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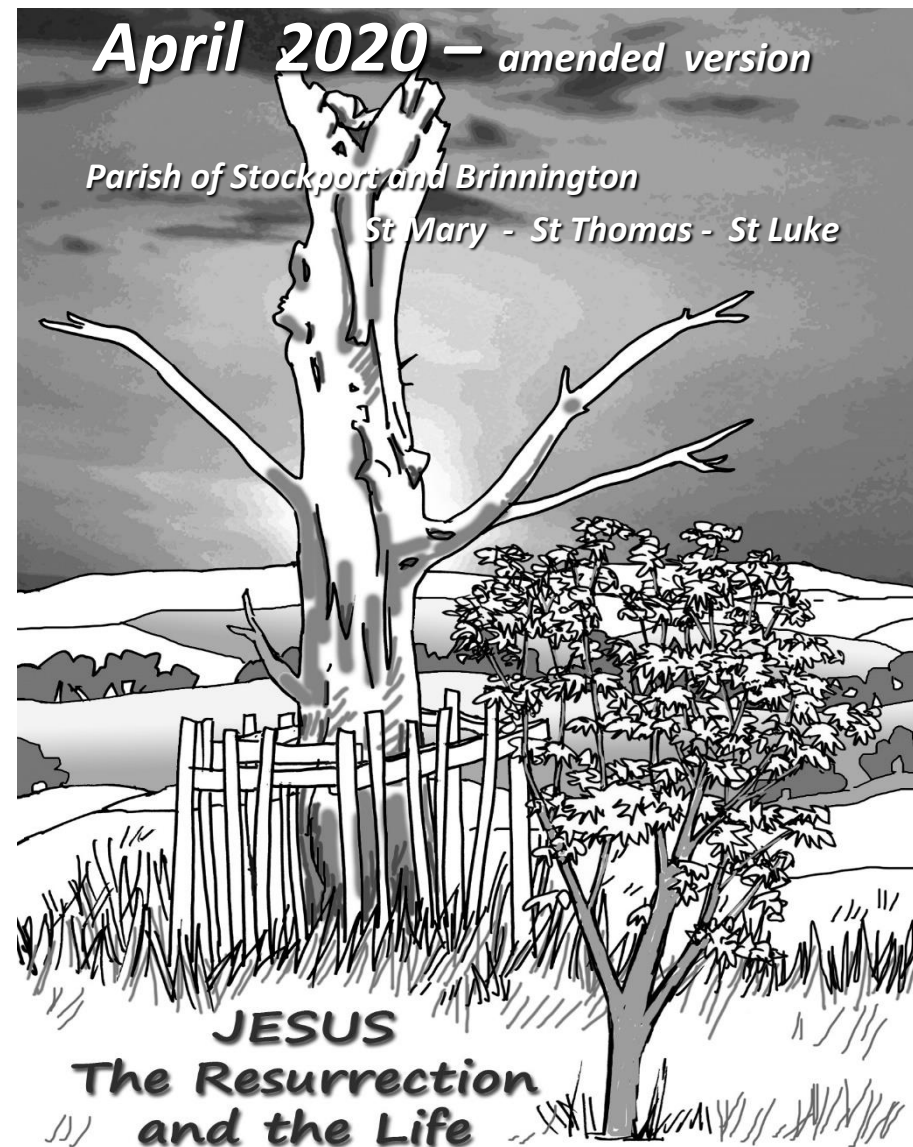
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Artwork Paul Judson

Hello everyone - hope that you are all “keeping well” and “keeping safe” in these very strange and difficult times.

I am certainly missing seeing everyone and find it hard at times staying at home – as I am sure you are too.

The original version of the April magazine was prepared at the end of March (as usual) but by the time it came to printing it we were, of course, unable to copy and distribute – although an electronic PDF version can be found on St Mary’s web-site: www.stmarysinthemarketplace.com The inserts for April alas I can do nothing with at the moment – they remain in the parcel they arrived in – unopened. You can of course download that from the Diocese of Chester website.

Now that we have (thanks to Lynne) a pretty good list of email addresses we thought that we would send the magazine out to you via the email address given to us and if you wish to print a copy off it should land in the correct order if you are able to set your printer to print double sided – flip on the short side. If you know anyone not on the email list we are using please forward on to them or let us have their email address and we’ll include on our distribution list. If you live near someone who you know is not on line and you are able to print off a hard copy for them and safely pop it through the letter box (whilst on your daily exercise) that of course would be wonderful.

The version you are receiving now is amended from the original – a few now irrelevant bits taken out and a few more pages put in.

Best Wishes
Sue

[16th April 2020]

Tim Lenton looks back on the poet of the Lake District.

William Wordsworth – the ‘Church of England pantheist’

William Wordsworth, the Romantic poet always associated with the Lake District, was born 250 years ago, on 7th April 1770. He was Poet Laureate from 1843 to 1850, though he produced no new poetry during that period.

In his youth Wordsworth travelled in France and came to share the radical politics of the French Revolution. He also fell in love with Annette Vallon, by whom he had a daughter in 1792. They were kept apart by the difficult relationship between England and France, but eventually met again, and the poet supported his daughter, though he married Mary Hutchinson, a friend of his beloved sister and muse, Dorothy. He had five children with Mary, three of whom predeceased them.

