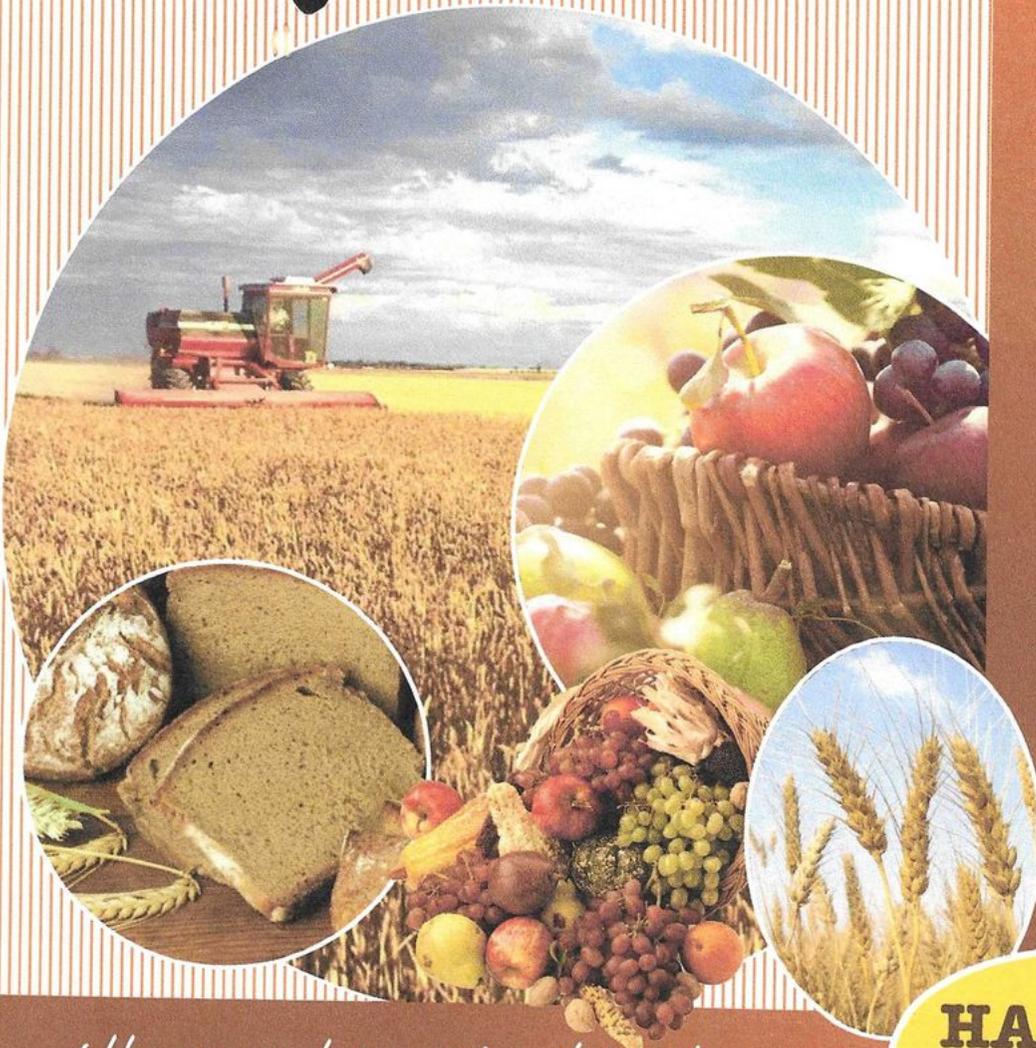


♦ Trinity Methodist Church ♦ Kidderminster ♦

Trinity *Tidings*



September 2025

All are welcome in this place!...

**HARVEST
EDITION**

**Trinity Methodist Church,
Churchfields, Kidderminster, DY10 2JL**

Church Website: www.trinitymethodistkidderminster.org.uk

Circuit Website: kandsmethodistcircuit.org.uk

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The closing date for items for the October '25 Edition of Trinity Tidings is
Sunday 28th September 2025

Please email articles, preferably as a Word Document to:
arleystation@aol.com

The letter from our new Minister, Rev Verity Phillips

Dear friends,

As I sit down at my desk for the first time in Kidderminster, I would like to start by thanking Nick and the stewards who have prepared for my coming so admirably. Things have gone so smoothly at my end, that it feels as though I must be in the right place at the right time: It doesn't always work that way, and I'm deeply grateful. Thank you!

I've come from Devon, where I've been closer to my whole family for eleven years. I sustained a head injury on black ice in 2011, so it was a blessing to be there while I recovered. I've also served in Wales, the Isle of Man, Lincolnshire, (and Hampshire as a lay worker in a Methodist/URC Church).

Recently I learned that I'm autistic, which is not surprising as my family are all neuro-divergent in one way or another. The diagnosis has helped me immensely with understanding how other people can vary in their responses to words and actions. I no longer try to be someone I'm not to fit in.

The Midlands is very new to me, and already I'm spotting differences, such as having more than one way to get anywhere. There will be cultural differences, too, in our use of words, in social norms, in humour, and in customs. I may easily be tripped up! Things I say and do may seem odd to you, too. We often speak of Christianity as a religion of love. I think of it as a religion of forgiveness, which perhaps goes a little further. If you need one, I'm usually ready with an apology, and hope we'll all be able to forgive one another our varying quirks and differences; or even enjoy and celebrate them! Matthew 18, (see especially verses 15-18) encourages us to be up front with one another from the start about anything which bothers us, and in my experience this works wonders.

On Ascension Day, my 23 year old niece died before she received her longed for ADHD diagnosis. ADHD medication is scarce, and cannot be accessed without an NHS recognised diagnosis, for which there is a very long waiting list. Self-medicating can be dangerous. Without the right medication, the world can seem a terrifying place in which some people truly despise who they are for no obvious reason. I haven't quite got over my grief just yet, having needed to focus on moving house, so a tear may appear from time to time, if something triggers it. I'm determined to do what I can to make the world more hospitable for people who have a "neuro-divergent" condition (i.e. whose brains don't work in quite the same way as most people because they are wired a little differently, or technological people might say, 'use a different operating system').

You may see me wearing headphones at first. These cancel out some of the sounds around me so that I can concentrate better. My hearing is unusually sensitive, and busy unfamiliar environments can be a bit overwhelming. I call this my Cyberman look! I can still hear people speak; it's just an aid, much like using a walking stick, a hearing aid, or glasses.

I'm happy to talk about myself if you'd like to know more, but it's far, far more interesting for me to hear about you: your needs and abilities, your interests, and the people you love to be with. In so far as time allows, I will try to visit as many people as I can during my first year to hear your hopes and fears regarding the Church as we are today. Let me know if there are particular times to avoid. I would also welcome knowing what your preferred communication is (telephone, e-mail, text/message, or something else).

My day off may need to vary at first, while I get a feel for the best day. For the time being, Saturday would be a good day to avoid contacting me other than in an emergency.

I am really looking forward to getting to know you.

With my prayers and good wishes,

God bless,

Verity.

PRAYER CORNER

We remember in our prayers Liz Potter, Betty Norman, Josephine and Ranzi Seremwe, Maureen Homer, Anne Wix, those on the Prayer Vine, those whose names are put in the prayer book and people we know who need the love, comfort and the knowledge of Christ's presence with them.

It is with great sadness that we inform you that Ann Perkin passed away at the end of August. Our prayers, and our love are for her family, and for her many friends in this sad time.

Thanks...

"I would like to express my grateful thanks to Trinity members for the beautiful flowers kindly delivered by Jean while I was unwell. A lovely cheering surprise. God Bless."

Mavis Wood

In your prayers during the month of September, please remember the area of Kidderminster and the people who live and work there, known as Aggborough.

