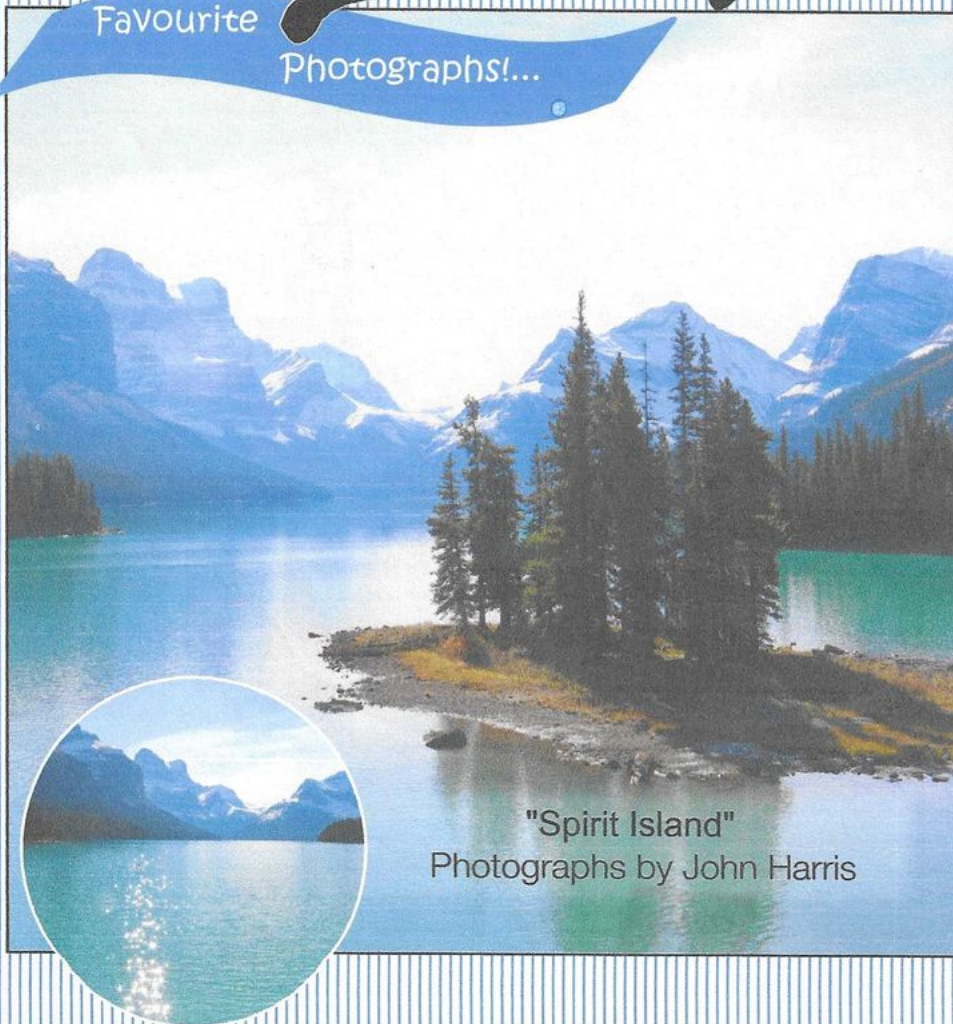


♦ Trinity Methodist Church ♦ Kidderminster ♦

# Trinity *Tidings*

Favourite  
Photographs!...



"Spirit Island"  
Photographs by John Harris

...all are welcome in this place!

July & August 2025



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

**Church Website: [www.trinitymethodistkidderminster.org.uk](http://www.trinitymethodistkidderminster.org.uk)**

**Circuit Website: [kandsmethodistcircuit.org.uk](http://kandsmethodistcircuit.org.uk)**

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**The closing date for items for the September '25 Edition of Trinity Tidings is  
Sunday 24th August 2025**

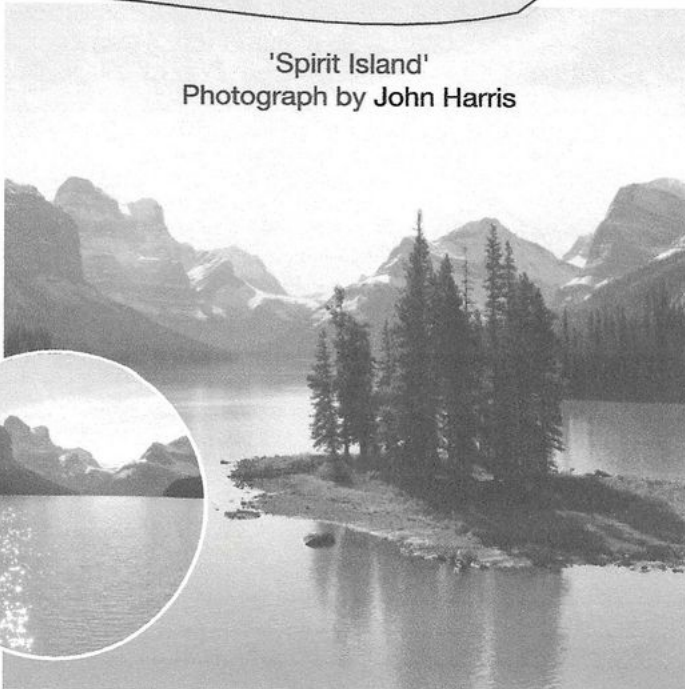
**Please email articles, preferably as a Word Document to:  
[arleystation@aol.com](mailto:arleystation@aol.com)**

Thanks to John Harris for Designing the Front cover each month.

**Favourite Photographs!...**

**Front Cover Photographs:**

**'Spirit Island'**  
Photograph by John Harris



Spirit Island on Maligne Lake,  
Jasper National Park, Alberta Canada

Spirit Island in the Canadian Rockies  
with its stunning backdrop of  
mountains, towering trees, and  
shimmering waters is easy to see why  
it is one of the most photographed  
places in the world.

One of the most tranquil places I have  
been fortunate to visit which is why it is  
one of my favourite photographs!

The access, via a fast launch was also  
enjoyable across the beautiful lake.

*John Harris*

Dear Friends,

A colleague of mine once told me that ordained ministry can be one of two things. It can be either 'proactive' or 'reactive', implying that being proactive is good and being reactive is less good, i.e. not being in control. We all start off with the idea that we are masters of our own destiny and there are times when we are, but more often than not life has other ideas when something unexpected comes along which we have to react to, when our best laid plans go out of the window.

As I approach the point where my 'active' ministry comes to an end and I begin to reflect more and more on my own ministry I realise that I have probably been more reactive than proactive. I don't see that as having failed at anything but instead I like to think of it as being able to adapt to any situation and being able to deal with whatever God puts in front of me, to the best of my God-given ability.

As I write my final minister's letter I am pondering over some of the things I thought I might share with you all at this point and have decided it's a bit like writing a eulogy. There's so much I'd like to say, but such a short space in which to say it (I know the editor would have given me more space had I requested it!).

