

Web address: <http://stjameswoolton.org>

MINISTER: Revd. Peter Hughes peter.hughes@methodist.org.uk
0151 364 0134

Peter's day off is Friday - messages and emails left on Fridays will not be received by him until Saturday.

NEWSLETTER 9th May – 2021



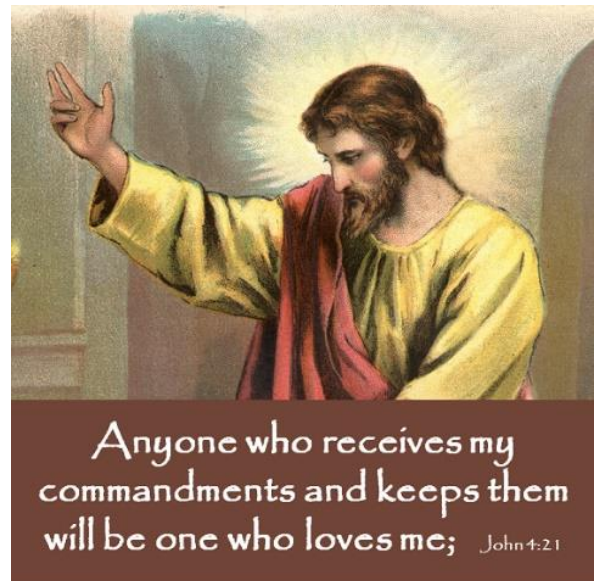
Sixth Sunday of Easter

God of mercy, as we rejoice in the resurrection of your Son, the Bread of Life, feed us with your plenty and increase in us compassion for the hungry; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Almighty and everlasting God, you are always more ready to hear than we to pray and give more than either we desire or deserve. Pour down upon us the abundance of your mercy, forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid and giving us those good things which we are not worthy to ask to save through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.



Anyone who receives my
commandments and keeps them
will be one who loves me; John 14:21

MESSAGE FROM THE MINISTER

I hope you are all well and have had a good week. Hopefully, no one got caught out in the hailstorms! It is wonderful that we continue to be able to worship back in Church and I hope that more of you will be able to join us in coming weeks. Next Sunday (16th May) we hope to share in Communion for the first time since Sunday 23rd February 2020.

We hope that in coming weeks as the government relax restrictions further, we will be able to rebuild the face-to-face fellowship and pastoral care of our Church.

We have all been through some very sad and challenging times but God has been with us and we can be sure he has a future and a plan for us as we walk with the risen Jesus through the path ahead.

God Bless Peter.

UPCOMING PREACHERS

Sunday May 9th Graham Martin (**St James'**) & Revd. Paul Wilson (**Telephone**)

Sunday May 16th Revd. Peter Hughes (**St James'**) & Revd. Peter Hughes (**Telephone**)

This service will include a seated, distanced Communion. Anyone wanting to receive the Communion after the service, please contact, either Irene Elliott or Revd. Peter Hughes.

Sunday May 23rd Michaela Doherty (**St James'**) & Liz Hudson (**Telephone**)

WORSHIPPING AT ST. JAMES'

There are now 3 ways in which you can enjoy our Sunday morning services.

- By booking a place and attending St James'
- Via telephone
- Via Zoom

All details and information are below.

Please use the Zoom link below

Joining from 10.15 for a 10.30 am start – Preacher: Graham Martin

Either click on this link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5913455610?pwd=R3RFV1RWU2NpKzJ1cTM1VFJ2STk4UT09>

Meeting ID: 591 345 5610

Passcode: 6WbLRw

We hope to see you there.

If you want to listen in to the Service on Sunday, dial the above number, then PIN and listen in. You can chat up to 10.30, but when the service starts everyone will be “muted” to avoid feedback/noise.

I'm your preacher (Graham Martin) this week, so be great to have a few “telephone worshipers” joining the main service. – (I'm told that the spoken word comes over very well, but music not quite so good).

**Also from St. James Church:- Invitation to Telephone Worship
(And every Sunday until the end of June)**

This Sunday our preacher will be: Rev Paul Wilson.

To join us for a short (15-20 minutes) Act of Worship :

Between 2.20pm and 2.30pm on Sunday:

From your normal “landline” telephone: Dial: 0333-006-7775

On being asked, enter the following number, or “Pin”: 08 39 09 01

You will be able to chat with everyone else who joins until the service starts.