Be joyful always;
pray without ceasing,
give thanks in all circumstances,
for this is God's will for you
in Christ Jesus

1 Thessalonians, 5: 16-18

Aggborough

September

St Cecilia's and Jubilee International Churches.

Railways and the Severn Valley railway Station

Harriers Football Club and supporters

Residential Homes

Children's Nursery

Retail

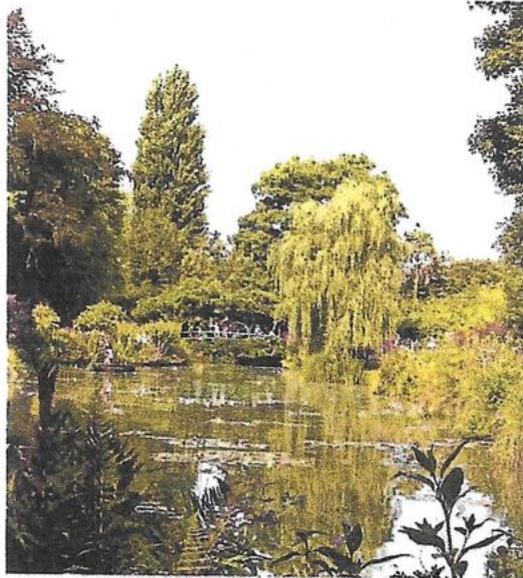
The Magistrates Court

Veterinary Practice



Editor's Letter....

I had a week in France recently, and visited all sorts of interesting places. Including The Bayeau Tapestry, and Monet's Garden where he painted the scene looking across the lake with all the water lilies. My photo does not do it justice, because there were not many water lilies in flower, but mainly because of the crowds of people. There were far too many for the size of the garden.



We visited the D Day beaches, especially Omaha beach where the Americans landed against terrible opposition. Pegasus Bridge was a great success for the Parachute Brigade, who landed silently in gliders, only 45 yards from the bridge. The first glider landed at 16 minutes past midnight on 6th June. Most of the German guards either fled or surrendered, and the bridge was captured in 20 minutes. An amazing feat of bravery. The bridge was renamed Pegasus after the parachute regiment's badge depicted Pegasus the winged horse.

We went to the new British D Day Memorial above Gold beach. It is a most impressive memorial to the British, Canadians and French who landed successfully. Altogether an enjoyable, yet sobering visit, and quite emotional at times. This is part of our history, but more than that part of World History, because if D Day had failed, then there would have been little to stop Hitler invading Britain, because our army would have been depleted in numbers and resources.

David



OFFERTORIES FOR THE EIGHT WEEKS TO 17th AUGUST ARE AS FOLLOWS

	Envelopes	Loose Cash	Standing Orders	Total
	£	£	£	£
29.06 & 06.07.25	121.00	255.00	1457.90	1833.90
13.07 & 20.07.25	241.00	260.00	1627.00	2128.00
27.07 & 03.08.25	151.00	325.00	1502.90	1978.90
10.08 & 17.08.25	316.00	213.00	1378.80	1907.80

This is a weekly average of £981.07

For the current church year to 31st August 2025 it is estimated that offertories of £1200 per week will be required to break even.

Gift Aid – a thank-you and a request.

We are grateful to several members of our congregation who have joined the Gift Aid scheme over the past few months. Gift Aid is an important source of income that gives Trinity an additional 25% on gift-aided giving, on which we rely heavily. For the year ended 5th April 2025 more than £12,000 was received from HM Revenue & Customs. **Would anyone who is a taxpayer and wishing to gift aid their giving please have a word with Iestyn Davies, Church Treasurer or Roger Smith, Gift Aid Secretary.**

Thank you.

SERVICES IN SEPTEMBER

Sept. 7 th	10.30am	Rev Verity Phillips
	6.30pm	Welcome Service for: Rev Verity Phillips and Rev Novette Headley – Superintendent Led by Rev Rachel Deigh, Chair of the West Midlands District
Sept 14 th	10.30am	Mr Mike Dernie
	6.30pm	Deacon Becky Lovatt
Sept 21 st	10.30am	Rev Novette Headley
	6.30pm	Rev Verity Phillips -- Holy Communion
Sept 28 th	10.30am	Mr David Skitt
	6.30pm	Rev Verity Phillips -- Café Worship
Oct 5 th	10.30am	Mr Ray Simpson -- Harvest Festival
	6.30pm	Rev Verity Phillips -- Holy Communion

THURSDAY SERVICES at 12.30pm

Sept 4 th	Mr David Skitt
Sept 11 th	Rev Verity Phillips -- Holy Communion
Sept 18 th	Rev Suzanne Newton
Sept 25 th	TBA

TRINITY METHODIST CHURCH

Sunday 7th September 2025, 4 pm

Service of Welcome

Rev'd Novette Headley, Circuit Superintendent

and

Rev'd Verity Phillips

Minister of Areley Kings, Bewdley, Foley Park, Stourport Wesley

and Trinity Methodist Churches

Service to be led by Rev'd Rachel Deigh

Chair of the new West Midlands District of the Methodist Church

The service is to be followed by tea and cakes

when everyone will have opportunity to share fellowship

A little bit of History...

Communion items previously used at Broadwaters, have been donated to Trinity Methodist Church by Angela Millinchip and Hazel Depper, following the closure of Broadwaters Methodist Church.



Both our mothers, Mrs. Hilda Newson, and Mrs. Gladys Walker were lifelong members of 'Broadwaters Chapel' from a very early age until their deaths in 1991 and 2006.

The paten was given in memory of their parents Joseph and Emma Worrall (Our Grandparents) who died within a week of each other in 1927

Their children were Ada Griffiths, Winifred Farmer, Hilda Newson, Gladys Walker, and George Worrall.

The Round Communion Set was donated in memory of Mrs. Hilda Newson by her daughter, Angela Millinchip in 1992.

The Chalice and Paten were donated in memory of Mrs. Gladys Walker by her daughter, Hazel Depper in 2007.

"To God be the Glory, Great Things He Hath Done."

Angela Millinchip & Hazel Depper

Trinity Methodist Church

The Church Project from September '25 is in aid of

Worcestershire Prostate Cancer Support Group

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH



The Group works in partnership with Prostate Cancer UK and are members of the National Federation of Prostate Cancer Support Groups (Tackle). In 2017 they were awarded the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service.

The members are those diagnosed with prostate cancer, their families, friends, and carers. The group is here to help from the moment of initial diagnosis, through treatment, recovery and beyond.

The Groups members help raise awareness and support major events throughout Worcestershire.

"To inspire and empower men affected by prostate cancer and to support them and the people close to them"

How the Group helps...

When first diagnosed with prostate cancer it can be a very worrying and lonely time. The Group knows how patients feel because members have been there themselves!

Here are just some ways they can help:

- A contact telephone number
- A website www.kwpcsg.co.uk
- A 'Buddying' scheme to partner up with somebody who has been through a similar experience
- Assist with transport to hospitals for tests or treatment
- Organised open meetings
- Coffee and Chat events
- Support contacts are in touch with all members on a regular basis
- A quarterly 'Supporter' magazine
- Raising general awareness and providing information about Prostate Cancer

Please support the
Trinity Church Project
if you are able
Thank you

Church Project Envelopes:

Church Project dated donation envelopes are available to make it easy to support this Church Project initiative on a regular basis.

The Envelopes are available from:
Roger Smith - Tel: 01562 67778

Trinity Methodist Church - Harvest '25



A Murder Mystery Evening

Spirited Away...

written by Michael Faarup

For more details contact: David Skitt on 01299 401047 or 07816 058698

**Saturday 4th October 2025 at 7pm
at Trinity Methodist Church**

The story is set in a fascinating small fishing village on the West Coast of Scotland

Alec, a 'larger than life' successful businessman escapes the busy London scene and begins a brand-new life in the peaceful surroundings and interesting social circle of the people of Aben. On this particular Saturday Night, Alec was throwing a New Year's Eve party to which all his friends were invited. The action of the play begins as people arrive for the party and many conversations take place. Suddenly the unbelievable happens! Complete confusion and disarray follow. Unravel this intriguing story and solve the mystery that surrounds the tale, with its fascinating characters.