Wordsworth’s political views soon softened, and he never rejected Christianity. He has been described as a “Church of England pantheist” and saw himself as a people’s poet. He produced *Lyrical Ballads* in 1798 with his friend Samuel Taylor Coleridge, who inspired his last great poem, *The Prelude*.

Many Christians, especially those in the Anglo-Catholic movement, deeply admired Wordsworth. During his later years and in the next generation, he was regarded as a defender of the Faith. He himself seemed content that many found his poetry helpful in trying times.

Timothy urges us not to neglect our intercessions: “I urge then, first of all, that prayers, intercession, and thanksgiving be made for all people...” (1 Tim 2:1) and truly there is power and strength to be found when we come to our loving God in prayer:

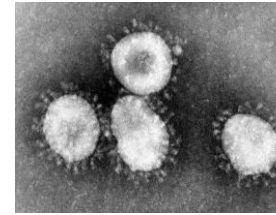
Intercession

Pray for your neighbours – lift them to the Lord!
Thank Him for all that they have done for you!
Claim for your friends the promise of His Word;
In intercession we find strength anew.

Ask of the Lord, and surely you'll receive
Seek now His will, and surely you will find
Knock at His door, and truly we believe
In intercession we see God is kind.

Come to the Lord, for He is always there!
Our worries, cares, and our concerns we bring;
O waste no time, just come to Him in prayer
In intercession we find God the King!

By Nigel Beeton



As we all know, on 11th March 2020, the World Health Organization (WHO) declared the coronavirus to be a global pandemic, but I doubt any of us realised a month or so ago how bad things would get. Since its outbreak in January in Wuhan, China, the world has been slowly engulfed by fear of this invisible but deadly threat. As the virus has spread, so have the efforts of our Governments to slow the virus. Countries are on lock down, and hundreds of millions of people have been told to stay at home. Normal life has shut down for most of us. Businesses, schools, industries, restaurants, sports, theatres and even our churches have all been shut. Who knows at the moment how long this situation will last, in one way or another quite awhile no doubt. Every community must now deal with the crisis, in one way or another and there have been some remarkable initiatives evolved during the last few weeks, many to support the wider community and of course the NHS and other keyworkers.

Even if all we can do is “stay home” and “stay safe” then it is important that we do just that. Where able to do so, we can embrace technology – now is a good time to learn new skills it would seem – recording videos, holding virtual meetings and such. But there is nothing like a chat on the phone with someone you haven’t seen for awhile (which is just about everyone at the moment). We won’t be beaten by Coronavirus – and intend to keep our parish together and in touch - keep a look out on our website(s) – facebook page(s) - our new “Stockport Parish Pew Tube” and now via email communications. We’re open to new ideas and are here at the end of the phone (well some of our phone numbers are regrettably ringing out in empty buildings) – but our mobiles and home land lines aren’t so we’re okay.... and we’ve got text/email. Let’s keep talking and in touch by whatever means available.

Looking at the month of April we started with – All Fools’ Day on the 1st (hope you weren’t caught out)

In years gone by, the rules surrounding April Fool were this: between midnight and noon on 1st April, everyone is ‘fair game’ to be made a fool of. It is the morning of the practical joke. But the aim is not just to discomfort the victim: he must be tricked into taking action himself, sent on a ‘fool’s errand’.

And so children would be sent to the dairy for a pint of dove’s milk, or to the bookseller for *The Life of Eve’s Mother*. Practical jokes on a bigger scale were played: in 1860 a vast number of people received an official looking invitation to the Tower of London that read: ‘Admit the Bearer and Friends to view the Annual Ceremony of Washing the White Lions.’ Precisely the same trick had been played in 1698.

Then, on the stroke of noon, tradition decrees, April Fools is finished. If anyone attempts devilry thereafter, even while the clock is still striking, it recoils on his own head. A child would then race through the sing-song formula: ‘April-Fool-Day’s-past-and-gone-you’re-the-fool-and-I-am-none!’



5 April – Palm Sunday: Jesus at the gates of Jerusalem

Holy Week begins with Palm Sunday, when the Church remembers how Jesus arrived at the gates of Jerusalem just a few days before the Passover was due to be held. He was the Messiah come to his own people in their capital city, and yet he came in humility, riding on a young donkey, not in triumph, riding on a war-horse.

St George and Hiccup and the dragon

Have you seen the film *How to Train your Dragon*? It’s set in a Viking village under attack from dragons, who steal livestock and burn down houses. Hiccup, the village Chief’s son, invents a machine to capture dragons. However, when he catches one of the most dangerous dragons, he cannot kill it, when he sees that the dragon is just as frightened as he is. Through this friendship, the people and dragons eventually live in harmony.

This month we celebrate St. George, the patron saint of England. He is famous for slaying a dragon, a tradition which became popular in the Middle Ages. Whether he killed an actual dragon is open to question! However, we do know that the original George was a Roman soldier at the time of Emperor Diocletian. He refused to renounce his faith, as commanded by the Emperor, resulting in his death on 23 April 303 AD.

The contrast is clear: St. George slayed the evil dragon, while Hiccup refused to kill one. However, they also have something important in common. Both acted according to their conscience, defying the popular understanding of those around them and not worrying about the personal cost to themselves. St. George was martyred for standing up for his faith in Jesus before a pagan emperor, while Hiccup risked rejection by his father and village because of his compassion.