Whilst my time as minister at Trinity (and in the circuit) draws to a close I think of those of you who have ministered with me. I don't intend to begin naming people or various offices, lest I inadvertently overlook someone, but thank all those who have served the church alongside me in all kinds of ways, perhaps thinking particularly of those who have now gone to their glory. But I give thanks for you all. As I have always said, ministry is a team sport!

Whilst on the subject of team sports, thank you to those of you who have politely laughed at my terrible jokes on occasion, and especially to you who have sympathised with me at being an Everton supporter. There have been times when I needed all the sympathy I could get.

Over the eleven years I have served in the circuit, together we have faced many adversities, perhaps the most difficult being the Covid period, when 'normal' life was turned upside down and put on hold. However we adapted and got through it, with a few losses along the way. Another example of being reactive to the situation we find ourselves in.

There are things that I considered starting, some of which came to fruition, some didn't quite happen.

But one of the things that gives me most satisfaction is to welcome Baxter URC members into the fellowship of Trinity, not as a group of people who will conform to our 'Methodist ways', but as a group of people who are fellow travellers in the faith who bring experiences beyond our own, who are willing to share them with us. We lose that at our peril.

It is also worth noting, as we seek God's will together, that no one person holds sway over what goes on in Methodism. Methodism is based on democracy, not dictatorship and we should remember that at all times.

Finally I would just like to say that the minister you have had over the last eleven years is the minister who has been supported by his wife, without whom he wouldn't have been able to do what he has. So thank you Diane, it truly has been a joint effort.

Every blessing for the future and may God's blessings be always with you.

Every blessing,

*Nick*



# 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.

Our friend Liz Potter was brought into faith, from an early age, by her dear Aunt Vi, alongside Aunt Vi's own children .....Jane, Sue and Daniel. They had a very close relationship with Aunt Vi, and Liz remembers how Aunt Vi taught them not only the importance of Prayer, but how to Pray .

Some fifty + years ago, Aunt Vi gave Liz a Prayer Book. On the inside cover of the book she wrote her own personal prayer for Liz. Liz kindly agreed for us to share this prayer in Monday's Prayer Group.

We thought it fitting to share with everyone.

Since Aunt Vi's passing, earlier this year, Liz and her cousins continue to draw great comfort, strength and love from Aunt Vi's memory and prayers.



**Dear Liz.**

***Lord, help me to live this day quietly and easily.***

***To lean upon Your great strength, trustfully and restfully.***

***To wait for the unfolding of Your will patiently and serenely.***

***To meet others, peacefully and joyously,  
And to face tomorrow confidently and courageously.***

**Amen**

## **From the Editor....**

Dear Friends,

Some good news! After five years the swallows have returned, and have built a nest in the Down Platform Waiting Shelter. They have raised one brood, and are now sitting on the eggs of a second brood. Early next year we are going to install a webcam so that we can watch the progress without disturbing the birds. They continued to fly in and out during the 1940's weekends, except when the 'wedding' was in progress. I don't think they like the expression on the face of the 'vicar'!

Also we have house martins nesting on my house on the top of a disused alarm box. Like the swallows they are sitting on the eggs of their second brood.

Some of you may remember that several years ago on the occasion of our Harvest Supper we had a Murder Mystery evening. We did this two or three times, obviously a different crime each time!

I happened to meet Michael, who wrote the stories, and he has now written a fourth mystery. He is bringing it to Trinity on the evening of the Harvest Supper which will be on October 4<sup>th</sup>.

Come along and see how good a detective you are.

Beware.....I shall be asking for actors – one of whom will be the murderer!!



## OFFERTORIES FOR THE FOUR WEEKS TO 22<sup>nd</sup> JUNE ARE AS FOLLOWS

	Envelopes	Loose Cash	Standing Orders	Total
	£	£	£	£
01.06 & 08.06.25	321.00	220.00	1288.80	1829.80
15.06 & 22.06.25	247.00	261.50	1288.80	1797.30

This is a weekly average of £906.77

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

## SERVICES IN JULY AND AUGUST

### THERE ARE NO EVENING SERVICES IN JULY and AUGUST

July 6 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Mr Albert Wilkinson
July 13 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Rev Rachel Parkinson -- (District Chair)
July 20 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Mr Mike Dernie
July 27 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Rev Nick Collison -- (Holy Communion)
	<b>4.00pm</b>	<b>CIRCUIT LEAVING SERVICE</b>
Aug 3 <sup>rd</sup>	10.30am	Mr David Skitt
Aug 10 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Mrs Sue Stinton
Aug 17 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Mr Albert Wilkinson
Aug 24 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Rev James Hamilton -- (Holy Communion)
Aug 31 <sup>st</sup>	10.30am	Local Arrangement
	<b>3.00pm</b>	<b>BAXTER CHURCH CLOSING SERVICE</b>

## SERVICES ON THURSDAY AT 12.30PM

3 <sup>rd</sup> July	TBA
10 <sup>th</sup> July	Rev Matthew Strong
17 <sup>th</sup> July	Rev Nick Collison -- (Holy Communion)
24 <sup>th</sup> July	Mr David Skitt
31 <sup>st</sup> July	Mrs Sue Green
7 <sup>th</sup> Aug	Mr Albert Wilkinson
14 <sup>th</sup> Aug	Rev James Hamilton -- (Holy Communion)
21 <sup>st</sup> Aug	TBA
28 <sup>th</sup> Aug	TBA





## CHURCH OF SANCTUARY CHALLENGE

In May 2024, Diane, Rachel and I responded to an invitation from Sarah Frost (which went in our notices) to discuss the Wyre Forest becoming a Community of Sanctuary. Denise was already very involved in refugee support work in the area. We all believed that supporting refugees was a natural expression of our faith, and so our task began and various initiatives have been set up, with any costs being met by Baxter United Reformed Church funding.

With Church Council having agreed to us applying to become a Church of Sanctuary, we were given the challenge, by Sarah Frost, (co-ordinator Wyre Forest Refugee Support Group), of, 'how do you know that your church is a welcoming place?' She cited various drapes, signs and pictures she had seen in churches. Diane, Denise, Rachel and I went and looked in our foyer - tricky to attach things to glass, we realised. (But isn't the new way for displaying notices fantastic?!) Then we looked up, and noticed the shape above our heads and, inspired by the mural at Bodenham Arboretum Restaurant, we realised that it could be decorated with words and symbols. Thank you to everyone that is making this idea come to fruition, which we will all be able to appreciate soon.