Characters:

Isobel	Alec's wife
Julian	Highways engineer
Charlotte	Julian's wife
Beverley	Hotel Manager
Owen	Distillery Owner
Brett	Distillery maintenance engine
Becky	Brett's wife; Cleaner at the hotel
Mark	Alec's old business partner
Stephanie	Alec's first wife
Alec	Hotel Owner

includes

"Harvest Ploughman's Supper"

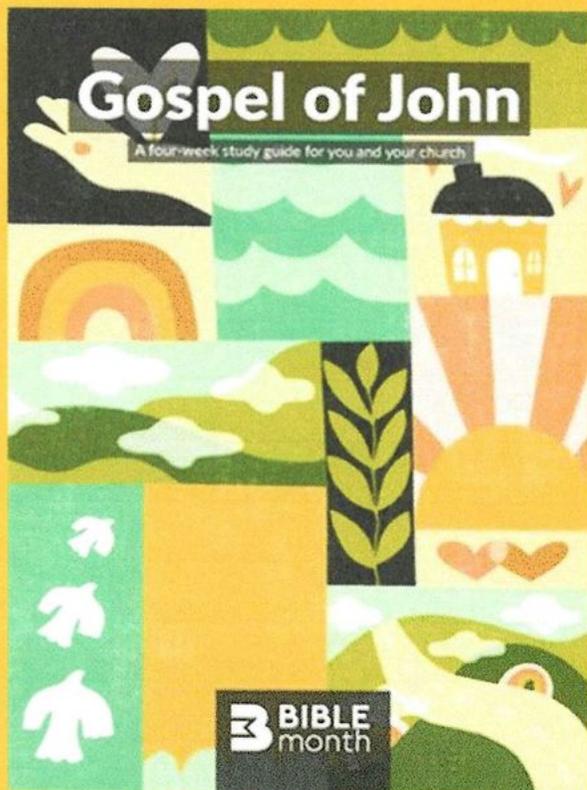
Donations on the Night

PLEASE add your name to the sign-up sheet
in the foyer if attending

Thank you.

Join us and detect who the culprit is!

October 2025 is Bible Month



Yes, it's that time of year again!
And the chosen book is the
Gospel of John

Every service in our churches
will begin the same way and
your preachers will focus on
selected chapters from this
profound and personal gospel.

They have studied and prepared
– and pray that YOU will join
with them in exploring John!

Please read the Gospel of John!

Bible Month has divided it into four sections,
so you can take your time!

The sections will be announced in your Church Notices
each week, together with the themes that will
feature each Sunday.

Let's all worship and learn together as we feast on John's
wonderful account of the life, death and resurrection of our
Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

www.methodist.org.uk/BibleMonth

2025 Christmas Shoebox Appeal

Kidderminster and Stourport Circuit

Dear Fiends, once again as the holiday season draws to a close and the children of the UK return to school, I ask you to turn your thoughts to those children across the world still living in war zones, whose childhood is being denied them, families torn apart by wanton destruction, families living in abject poverty, children less fortunate than ourselves, girls and boys that need our help, and to get involved in the Christmas Shoebox Appeal 2025.

I am well aware of the fact that everything is more expensive in the shops these days, so all I ask of you, and me that we do our best and give what we can. This year all our boxes are original supplied through Blunts Shoes, they are all wrapped in Christmas paper, all we have to do is to put the appropriate items in them for girls or boys age ranges 3-5, 6-11, or 12+ there are leaflets giving ideas about what to put in, or you can look on line at T4U Shoebox Appeal.

Don't worry if your box is not full, items will be added by T4U before they are sent out. I have boxes and leaflets at Trinity just ask.

Time once again to give love in a box and find joy in your heart.

Blessings Albert

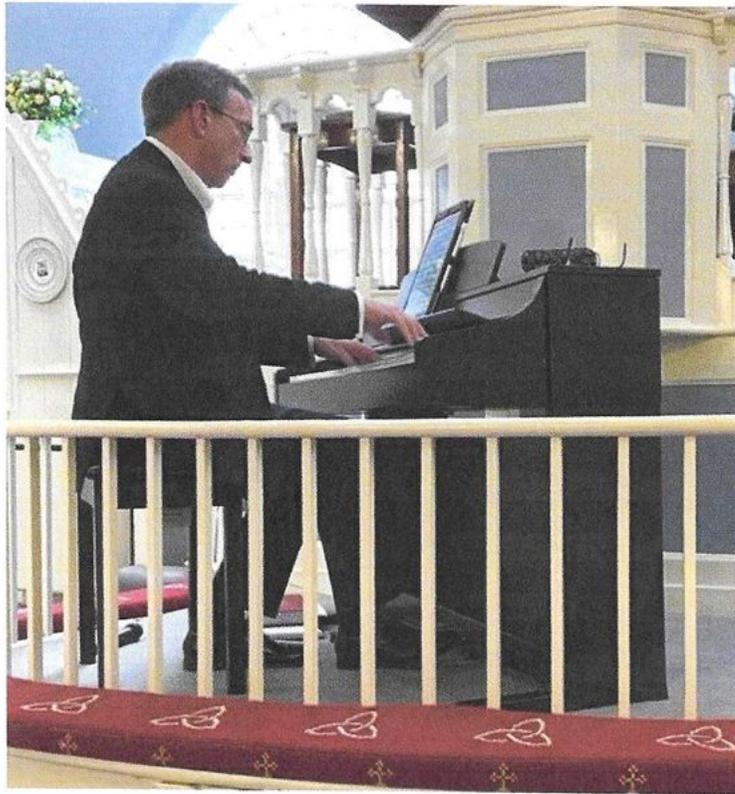


Bewdley Methodist Church

"Music in the Chapel"

PIANO RECITAL

Performed by Tony Bridgewater



Featuring music from

Mussorgsky's - Pictures at an Exhibition

Schumann's - Papillons

Saturday 27th September 2025 at 2.30pm.

Tickets £10 to include light refreshments

To book tickets please contact:

Neil Sollom Tel: 07780 650491 / email: neilsollom@btinternet.com

or Mike Dernie Tel: 07977 063380 / email: mikedernie@aol.com

Sponsored by;

BEWDLEY
FRAMING
&

A Quiz About The British Isles.

1. Where is 'The Angel of the North'?
2. Where is Winston Churchill buried?
3. Where is there a statue of Eric Morecambe?
4. Who designed The Cenotaph?
5. When was Downton Abbey filmed?
6. Edward Elgar used to fly a kite on which hills?
7. Who designed the Clifton Suspension Bridge?
8. Where is the Eden Project?
9. Which annual music festival is held in the Royal Albert Hall?
10. Where is the Beano comic published?
11. Can you name at least two characters in the Beano?
12. Which is the longest river in England?
13. What is Melton Mowbray famous for?
14. Where was Thomas a Beckett murdered?
15. How far is it from Lands End to John O' Groats?
16. Where is Nelson's ship H.M.S. Victory?
17. Who was the Captain of The Victory at Trafalgar?
18. How many actors have played James Bond?
19. What did Offa build?
20. What is the Welsh name for Snowdon?

September is the beginning of a new school year, and this is an extract from 'Cider with Rosie' by Laurie Lee. It tells of his move from the Infants to the Big Room.

In the Infants the teacher was a young lady with a soothing voice. Quite clearly the Big Room boasted no such comfort. Miss B, the Head Teacher, to whom I was now being delivered was as physically soothing as a rake.

