

STOCKPORT PARISH CHURCH

St Mary's in the Marketplace

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St Mary's with St Andrew's Parish Office

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 Stockport Parish Church – St Mary's

Service times at St Mary's

Sunday: 10:30am Holy Communion or Morning Prayer

Normally the first and third Sunday is Holy Communion with Morning on the second and fourth.

**Tuesday: 10.00am Holy Communion
12.15pm Lunchtime Service**

Wedding, Baptism, Funeral and other services by arrangement.

St Mary's and the Nave Café is open – Tuesday, Thursday, Friday & Saturday from 9.00am – 3.00pm

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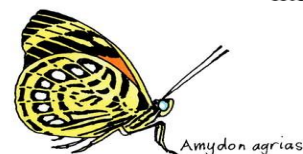
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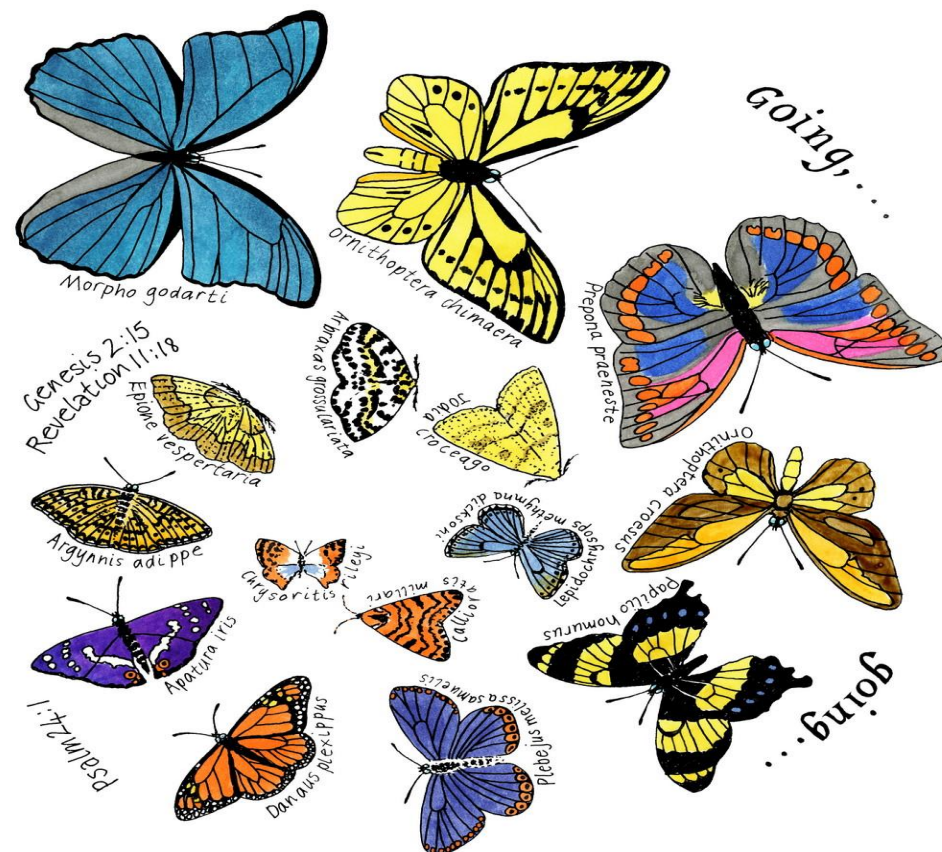
STOCKPORT PARISH CHURCH

[St Mary's in the Marketplace]

with St Andrew's . Hall Street.



June
2018



Diary

June 2018

Friday, 1 st June	Worship Cafe with Tiviot Dale MC	10.45
Sunday, 3 rd June	Civic Service Baptism Zeal Church	10.30 14.00 15.30
Tuesday, 5 th June	Holy Communion Lunchtime Service	10.00 12.15
Friday, 8 th June	Worship Cafe with Tiviot Dale MC	10.45
Sunday, 10 th June	Holy Communion Zeal Church	10.30 15.00
Tuesday, 12 th June	Holy Communion Lunchtime Service	10.00 12.15
Friday, 15 th June	Worship Cafe with Tiviot Dale MC	10.45
Sunday, 17 th June	Morning Prayer Zeal Church	10.30 15.30
Tuesday, 19 th June	Holy Communion Lunchtime Service	10.00 12.15
Wednesday, 20 th June	Food & Drink Trade Show PCC Meeting	18.00
Friday, 22 nd June	Worship Cafe with Tiviot Dale MC Rotary Club of Stockport [private event]	10.45 19.00
Saturday, 23 rd June	Anniversary Concert – Ladybrook Singers	
Sunday, 24 th June	Holy Communion Zeal Church	10.30 15.30
Tuesday, 26 th June	Holy Communion Lunchtime Service	10.00 12.15