As mentioned in the service on June 22nd, the vegetable and flower raised beds began as a result of providing activities to welcome refugees at the Thursday morning 'Welcome/Warm Space' Group. They also serve to meet the challenge to all churches to use at least 30% of their land to increase biodiversity. Thank you to everyone that has supported this project with encouragement, time, skill or plants. A huge thank you to David, too, for his idea, and the fitting, of two water butts at the side of the church. They have proved invaluable for watering the roses and the vegetables alike and for enabling passing thirsty dogs to be rehydrated in the heat! Members of the Thursday group and many passers-by have already enjoyed some of the produce and we are working on ways to improve the signs for residents to know the produce is for sharing. We aim to work on the beds on Thursday mornings, but anyone that is interested in gardening is very welcome to use 5 or 10 minutes to pick, weed or dead-head the flowers to enable them to continue flowering.

Other ideas for showing that we are a welcoming church have been put forward but are still under discussion. Thank you to everyone that has contributed their thoughts and creativity and time.





And the Lord God planted a garden  
in Eden. Out of the ground the  
Lord God made all kinds of trees  
to grow, trees that were pleasing  
to the eye and good for food.

*(Slightly paraphrased from  
Genesis, chapter 2)*







## Rebekah Collison's JustGiving Page



I have set myself the challenge of running the Amsterdam Marathon in October for Shelter, along with my brother Nathan, despite never having done any running before. I have been training for a few months now and ran the Cheltenham half marathon as a target half way through my training in June.

Shelter is a charity that is helping to combat homelessness and supports people with housing difficulties in the form of advice, support and legal services. Any donations, anything however big or small would be extremely beneficial for the charity, for example supporting with practical and emergency help for people facing homelessness, as well as raising awareness and funding research into causes and solutions to housing difficulties.

If anyone would like to sponsor me, you can visit my just giving page by either scanning the QR code or typing my name on the website, or alternatively see Nick or Diane.

Running a marathon is an incredible challenge but so rewarding to be running for this wonderful charity and helping them with support from generous donations.

Thank you, Rebekah.



## The Chosen

David and I have found ourselves watching a series, which in fact, we now recall Andrew Mann-Ray recommending, that has caused us to approach our faith in a new way.

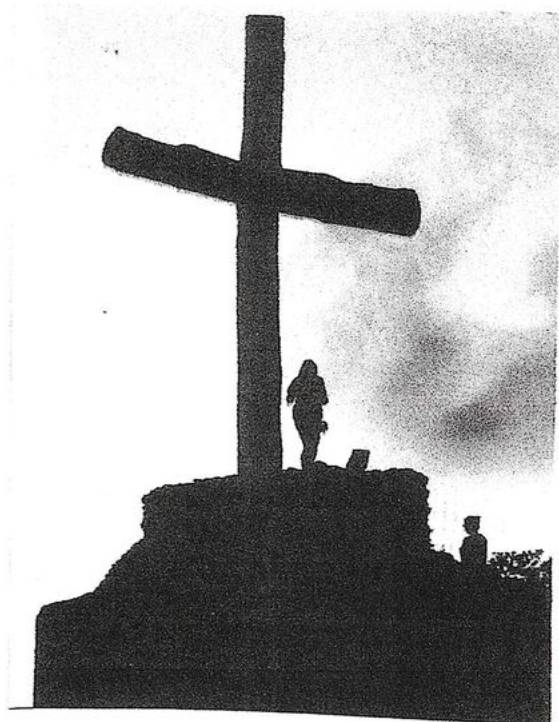
The Chosen is the first multi-season series about the life and ministry of Jesus of Nazareth, primarily set in Judaea and Galilee in the first century. The series depicts Jesus's life through the eyes of the people who interacted with him, including the apostles and disciples of Jesus, Jewish religious leaders, Roman government and military officials, and ordinary people.

We have loved the way in which the series imagines the 'back stories' of the disciples, that caused them to have the character traits we know them to have. We have learnt about the practicalities of day-to-day living and the way in which Jewish people lived under Roman occupation.

The humanity of Jesus is tangible - shown through both his sharp wit and his empathy with those around him. And yet we see his divinity as healing and miracles take place and his teaching has love, in equal measure for all, at its centre. We now appreciate the formidable task of his ministry.

Previously, we hadn't thought about the practicalities of Jesus carrying out his ministry: how do you communicate with five thousand men and their families? We enjoyed much of the bible, as we read it, being quoted in full, but also Jesus' teaching being applied within the disciples' relationships and situations.

There are various ways of watching The Chosen. It is available as a free app on streaming devices - Apple TV, Roku and Amazon Fire TV, as well as on phones and tablets, both IOS and Android. On a computer you'll find it at <https://www.thechosen.tv/en-us>. Once you have set up a free account you can watch the first four seasons, the fifth being released in September. There are scheduled to be a total of seven seasons in all.





## **This quiz was sent in by Stan Rose**

Find the books of the Bible (codewords):-

All letters of the alphabet to be used except F and Q which are not in the books.

H = 17      L = 6      O = 7      R = 24

1. 1, 20, 7, 16, 23, 2
2. 24, 7, 14, 3, 4, 2
3. 17, 1, 13, 24, 1, 12, 2
4. 22, 11, 14, 7, 22, 17, 18
5. 8, 24, 7, 15, 1, 24, 13, 2
6. 10, 1, 24, 1, 14, 11, 3, 17
7. 8, 17, 11, 6, 1, 14, 7, 4
8. 17, 3, 13, 3, 9, 9, 23, 9
9. 6, 1, 15, 11, 22, 11, 21, 23, 2
10. 19, 3, 6, 3, 22, 11, 3, 4, 2
11. 5, 1, 21, 17, 3, 24, 11, 3, 17
12. 21, 7, 6, 7, 2, 2, 11, 3, 4, 2
13. 21, 7, 24, 7, 4, 11, 21, 6, 1, 2
14. 24, 1, 15, 1, 6, 3, 22, 11, 7, 4
15. 21, 7, 24, 11, 4, 22, 17, 11, 3, 4, 2
16. 8, 17, 11, 6, 11, 8, 8, 11, 3, 4, 2
17. 16, 1, 23, 22, 1, 24, 7, 4, 7, 14, 18
18. 6, 3, 14, 1, 4, 22, 3, 22, 11, 7, 4, 2
19. 1, 21, 21, 6, 1, 2, 11, 3, 2, 22, 1, 2
20. 22, 17, 1, 2, 2, 3, 6, 7, 4, 11, 3, 4, 2

*Stan*

THERE IS A MISTAKE ON THE NEXT PAGE.

INSTEAD OF PROSTRATE CANCER,

PLEASE READ **PROSTATE** CANCER.

MY APOLOGIES FOR THE ERROR,

I SHOULD HAVE PROOF READ THE PAGE  
BEFORE PRINTING .

David



## Trinity Methodist Church

**The Church Project from September '25 is in aid of**

### **Worcestershire Prostrate Cancer Support Group**

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH



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

The members are those diagnosed with prostrate 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 prostrate cancer and to support them and the people close to them"**

#### **How the Group helps...**

When first diagnosed with prostrate 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](http://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 Prostrate 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**

This is one of my favourite poems.

It was written by Robert Frost.

### THE ROAD NOT TAKEN

Two roads diverged in a yellow wood,  
And sorry I could not travel both  
And be one traveller, long as I stood  
And looked down as far as I could  
To where it bent in the undergrowth.