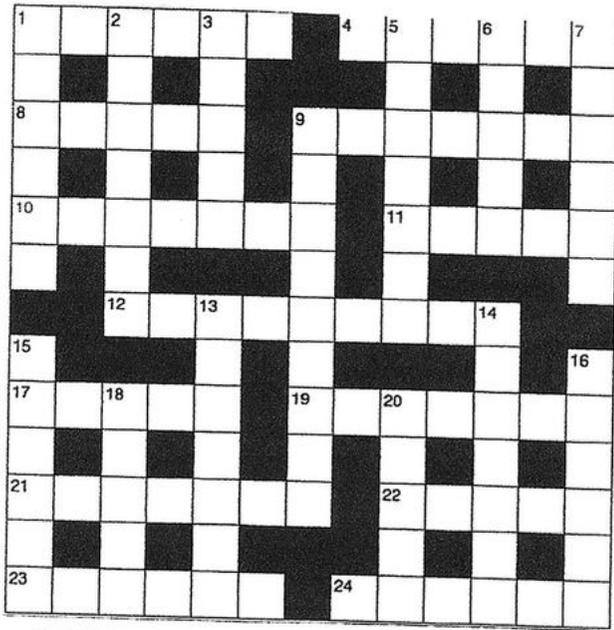
She was a bunched and punitive little body and the children had christened her Crabby; she had a sour yellow look, lank hair coiled in earphones and the skin and voice of a turkey. We were all afraid of the gobbling Miss B; she spied, she pried, she crouched, she crept, she pounced - she was a terror.

Each morning was war without declaration; no one knew who would catch it next. We stood to attention, half crippled in our desks, till Miss B walked in, whacked the walls with a ruler, and fixed us with her squinting eye. "Good morning, children!" "Good morning, Teacher!" The greeting was like the rattling of swords. Then she would scowl at the floor and begin to growl "Ar Farther...."; at which we said the Lord's Prayer, praised all good things, and thanked God for the health of our King. But scarcely had we bellowed the last Amen than Crabby coiled, uncoiled and sprang, and knocked some poor boy sideways. The punishment always came before the charge!

"Shuffling your feet! Playing with the desk! A-smirking at that miserable Betty! I will not have it. I'll not, I say. I repeat - I will not have it!"

It was exactly what I expected from school.....

Parish Pump Crossword



Across

- 1 'The people were — at his teaching' (Mark 1:22) (6)
- 4 'He saved —; let him save himself' (Luke 23:35) (6)
- 8 He addressed the crowd in Jerusalem on the day of Pentecost (Acts 2:14) (5)
- 9 Father of James and John (Matthew 4:21) (7)
- 10 One who charges another with an offence (Job 31:35) (7)
- 11 ' — thy ministers with righteousness' (Book of Common Prayer) (5)
- 12 and 15 Down 'All — is God-breathed and is — for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness' (2 Timothy 3:16) (9,6)
- 17 'No — of the field had yet appeared on the earth and no plant of the field had yet sprung up' (Genesis 2:5) (5)
- 19 Made to feel embarrassed (Isaiah 24:23) (7)
- 21 This man built his house on sand (Matthew 7:26) (7)
- 22 David's hypocritical message to Joab on the death in battle of Uriah: 'Don't let this — you' (2 Samuel 11:25) (5)
- 23 Detest (Job 10:1) (6)
- 24 'God made two great lights, the greater light to govern the day and the — light to govern the night' (Genesis 1:16) (6)

Down

- 1 To make a serious request (1 Corinthians 1:10) (6)
- 2 Launches an assault against (Genesis 32:8) (7)
- 3 'The wicked man — deceptive wages' (Proverbs 11:18) (5)
- 5 Tuba ale (anag.) (7)
- 6 'The day thou gavest, Lord, is — ' (5)
- 7 Old Testament measure of weight, equivalent to about 12 grammes (Exodus 30:13) (6)
- 9 Where Elijah restored life to the son of a widow with whom he lodged (1 Kings 17:10) (9)
- 13 Paul said of whatever was to his profit, 'I consider them — , that I may gain Christ and be found in him' (Philippians 3:8) (7)
- 14 City visited by Paul, described by the city clerk as 'the guardian of the temple of the great Artemis' (Acts 19:35) (7)
- 15 See 12 Across
- 16 Rioted (anag.) (6)
- 18 She had a surprise when she answered the door and found 8 Across outside (Acts 12:13) (5)
- 20 Maltreat (1 Chronicles 10:4) (5)

Sudoku Puzzle (Easy)

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

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GARDENING NOTES FOR SEPTEMBER

Whether the meteorologic conditions are settled and fine, or unsettled and blowy, there are a number of tasks which require attention before the 'real' autumn arrives in October.

We probably won't know, or notice what, if any damage has been done to our plants and shrubs during the summer until next spring. Don't be too hasty to consign summer flowering hanging baskets to the compost heap, as with a little TLC it is possible to extend their life well into September. It is possible that the growth has become thin and straggly, regular dead-heading will help. A balanced liquid fertiliser will encourage fresh growth and be beneficial.

If you want to plant up winter flowering baskets it is best to plant them up as soon as possible as this will allow the plants to get established early, promoting a healthy root system.

Popular choices for winter baskets would be Ivy, Primroses, Heathers, Pansies, Hebe, Skimmia and Euonymus. Add small spring bulbs, such as Tete a Tete, as well for an extra splash of colour. They are a useful source of colour as well as being low maintenance

The herbaceous border will be showing signs of 'autumn collapse' and it is now that foliage will be turning brown and yellow, requiring removal as soon as possible. Any material that isn't diseased with black spot or rust can be composted; otherwise it should be burned.

Autumn is a good time to inspect the lawn for damage and to undertake repairs. The removal of 'thatch' if it is not to build up to a level where it will restrict the penetration of water.

Use a spring tine rake to remove the build up. About every three years some areas which have become compacted will need to be aerated, using a garden fork every six inches.

Plant daffodils by the end of September, to ensure a good root system develops.

Perennial weeds can be treat with a suitable weed killer, one which is drawn down through the leaves into the roots. Don't spray on a windy day!

There is quite a lot to do to prepare for winter, but whatever you do, enjoy your garden.

Bob.

Volunteer

When I retired I thought I'd like to put a bit back so I thought about volunteering. Lots of things are not government supported. To mention two – The Lifeboats are one and the other is Mountain Rescue. There are many more. So I decided to join. I was welcomed but it took me 2½ hrs to get to the coast and 2½ hrs to get to the Lake District. By the time I got there it was all over. So I ended up with the Trussell Trust and Foodbank, none better. Let's face it, most of the volunteers today are retired pensioners. Where would we be without them? Of course, where would our churches be? You can see the MBE's & CBE's rolling in – sadly not. Unforgotten heroes in a world that doesn't care. (That was Ralph McTell, in 'Streets of London') Yet take away volunteers and the government would be in a crisis. Let's face it, Jesus's disciples were basically volunteers, although they were chosen by Jesus. Volunteers are the good Samaritans of the world today, and The Good Samaritan is a wonderful parable to follow.

Helping others on the road of life is what we feel we have to do. Giving things up to help others is in our beliefs. If we are followers of Jesus that's what we are asked to do. After all, He gave His everything that we might live. He taught us to be willing to help anyone in their time of need. When bad news hits the headlines anywhere in the world, it is great to hear of the many good Samaritans, unsung heroes like ourselves, who voluntarily give time to help others. Jesus asked, after giving the parable of The Good Samaritan, "Which of the passers-by?" The one who showed kindness. Many crossed the road, but only one was chosen. "Go and do likewise," said Jesus. We should help others. "I lift up my eyes to the hills – where does my help come from?" (Psalm 121). Yes, it comes from The Lord but we as Christians must be His sub-contractors. We are His Samaritans and He believes in us. Look to Him when you volunteer. "My help comes from The Lord, the maker of heaven and earth".