This Sunday's Act of Worship, or short service, will comprise:

- Welcome and opening prayer
- Bible reading
- Lord's Prayer
- Talk or “mini-sermon” – By Chris Bolton, Prayers
- Grace and dismissal.

COST: - The above number costs the same to dial as ordinary UK numbers – if you have “free minutes” from your telephone supplier then there will be no cost.

God Bless

Graham Martin

Communications officer (and local preacher) St. James Church

[Call me on 0151-222-5832 or 07712-525239 if you have any questions]

Please read again all the information below so that we are all aware how we can behave safely and protect each other. This may seem a lot to remember but like everything else we have had to do over the last year, we will soon get used to it!

Service Dates and times

We plan to hold our services every Sunday at 10.30am (doors open from 10am).

Bookings

Once again, you will need to book in advance to attend a Service. This is because the capacity of our Church has been much reduced by the need to observe social distance.

You will need to book in each week. Bookings can be made by phone, text or email.

Please contact Jayne McLaren on 07859 062 692 (jayniemac@hotmail.co.uk) from 4pm on the Sunday afternoon for the following Sunday's Service.

Places will be given on a **first come first served basis**. If we can't book you in for the coming Sunday, we will put you on the list for the following Sunday.

If you wish to sit as part of a family group, please tell us at the time of booking so that we can arrange seats together for you.

If you book and then find that you can't come to a Service, please let us know as it will create space for others to come.

Please don't "turn up" at Church if you haven't booked for that Service as it will be frustrating for you to have to go home.

It is essential that you do not come to Church if you are showing symptoms of Covid 19 or have recently come into contact with someone who is suspected of or confirmed to be infected. For all of us, including those who show no symptoms, getting a test (if available) in the week before coming to Church will help us to know we are safe when we have contact with others. Please do come when it is safe for you to do so. If you are in a vulnerable group, please think carefully about whether it is safe for you to attend. We have prepared the Church by cleaning and other measures.

Clothes to suit the Temperature

You may wish to wrap up well to come to Church. The heating will be on and is now working on full power, but we need to ensure good air circulation by keeping some doors open. Please do not close any doors that the stewards have left open. Hopefully, the weather will be much warmer in the coming weeks than it was back in December!

Please don't bring unnecessary bags or other items as they could potentially carry and transmit the virus

Lifts to Church

If you normally give a lift to someone or get picked up by someone to come to Church, please be aware that this is an informal, private arrangement between friends. Lifts are not arranged by the Church and are not offered on behalf of the Church. Please check the current Government guidance before giving or accepting a lift and ensure that any sharing of transport is carried out in a Covid 19 secure way

Face Coverings Required

For now we are still required to wear a face covering at Church, as we are in shops and other enclosed spaces.

You will notice that those on duty will be wearing face coverings for your protection. Children under 11 are not required to wear face coverings. Some adults may also be exempt.

Arriving at Church

The doors will open 30 minutes before the Service begins. Please do not arrive before then. When you arrive at Church you will be greeted by a Steward and be expected to clean your hands before entering. If there is a queue to enter or to use the sanitiser, please observe safe social distancing in the queue.

You may use the main entrance or the ramp entrance. If you are able to, please use whichever entrance is less busy at the time you arrive.

Track and Trace

We will keep a record of who attends each service to help track and trace contacts in case anyone attending Church tests positive at a later date.

Social Distancing

Please enter the worship area and find a seat as quickly as possible, do not gather in groups for conversation. Some chairs will be reserved for those who are coming in families or household groups.

Please DO NOT move any seats as this will potentially compromise the way we have arranged them to allow social distancing.

Throughout your time in Church social distancing of 2 metres will be in place, keep a safe distance, just as you would in any public place at the moment. Please don't put others in an awkward situation by going over to their seats and chatting to them.

Differences to Notice

In order to minimise the risk of transmission, our Services will be much shorter than previously and will not include singing.

If you have brought your offering with you, please place it on a plate near the entrance as you arrive or leave. There will be no offering during the service.

We will not be using the Prayers of Intercession book; if you have a prayer request, please let us know by contacting a Steward Elder during the week.

At the end of the Service you will be encouraged to leave promptly rather than linger and chat, there will be no refreshments. All of this goes against what we are used to but it is to enable us to safely share in worship.

Children, Families & Households

We are looking forward to welcoming children, young people and families back to Church. Unfortunately, we won't be able to hold separate Junior Church, at least for now.

