Holidays and through Christmas and the New Year. Anyone with an interest in digital photography is very welcome to come along to our regular meetings. In the summer we will be missing from the Village Hall on our evening photoshoots which begin on June 15. The Club's website is webheathdpc.com where you can find details, such as our programme and how to contact us. You can also find us at www.instagram.com/WebheathDPC and on Facebook as Webheath Digital Photography Club.

P. Dewell March 2020

* * * * * * * * *



Sudoku

			2	4		6		
9								3
1					3		4	5
5	6			7		1		
		4	8		5	9		
		1		6			5	2
6	9		5					1
4								9
		8		9	6			

Solution next month

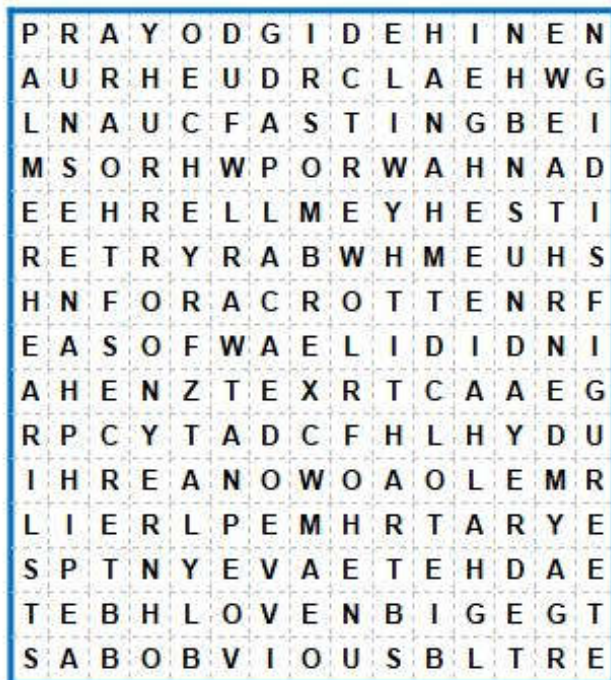
4	1	6	9	2	3	5	8	7
5	8	2	4	1	7	6	9	3
3	9	7	6	8	5	4	1	2
7	3	9	1	6	4	2	5	8
1	5	8	3	7	2	9	4	6
6	2	4	8	5	9	7	3	1
9	7	3	2	4	1	8	6	5
2	6	1	5	9	8	3	7	4
8	4	5	7	3	6	1	2	9

Last month's solution

Word Search

"When you fast, do not look sombre as the hypocrites do, for they disfigure their faces to show others they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward in full. But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, so that it will not be obvious to others that you are fasting, but only to your Father, who is unseen; and your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you.

Matthew 6: 16-18



SOMBRE HYPOCRITES DISFIGURE

FASTING REWARD OBVIOUS

FATHER UNSEEN SECRET

Words to be found may be forward, backward, vertical or diagonal within the puzzle

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