Where would our churches be if it wasn't for volunteers? We wouldn't get a Service on a Sunday. So we plod on. In fact, I'm still in love of the Mountain Rescue so I'm gonna start my own. If anyone gets stuck on Sion Hill, give me a ring.

The Alto's Lament

Written by a bloke called Bob and found behind the vestry door in All Saints Church, Four Oaks, Sutton Coldfield. This is classic humour. Are you there Bob?

It's tough to be an Alto when you're singing in the choir.
The sopranos get the twiddly bits that people all admire.
The basses boom like loud trombones,
The tenors shout with glee,
But the alto's part is on two notes (and if you're lucky, three).

And when we sing an anthem, we lift our hearts in praises,
The men get all the juicy bits and telling little phrases.
Of course, the trebles sing the tune –
They always come off best;
The altos only get 3 notes and twenty-two bars rest.

We practice very hard each week, from hymn book and the Psalter
But when the conductor looks at us our voices start to falter.
Too High! Too low, too fast! –
You held that note too long,
It doesn't matter what we do -it' certain to be wrong.

Oh! Shed a tear for altos, they're martyrs and they know
In the ranks of choral singers, they're considered very low.
They are so very humble that a lot of folk forget 'em,
How they'd love to be sopranos but their vocal chords won't let 'em.

And when the final trumpet sounds and we are wafted higher,
Sopranos, basses, tenors – they're in the heavenly choir;
While they sing "Alleluia" to celestial flats and sharps,
The altos will be occupied with polishing the harps.

Mike

(Mike Knott, Stourport Wesley)

Mike's Smile Lines

If being on line irritates you, just take a minute to think of tight-rope walkers.

**

Oh for the wings of a dove, but if not, a nice chicken leg will do.

**

Did you hear about the court jester who got the sack. Now he's nobody's fool.

**

Men can't cook for themselves, that's until somebody makes a steak that fits in a toaster.

**

I bought the wife a bag and belt for Valentines Day. She clouted me. What's the problem, the Hoover works perfect now.

**

If you ever break a guitar string, don't fret.

**

Man: Can I have more onions on my burger?

Vendor: Sorry sir, that's shallot.

**

How many MacDonald's counter staff does it take to change a lightbulb? Two; one to change it, one to bring fries with it.

**

A basketball player and a jockey both robbed a bank. The police are looking high and low.

**

A father was approached by his small son who told him proudly "I know what the Bible means". His father smiled. "What do you mean, you know what the Bible means". "I know what Bible means", said the son. "Okay" said his father, "What does Bible mean?" "That's easy Dad", said his son. "Basic Information Before Leaving Earth.

**

A woman is sorting through the frozen chickens in the supermarket. "Do these chickens get any bigger", she asks. "No Madam" says the butcher". They're dead.

**

A man is reading the local paper and sees his own obituary. He phones a friend and says, "Have you seen the paper?" "Yes", says his friend. "By the way, where are you calling from?"

What is Love?

“Where is Love”, wrote Lionel Bart in the musical ‘Oliver’. Does it fall from skies above? Who knows. But there is a better question “What is Love”? A group of professional people posed this question to a group of 4 – 8-year-olds. What do you think?

“When my Gran got arthritis, she couldn’t bend over to paint her toenails so my Grandad does it for her even when his hands got arthritis too”.
Rebecca, aged 8

“When someone loves you the way they say your name is different. You just know your name is safe in their mouth” Billy, aged 4

“Love is when a girl puts on perfume and a boy puts on shaving cologne and they go out and smell each other”. Karl, aged 5

“Love is when you go out to eat and give somebody most of your French fries without making them give you any of theirs”. Chrissy, aged 6

“Love is what makes you smile when you are tired”. Terri, aged 4

“Love is when Mummy makes coffee for my daddy and takes a sip before giving it to him to make sure it tastes ok”. Danny aged 8

“Love is what’s in the room with you at Christmas if you stop opening presents and just listen”.
Bobby, aged 7

“If you want to learn to love better you should start with a friend you hate”. Nikka, aged 6

“Love is like when you tell a guy you like his shirt and then he wears it every day”. Noelle, aged 7

There were no winners, but this was the pick. It was a 4-year-old child whose next-door neighbour was an old man who had just lost his wife. Upon seeing the man cry the little boy went to the man’s house and climbed onto his lap and just sat there. When his mother asked what he had said to the neighbour, the little boy said “Nothing, I just helped him cry”. That’s love.

Mike

Mike Knott, Stourport Wesley.



Room for All

I Dreamt death came the other night,
And heaven's gate swung wide.
An Angel with a halo bright,
Ushered me inside.

And there to my astonishment
Were folks I'd judged and labelled,
As "Quite unfit", "Of little worth"
And "Spiritually disabled".

Indignant words rose to my lips,
But never were set free,
For every face showed stunned surprise;
No one expected me!

Mike's Smile Lines

I've bought 3 cows, some milking equipment and a 3-legged stool.
You fool, I said keep a diary not a dairy.

**

A Prime Minister is a man who thinks twice before saying nothing.

**

The greatest invention ever was Venetian blinds. If it wasn't for them, it would be curtains for all of us.

**

A company director offered a prize of £5000 to anyone who could come up with an idea to save the firm money. The winner was a bloke who said reduce the prize to £100.

**

In Spain, Manana is often the busiest day of the week.

**

Believe in calculators – they're something to count on.

**

A little girl at her first wedding was puzzled. After the wedding she asked her mother if the bride had changed her mind. "What makes you think that?" asked her mother. "Well", said the little girl, "she went down the aisle with one man and came back with another".

**

Last night I went to a concert given by the Bermuda Symphony Orchestra. They played "The coconut's lovely, but the triangle kept disappearing.