We encourage children to bring their own drawing and writing materials (including pen and paper), please don't bring toys. We request parents to help children in practicing social distancing, which we realise may be demanding! Families and people from the same household or "support bubble" will be able to sit together and we will provide you with the right number of seats together for your group as long as you tell us at the time of booking.

Go Safely

As you leave Church you will be offered hand sanitiser again so that your hands are clean as you return home.

Picture from our Church Railings.

The picture for the Sixth Sunday of Easter points us towards Ascension Day when Jesus returned to his Father (celebrated this year on Thursday 13th May). The picture focuses on Jesus sending the disciples out in his name as he prepared to leave them on earth. Soon he would be sending the gift of the Holy Spirit to empower them. The words read: "As the Father has sent me, so I send you, don't question why, don't entertain doubts of whether you are up to the task...accept and believe it's true". We all feel inadequate at times, especially when given a task as challenging as going in the name of Jesus. We can be assured that God does not ask us to do anything that he doesn't also equip us for. May we all be open to the Spirit's power as we step out in faith.



The Sending

(John 20: 21 – 22)

As the Father has sent me,
so I
send you:
don't question why,
don't entertain doubts
of whether you're up to the task.

I understand
the shock that you're in,
know this is turning head over heels
your previous perception
of how life was going to be

but see,
I am Risen:

see my hands,
look at the wound in my side,

it is as I have told you;
I have beaten death.

Peace be with you.

Accept
and believe:
it is true.

In the next few days there will be some pictures on our Church railings, encouraging us all to share in Thy Kingdom Come. Thy Kingdom Come is 11 special days of prayer shared by Christians around the world. It starts on Ascension Day (when we remember that the risen Jesus returned to his Father in heaven) and ends on Pentecost Sunday (when we remember the coming of the Holy Spirit to the Church).

During this time our prayers are focused on God's Kingdom in the hearts of people, in the life of the Church and in the whole world. The phrase "Thy Kingdom Come" is taken from the Lord's Prayer ("Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven"). In using these words we are asking that God's good purposes and plans are fulfilled in our world, just as they are in heaven. These plans include an end to conflict, war, injustice, hunger and oppression. Through prayer and the power of the Holy Spirit we can work for these things to become a reality in our world.

You can join in with Thy Kingdom Come by visiting the website

<https://www.thykingdomcome.global/> or by simply spending a few moments in prayer each day during the eleven days. One idea is praying for five friends, using this simple prayer; "Lord, I pray that you will lead ... to you, Amen"



Outdoor Worship at St Mary's Roman Catholic Church St Mary's are holding two Saturday afternoon Prayer Services in their Parish grounds at 12noon on Saturday 15th and Saturday 22nd May. They are inviting members of St James' and St Peter's to join them.

These Services tie in with the period of Thy Kingdom Come and celebrate Pope Francis's "**Care For Our Common Home**". The services will encourage people to recognise the value of spending time outdoors in prayer and thanksgiving for the wonders of nature. You may wish to bring a picnic blanket, and folding chairs will be available at the services.

SPRINGWATCH with St. James'

Closer to home this week, the picture shows the blossoming trees by the Leeds & Liverpool Canal in Maghull. Thanks again to Revd. Peter Hughes for this stunning photo.



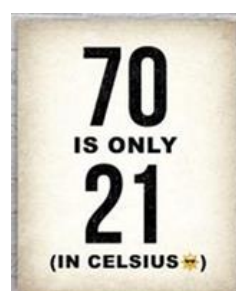
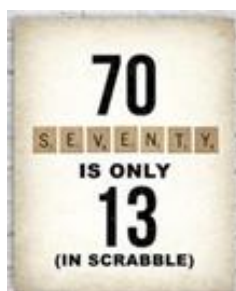
Birthdays.

For those who are celebrating a birthday this week, wishing you a wonderful time ahead.

Happy, happy birthday,
That's my birthday wish for you,
I hope your day brings you joy,
Whatever you plan to do.
Live each moment to the fullest,
Every single moment is dear,
This is the time to remember,
You only get one birthday a year.



Happy birthday to **Graham Martin**, who will be 70 on Sunday 15th May.



Date for your diary –

Christian Aid week is the 10th-16th May, the focus this year is on the climate crisis.

We will not be doing house to house collections. We will be collecting using an e-envelope which will be forwarded to you via email.