***A contribution towards the cost of producing this magazine would be appreciated please – in the donations box.
Thank You***

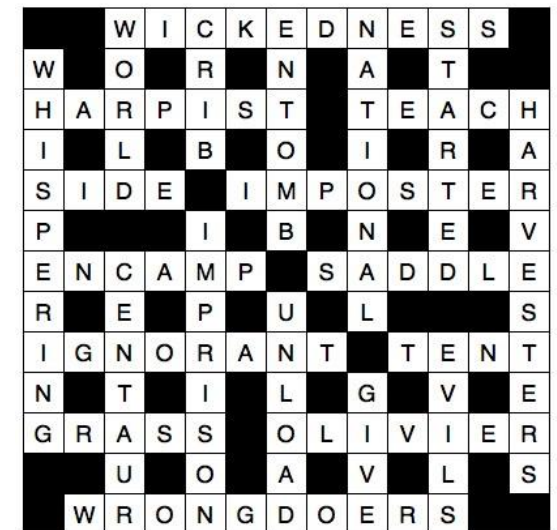
APOLOGIES: May Parish Magazine

On the following article the last line “disappeared” and was not printed.

31st May: Mary, the Blessed Virgin, visits Elizabeth

Mary, chosen to be the mother of Jesus Christ, one who is both God and Man, holds a unique place in the history of mankind. Down the centuries that have followed, the Church has paid special honour to Mary – and well **deserved it is. “All generations shall call me blessed...”**

The books of the Bible, as they appear in the quiz, are as follows: Amos, Mark, Luke, John, Joel, Judges, Job, Hebrews, Esther, Acts, James, Ruth, Romans, Titus, Matthew, Genesis, Philemon (spelt Phillemon in quiz), Chronicles, Daniel, Nahum, Hosea, Lamentations, Revelation, Timothy, Samuel, Numbers, Malachi, Peter, Exodus, Kings.



Café Worship
Friday Coffee Morning Services.

St. Mary's. 10.45 am

1 st June	Rita Waters
8 th June	Anne Hunt
15 th June	Frank Dean
22 nd June	Robin Squelch
29 th June	Lindsay Kemp
6 th July	Barbara Aspinall
13 th July	Lindsay Kemp
20 th July	Amanda Martin
27 th July	Amy Hill
3 rd August	Sue Shillito
10 th August	Lindsay Kemp
17 th August	Liz Morrell
24 th August	Ian Coverdale
31 st August	Rita Waters

June 2018

If the next few weeks continue to give us the lovely warm (if not hot) sunny days of late May, then there will be little to moan about weather-wise. **But when is “summer”?** It all depends on whether you are referring to the **astronomical** or **meteorological** summer. Usually when we talk about the first day of summer we are referring to the astronomical summer which is defined by the Earth's axis and orbit around the sun. However, the Met Office mark the beginning of a 'meteorological summer which begins on 01 June 2018 and ends on 31 August 2018.

The meteorological seasons consists of splitting the year into four periods made up of three months each. These seasons are split to coincide with our Gregorian calendar making it easier for meteorological observing and forecasting to compare seasonal and monthly statistics. The seasons are defined as Spring (March, April, May), Summer (June, July, August), Autumn (September, October, November) and Winter (December, January, February). Well that seems easy enough to understand.

This year the astronomical summer begins on 21 June 2018 and ends on 23 September 2018. The astronomical calendar determines the seasons due to the 23.5° tilt of the Earth's rotational axis in relation to its orbit around the sun. Both equinoxes and solstices are related to the Earth's orbit around the sun. More complicated but does it really matter – well maybe not to us – whatever the method we hope that it is a good one and if you are lucky enough to be going away on holiday, that you have a wonderful time.