**

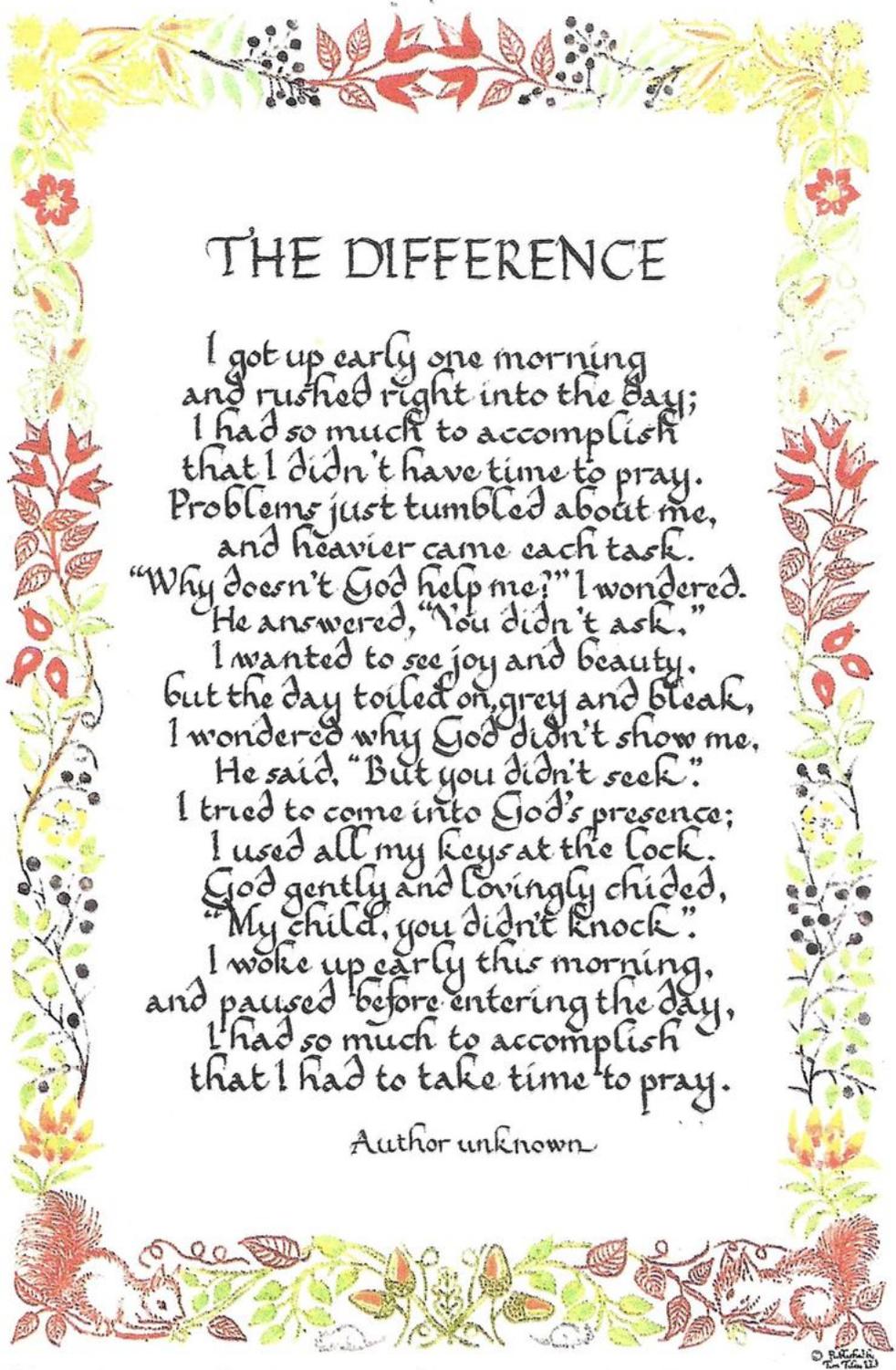
A bloke walks into a shop and says to the manager "I want to buy that red trumpet and that accordion". "OK", says the manager, "you can buy the fire extinguisher, but I have to keep the radiator. Have you tried Specsavers?"

**

I happened to go into a farm last week and looked into the pigsty. Unbelievable! They were dancing, I think it was swine lake.

+++++

Thanks, Mike, for your monthly contributions to Trinity Tidings. They're much appreciated.



THE DIFFERENCE

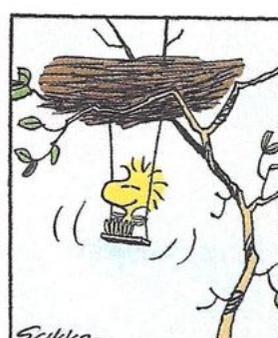
I got up early one morning
and rushed right into the day;
I had so much to accomplish
that I didn't have time to pray.
Problems just tumbled about me,
and heavier came each task.
"Why doesn't God help me?" I wondered.
He answered, "You didn't ask."
I wanted to see joy and beauty,
but the day toiled on, grey and bleak,
I wondered why God didn't show me.
He said, "But you didn't seek."
I tried to come into God's presence;
I used all my keys at the lock.
God gently and lovingly chided,
"My child, you didn't knock."
I woke up early this morning,
and paused before entering the day,
I had so much to accomplish
that I had to take time to pray.

Author unknown

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Tom Tully '13



8/25



Schickel

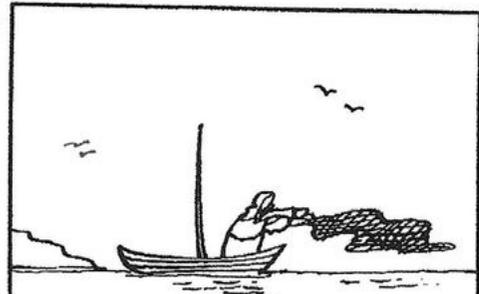
The parable
of
the
Fish
and the
Nets



JESUS OFTEN TOLD
STORIES WITH
HIDDEN MEANINGS



ONCE JESUS SAID THE KINGDOM
OF HEAVEN WAS A BIT LIKE
CATCHING FISH!



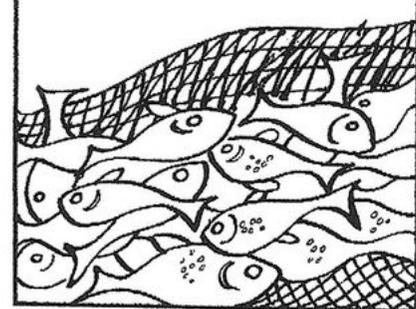
WHEN PEOPLE GO FISHING
THEY THROW THEIR NETS
INTO THE LAKE...



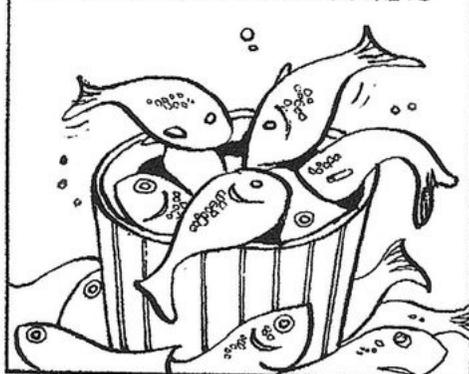
...WHEN THE NETS ARE FULL,
THEY PULL THEM TO SHORE



ONCE ON SHORE THE FISH
HAVE TO BE SORTED OUT.



THE GOOD FISH GO INTO BUCKETS



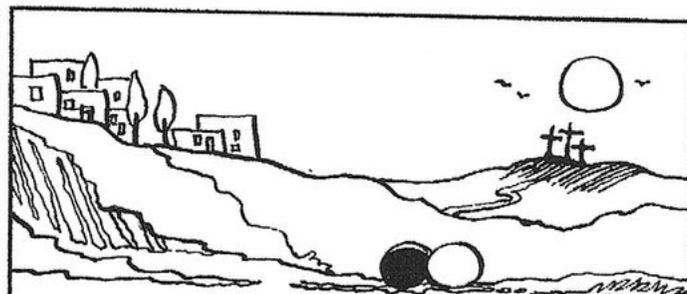
THE BAD FISH GET THROWN AWAY!



JESUS EXPLAINED THAT WE TOO WILL
BE SORTED LIKE THE FISH. WE CAN
CHOOSE TO DO GOOD OR BAD THINGS
WITH OUR LIVES.



BUT EVEN IF WE MAKE TERRIBLE MISTAKES - WE CAN
ALWAYS BE FORGIVEN - THAT'S JESUS' PROMISE.



Lord's Prayer tops Shakespeare, Dickens, Churchill and National Anthem in public recognition poll.

People in the UK are more likely to identify correctly a short extract from the Lord's Prayer – also known as the Our Father – than one from the National Anthem and other sources chosen for their deep cultural resonance, a new poll has found.

The polling, carried out for the Church of England, also found the reference in the prayer to being forgiven and forgiving others was the element people found most meaningful to them. Pollsters Savanta surveyed more than 2,000 people across the UK. They asked them to match seven famous lines – spanning areas ranging from literature and history to popular culture – with their source, from a list of correct answers.

Overall, the phrase from the Lord's Prayer was recognised correctly by the largest number of people (80.3 per cent), just ahead of Star Wars (79.9 per cent).

They were followed by Hamlet's "To be or not to be" (73 per cent) the extract from the National Anthem (63 per cent); the line from Churchill's 'The Few' speech (61 per cent); and You'll Never Walk Alone (58 per cent).

Overall, 89 per cent of those surveyed said that they had previously heard of the Lord's Prayer or the Our Father. This was highest among those who described themselves as Christian (95 per cent), but also by 88 per cent of those who said they had no religion.

The Archbishop of York, Stephen Cottrell, is currently leading a 'Lord's Prayer Tour' of events at churches and cathedrals across the north of England attended by thousands of people, as part of his *Faith In The North* initiative.