Today, we are still called to stand for Christ against wrongs and injustice in daily life, whatever the personal cost. However, we also need to be ready to look our enemies in the eye and meet their hostility with love and compassion. This is why we also remember this month that Jesus died and rose again, so that we might have God’s power to do this in our lives.

Words and Actions



As Jesus entered the city, the crowds gave him a rapturous welcome, throwing palm fronds into his path. They knew his reputation as a healer, and welcomed him. But sadly the welcome was short lived and shallow, for Jerusalem would soon reject her Messiah, and put him to death. On this day churches worldwide will distribute little crosses made from palm fronds in memory of Jesus' arrival in Jerusalem.



9 April – Maundy Thursday: time to wash feet

Maundy Thursday is famous for two things. The first is one of the final acts that Jesus did before his death: the washing of his own disciples' feet. (see John 13) Jesus washed his disciples' feet for a purpose: "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another." His disciples were to love through service, not domination, of one another.

In Latin, the opening phrase of this sentence is 'mandatum novum do vobis'. The word 'mundy' is thus a corruption of the Latin 'mandatum' (or command). The ceremony of the 'washing of the feet' of members of the congregation came to be an important part of the liturgy (regular worship) of the medieval church, symbolising the humility of the clergy, in obedience to the example of Christ.

But Thursday was also important because it was on that night that Jesus first introduced the Lord's Supper, or what we nowadays call Holy Communion.

Jesus and his close friends had met in a secret upper room to share the Passover meal together – for the last time. And there Jesus transformed the Passover into the Lord's Supper, saying, 'this is my body' and 'this is my blood' as he, the Lamb of God, prepared to die for the

sins of the whole world. John's gospel makes it clear that the Last Supper took place the evening BEFORE the regular Passover meal, and that later Jesus died at the same time that the Passover lambs were killed.



10 April – GOOD FRIDAY: the day the Son of God died for you

Good Friday is the day on which Jesus died on the cross. He was crucified at 9am in the morning, and died six hours later, at 3pm. It is the most solemn day in the Christian year, and is widely marked by the removal of all decorations from churches. In Lutheran churches, the day was marked by the reading of the passion narrative in a gospel, a practice which lies behind the 'passions' composed by Johann Sebastian Bach (1685 – 1750). Both the St Matthew Passion and the St John Passion have their origins in this observance of Good Friday.

The custom of observing a period of three hours' devotion from 12 midday to 3 pm on Good Friday goes back to the 18th century. The 'Three Hours of the Cross' often take the form of an extended meditation on the 'Seven Last Words from the Cross', with periods of silence, prayer, or hymn-singing.

12 April – EASTER: the most joyful day of the year



Easter is the most joyful day of the year for Christians. Christ has died for our sins. We are forgiven. Christ has risen! We are redeemed! We can look forward to an eternity in His joy! Hallelujah!

Who moved the stone? Revd Tony Horsfall

'When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had been rolled away.' Mark 16:4

Frank Morrison was an investigative journalist who was a sceptic when it came to religion. He decided to write a book to disprove the claims of Christ, specifically focussed on the last week of His life. However, when he came to consider the evidence for himself, he was drawn reluctantly to a different outcome than he had imagined. He found that the evidence proved the story to be true, including the fact that Jesus not only died but rose again. In the end he wrote a different kind of book called 'Who Moved the Stone?' with the first chapter entitled, 'The book that refused to be written.'

The veracity of the Christian faith is grounded on historical fact. Not only was Jesus a real person, a figure of history, but His death was real, and so was His resurrection. Examine the evidence for yourself. Read the gospel accounts openly and honestly and see what happens. The truth is there for anyone willing to consider the facts.

Easter reminds us that our faith rests on solid ground. It is why we celebrate Easter Sunday with such gusto. The Resurrection proves that Jesus was who He said He was (the Son of God) and that He did what He set out to do (save us from our sin). But more than that, it reminds us that He can deliver what He promised and help us today because He is alive for evermore.

Jesus is not a figure of history, locked away in the past. No, He is a risen Saviour who is alive today and who invites each of us to receive the gift of salvation, and to live a new life in fellowship with Him.

Mouse Makes

LABROAD
OCROSSE
RHAPPYB
DONKEYS
FSCIASC
EAHNCAO
ANEGETA
SNSPLOT
TAPALMS

DIMOURJEWSSLNPAATTCUPKJCB
DPASSOVEROBEARRCHRISTEREE
IGNABODYKILLIAROOOLOTSUTA
NEATTMEALGODLYELRWILLUCRT
KDISCIPLESONSUSTNNMESSIAH
EBREADWINEDXGETHSEMANEFYE
DARKNESSHTLINENAHEAVENYYD

HUGDAWN
RTOMBMG
EOOTPOE
ECDEFRL
DRNMRNK
AOEPAII
YWWLINS
SDSESGS
EASTERB
GUARDEU
SAVIOUR
PRAISEY
IDCUTKT
RIDJOYE
ICOINSL
TETREEL