We will be collecting in the Church grounds two afternoons during the week (provisionally Wednesday and Friday 2.45-4pm). If anyone is available to collect at these times, please email Jane (jlaverty65@icloud.com).

Individuals will be taking part in the 300,000 steps challenge (anyone interested is welcome to take part).



Jane and Doreen putting up the Christian Aid Bunting on the St. James railings ready for Christian Aid Week.

Christian Aid Quiz

The St James and St Peter's Christian Aid Quiz is on Zoom on Sunday 23rd May at 7pm, and we'd love you to join us! The quiz is free to join, suitable for children and adults, and is open to households of all shapes and sizes.

To register for the quiz, please email Laura Jones on laura@jones.mn by Saturday 22nd May - you'll then receive specific joining instructions and more details about the evening.

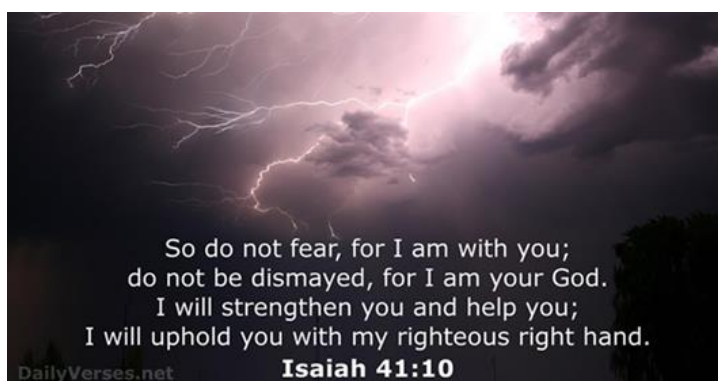
We look forward to seeing you on 23rd May!

Help St James' raise £500

<https://envelope.christianaid.org.uk/envelope/st-james-church-woolton?channel=email>

Many thanks,

Jane and Tony



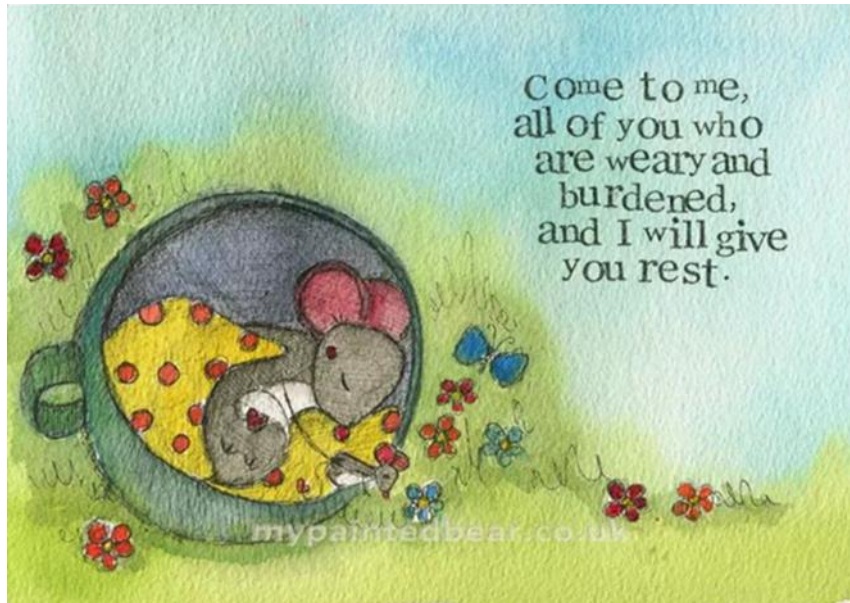
BEFRIENDERS

As we are coming out of the restrictions, there is a real need for more volunteer Befrienders. We are looking forward to anyone willing to join. All the training, induction, ongoing support will be provided by the charity.

Visit our website : www.wooltoncommunitylife.org.uk

Thank you, George

Chair of Trustees, Woolton Community Life.



PRAYERS NEEDED

Heavenly Lord, we stand today in Your grace and everlasting mercy. It is only by Your solid will that we're here today to have this prayer and by Your grace, we come knocking with the rest of mind that you'll answer us.

Oh Lord, we pray in the stead of the sick and dying, that You be with them for all eternity.

Turn Your sight, not from their souls, and take their hands in Yours as a father would, his sons and daughters.

God, in Your abode, nurture their souls for all eternity and be with all their goals in life.

We thank You for safeguarding them in this world and continuing to do so in the next. Thank You for listening to our prayer.