It is fairly quiet at St Mary's at the moment but we hope and pray that over the summer months **astronomical** and **meteorological** (June to September) that further progress will be made towards moving forward with the merger of the three parishes and the advertising for (and appointment of) a Rector for the new Parish.

Justin Martyr (c. 100 – 165) - first ever Christian philosopher

Justin Martyr is regarded as the first ever Christian philosopher. He was born at Nablus, Samaria, to parents of Greek origin, and was well educated in rhetoric, poetry and history before he turned to philosophy. He studied at Ephesus and Alexandria and tried the schools of the Stoics, the Pythagoreans, and the Platonists. Then in c 130 Justin became a Christian, and never looked back. His long search for truth was satisfied by the Bible, and above all by Christ, the Word of God.

This apologist and martyr is known as the most important early 'apologist'. He went on to offer a reasoned defence for Christianity, explaining that it was the fulfilment of the Old Testament prophecies. Justin's aim was evangelism: he thought that pagans would turn to Christianity if they were made aware of Christian doctrine and practice.

Justin's martyrdom took place in the reign of Marcus Aurelius, along with six other believers. At his trial, whose authentic record survives, he clearly confessed his Christian beliefs, refused to sacrifice to the gods, and accepted suffering and death. As he had previously said to the emperor: "You can kill us, but not hurt us."

Erasmus (d. c. 300) – a good saint for when you're all at sea

Do you like messing about in boats? If so, then you'll have heard of St Elmo's Fire. It is the light that is sometimes seen on mastheads of boats after storms at sea.

St Elmo is another name for St Erasmus, a fourth century Syrian bishop who was not afraid of violent storms. Legend has it that one day when Erasmus was preaching outside, a thunderbolt hit the ground right beside him. That might have distracted many modern bishops, but not Erasmus – he just kept on preaching. His courage won him the respect of sailors, who also had to brave the elements of nature in their daily work.

But when Erasmus was made the patron saint of sailors, it led to a curious confusion. His emblem became the windlass, a kind of hoist used by many sailors at sea. So far so good, but many medieval Christians, seeing the windlass emblem, assumed it was some sort of torture instrument. They knew that Erasmus had died in the persecution of Diocletian, and concluded that a windlass had been used to hoist out his intestines (which it hadn't).

But no matter - Erasmus was still adopted by another set of suffering people. Not only did sailors remember the thunderbolt, and look to him, but soon, anyone with gut ache as well!

Canon David Winter is saddened by the widespread 'negativity' around...

'People nowadays'

'Everyone seems to be against something', someone said to me the other day, and I had to agree. 'What I can't stand is . . .' can be followed by almost anything, from babies screaming in the coffee shop to people who will say 'Take care!', junk mail, careless parkers or even someone's accent or hair style on television.

Identifying ourselves by what we are against is an ancient but ultimately soul-destroying attitude. Older people like me have our own version of it: 'People nowadays . . .' followed by our particular dislike about modern ways. 'People' are us, actually, and I dare say our little foibles equally irritate some younger citizens.

The answer, someone suggested to me, is to replace 'What I can't stand is . . .' with 'What cheers me up is . . .' I worked out my own list, including children laughing, a dog's devotion, 'Hiya David' from a neighbour, a favourite hymn in church, and the supermarket check-out person who has just beeped their five hundredth item of the day but still smiles and says hello as though she means it. Come to think of it, I quite like the dismissal, 'Take care!' I need to.

Parking Charges at Churchgate Car Park

With regret we notice that parking charges at Churchgate have risen considerably for Monday – Saturday parking (from 50p to 90p per hour now payable from 6am to 6pm) and that charges have been implemented for Sunday parking (20p per hour). At the present time there has been no comments from the Council although we have been in contact with them over Sunday parking charges.

Seen this best-watched film?

If your recent experiences with social media have left your nerves feeling jangled, then leave it alone this coming weekend. Instead, why not try for an up-building exercise which will boost your mood and leave you feeling calm? TRY A FILM!

Send for the DVD of the film that the Guinness Book of Records declares as the most watched film – secular or religious – in the whole of history.

Forget The Titanic. It is 'The Jesus Film' – watched over 6 billion times and translated into 1,200 languages. Some 200 million people world-wide have declared themselves to have found personal faith and meaning in life, through watching it. Just google www.agape.org.uk

Then share it with friends....