DONKEY • COLT • SAT • COATS
ROAD • CROWD • CUT • PALMS
BRANCHES • KING • HOSANNA
DISCIPLES • ROOM • PASSOVER
FEAST • EAT • DRINK • BREAD
WINE • SON • MAN • BLOOD • CUP
MEAL • JEWS • PLOT • KILL • COINS
GETHSEMANE • PRAY • WILL
BETRAY • KISS • ARREST • MESSIAH
CHRIST • CRUCIFY • JESUS • CROWN
THORNS • ROBE • TREE • NAILS
CROSS • SPIRIT • DARKNESS
TEMPLE • DEATH • LOTS • DICE
TOMB • STONE • LINEN • BODY
BURY • GUARD • THREE DAYS
DAWN • MORNING • ANGEL • TELL
HEAVEN • GOOD NEWS • LORD
GOD • RAISED • JOY • PEACE
PRAISE • SAVIOUR • EASTER

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The Good News of Jesus Christ is a message so simple that you can explain it to someone in a few minutes. It is so profound that for the rest of their lives they will still be 'growing' in their Christian walk with God.

Why does the date move around so much? Because the date of Passover moves around, and according to the biblical account, Easter is tied to the Passover. Passover celebrates the Israelites' exodus from Egypt and it lasts for seven days, from the middle of the Hebrew month of Nisan, which equates to late March or early April.

Sir Isaac Newton was one of the first to use the Hebrew lunar calendar to come up with firm dates for Good Friday: Friday 7 April 30 AD or Friday 3 April, 33 AD, with Easter Day falling two days later. Modern scholars continue to think these the most likely.

Most people will tell you that Easter falls on the first Sunday after the first full moon after the Spring Equinox, which is broadly true. But the precise calculations are complicated and involve something called an 'ecclesiastical full moon', which is not the same as the moon in the sky. The earliest possible date for Easter in the West is 22 March, which last fell in 1818. The latest is 25 April, which last happened in 1943.

Why the name, 'Easter'? In almost every European language, the festival's name comes from 'Pesach', the Hebrew word for Passover. The Germanic word 'Easter', however, seems to come from Eostre, a Saxon fertility goddess mentioned by the Venerable Bede. He thought that the Saxons worshipped her in 'Eostur month', but may have confused her with the classical dawn goddesses like Eos and Aurora, whose names mean 'shining in the east'. So, Easter might have meant simply

'beginning month' – a good time for starting up again after a long winter.

Finally, why Easter eggs? On one hand, they are an ancient symbol of birth in most European cultures. On the other hand, hens start laying regularly again each Spring. Since eggs were forbidden during Lent, it's easy to see how decorating and eating them became a practical way to celebrate Easter.

12 April – Easter morning: the 'Other' Mary

As the traditional Easter story is rehearsed again this month, you may notice that there is one name that frequently occurs. It is that of the 'other' Mary – not the mother of Jesus, but Mary of Magdalene, who stood by her at the cross and became the first human being actually to meet the risen Christ.

That's quite a record for a woman who, the Gospels tell us, had been delivered by Jesus from 'seven devils' – New Testament language for some dark and horrible affliction of body, mind or spirit. As a result, her devotion to Him was total and her grief at His death overwhelming.

In church history Mary Magdalene became the 'fallen woman' a harlot who was rescued and forgiven by Jesus but there is no evidence to prove she was a 'fallen woman' but the contrast is sublime, Mary the virgin mother, the symbol of purity. Mary Magdalene, the scarlet woman who was saved and forgiven, the symbol of redemption. Surely, we all fall somewhere between those two extremes.

Why did Jesus die? *'God proved His love on the Cross. When Christ hung, and bled, and died, it was God saying to the world, 'I love you.'* (Billy Graham).

God showed His love for us, when Jesus dealt with the problem of our sin on the cross. *'He himself bore our sins in His body on the tree, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; by His wounds you have been healed'* (1 Peter 2:24). Jesus died in our place to bear our sin and guilt, to pay the full penalty for our sin and to set us free from death.

In the 75th anniversary year of the liberation of the Auschwitz Concentration Camp, it's appropriate to remember the story of Fr Maximilian Kolbe, a Polish priest imprisoned in Auschwitz. On 31st July 1941 a prisoner escaped from the camp and in response the authorities selected ten men to die in the starvation bunker. One of the men, Francis Gajinisdek, cried, *'My poor wife and my children. They'll never see me again!'* Then Kolbe stepped forward and said, *"I'm a Catholic priest. I don't have a wife and children and I am willing to die instead of this man."* He followed the other nine into the bunker. Remarkably he got the prisoners praying and singing hymns and transformed the atmosphere in the bunker. He was the last person to die and after two weeks he was given a lethal injection and died at the age of 47.

Jesus' death was even more amazing than this, because He didn't simply die for one man, but for every individual in the world. If you or I had been the only person in the world, Jesus Christ would still have died in our place. *'Hallelujah, what a Saviour'!!*

trampling the dragon of sin under his horse's hoofs. The Crusaders had a vision of him helping them against the Saracens at Antioch, during the first Crusade, and so brought the story of St George back with them from Palestine. Presently England put herself under the protection of the Saint. His day was declared a holiday in 1222.



Passionflower

Why is the passion flower called the passionflower? This beautiful climbing plant that grows in many of our gardens, was discovered in South America by Spanish missionaries centuries ago. Drawings were sent back to Europe and in 1609 an Italian priest interpreted the flower to represent the crucifixion, otherwise known as the Passion.