Then took the other, just as fair,  
And having perhaps the better claim,  
Because it was grassy and wanted wear:  
Though as for that the passing there  
Had worn them really about the same.

And both that morning equally lay  
In leaves no step had trodden black.  
Oh, I kept the first for another day!  
Yet knowing how way leads on to way,  
I doubted if I should ever come back.

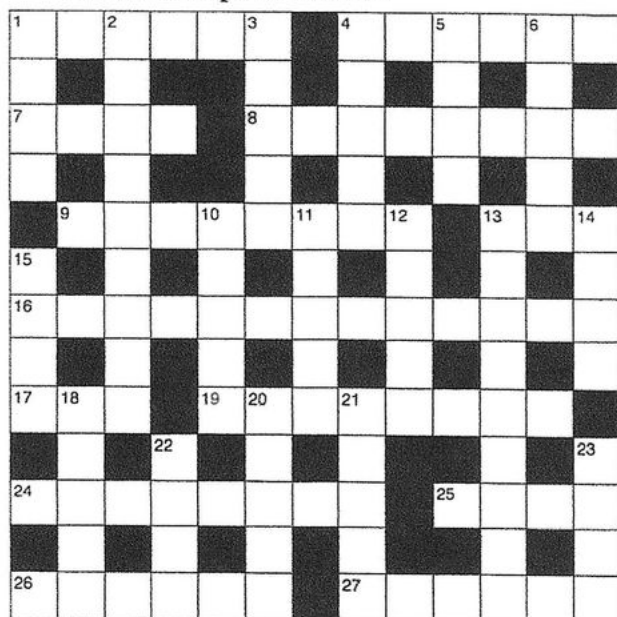
I shall be telling this with a sigh  
Somewhere ages and ages hence:  
Two roads diverged in a wood, and I –  
I took the one less travelled by,  
And that has made all the difference.

Robert Frost was an American poet, born in San Francisco  
In 1874. Many of his poems reflect the rural life where he  
lived in New England. He died in 1963 in Boston.

This poem is quite enigmatic, yet has a poignant meaning.



## Parish Pump Crossword



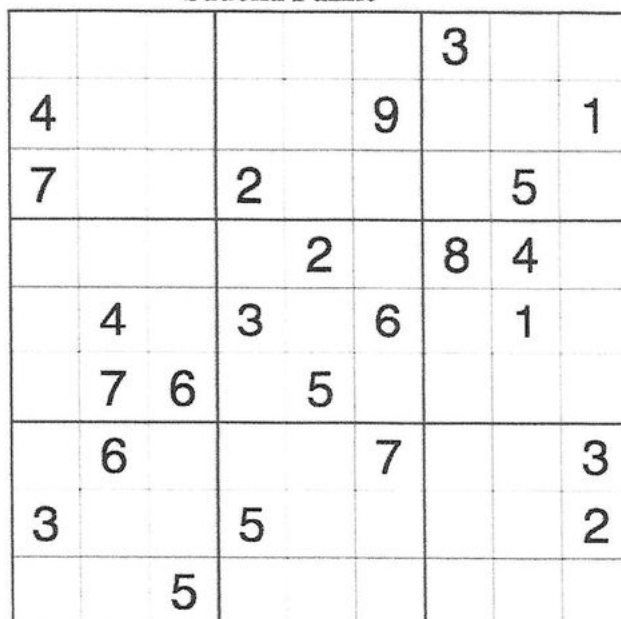
### Across

- 1 'I pray that out of his glorious — he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being' (Ephesians 3:16) (6)  
 4 'Saul's father Kish and — father Ner were sons of Abiel' (1 Samuel 14:51) (6)  
 7 'Praise the Lord, O my — ' (Psalm 103:1) (4)  
 8 See 5 Down  
 9 Laws (1 Kings 11:33) (8)  
 13 'Who of you by worrying can — a single hour to his life?' (Luke 12:25) (3)  
 16 Artistry (Exodus 31:5) (13)  
 17 'Your young men will see visions, your — men will dream dreams' (Acts 2:17) (3)  
 19 How David described his Lord (Psalm 19:14) (8)  
 24 'If this city is built and its — — restored, you will be left with nothing in Trans-Euphrates' (Ezra 4:16) (5,3)  
 25 'The holy Scriptures, which are able to make you — for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus' (2 Timothy 3:15) (4)  
 26 Intended destination of arrows (Lamentations 3:12) (6)  
 27 Eve hit (anag.) (6)

### Down

- 1 'For I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find — for your souls' (Matthew 11:29) (4)  
 2 Where Peter was when he denied Christ three times (Luke 22:55) (9)  
 3 Remarkable early 20th-century Indian evangelist, a convert from Hinduism, — Sundar Singh (5)  
 4 'Now the king had put the officer on whose — — leaned in charge of the gate' (2 Kings 7:17) (3,2)  
 5 and 8 Across The Lover describes this facial feature of the Beloved thus: 'Your — is like the tower of Lebanon looking towards — ' (Song of Songs 7:4) (4,8)  
 6 'Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled — your waist' (Ephesians 6:14) (5)  
 10 Trout (anag.) (5)  
 11 Easily frightened (1 Thessalonians 5:14) (5)  
 12 The ability to perceive (Ecclesiastes 10:3) (5)  
 13 One of the clans descended from Benjamin (Numbers 26:38) (9)  
 14 "It is one of the Twelve," he replied, "one who — bread into the bowl with me" (Mark 14:20) (4)  
 15 Resound (Zephaniah 2:14) (4)  
 18 Traditional seat of the Dalai Lama (5)  
 20 Precise (John 4:53) (5)  
 21 Build (Ezekiel 4:2) (5)  
 22 Beat harshly (Acts 22:25) (4)  
 23 Darius, who succeeded Belshazzar as king of the Babylonians, was one (Daniel 5:31) (4)

## Sudoku Puzzle



© 2008 KrazyDad.com

### By The Way

For many people who can't get to church, the main thing that keeps them going is BBC Songs of Praise, a fantastic programme, the only T.V. epic close to a Service. But what time do you find it? Well, it's on a Sunday, that's one good thing, but it can be anytime between 11am and 2pm on BBC1 or on BBC2. It's simply forgotten. Football, snooker, the London marathon; and Songs of Praise is pushed off. A disgrace. We Christians, all licence payers, deserve better. We pay for it, but the BBC doesn't care. I can't get to church, I deserve better.

\*\*\*

William Hartley was the leader of the orchestra on the Titanic. As the ship went down, he, on his violin, plus his Band played "Nearer my God to Thee" continuously. Over 100 years later, they named a pub after him, a great tribute considering he was a strict Methodist and Tee-Totaller. However. Thanks to Wetherspoons he won't be forgotten!