Bread

It takes a year to produce a loaf of bread, from field to fork. Yet in the UK we throw away 24 million slices of it, every day. The average person will throw away more than half a loaf of bread every month.

A recent survey by Love Food Hate Waste has also found that among 18 to 34-year-olds, 69 per cent throw bread away every week. The campaign is urging people to slice and freeze their bread when they get it home, so that it can last for several months.

Petroc – the founder of Padstow

If you are going to Cornwall this summer in search of peace and quiet, Petroc is the saint for you. Especially if you find Padstow a bit too crowded for your liking! He would have sympathised. This 6th century abbot is Cornwall's most famous saint. Petroc set sail from South Wales, landed at Haylemouth, and founded a monastery at Lanwethinoc – now called Padstow, after him (Petroc's Stow). Padstow must have been popular even in those days, because about 30 years later Petroc, in search of some peace and quiet, moved on to build another monastery at Little Petherick (Nanceven-ton). Here he must have decided to try some 6th century equivalent of 'Fresh Expressions', because he engaged with his local community by building a mill and a chapel. In time, Petroc began feeling crowded again. So he tramped off to the remote wilds of Bodmin Moor, where he lived as a hermit – until some 12 monks turned up to join him. Firmly, Petroc kept them all housed in a monastery on a hilltop, while he enjoyed his private space in a cell by the river. But even here Petroc was not alone.

One day a terrified stag came rushing through the woods, pursued by the hunt. Petroc flung open the door of his cell, and the panting animal took refuge. When the huntsmen arrived on the scene, they did not dare to argue with the famous holy man, and went their way. The stag's gratitude made him tame, and Petroc would come to be portrayed with a stag as his special emblem.

Petroc was buried in the monastery in Padstow but in c.1000 his shrine and relics, including his staff and bell, were translated to Bodmin. Here they have stayed ever since, except for a short, unplanned trip to Brittany in 1177, when they were stolen and carted off by a naughty Canon of the Church. Henry II intervened, and everything but a rib of Petroc was eventually returned.

William of York – victim of injustice

Have you ever been the victim of someone else's malice and ambition?

Then William of York (d 1154) is the saint for you. William Fitzherbert was born into a noble family, with royal connections. He was also smart – appointed treasurer of York at a young age, and also as a chaplain to King Stephen. But none went to his head - he was loved for his kind, amiable and easy-going personality.

Then in 1140 Thurston, the archbishop of York, died. The canons of York knew whom they wanted, and with royal support William was made Thurston's successor. Yet all was not well: a disappointed minority hated him and had the support of powerful men. William was accused of simony, and of being unchaste. The row brought in the Pope and several bishops, and William was cleared. Yet still – all was not well. That Pope died, and the new Pope was a Cistercian, who preferred the enemies of William. And so he was deposed.

Yet William seems to have taken all this malice and power-grabbing in his stride. He simply retired to Winchester to live as a devout monk until 1153. Then that year several of his key enemies died, and he was restored as archbishop to York. At last all looked good for him – and he made a triumphant return to York in 1154. But then – disaster struck again: a few days later William was dead - poison was strongly suspected. He was buried in his cathedral, miracles were reported at his tomb. He was regarded as both the victim of grave injustice and as a saint. In 1421 the famous St William window was made; depicting his life and miracles and death in 62 scenes.

Paul Hardingham looks forward to the world cup...

World Cup Fever

The former Liverpool Manager Bill Shankly famously said, 'Some people believe football is a matter of life and death, I am very disappointed with that attitude. I can assure you it is much, much more important than that!'

This month sees the start of the World Cup in Russia; a truly global event watched by billions on television. Yet this competition illustrates some key points about the Christian life. As Paul writes: 'But one thing I do: forgetting what is behind and straining towards what is ahead, I press on towards the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenwards in Christ Jesus.' (Philippians 3:13b,14).

A prize to be won: The dream of every player in the competition is to be able to hold up the World Cup themselves. For us the prize is the eternal life, God's gift of relationship with him for now and eternity through Jesus. But there's an important difference between football and the Christian faith. To win the World Cup you have to be good enough, while Christ's love for us is underserved and is not dependent on how well we've done.