The five petals and five sepals represent the 10 disciples who remained steadfast (Judas and Peter both abandoned Jesus). The corona is the crown of thorns. The stigma is the cross or nails, and the five stamens are the number of wounds Jesus received.

Don't break'em

There was a very gracious lady who was mailing an old family Bible to her brother in another part of the country. "Is there anything breakable in here?" asked the postal clerk.

The lady paused for a moment. "Only the Ten Commandments," she said politely.

The dark cloud from which she was delivered may have been sexual, we are not told. What we do know is that the two Marys stood together at the cross, the Blessed Virgin and the woman rescued from who knows what darkness and despair.

The second great moment for her was as unexpected as it was momentous. She had gone with other women to the tomb of Jesus and found it empty. An angelic figure told them that Jesus was not there, He had risen – and the others drifted off. But Mary stayed, reluctant to leave it like that. She became aware of a man nearby, whom she took to be the gardener. She explained to Him that the body of 'her Lord' had been taken away and she didn't know where to find Him.

The man simply said her name 'Mary' and she instantly realised it was Jesus. She made to hug Him, but He told her not to touch Him because his resurrection was not yet complete. She was, however, to go to the male disciples and tell them she had met Him. She did – but they couldn't believe her.

Her words – 'I have seen the Lord' – echo down the centuries, the very beating heart of the Christian gospel.



“April is the cruellest month” With these words T.S. Eliot opened his modernist masterpiece, *The Waste Land*, in 1921. It was the aftermath of World War I and the Spanish flu pandemic. Millions had died. His poem brims with the pain, the trauma, the disillusionment and the death of that time.

Now it is April 2020. Eliot could never have imagined that nearly 100 years on, April might well become our ‘cruellest month’, when trauma and death stalk our land as the coronavirus pandemic is forecast to peak.

These are times unparalleled in any of our life experiences. In the words of the Psalmist, the ‘foundations are being shaken’.

And yet – as Christians we can lift our eyes from the turmoil and look up remembering some of the verses from Psalm 46

‘God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.

*‘Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way
and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea...’*

*‘Nations are in uproar, kingdoms fall; He lifts His voice, the earth
melts.*

‘The Lord Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.

‘He says, “Be still, and know that I am God...”’

23 April – St George of the Golden Legend

The Saint of an English Army before he was Patron Saint of England, St George may have been a soldier, but he was no Englishman. He was an officer in the Roman army under Diocletian, who refused to abandon his faith during the Terror, and was martyred at Lydda in Palestine about the year 300 AD – supposedly 23 April. Over the years St George became the example of a Christian fighting-man, a powerful helper against evil powers affecting individual lives. He was the soldier-hero of the Middle Ages, of whom remarkable deeds were reported. In the Golden Legend of the 13th century, Jacobus de Voragine gave St George a handsome write-up. The story runs thus: One day, St George rode up to the heathen city of Sylene in Lybia, where he found the citizens in great distress. A neighbouring dragon had forced them to surrender two sheep each day for its dinner, and when the sheep gave out, two of their children; and now they were about to sacrifice the King’s daughter, dressed as if for her wedding. St George encountered the little party by a stagnant lake, where the dragon lived, and persuaded the sobbing Princess to tell him why she was so miserable. At that moment the dragon appeared, looking inexpressibly revolting. The Saint charged, and drove his spear into the gaping mouth. To everyone’s amazement, he tumbled the monster over and over. Then St George borrowed the Princess’s girdle, tied it round the dragon’s neck, and persuaded her to lead it back to Sylene herself. The sight of her approaching with the befuddled dragon on its makeshift lead emptied the town. When the inhabitants timidly crept back, St George promised to behead the dragon if they would all believe in Jesus Christ and be baptised. It was a most effective form of evangelism, for everybody said ‘yes’ at once. So 15,000 people were baptised, and four carts were commissioned to remove the dragon’s body. St George thus became a symbol of the war against evil, and is usually portrayed

Sudoku – a harder one!

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

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

Sudoku

How are you at Sudoku?

Or maybe you haven't tried to complete a grid before – well if you haven't and have time on your hands why not give it a go.

The objective is to fill a 9x9 grid so that each column, each row, and each of the nine 3x3 boxes contains the digits from 1 to 9.

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

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

A cell is the smallest block in the game. A row, column and region consists of 9 cells and the whole game consists of 81 cells.

AND: If you get hooked there are some interactive ones on line – with help if you get stuck.