Amen.

We continue to remember those at St. James who need our prayers this week, praying for our family and friends, those close to our hearts, for those known to us and for those only you know of.

For those waiting to undergo surgery and for those recovering.

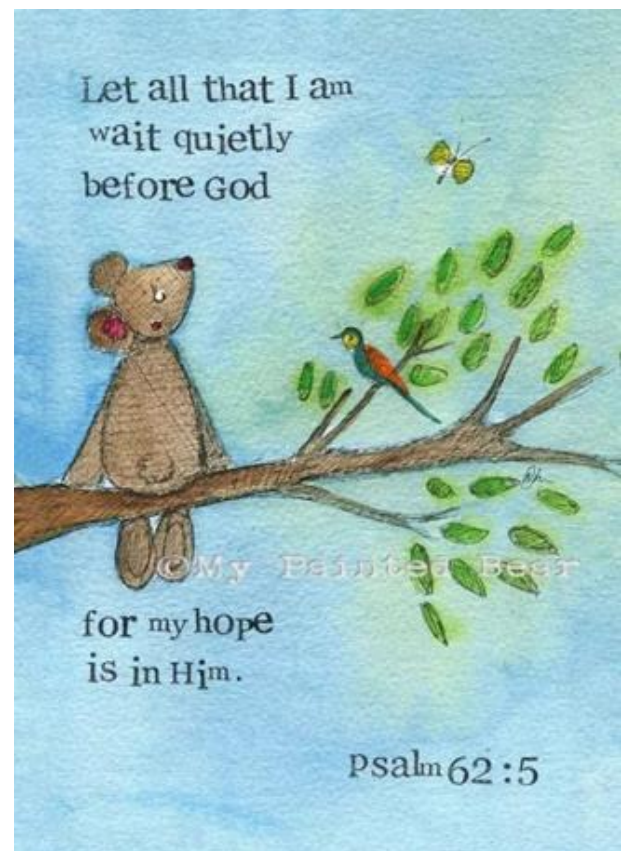
For Dot Woods and family, as Dot is recovering in hospital.

For John and Lilian Jeffers as John recovers from surgery.

For Ken Kitchen as he returns from hospital to his nursing home.

For Madge and Dave Tilley. For Delilah Morris and family as she awaits more surgery.

We look to you for your strength and healing Lord in difficult times.



ECO BRICKS

It seems like a very long time ago, but do you remember the waste bin in the church porch where everyone left plastic which couldn't be recycled? It went from St James to Princes Park Methodist Church where Richard Rees used it to make eco-bricks for a project in the church garden. The following message and photos arrived from Richard this week:



"It has been 2 years since we started collecting single-use plastic and Coke bottles (thank you so much for those of you who have contributed) and at last we can see the fruits of our labour. I have attached two photos that show the completed "Raised Cross in Plastic" on the piece of waste ground behind Princes Park Methodist Church. Wildflower seeds have been scattered in the bed and I am excited about how it will look in the summer."



Approximately 100kg of plastic has been used that otherwise would have gone to land fill (or into the oceans?) and which now replaces the cross that "fell off" the front of our Church when the fixings rusted and failed. May the new cross be seen by all passing (and specially from the top deck of the double decker busses that pass frequently) and proclaim our duty as stewards of this world I am still collecting and filling bottles with plastic for any other project other Churches might wish to consider. I hope this can inspire other projects and I would be very happy to help if needed. A great big thank you again and may God bless us and all we do in His Name. Richard Rees"