\*\*\*

The Rev. Billy Graham tells of the time when he arrived in a small town in America to preach. Wanting to post a letter, he asked a small boy where the Post Office was. When the boy told him the Rev. Graham thanked him and said "If you come to church this evening you can hear me telling everyone how to find Heaven". "I don't think I'll bother" said the boy "you couldn't even find you way to the Post Office, how will you find Heaven?"

\*\*\*

The war in Israel goes on, and it will. Let's hear what God says in the book of Zephaniah in the Old Testament. "Gasa will be abandoned and Ashkelon left in ruins. At midday, Ashdod will be Ekron uprooted. Woe to you who live by the sea" (Zeph. 2 v4-5). So now you know. Strange that in this book God makes one of His finest statements ... 3.17 "The Lord your God is with you. He is mighty to save. He will take great delight in you. He will quiet you with His love. He will rejoice over you with singing". Well worth reading the small book of Zephaniah.

\*\*\*

If you are interested in stupid facts (aren't we all), and this is not in the Guinness Book of Records, but apparently the Bible, in its entirety, can be read aloud in 70 hours. Get yourself a sponsorship deal, a relay of readers and you'll have a great weekend. Proceeds to Church funds.

\*\*\*

Wine, what a word, vital in religion as it is the basis of our Holy Communion. Of course. It is non-alcoholic in our Methodist Communion, but full-bodied in others. However, wine was vital in Biblical times for the simple reason that there was no pure water so wine, or vinegar was added to purify it and act as a disinfectant. When Christ was given a sponge soaked in vinegar when on the cross, this was an act of comfort and love, not punishment.

\*\*\*

Donkeys are always prominent in the Bible simply because a Horse signified War, but a donkey was love and peace. Zechariah was the first to prophesy Jesus riding on a donkey; "See you King comes to you, righteous and victorious, lowly and riding on a donkey" (Zech 9.9). John follows up in 12.14 "Jesus found a young donkey and sat upon it as it is written", so He rode into Jerusalem as



King, but as Jeremiah says “He will have the burial of a donkey, dragged away and thrown outside the gates of Jerusalem” (Jer. 22. 19)

\*\*\*

Christ is not Jesus’ surname, He is not Mr. Christ. It is His job title. The word Christ comes from the Greek Christos which means ‘anointed’. It was the word used to translate from the Hebrew word “Messiah” so when we say Jesus Christ, we are saying “Jesus the anointed one”.

\*\*\*

The book of Luke is different. Why? It’s written by a Gentile, all the other books in the Bible are written by Jewish people. Luke was different because he wrote that God was the Saviour of everybody, whereas other writers said He was the Saviour of Jewish people. Luke is where we meet Jesus. He writes about angels visiting lowly shepherds tending their flock rather than 3 Wise Men visiting Jesus. Luke was for the ordinary man. He writes about God’s compassion and love for people who feel like outcasts. Luke gives us the most detailed account of Jesus’ birth, life, death and resurrection. Luke then went on to write acts, which showed that the Resurrection was not the end of the story. Incidentally, Luke records Paul quoting Jesus, “It is more blessed to give than to receive”. This doesn’t appear in any other Gospel so he must have got it from another book of Jesus’ sayings. Where? When? How? Another mystery. Luke and Acts, well worth a read.

\*\*\*

According to Acts the followers of Jesus were not originally called “Christians”, that name was given to them at Antioch (11. 26). Christianity came a long time after His death, before that it was known as “The Way”. In Jerusalem, Jesus’ disciples were known as the Nazarenes. In the most disparaging verses in the Bible about Jesus, this was it, “We have found this man to be a troublemaker, stirring up riots among Jews all over the World. He is a ringleader of the Nazarene sect and even tried to desecrate the Temple; so we seized Him”. (Acts 24. 5-6).

The Bible wasn’t written in chapters and verse. The chapter system was brought in around 1230 AD and verses came in 1551 after the advent of printing. The first printed English New Testament was in 1525 by William Tyndale, and they were printed in German. English authorities wouldn’t allow a translation but Tyndale ignored them. English translations were smuggled into England. Eventually they were printed in England.

\*\*\*

At 392 metres below sea level, the Dead Sea is the lowest point on the planet. It has no outlet so it only loses it’s water through evaporation. This leaves a high concentration of salt and minerals, the pillars of salt in the water are reminders of the fate of Lot’s wife. Nothing can live there but who knows if beneath these waters are missing books of the Bible?

*Mike Knott* (Stourport Wesley)

*Thanks Mike for these interesting facts.*

### Mike's Smile Lines.

Man: Blimey, that was a short telephone call, you are usually on for hours. That only lasted 30 minutes, what happened?

Wife: It was a wrong number.

\*\*

Are poached eggs stolen?

\*\*

An accordion is a bagpipe with pleats.

\*\*

Let's face it, an accordion gives you great practice for folding a map.

\*\*

2 fortune tellers met on the pier at Weston-Super-Mare. Lovely weather, said the one. "Yes, it reminds me of the summer of 2042" said the other.

\*\*

Can Napoleon return to the place of his birth? Corsican.

\*\*

I crossed a four leaf clover with some poison Ivy. I got a rash of good luck.

\*\*

I went to a spiritualist restaurant. It's very rare to have a steak well done by a Medium.

\*\*

Did you hear about the Scotsman who washed his kilt? He couldn't do a fling with it.

\*\*

A dog applied for a job in the Foreign Service and passed easily. "You'll need to show that you're bilingual," said his interviewer. "Miaow!" said the dog.

\*\*

Have you ever thought about frying eggs in a monastery./ Out of the frying pan – into the friar.

\*\*

How many roads must a man walk down before he admits he's lost?

\*\*

How come a ship is safer in the harbour when it's not built for that?

\*\*

Eve was created because God thought he would get lost in the Garden of Eden but would never ask for directions.

\*\*

I can never understand why they chop down trees then name the streets after them.

\*\*

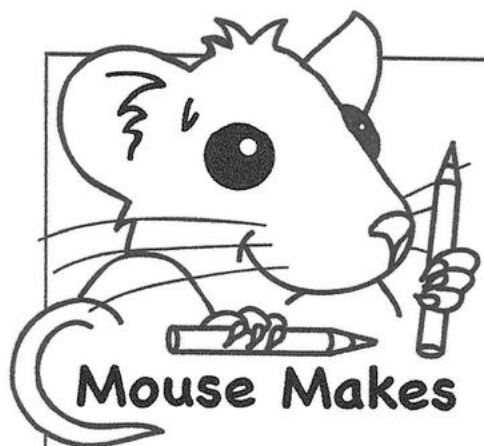
Forget about having a week in Spain. When you get to the Spanish airport it will be raining. Cos we all know the rain in Spain falls mainly on the plane!