Wordsearch for April 2020

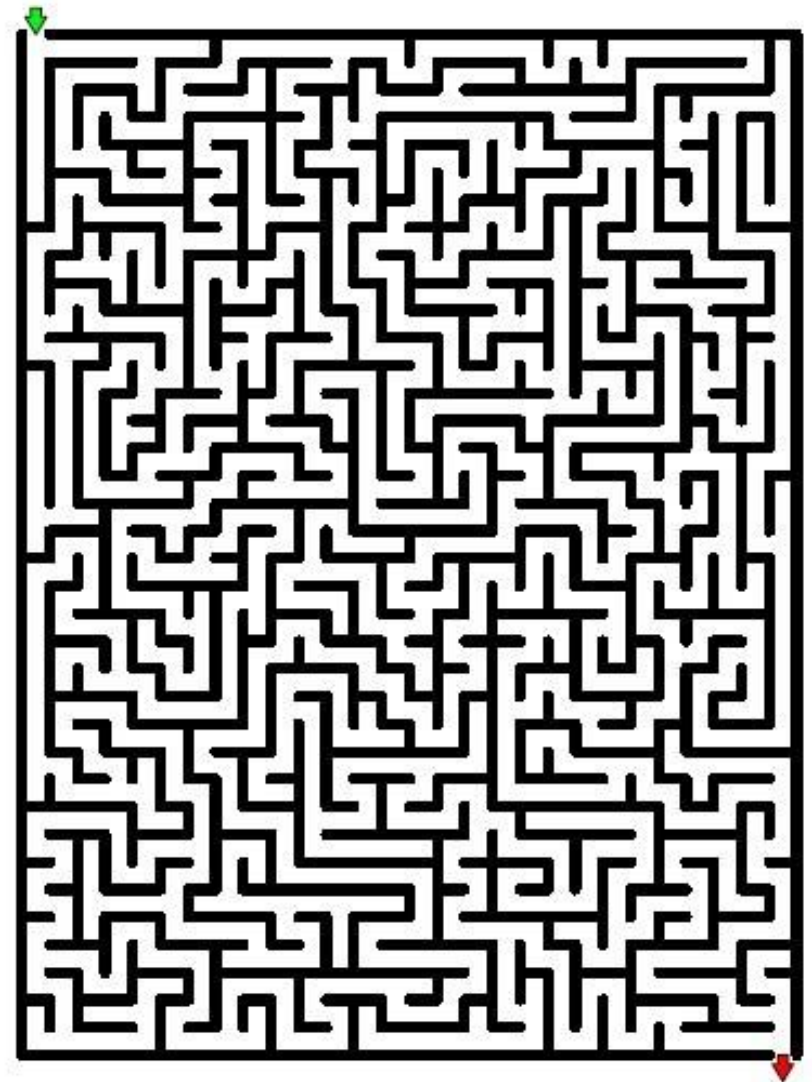
B	S	E	S	O	G	W	Y	E	G	S	H
N	O	E	H	E	E	L	P	T	U	E	
P	D	R	D	N	T	H	A	N	K	S	M
B	R	E	A	I	H	S	A	O	L	E	B
O	H	T	V	W	S	N	A	A	A	J	W
D	C	S	T	O	E	C	E	L	D	C	A
Y	A	A	V	V	M	V	I	E	U	K	R
B	O	E	O	A	A	E	S	P	N	U	N
I	R	C	R	V	N	S	R	I	L	B	E
A	P	G	D	B	E	T	R	A	Y	E	D
D	P	W	I	L	L	D	W	T	O	O	S
M	A	B	B	L	O	O	D	E	G	S	A

Even as Jesus ate that last Passover meal with His disciples, He warned them He was about to be betrayed. He took the bread, blessed it, broke it and gave it to them; He took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them to drink. The Old Covenant, based on

Law, was ticking away its final hours; the New Covenant, based on Christ's body and His blood, was about to be ushered in. Jesus prayed in Gethesmane that this fearful cup might be removed from Him, but even more, that God's will might be done. And it was. From Easter onwards we can only approach God through His Son, Jesus Christ, not on our own merit.

Jesus	Ate	Last	Passover	Meal
Disciples	Warned	Betrayed	Bread	Blessed
Wine	Thanks	Drink	Covenant	Law
Old	New	Body	Blood	Cup
Gethsemane	Removed	Will	Easter	Approach
God				

Maze



Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in
Luke 22:24, John 13:3-17

Jesus and his disciples were celebrating
the Passover with the special meal.
The disciples were bickering again.

I'm most important because
I've known him the longest

But I'm the oldest!
I've given up the most
to follow him!



There was a reason why
no-one wanted to be the least
important - the roads were mud
and everyone's feet got very dirty.

It was the job of the
least important
servant to wash
everyone's feet...



The disciples didn't have
a servant, and none of
them wanted to do the
feet washing...



Jesus took off his outer robe and tied a
towel around his waist.



He filled a large bowl with
water and started washing the disciples' feet.

Peter couldn't believe
what he was seeing!



Are you really going
to wash my feet?

You will understand later
why I am doing this.



I can't ever let you
serve me like this!

If you don't let me, you
will no longer be my
disciple



Then wash all of me!

If you've had a
bath, then you
only need your
feet washing!