Training to be undertaken: If a team is going to win the World Cup, they have to train hard beforehand. Our training, as Christians, starts the moment we accept the gift of God's life. On a daily basis, we train ourselves to say no to the wrong things in our lives. As we build up our godly muscles we are better able to choose to do what is right in God's eyes. To enable us to do all this we need to engage in the spiritual disciplines of prayer, studying the Bible and being part of a church and small group. How is your training going?

Lester Amann considers the contrast between appearances and reality.

Be genuine

A holiday brochure featured a picturesque village with an ancient church surrounded by beautiful flowers and trees. Tourists were encouraged to visit it and enjoy the welcome of the church and garden. Unfortunately, the advertisers hadn't visited the place for themselves. While the outside of this church looked lovely, the interior of the building was dark, damp and dirty. All furnishings had been removed and the only visitors now were pigeons and mice. No one had worshipped in this place for many years. This historic building, once used for the glory of God, was like a desolate grave-yard. This story reminds us of some words Jesus directed at the religious leaders of His day. He said they were like white-washed tombs, which looked fine on the outside, but were full of bones and decaying corpses on the inside! Jesus accused the teachers of the Law and the Pharisees of merely appearing to be good to everybody, while inside they were full of hypocrisy and sins. It would be nice to think that this accusation had nothing to do with us; a criticism that only applied to those religious leaders. But doesn't it touch a nerve in all of us? Are there times when we say we agree to something in principle, but actually don't put it into practice? Jesus accused those who gave the outward impression that they were devoted and obedient to God, while their attention was actually on themselves. Outwardly they looked good, but God could see within, and their hearts were deceitful and bad. They neglected the really important teachings of the Law such as justice, mercy and humility. That countryside church looked lovely, but it was void and empty and did nothing to show the love of Jesus to the community. Here is a challenge for us. When people look at our church meeting together, do they see a friendly, caring and welcoming fellowship or are they met with indifference? When people look at us do they see a true picture that reflects the loving qualities of Christ? We each of us need God's help to remove any contradiction between our inner and outer lives, so we can be true examples of Christ's love. Let's be genuine.

Can you find 30 books of the Bible hidden in this passage?

This is a most remarkable puzzle. It was found by a gentleman in an airplane seat pocket, on a flight from Los Angeles to Honolulu, keeping him occupied for hours. He enjoyed it so much that he passed it on to some friends. One friend from Illinois worked on this while fishing from his John-boat. Another friend studied it while playing his banjo. Elaine Taylor, a columnist friend, was so intrigued by it, she mentioned it in her weekly newspaper column. Another friend judges the job of solving this puzzle so involving that she brews a cup of tea to help her nerves. There will be some names that are really easy to spot. That's a fact. Some people, however, will soon find themselves in a jam, especially since the books are not necessarily capitalised.

Truthfully from answers we get, we are forced to admit it usually takes a minister or scholar to see some of them at the worst. Research has shown that something in our genes is responsible for the difficulty we have in seeing the books in these paragraphs. During a recent fundraising event, which features this puzzle, the Alpha Delta Phil-Lemonade booth set a new sales record.

The local paper, the Chronicle, surveyed over 50 patrons who reported that this puzzle was one of the most difficult they had ever seen. As Daniel Humana humbly puts it, "the books are all right here in plain view, hidden from sight". Those able to find all of them will hear great lamentations from those who have to be shown. One revelation that may help is that books Timothy and Samuel appear without their numbers.

Also, keep in mind, that punctuation and spaces in the middle are normal. A chipper attitude will help you compete really well against those who claim to know the answers. Remember, there is no need for a mass exodus, there really are 30 books of the Bible lurking somewhere in these paragraphs waiting to be found.