He said: "In a world of shifting cultures and changing circumstances, the Lord's Prayer remains a steady guide – perhaps never more so than now. "Lines like 'Give us this day our daily bread' speak powerfully to today's challenges, reminding us to seek sufficiency, not excess, and to consider what 'enough' truly means."

Parish Pump 2025

The Transfiguration of Jesus

It's an unusual story. One day, Jesus is with three disciples on a high mountain in Galilee, when His appearance dramatically changes. Also, Moses and Elijah suddenly appear, and from a cloud comes the voice of God. What is this all about?

This event was witnessed by James, Peter, and John. They were close friends of Jesus. In the future, they were to become prominent leaders in the Early Church. They needed to see something special that would help them remember Jesus in the difficult years ahead. They had a glimpse of Christ in His divine glory. His face shone like the sun and His clothes turned white as light.

While this was an extraordinary sight for the disciples, it served to encourage Jesus who once had glory and majesty in Heaven. One day He would have it again. But firstly, He had to fulfil His mission: to suffer on the cross and die.

Why were Moses and Elijah standing with Jesus? Moses was the giver of the Law and Elijah represented all the prophets. They had pointed people to the promised Messiah. Jesus was about to complete God's plan of salvation.

God's voice was heard to remind Peter there was no need to build shelters. They were not going to stay on the mountain. God spoke to get the disciples to fix their attention on Jesus. The wonder of the Transfiguration was a short interlude before Jesus had to return to His work and subsequent death on the cross.

This story is a reminder that our times of spiritual blessing have to be followed by down-to-earth commitments and responsibilities. In the same way that Jesus gave His friends a glimpse of His awesome glory, to help them face challenging and traumatic times ahead, our special times in His presence are provided to encourage us and equip us for the trials we may have to face.

Our journey through life may sometimes rise to the peaks but we can't stay on a 'high' all the time – no matter how much we want it! We have to descend to face everyday challenges if we are to fulfil our calling in Christ. From *our* mountain-top experiences we all need to find a balance between times alone with God and serving Him in the company of others.

Parish Pump 2025

Lester Amann encourages us to 'phone home'...

Give Him a call!

The phone was a great invention. How easy, to press a few numbers on our small devices and speak to someone the other side of the world. Once a phone was a luxury item; now we take it for granted that this gadget in our pocket enables us to contact anyone, at any time, in any place.

However, how many times have you rung someone, only to be given a recorded message giving a variety of options? Then you must wait in a queue for ages before your call is answered. A voice informs you that 'your call is important to us' ... but meanwhile you are left waiting, listening to endless music.

Yes, a phone may be useful in all kinds of circumstances, but they can also be very frustrating! So, it's good to know that God can be contacted immediately we need Him. There is no celestial call centre where our messages are delayed or referred. With prayer we can call on God directly. This service is free, with no charges. He hears our every call, and we can be confident that our Creator will answer us in ways which are only for our good.

'When you pray, I will answer you. When you call to me, I will respond.' (Isaiah 58:9)

Parish Pump 2025

Are your sunglasses good enough?

They may look trendy, but when you bought them, did they have the official UKCA or CE markings on them? If not, your eyes may NOT be protected from the sun's dangerous rays. So says the Office for Product Safety and Standards, which is part of the Department for Business and Trade. It warns that not all sunglasses can block the ultraviolet rays from the sun, but only the ones with the official UKCA or CE markings. And without protection, your eyes will be under long-term increased risk of developing cataracts, macular degeneration, photokeratitis and even solar retinopathy.

Parish Pump 2025

In praise of olive oil

Olive oil is surprisingly good for you. It has been found to be able to ward off chronic disease and to boost your brain health. So, when those ancient Greeks praised it as an aid to staying young and healthy, it seems they were right.

While the Mediterranean diet can include up to four tablespoons of olive oil per day, a recent study at Harvard has found that even just half a tablespoon of olive oil per day helps protect your heart and brain from disease. It may even slash your risk of Parkinson's or Alzheimer's by 29 per cent, and cancer by 17 per cent.

Olive oil is packed with monounsaturated fats, and even has anti-inflammatory properties, which have been compared to Ibuprofen. The best way to eat it? Add it as a dressing to your salads. Frying with it can degrade some of its properties.

Parish Pump 2025

The unlikely helper of red squirrels

Red squirrels have found a surprising friend in their fight to survive against grey squirrels. It is the elusive pine marten, who is a natural predator of *all* squirrels.

Now a recent study by Queen's University, Belfast, has found that pine martens are increasing, and that they kill more grey squirrels than red squirrels. This is because red squirrels are naturally wary of pine martens, and so avoid them. Grey squirrels, on the other hand, do not know to fear pine martens, as they are not native to the UK.

It is good news for the beleaguered red squirrels, who have been nearly wiped out since their larger North American cousins arrived in the late 19th century. Most red squirrels these days are confined in small populations in Scotland, Anglesey and the Isle of Wight.

Parish Pump 2025

When I say I am a Christian

When I say, "I am a Christian," I'm not shouting, "I am saved!"
I'm whispering, "I get lost; that is why I chose this way."

When I say, "I am a Christian," I don't speak of this with pride.
I'm confessing that I stumble and need Someone to be my Guide.

When I say, "I am a Christian," I'm not bragging I am strong.
I'm professing that I'm weak, and I pray for strength to carry on.

When I say, "I am a Christian," I'm not bragging of success.
I'm admitting I have failed and cannot ever pay the debt.

When I say, "I am a Christian," I'm not claiming to be perfect.
My flaws are all too visible, but God believes I'm worth it.

When I say, "I am a Christian," I still feel the sting of pain.
I have my share of heartaches, which is why I cry His name.

When I say, "I am a Christian," I do not wish to judge.
I have no authority; I only know I'm loved.

Author unknown

Parish Pump 2025

Exhibition of Queen Elizabeth II's wedding dress and fashion to celebrate centenary

Next year, the largest-ever exhibition of Queen Elizabeth II's clothes will be staged at Buckingham Palace, in honour of the centenary of her birth.

Queen Elizabeth II: Her Life in Style, will include some 200 items – around half of which is to be displayed for the first time.

As well as clothing, jewellery, hats, shoes, and accessories, there will also be design sketches, fabric samples and handwritten notes that give a glimpse of the process involved in dressing the late Queen for her many public appearances.

Caroline de Guitaut, the exhibition curator and surveyor of the King's Works of Art, said "Her distinctive style became instantly recognisable around the world, bolstering the British fashion industry and influencing generations of designers and couturiers."

The exhibition will include her wedding dress from 1947, her Coronation dress from 1953, and a number of the formal evening dresses she wore for banquets and visiting Heads of State. But there will also be the riding jackets, tartan skirts and silk headscarves that made up her well-known practical everyday style.

'Queen Elizabeth II: Her Life in Style' will be at The King's Gallery, Buckingham Palace, from spring to autumn 2026. Tickets on sale from this November.

Parish Pump 2025

Did you spot many butterflies this past summer?

The wildlife charity Butterfly Conservation is deeply worried about our butterflies. Or rather, the lack of them. It seems that more than 80 per cent of our species have declined sharply in number since 1970s.

Each summer sees the Big Butterfly Count, when the public is encouraged to send in the number of butterflies they have seen over a short period of time. Last year saw the lowest number of butterflies spotted in the count's 14-year history. Even the familiar species like the small white, common blue and small tortoiseshell had their worst summer ever. And a record number of people saw no butterflies at all.

Butterflies have been hit by climate change, the use of pesticides, and damage to their habitats. The drought this summer will have been bad news for their caterpillar offspring, which need growing plants to feed on.

So, this autumn, why not plan a happier year for butterflies in 2026?