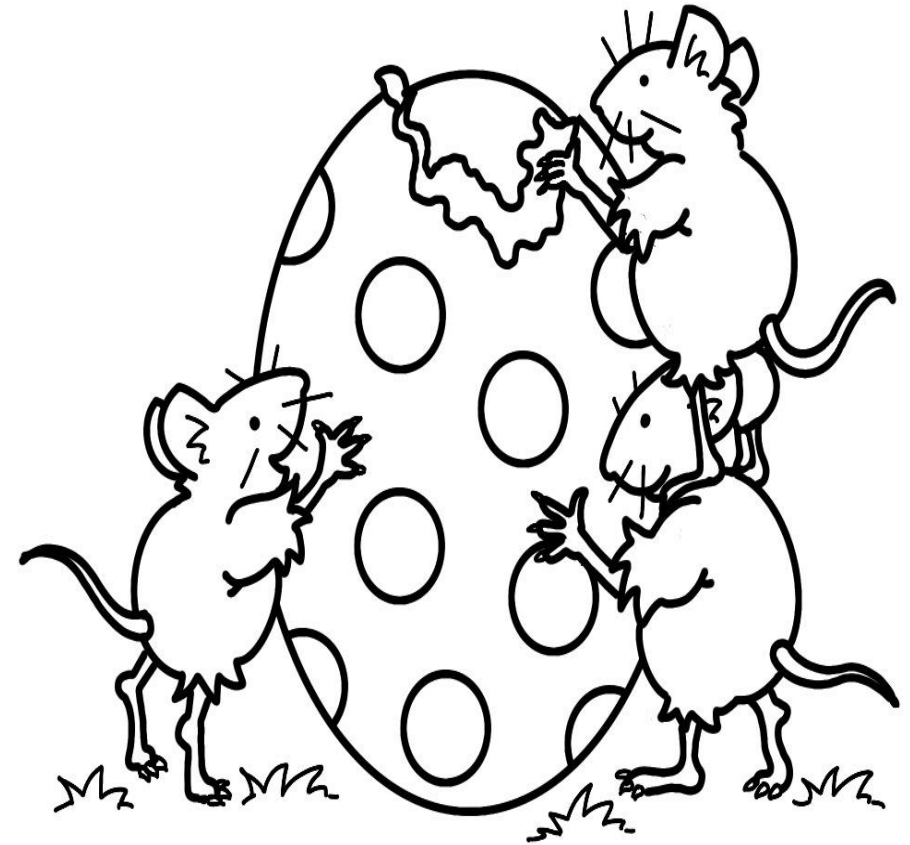


Once Jesus had washed
all their feet, he put his
robe back on and sat down.



Do you
understand
why, your
teacher, did
this? I am setting
you the example of how
you are to serve each other.
Do it, and God will bless you.

Colour in our Easter mice with their egg



Euros, koruna, yuan, or dollars in the collection plate.

You would be surprised at how many different coins end up in church collection plates. Euros and obsolete pound coins can jostle alongside American dollars, Czech koruna and even pesos from Chile. It just shows where some people go on holiday! In Bible times the Jewish people also had a collection, but it was not voluntary; they called it the Temple Tax. Jews had to pay the Temple Tax by using a coin called a half shekel. They could not just use the change they already had in their pockets, because foreign coins would be 'unclean', and anyway, pockets had not been invented. So instead the Temple Tax was paid in shekels, because they were made to a reliable quality of weight and fineness of silver metal. This led to a roaring trade for the money-changers, who would take the worshipper's coins and change them into shekels, less a handsome profit. The moneychangers would have shouted out their exchange rates, which would be distracting for people going there to pray. They were preventing the people from praying and worshipping by overcharging and squabbling for business. No wonder Jesus got angry with them! Back to our peaceful collections in church ([presently suspended of course](#)) we should welcome the funny foreign coins. Lots of us have jars of coins from holidays abroad, and these could even be a way of raising money for the church or local charity. [Certainly at St Mary's our foreign coins have for years been donated to Christies via the Nat West.](#) [An article by David Pickup for Parish Pump]

Speaking of collections and planned giving – we would very much welcome direct payment to our church bank account(s) during this difficult time as our monthly bills still need to be paid and our income very much reduced with no sales, no cash collections and no hire of our premises. Bank details available on request - thank you.

The big surprise lurking in your Granny's chicken soup

Granny always knew her chicken soup was good for you when you were poorly, but she did not realise quite *how* good.

Now research has found that the traditional hot broths used in many cultures to battle flu and fevers pack a bigger punch than even the cooks realised.

A range of soups, ranging from vegetable to beef and chicken, were discovered to have the power to interrupt the life cycle of *Plasmodium falciparum*, which causes 99 per cent of deaths from malaria. Some of them were actually as effective as a leading antimalarial drug, dihydroartemisinin, in fighting malaria.

No one particular ingredient was found to be common to the broths, but there certainly seems to be "evidence that they contain antibiotic properties", according to one doctor in a study was carried out at the Imperial College London and Great Ormond Street Hospital.

Now it is unlikely any of us can find a cure for Covid-19 in the kitchen cupboard – but do tell us what your favourite home-made soup is and why – is there a story behind your choice? Also give us the recipe to share and who knows we might be able to use it in the café one day when we return to normal business.

EMAIL: st.marysstockport@gmail.com



Mark: disciple, apostle, writer of the second gospel

Mark, whose home in Jerusalem became a place of rest for Jesus and His 12 apostles, is considered the traditional author of the second gospel. He is also usually identified as the young man, described in Mark 14:51, who followed Christ after his arrest and then escaped capture by leaving his clothes behind.

Papias, in 130, said that in later years Mark became Peter's interpreter. If so, then this close friendship would have been how Mark gathered so much information about Jesus' life. Peter referred to him affectionately as his 'son'.

Mark was also a companion to Paul on his journeys. When Paul was held captive at Rome, Mark was with him, helping him. Mark's Gospel, most likely written in Italy, perhaps in Rome, is the earliest account we have of the life of Jesus. Mark died about 74 AD.