Canon David Winter **Diary of a Momentous Year: June 1918**

An interesting piece from the archives of the Church Times a few weeks ago vividly illustrates the way the war on the western front changed in 1918. For years the Church Army, like the Salvation Army, had run what they called 'huts', close behind the trenches, where soldiers could find on their free time a meal and hot drinks, comfortable seats and company, offering emotional and spiritual support. These 'huts' were very popular with the troops, and for years most of them remained in place, indicating how static the whole conflict was. But in one month, April 1918, the Church Army lost 57 of them, as German advances overtook their positions. In most cases the land was recaptured, but the huts needed rebuilding. The war had changed. It was no longer a static battle of soldiers with rifles and bayonets charging batteries of machine guns, but an increasingly fluid conflict involving tanks and aircraft. Although at first the Allied generals were slow to recognise it, the new style of war suited them best. Over the years they had built a formidable war machine, involving thousands of tanks and tens of thousands of aircraft, with tactics to match. Not only that, but the arrival of the Americans in large numbers, added to the vast number of troops from the Empire (now the Commonwealth) meant that casualties could be replaced in the Allied ranks. The Germans and their Austro-Hungarian allies had no such source of fresh manpower, turning instead to younger and older men to fill the depleted ranks. The German generals were aware of the situation, and desperate to make inroads before it was too late, in the hope of achieving a relatively 'neutral' peace agreement in due course. On June 9th the German General Ludendorff launched a major offensive in Flanders. Like so many, it gained several miles, but cost many lives and eventually petered out. There would be several more such attempts, some of which threatened to succeed, but in fact the eventual outcome was becoming clear. The German people were disillusioned with the Kaiser. Their troops were exhausted. The civilian population were restless. There would be, as we shall see, battles to come, but there would barely be time to rebuild those huts.

In praise of knitting

Knitting can be astonishingly good for you. This gentle hobby has been found to lower blood pressure, reduce depression, keep your mind alert, slow the onset of dementia, distracts from chronic pain (such as arthritis), boost wellbeing, and reduce loneliness.

A major study by the organisation Knit for Peace has found that knitting lowers the heart rate by an average of 11 beats per minute and induces ‘an enhanced state of calm.’ The repetitive movement also boosts calming serotonin, which lifts your mood and dulls any pain. Knitting also boosts the reward centres of the brain, because it allows people to feel that they can still make a contribution to society.

In Britain, where the NHS spends more than £2 billion each year on blood pressure treatments, around £300 million on antidepressants, and about £26 billion on dementia, and unknown billions on various chronic pain, perhaps more people should take up knitting. As one expert says: ‘Research has shown that there is a growing crisis in primary care. As a skilled and creative occupation, knitting has therapeutic potential. There is an enormous amount of research showing that knitting has physical and mental health benefits.’

Why not bring your knitting needles

(or some other suitable activity)

to

St Mary’s “Craft & Chat” - Thursday: 11.00 – 14.00

& enjoy lunch at the Nave Cafe

David Pickup, a solicitor, considers what might happen to your Facebook page when you die.

What about Facebook after you die?

Those who walk uprightly enter into peace; they find rest as they lie in death’ (Isaiah 57:2)

What happens to their Facebook page when they die is probably the last thing on most peoples’ minds. However, many people have an “online presence” such as Facebook pages, Linked-in, email accounts, Instagram and all sorts of bank accounts and website pages. Who can get access to that information? Depending on the type of account, a relative or friend might want to close it, retrieve information or images or preserve it in some way. Making a will is an opportunity to make a clear decision about what happens to things you own and this includes something electronic and who carries out your wishes. According to Facebook, you can choose to either appoint a legacy contact to look after your account, or have your account permanently deleted from Facebook. If you do not choose to have your account permanently deleted, it will be memorialised if Facebook are told about the death. Memorialised accounts are a place for friends and family to gather and share memories after a person has passed away. Google encourages people to think about these issues and they have something called an Inactive Account Manager to let them know who should have access to your information, and whether you want your account to be deleted. They recognise that many people pass away without leaving clear instructions about how to manage their online accounts. They work with immediate family members and representatives to close the account of a deceased person where appropriate. In certain circumstances they may provide content from a deceased user's account. The best advice is to think carefully and make choices about what happens in the event of your passing and carefully select someone you trust to do this. As ever this is a light-hearted introduction and if in any doubt get proper advice. Different companies have different policies and procedures so always check carefully.

The Church of England brings cashless transactions to its congregations *

The Church of England has recently made contactless, virtual terminal, and SMS mobile payments available throughout England, in a bid to make transactions faster and easier for the Church's congregations. In an increasingly cashless era, churches will now be able to offer cashless payment options for events including weddings, christenings, church fetes and concerts, as well as for making one-off donations and the booking of churches and halls.