Parish Pump 2025

All in the month of September

It was:

200 years ago, on 27th Sept 1825 that the world's first public railway opened. It was the Stockton and Darlington Railway in north-east England.

175 years ago, on 9th Sept 1850 that California was admitted as the 31st state of the USA.

150 years ago, on 3rd Sept 1875 that Ferdinand Porsche, Austrian-born German automotive engineer was born. He designed the Volkswagen Beetle and Tiger tank, and founded the Porsche sports car company.

100 years ago, on 7th Sept 1925 that Laura Ashley was born. The Welsh designer and businesswoman was known for her traditional printed fabrics, soft furnishing and women's clothing. Co-founder (along with her husband) of the Laura Ashley textile company and chain of shops. (Died in 1985 when she fell downstairs, aged 60.)

Also 100 years ago, on 8th Sept that Peter Sellers, actor and comedian was born. Best known for the Goon Show, and as Inspector Clouseau in the Pink Panther film series. (Died 1980.)

90 years ago, on 3rd Sept 1935 that British driver Malcolm Campbell set a new world land speed record of 301.13 mph in *Bluebird* at Bonneville Salt Flats, Utah. First person to break the 300mph barrier.

Also 90 years ago, on 15th Sept 1935 that the Nuremberg Laws were passed in Germany. Jews were no longer classed as German citizens, and the Nazi flag was adopted as the national flag of Germany.

80 years ago, on 2nd Sept 1945 that V-J Day (victory over Japan Day) took place. Representatives from Japan signed the formal instrument of surrender on board the US battleship *USS Missouri* in Tokyo Bay.

70 years ago, on 4th Sept 1955 that Kenneth Kendall became the first newsreader to appear on screen in the UK, reading the *BBC Television News*. Also 70 years ago, on 22nd Sept 1955 that Britain's first independent TV channel was launched. ITV ended the BBC's monopoly.

Also 70 years ago, 26th Sept 1955 that Bird's Eye frozen fish fingers went on sale in the UK.

50 years ago, on 24th Sept 1975 that Dougal Haston and Doug Scott became the first Britons to reach the summit of Mount Everest. They were also the first climbers from any nation to conquer the south-west face.

40 years ago, on 9th to 11th Sept 1985 that the Handsworth Riots took place in Birmingham. Unemployment and racial tensions fuelled a mass riot following the arrest of a man in a café and a police raid on a public house. 45 shops were looted and burned, and at least two people killed. Several more riots occurred across England that autumn.

30 years ago, on 3rd Sept 1995 that the online auction site eBay was founded (as AuctionWeb). The first item sold was a broken laser pointer.

20 years ago, on 12th Sept 2005 that the evacuation of all Israeli security forces and Israeli civilian settlements from the Gaza Strip was completed. Israel had occupied the Gaza Strip for 38 years.

QUIZ ANSWERS

1. Gateshead
2. St Martin's Church, Bladon, just outside Blenheim Palace
3. Morecambe sea front
4. Edwin Lutyens
5. Highclere Castle
6. The Malvern Hills
7. Isambard Kingdom Brunel
8. Near St. Austell, Cornwall
9. The BBC Promenade Concerts, all broadcast on Radio 3
10. Published by D C Thompson, in Dundee
11. Desperate Dan, Dennis the Menace, Gnasher, Minnie the Minx and others
12. The River Severn
13. Pork Pies
14. Canterbury Cathedral
15. By car, 837 miles, by bike 871 and on foot can be over 1,000 miles!
16. Portsmouth
17. Captain Thomas Hardy
18. There were six. Sean Connery, David Niven, George Lazenby, Pierce Brosnan, Timothy Dalton, and Daniel Craig. David Niven was in Casino Royale, the unofficial film made before the franchise began.
19. A Dyke, a defensive wall between Wales and England
20. Yr Wyddfa *Special prize if you can pronounce it!*

Sudoku solution:

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

Crossword answers:

ACROSS: 1, Amazed. 4, Others. 8, Peter. 9, Zebedee. 10, Accuser. 11, Endue. 12, Scripture. 17, Shrub. 19, Abashed. 21, Foolish. 22, Upset. 23, Loathe. 24, Lesser.

DOWN: 1, Appeal. 2, Attacks. 3, Earns. 5, Tableau. 6, Ended. 7, Shekel. 9, Zarephath. 13, Rubbish. 14, Ephesus. 15, Useful. 16, Editor. 18, Rhoda. 20, Abuse.

TRINITY LUNCHEON CLUB

Trinity Methodist Church, Kidderminster

Every Wednesday at 12.15

Would you like a mid-week meal cooked for you with pleasant friendly company round the table?

Then why not come to our Luncheon Club – you don't have to be a church member or on your own, couples are welcome.

Enjoy a delicious main course and pudding with tea or coffee.

Only £3.50

Our main courses include:

Meat Loaf Salmon Flan Chicken Casserole

Corned Beef Flan Sausages

Ham and Pineapple Cheese and Bacon Flan

and our puddings (naughty but very nice):

Cheesecake Bakewell Tart Sponge Pudding

Fruit Crumble Sticky Toffee

Passion Pudding Bread & Butter Pudding

For more information or to book a place please contact Mrs. Jill Green via 07580009755 (between 9am and 5pm)



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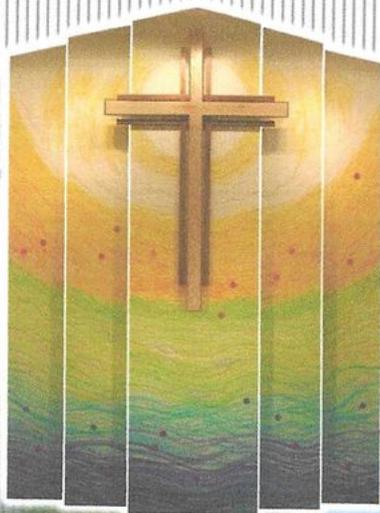
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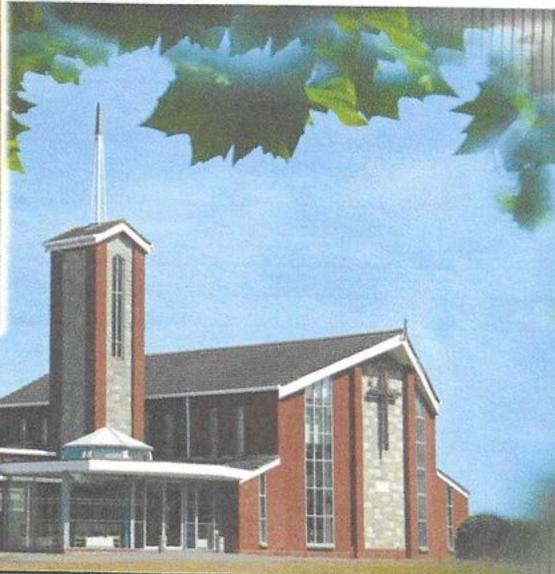
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◆ Trinity Methodist Church ◆



Sunday Services

- Morning Worship at 10.30am
- Evening Worship at 6.30pm

Start the week...

Monday Morning Prayer Meeting

A short quiet time of contemplation and prayer.

Every Monday 9.30am – 10.am

Mid-Week Lunchtime Service at Trinity

Every Thursday 12.30pm – 1pm

Trinity Toddlers
Every Tuesday
9.45am – 11.15am

Contact:

Mrs Stella Batson - 01562 863503

Rev'd. Nick Collison - 01562 823300

Trinity
Luncheon Club
Every Wednesday
at 12.15pm

Co-ordinator:
Mrs. Jill Green

Trinity Methodist Church, Churchfields, Kidderminster, DY10 2 JL

Telephone: 07580 009755 (Mon-Fri 9am -5pm)

www.trinitymethodistkidderminster.org.uk

...2025...2025...2025