\*\*

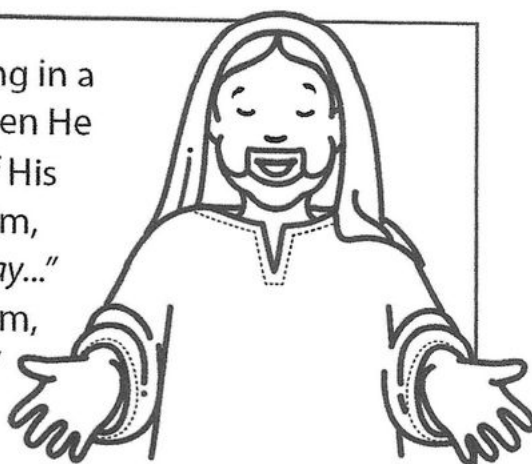
You have nothing to lose but your shoe laces – workers of the world, untie!

~~~~~





"Now Jesus was praying in a certain place, and when He had finished, one of His disciples said to Him, 'Lord, teach us to pray...' And He said to them, 'When you pray, say...'"



Our \_\_\_\_\_  
in \_\_\_\_\_,  
hallowed be your  
\_\_\_\_\_, your  
\_\_\_\_\_ come,  
your \_\_\_\_\_ be done,  
on \_\_\_\_\_ as it is in  
\_\_\_\_\_.

Give us today our daily  
\_\_\_\_\_.  
\_\_\_\_\_ us our  
S \_\_\_\_\_ as we forgive  
those who sin against us.  
Lead us not into

\_\_\_\_\_ but \_\_\_\_\_  
us from \_\_\_\_\_.

For the kingdom,  
the \_\_\_\_\_ and  
the \_\_\_\_\_ are  
yours now and forever.  
Amen



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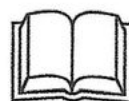


Fill in the missing words of the Lord's Prayer then find them and these extra words in the word search:

**LORD'S PRAYER**  
**DISCIPLES**  
**JESUS**  
**GOD**  
**WORLD**  
**NEEDS**  
**FORGIVENESS**  
**TRESPASSES**  
**PROTECTION**  
**REPENTANCE**



The versions of **The Lord's Prayer** we say today come from the Gospels of Matthew and Luke.  
Which version do you use in your church?



Read  
Matthew 6:9-15  
and  
Luke 11:1-4



# Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in  
Ruth chapters 1 and 2

When famine came to Bethlehem, Elimelech took his family to the nearby country of Moab. The two sons married local girls.

But Elimelech and his sons died, leaving Naomi, Orpah and Ruth as widows.



Naomi told her daughters-in-law she was returning to Bethlehem.



Go back to your parents' homes.

The girls cried, and Orpah left, but Ruth stayed.



I will stay with you. Your people and your God will be mine.



So Naomi and Ruth went back to Bethlehem.

Call me 'Mara' not 'Naomi' \* because God has made my life bitter.

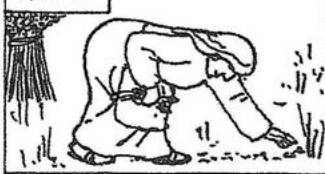


\* 'Naomi' means 'Pleasant' 'Mara' means 'Bitter'

It was the start of the barley harvest. Poor people were allowed to glean - to pick up the ears of grain that had been dropped. Ruth went out to glean.



She picked a field, asked if she could glean, then worked hard



The field's owner, Boaz, arrived.

Who's that girl?



That's Ruth, who came from Moab with Naomi.



Boaz told Ruth she was welcome to work in his fields.

He told her to join his workers at lunch-time, and made sure she had more than enough to eat.



Ruth worked hard and took home a huge bag of grain.

I worked in Boaz's field.



He is a near relative!

Ruth worked all through the barley and wheat harvests in Boaz's fields.





## **Mary Magdalene**

Six Marys are mentioned in the New Testament, including Mary Magdalene, who is remembered this month in the church's calendar (22<sup>nd</sup> July). What can we learn from Mary's story?

*We don't have to be defined by our past:*

When Jesus encountered Mary, He cast seven demons out of her (Luke 8:2). As a result, her life was transformed, and she became a follower of Jesus. Her life as a disciple was no longer defined by the person she had been before. Like Mary, we don't have to let our past without Christ dictate how we see ourselves today.

*Make Jesus the centre of our world:*

Along with some of the women who had been cured of evil spirits and diseases (Luke 8:1-3), Mary followed Jesus and His disciples and supported them in ministry. She was there at the cross (Matthew 27:55-56) and one of the first to the tomb on the Sunday (Matthew 28:1; Mark 16:1 and John 20:1-18). Like Mary, we are called to serve Jesus as dedicated disciples.

*Jesus uses the weakest people for His purposes:*

Mary is a great example of Paul's words: 'But God chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise; God chose the weak things of the world to shame the strong.' (1 Corinthians 1:27). At a time when women were regarded as second-class citizens with no real autonomy, Jesus had a special compassion and care for women. Alongside Mary, the women's witness to the resurrection was taken seriously. We shouldn't be quick to dismiss the things that don't agree with our expectations, as Jesus doesn't always do what we expect! He delights in working out His plans through unlikely people and in surprising ways. He did this through Mary, and if we allow Him, He can do it through us!

*Parish Pump 2025*

## **Walking is amazing – here's how to get started**

Walking is simply good for you. Even a casual stroll can give your overall physical and mental health a boost.

So says Britain's leading walking charity, Ramblers.

It also says that the current mantra of 'ten thousand steps a day' need not daunt you, as "you don't need to adhere to this to feel the benefits of getting outside and stretching your legs." Even walking for just 30 minutes five times a week can help ward off back pain, according to a recent study.

So – here's five ways to get going....

*Walk in the morning – you are more likely to fit it in before the day takes off.*

*Start gently, set an easy pace.*

*Keep it short, to start with. Build up your distances gradually.*

*Aim to build it up to last for at least half an hour.*

*Work out some simple local routes that suit you.*

Doctors tell us that 'movement is medicine', and this medicine is certainly cost-free.

*Parish Pump 2025*

### **Why you should drink coffee**

When you drink your morning cup of coffee, you are not the only one who is enjoying it.

Recent studies have found that the billions of friendly microbes living in your gut are also given a cheering boost. And that means better overall health for you – and even a longer life. It seems that coffee not only contains compounds that nourish our probiotic beneficial bacteria, but the caffeine even helps them to increase in number. Coffee also contains polyphenols, plant compounds which acts as anti-inflammatory antioxidants.

But is there a best way to prepare and serve your coffee? Scientists believe that black coffee is the best for you, while coffee with cream and sugar is the worst. The study appeared in the journal *Nutrients*.

*Parish Pump 2025*

### **Why you should drink tea**

There is a popular greeting card which says: 'All things are possible with a cup of tea'. And for many of us, that is almost always true.

Tea comes from the *Camellia sinensis* plant, which is often blended with other plants for different flavours, such as Earl Grey or chai. Tea is the UK's favourite hot beverage, which besides from cheering us up, has cancer-fighting properties and can improve our heart and gut health.