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD ANSWERS

B	E	M	O	A	N		F	O	R	E	K	N	E	W
R		O		T			P		P		A		E	
E	Q	U	I	T	Y		S	E	N	A	T	O	R	S
A		N		A		R		N		P		M		T
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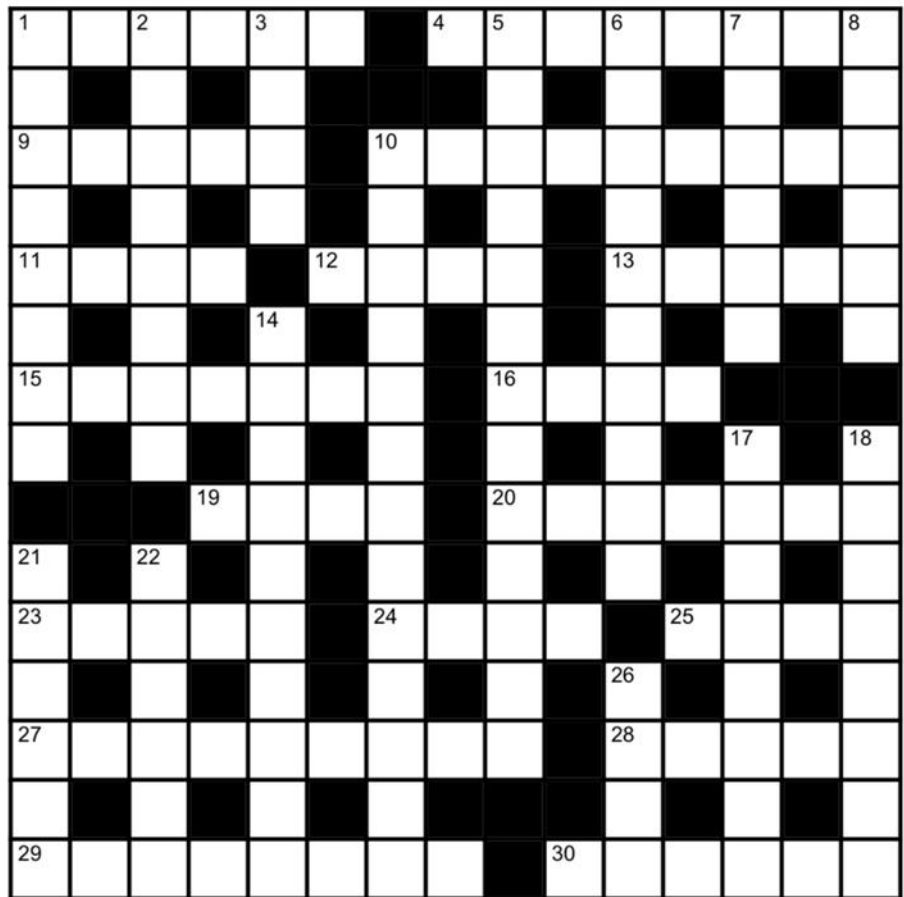
Across: 1 Bemoan, 4 Foreknew, 9 Equity, 10 Senators, 12 Detained, 13 Thrice, 15 Heir, 16 Revelation, 19 Messengers, 20 Stir, 23 Ribbon, 25 Tomorrow, 27 Assuaged, 28 Usurer, 29 Numbered, 30 Plates.

Down: 1 Breadth, 2 Mountains, 3 Attain, 5 Open, 6 Epaphras, 7 Naomi, 8 Western, 11 Revenge, 14 Reproof, 17 Interpret, 18 Desolate, 19 Murrain, 21 Rewards, 22 Morsel, 24 Bosom, 26 Here.

THIS WEEK'S CROSSWORD

Across

- 1 Silenced (6)
 4 Allocated (8)
 9 Kingdoms or domains (5)
 10 Babylonians (9)
 11 Left behind when Peter and Andrew followed Jesus (4)
 12 Lame man's entrance to the house where Jesus healed him (4)
 13 Depart (5)
 15 Stamens of a crocus (7)
 16 New thought (4)
 19 Unhearing (4)
 20 Absconded (7)
 23 Enticed (5)
 24 The coldest of the ten plagues (4)
 25 Insult rendering the giver in danger of hell fire (4)
 27 First visitors to the baby Jesus (9)
 28 Twinkle (5)
 29 Sin (8)
 30 Physical state after absence of food (6)



by Philologus

© BiblePuzzles.org.uk

Down

- 1 Written on the Priest's headband (8)
 2 To set apart for sacred use (8)
 3 Wise men's domain (4)
 5 Location where Jesus met the disciples for breakfast (3,2,8)
 6 Greediness (10)
 7 Cured of leprosy by washing in the River Jordan (6)
 8 Crockery (6)

- 10 Worn by Jesus on the cross (5,2,6)
 14 Amity between David and Jonathan (10)
 17 Against (8)
 18 Forbidden in the seventh commandment (8)
 21 A place to pray (6)
 22 Country visited by Paul (6)
 26 Hairy Old Testament hunter (4)

NEWSLETTER NOTICES NEXT WEEK



If you would like to share anything with your Church family in this newsletter including any birthdays, celebrations, or anyone to include in our prayers, please let me know.

Please send any messages to Jayne McLaren at

jayniemac@hotmail.co.uk