Over 16,000 churches, cathedrals, and religious sites will now have access to portable card readers through the Church of England's Parish Buying portal through a partnership with SumUp and iZettle. The readers will be used to take contactless payments, Apple Pay and Google Pay, as well as chip & PIN capable. The pay-as-you-go pricing is well suited to the needs of religious institutions, charging only a small transaction fee when the reader is used. The decision follows a trial which began in summer 2017 in cathedrals and parish churches.

Using iZettle, church-goers now have the choice to pay and make contributions in whatever way suits them best - whether it is by cash, card, mobile or wearable technology - which will benefit both the church and its visitors.

*Not available at St Mary's at the present time BUT something for us to seriously consider in the future.

Tim Lenton looks back on the life of this extraordinarily courageous woman.

Emmeline Pankhurst – leader of the suffragettes

Emmeline Pankhurst, leader of the British suffragette movement, died 90 years ago, on 14th June 1928. Less than a month later, women were given equal voting rights with men.

Born in Moss Side, Manchester, in 1858, she helped found the militant Women's Social and Political Union in 1903, after the death of her husband. They became known as suffragettes to distinguish them from the more law-abiding suffragists, who included many Christians.

The suffragettes often attacked church buildings, because the Church of England as an institution was seen as opposing votes for women. Nevertheless, there were large numbers of Christians in the Church League for Women's Suffrage, which by 1914 had over 5000 members.

Mrs Pankhurst was arrested on many occasions and went on hunger strike, which led to violent force-feeding. But she ended her militancy at the outbreak of war, reasoning that it would be no good having the vote if her country ceased to exist. It was the use of female labour during the war that led as much as anything to their eventually obtaining the vote.

In 1926 Mrs Pankhurst surprised many people by joining the Conservative party; she was selected to run for Parliament shortly before she died.

No need to cut the grass weekly

How often should you cut your grass? That depends on how much you want to help the bees. It seems that the ideal 'gap' is two weeks. This helps improve the habitat for the pollinating plants that need bees to survive. Cutting the grass more often than every 14 days destroys dandelions and clover and other plants which the insects need for pollen.

Two weeks is ideal – it gives time for the grass to attract a greater diversity of insects. The number of bee species and the abundance of lawn flowers were up to 2.5 times higher when home owners mowed lawns every two weeks compared to once a week.

Don't be a martyr, though – as three-weekly cuts are also not recommended. The high grass then makes it more difficult for bees and other insects to access flowers.

Cat Prayer

Now I lay me down to sleep,
I pray this cushy life to keep.
I pray for toys that look like mice,
And sofa cushions, soft and nice.
I pray for gourmet kitty snacks,
And someone nice to scratch my back,
For windowsills all warm and bright,
For shadows to explore at night.
I pray I'll always stay real cool
And keep the secret feline rule
To NEVER tell a human that
The world is really ruled by CATS!

Author Unknown

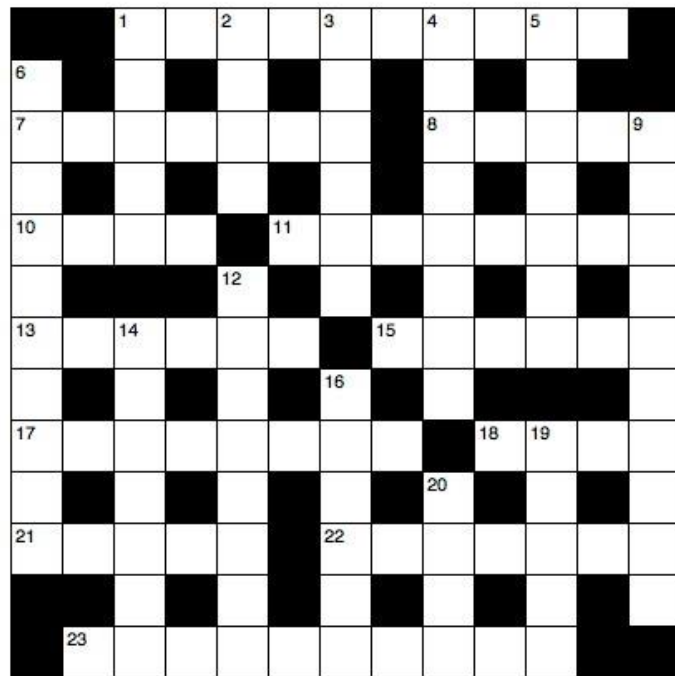
The Nave Café

Our church café celebrates it's birthday shortly but despite our best efforts (with those of Pure Innovations) our regular weekly income is lower now than it was when we first opened and we need to seriously review our business plan for the café.