So here's what's good about tea:

Tea is rich in polyphenols, which have antioxidant effects on the body, and can reduce inflammation. Milk does not hurt their absorption, so add milk if you like!

Tea has flavanols, which helps your blood to flow and lowers your blood pressure. One study at Harvard found that drinking three to four cups a day means you are less likely to have a heart attack.

Tea is prebiotic, which means it promotes healthier kinds of bacteria in your gut, which helps with your digestion, your respiratory system, and your immune system.

Tea lowers blood sugar, and even the risk of Type 2 diabetes, due to the polyphenols.

Tea may reduce your risk of cancer. Again, the polyphenols are your friends here, as they may be slowing the development of certain types of cancer.

Tea helps you concentrate. Coffee may speed you up, but it can also give you the jitters. Tea contains around 40-50 mg of caffeine, which is only half the amount found in coffee. But tea also has an amino acid called 'L-theanine', which helps produce a feeling of 'calm concentration', by lowering stress and improving mental focus.

Tea improves sleep – due to the polyphenols, L-theanine, theaflavins, thearubigins, and gamma-aminobutyric acid (GABA), which help lower stress and create calm.

Finally, black tea or green tea? Without going into some complicated science, it seems that they are equally healthy to drink. Black tea has more caffeine, which may help if you need more energy!

*Parish Pump 2025*



***How do young people first connect with faith and the church? This article reports on a remarkable rise in interest – and how the young people are reached in the first place.***

*'I started noticing they had something I didn't' – students tell how they came to faith*

Students have been sharing their experiences of what first drew them to become Christians, and go on to speak about a “noticeable” increase in faith among Generation Z, in a recent national online service.

The students, Tegan and Gus, had begun their journey to faith because of a simple invitation from friends to attend a church service.

For Tegan, it was a conversation with a friend at brunch which sparked her curiosity. For Gus, he needed to call into the church to borrow a camera for a university project.

“The first couple of times I came back just because I wanted to chat to the people – like it was a nice place to be,” Gus explains. “And from that community I noticed Jesus in them and that’s what I really wanted at the end of it.”

Tegan agrees: “I started noticing that they had something that I didn’t and it’s why I started going to the Alpha course and learned all about Jesus and who He was and what it meant for me.”

Gus admits he had previously struggled with his poor mental health. “Looking back at it now, I see Jesus in those moments, but now I interact with Jesus in those moments,” he says. “He’s actively helping me through those things now.”

Tegan speaks of the death of her mother since she became a Christian. “I think that is where I’ve known Jesus’s love the strongest – in my grief. I think grief is really dark and I don’t know if I would have been able to do it without Jesus. I think He’s been my strength through that and also my comfort. “And I think people can see it within you, right? Like they see, wow, you have this sort of peace or joy that, is almost *unreasonable*, like that you couldn’t have from anything but Jesus.”

Both also speak about their own sense of growing interest in faith in their generation.

“I have noticed since being in a church myself lots more people joining that have never even heard the name of Jesus or don’t know much about Him and seeing other people come to Him is just so exciting,” says Tegan.

Gus adds: “The amount of people each year has definitely been increasing. It’s noticeable each time the new year comes up it’s ‘oh we’ve got even more people now’ it’s just so encouraging.”

*Parish Pump 2025*

### **Fairtrade Foundation calls for tea-drinkers to ‘brew it fair’**

Tea-drinkers in the UK are being asked to help change the “woefully inadequate” wages and working conditions of the estate workers on tea plantations around the world.

The Fairtrade Foundation’s new ‘Brew It Fair’ campaign is based on the findings of a report which sets out just how many workers on tea plantations live in “chronic poverty”.

Much of the world’s tea is auctioned, which means that a few very large buyers end up able to dictate the prices of how much they will pay for it. This has a brutal impact on the workers: a recent survey of 260 tea-growers and pickers in Kenya found that only one in five earn enough to feed and support their families and then also send their children to school.

The report says: "As tea drinkers, we are now used to paying very little for, and putting little value on, our cup of tea." But for the growers and pickers of tea, the "high levels of unstable work, low incomes and wages, gender discrimination and unsafe working conditions" continue.

Fairtrade calls on the UK Government to introduce a new law on human rights and environmental due diligence (HREDD). This should be "centred on the needs of farmers and workers, with a focus on supporting living incomes and living wages..."

The report also urges UK tea-drinkers to buy Fairtrade tea, highlighting the Co-op, Marks & Spencer, Sainsbury's, and Waitrose as key supporters. The UK accounts for 61 per cent of all the Fairtrade tea sold in the world.

*Parish Pump 2025*

### **Bananas could be lost to climate change, Christian Aid warns**

Bananas are in danger. Almost half of the world's banana-growing regions may be lost to climate change in the next 50 years, a new report has warned.

Bananas are the world's fourth most important food crop globally — but rising temperatures, droughts, and fungal infections are threatening where most of the world's crops grow, in Latin America and the Caribbean.

A recent study by Christian Aid found that 80 per cent of global banana exports come from this region, but that 60 per cent of the land currently used for the crop will be unsuitable, due to climate change, by 2080.

The director of policy and campaigns at Christian Aid, Osai Ojigbo, said: "Bananas are not just the world's favourite fruit, but they are also an essential food for millions of people. We need to wake up to the danger posed by climate change to this vital crop."

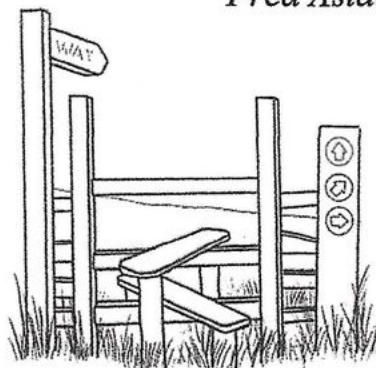
UK consumers eat more bananas than any other European country, eating on average about 85 bananas a year each.