Early in the 9th century Mark's body was brought to Venice, whose patron he became, and there it has remained to this day. The symbol of Mark as an evangelist, the lion, is much in evidence at Venice.

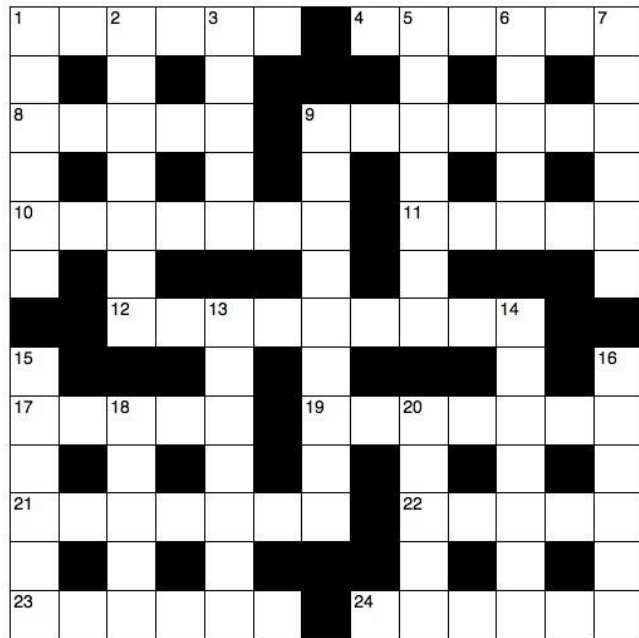
Wordsearch solution



Catherine of Siena: or, how to survive in a large family

Catherine of Siena, who was born 1347, should be the patron saint of anyone who has grown up in a large family, and mastered the two vital skills for survival: how to stand up for yourself, and how to make peace with others. Catherine had siblings! At least 19 of them. Her father was a Sienese dyer, and Catherine was the youngest. Her parents wanted her to marry, but Catherine did not. She became a nun instead, a member of the Dominican Third Order. Perhaps after sharing a house with at least 22 people, Catherine wanted some peace and quiet: in any case she spent six years in solitude, giving herself to prayer and penance. Then she moved back into the world, through nursing the local sick people, and then beginning to travel. Catherine travelled frequently, with a number of her 'disciples' – a mix of Dominicans and Augustinians, and even an English Friar. Wherever they went, people listened to their proclamation of the total love of God through Jesus Christ, and their calls to reform and repent. There were some spectacular conversions. Catherine could not write, but soon someone else was taking down her 'Dialogue' by dictation – it ran to 383 letters. Catherine's thoughts centred on Christ crucified, the supreme sign of God's love for man. The quality of these letters made them widely read for years to come. A godly woman who could lead and teach.... soon new opportunities presented themselves: in the last five years of her life, Catherine found herself involved in the politics of both State and Church. This included trying to make peace during the Great Schism in the Church after 1378, when Pope Gregory XI died, and two new popes – bitter rivals – claimed the papacy. Catherine wore herself out in trying to promote peace, had a stroke on 21 April 1380, and died eight days later Catherine soon became Siena's principal saint, loved for her writings and her example of godliness and self-sacrificing love. Her house and an early portrait survive at Siena, and her memory lives on today: she was declared a Doctor of the Church in 1970, nearly 600 years after her death.

Crossword April 2020



Across

- 1 Relating to the whole universe (6)
 4 The disciple who made the remark in 8 Across (John 20:24) (6)
 8 'Unless I see the nail marks — — hands, I will not believe it' (John 20:25) (2,3)
 9 He urged

King Jehoiakim not to burn the scroll containing Jeremiah's message (Jeremiah 36:25) (7)

10 Baptist minister and controversial founder of America's Moral Majority, Jerry — (7)

11 'Look, here is — . Why shouldn't I be baptized?' (Acts 8:36) (5)

12 Repossessed (Genesis 14:16) (9)

17 Port from which Paul sailed on his last journey to Rome (Acts 27:3-4) (5)

19 'Moses was not aware that his face was — because he had spoken with the Lord'

(Exodus 34:29) (7)

21 Roonwit, C.S. Lewis's half-man, half-horse (7)

22 Grill (Luke 24:42) (5)

23 'The lot fell to Matthias; so he was added to the — apostles' (Acts 1:26) (6)

24 'I was sick and you looked after me, I was in — and you came to visit me' (Matthew 25:36) (6)

Down

1 Coastal rockfaces (Psalm 141:6) (6)

2 Academic (1 Corinthians 1:20) (7)

3 Publish (Daniel 6:26) (5)

5 For example, the Crusades (4,3)

6 11 Across is certainly this (5)

7 He reps (anag.) (6)

9 Liberator (Psalm 18:2) (9)

13 Man who asked the question in 11 Across was in charge of all her treasury (Acts 8:27) (7)

14 They must be 'worthy of respect, sincere, not indulging in much wine' (1 Timothy 3:8) (7)

15 The human mind or soul (6)

16 'O Lord, while precious children starve, the tools of war increase; their bread is — ' (Graham Kendrick) (6)

18 'We played the flute for you, and you did not — ' (Matthew 11:17) (5)

20 Bared (anag.) (5)