Over the summer months we aim to finally acquire a bean to cup coffee machine (rather than offer instant coffee) which we anticipate will help attract "real" coffee drinkers into calling in and we will be reviewing our advertising and improving our external signage. Food preparation has already been reduced considerably, and to cut costs further we will be providing only a limited menu selection over the coming months, but will offer lunch "deals" and "specials" as appropriate. We simply have to increase our income (and reduce our costs). Our profits are calculated purely on food costs and income received. If you were to take into consideration the cost of electricity for our cooker, hob, toasters, microwave dishwasher and the gallons of hot water used for general washing up – it is doubtful we are making much- if any - profit at all! If you add the cost of dishwasher liquid, rinse aid, ordinary washing up liquid, table sanitiser spray, dishcloths, floor cleaner, mops and mop heads you wonder if it is worth opening at all and the café management team are left more than disappointed and disheartened. Take too the amount of work involved in ordering the food, planning the menu, washing the laundry, deep cleaning the kitchen and retaining the standard of our 5 star rating for food hygiene.

St Mary's retains all the profits made from the café towards its "ministry and mission" and to off-set the expenses of running a town centre parish church. We need the support of our Sunday, Tuesday and Friday congregations as well as our Craft Group and various visitors. We need YOUR support, so please think of us when you fancy a cuppa and something to eat between 9am-3pm Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday if you happen to be in Stockport.

Crossword



Across

- 1 Evil (Genesis 6:5) (10)
 7 Musician called for by Elisha when he met the kings of Israel, Judah and Edom (2 Kings 3:15) (7)
 8 The request that led to the institution of the Lord's Prayer: 'Lord, — us to pray' (Luke 11:1) (5)
 10 'We are hard pressed on

every—' (2Corinthians4:8)(4)

11 Fraud (2Corinthians6:8)(8)

13 'His troops advance in force; they build a siege ramp against me and — around my tent' (Job 19:12) (6)

15 Where Rachel hid Laban's household gods when he searched his daughter's tent (Genesis 31:34) (6)

17 'Now about spiritual gifts, brothers, I do not want you to be—' (1 Corinthians 12:1) (8)

18 Nomadic dwelling (Genesis 26:25) (4)

21 'As for man, his days are like—, he flourishes like a flower of the field' (Psalm 103:15) (5)

22 Or I live (anag.) (7)

23 Those guilty of 1 Across (Romans 13:4) (10)

Down

- 1 'God so loved the — that he gave his one and only Son' (John 3:16) (5)
 2 'Away in a manger, no — for a bed' (4)
 3 Mob ten (anag.) (6)
 4 'Each — group made its own gods in several towns where they settled' (2 Kings 17:29) (8)
 5 Began (Luke 9:46) (7)
 6 Speaking very softly (John 7:32) (10)
 9 Workers Ruth joined when she arrived in Bethlehem with her mother-in-law Naomi (Ruth 2:3) (10)
 12 Put in jail (Acts 22:19) (8)
 14 A ceturn (anag.) (7)
 16 Discharge (Acts 21:3) (6)
 19 'All these— come from inside and make a man "unclean"' (Mark 7:23) (5)
 20 'Let us rejoice and be glad and — him glory!' (Revelation 19:7) (4)

 The EU's General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) came into force on the 25th May 2018 and was introduced to unify all EU member states' approaches to data regulation, ensuring all data protection laws are applied identically in every country within the EU and to protect EU citizens from organisations using their data irresponsibly putting them in charge of what information is shared, where and how it's shared. Even though the UK is due to leave Europe in the next 12 months, it will still apply, effectively replacing the Data Protection Act 1998. Complying with GDPR is vital.

A copy of the DATA PRIVACY NOTICE for The Parochial Church Council (PCC) of Stockport St Mary is available in church. We hold very little personal data as it happens but what we do keep for administrative purposes will be held in accordance with the GDPR. Please do not hesitate to contact the Parish Administrator if you have any concerns or queries.