*Parish Pump 2025*

### **Quote of the Month**

*"Old age is like everything else.  
To make a success of it you've got to start young."*

*Fred Astair*





Also 25 years ago, on 25<sup>th</sup> July 2000 that an Air France Concorde crashed outside of Paris, shortly after taking off for New York. It killed all 109 people on board, along with four people on the ground.

20 years ago, that the 7<sup>th</sup> July (2005) London bombings took place. The coordinated series of four suicide bomb attacks on London's transport system during the morning rush hour killed 56 people and injured more than 700. It was the worst-ever terrorist attack on Britain, and the country's first attack by suicide bombers.

Also 20 years ago, on 28<sup>th</sup> July 2005 that the IRA ended its 30-year armed campaign in Northern Ireland and ordered all units to dump their weapons. IRA leadership said that they would continue their campaign exclusively through peaceful means.

10 years ago, on 14<sup>th</sup> July 2015 that NASA's New Horizons space probe, launched in 2006, completed the first-ever flyby of the dwarf planet Pluto, and returned close-up photos.

*Parish Pump 2025*

### **Parish Pump Smile Lines**

A north country choirmaster was rehearsing the hymns for Sunday, telling the choir the hymns they were to sing, and the tunes to which they were to sing them. He concluded the list and said, "Now then, 'Come ye that love the Lord', to Southport!"

A moment later a voice called out, "Where are you tekking t'rest of us then?"

\*\*

Two children watched their grandmother reading her Bible. "Why does she do that?" whispered one. "I expect she's studying for her final exams," came the reply.

\*\*

A small boy returned from Sunday School in tears. When questioned by his mother for the reason of his distress, he gulped: "Jesus wants me for a sunbeam, but I want to be an engine driver."

\*\*

A lady was very nervous about her appointment at the dentist. She sought courage from her Bible. The verse her finger landed on was Psalm 81:10: 'Open thy mouth wide and I will fill it.'

\*\*

A little boy was asked in a school exam to explain what 'lying' is. He wrote: "A lie is an abomination unto the Lord, but a very present help in trouble."

\*\*

#### **Preaching hazards**

Showing your new parish that you are a forceful preacher may not always be a good idea, as the Revd Sydney Smith found out when he first arrived at All Saints Church in Foston in 1806. "When I began to thump the pulpit cushion on my first coming to Foston, the accumulated dust of 150 years made such a cloud that for some minutes I lost sight of the congregation."

\*\*\*\*\*

## All in the month of July

It was:

175 years ago, on 2<sup>nd</sup> July 1850 that Robert Peel, Prime Minister (1834-35, 1841-46) died. He founded the Metropolitan Police Service and is seen as the father of modern British policing.

150 years ago, on 26<sup>th</sup> July 1875 that Carl Jung, Swiss psychiatrist and psychoanalyst was born. He was the founder of analytical psychology.

125 years ago, on 2<sup>nd</sup> July 1900 that the premiere of Finnish composer Jean Sibelius's tone poem *Finlandia* (*Opus 26*) was given in Helsinki.

100 years ago, on 21<sup>st</sup> July 1925 that racing driver Malcolm Campbell became the first person to travel at over 150 mph. He set a new land speed record of 150.87 mph at Pendine Sands in Wales in a Sunbeam 350HP. He also went on to break the 250 mph and 300 mph records, in 1932 and 1935.

80 years ago, on 5<sup>th</sup> July 1945 that WW2 leader Winston Churchill lost the General Election to Clement Attlee's Labour Party.

75 years ago, on 5<sup>th</sup> July 1950 that the Law of Return was passed in Israel. It granted all Jews the right to immigrate to Israel.

Also 75 years ago, on 11<sup>th</sup> July 1950 that the first episode of the BBC children's TV show *Andy Pandy* was broadcast in the UK.

Also 75 years ago, on 24<sup>th</sup> July 1950 that the first rocket was launched from Cape Canaveral in Florida. It reached a height of 25 miles.

70 years ago, on 16<sup>th</sup> July 1955 that Stirling Moss became the first British driver to win the British Grand Prix.

65 years ago, on 9<sup>th</sup> July 1960 that US President Dwight D Eisenhower and Soviet leader Nikita Khrushchev traded threats over the future of Cuba

60 years ago, on 8<sup>th</sup> July 1965 that Great Train Robber Ronnie Briggs escaped from Wandsworth Prison in London. He lived in Brazil until 2001, when he returned to London and was re-imprisoned. Released in 2009, he died in 2013.

40 years ago, on 13<sup>th</sup> July 1985 that the two Live Aid concerts were held simultaneously in London and Philadelphia, as well as at other venues such as Sydney and Moscow. They raised millions of pounds for famine relief in Africa.

30 years ago, on 16<sup>th</sup> July 1995 that Amazon.com first opened its website to the public.

25 years ago, on 11<sup>th</sup> July 2000 that Robert Runcie, Archbishop of Canterbury (1980 – 1991) died.

Also 25 years ago, on 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2000 that American golfer Tiger Woods, then 24, became the youngest player to win the Grand Slam.



## QUIZ CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS

Find the books of the Bible:-

1. Exodus.
2. Romans.
3. Hebrews.
4. Timothy.
5. Proverbs.
6. Jeremiah.
7. Philemon.
8. Habakkuk.
9. Leviticus.
10. Galatians.
11. Zechariah.
12. Colossians.
13. Chronicles.
14. Revelation.
15. Corinthians.
16. Philippians.
17. Deuteronomy.
18. Lamentations.
19. Ecclesiastes.
20. Thessalonians.

Sudoku solution:

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

Crossword answers:

**ACROSS:**

1, Riches. 4, Abner's. 7, Soul. 8, Damascus. 9, Statutes. 13, Add. 16, Craftsmanship. 17, Old. 19, Redeemer. 24, Walls are. 25, Wise. 26, Target. 27, Thief.

**DOWN:**

1, Rest. 2, Courtyard. 3, Sadhu. 4, Arm he. 5, Nose. 6, Round. 10, Tutor. 11, Timid. 12, Sense. 13, Ashbelite. 14, Dips. 15, Echo. 18, Lhasa. 20, Exact. 21, Erect. 22, Flog. 23, Mede.



# 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

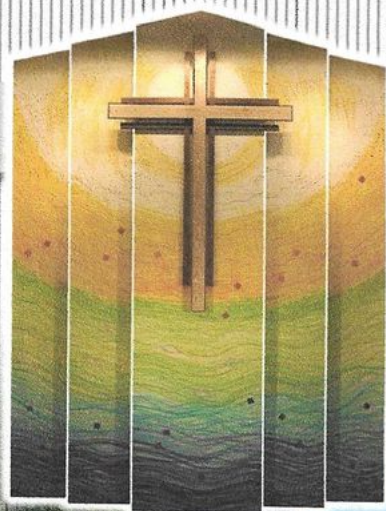
Fruit Crumble      Sticky Toffee

Passion Pudding      Bread & Butter Pudding

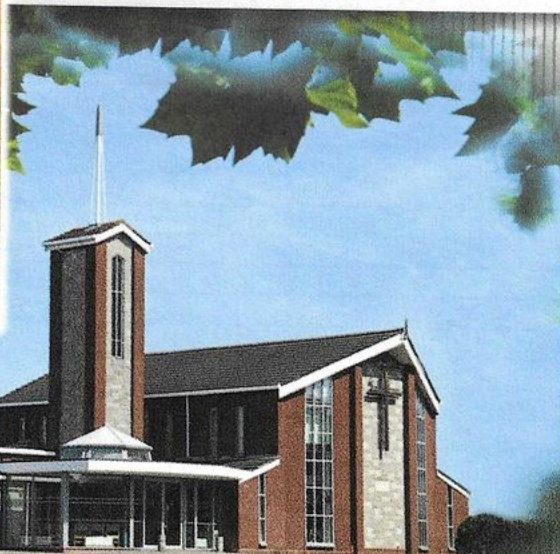
For more information or to book a place please contact  
Mrs. Jill Green via 07580009755 (between 9am and 5pm)







♦ 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](http://www.trinitymethodistkidderminster.org.uk)

2025...2025...2025