

# IN TOUCH

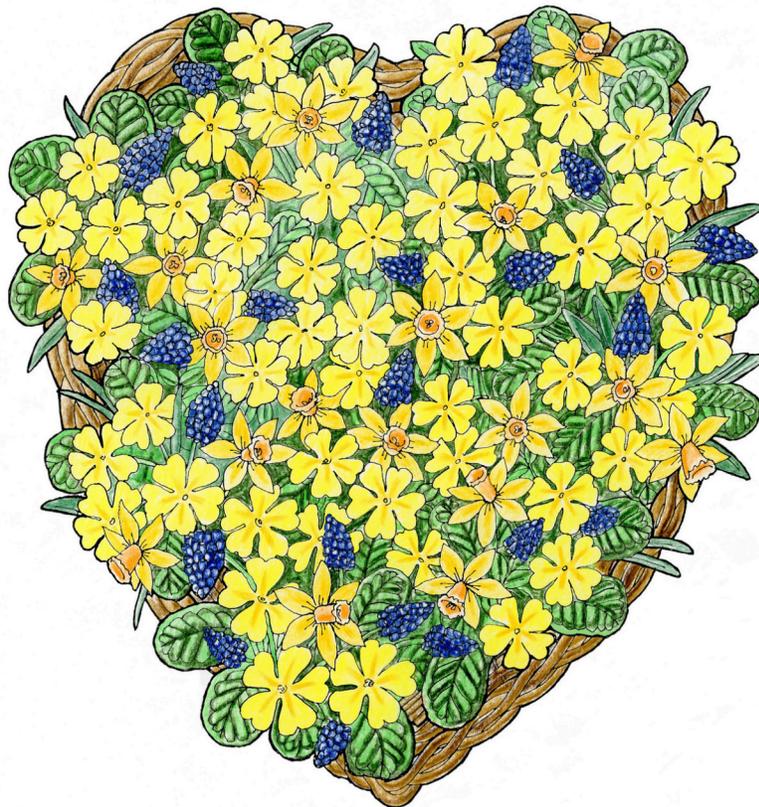
M A R C H 2 0 2 6

**St David &  
Mothering  
Sunday**

**Around the  
Circuit**

**Lent &  
Easter**

THANK YOU



The **Methodist** Church



Herefordshire (South & East) **Circuit**

Dear Friends,

We find ourselves in March, Lent is well underway, and we are heading for St David's Day and Mothering Sunday.

1st March – On St David's Day, why the leeks? - St David's Day, and it's time for the Welsh to wear proudly wear a leek or daffodil. Shakespeare refers to the custom In Henry V, Act 5 Sc.1, where Gower berates Pistol for mocking at "an ancient tradition begun upon an honourable respect and worn as a memorable trophy of predeceased valour."

According to some sources, the wearing of leeks may be based on a legend that Welsh archers fought bravely at the Battle of Crecy in a field of leeks and, as a reminder of their bravery and loyalty, the Welsh began to wear a leek in their caps every St David's Day. The legend, true or not, could be a source of the 'honourable respect' which the Welsh had for their valorous archers. We do know that David – or Dafydd – of Pembrokeshire was a monk and bishop of the 6th century. In the 12th century he was made patron of Wales, and he has the honour of being the only Welsh saint to be canonised and culted in the Western Church. Tradition has it that he was austere with himself, and generous with others – living on water and vegetables (leeks, perhaps?!) and devoting himself to works of mercy. He was much loved.

In art, St David is usually depicted in Episcopal vestments, standing on a mound with a dove at his shoulder, in memory of his share at an important Synod for the Welsh Church, the Synod of Brevi.

We understand that his last words to his monks, were "Gwnewch y pethau bychain mewn bywyd"—or "Do the little things in life", often quoted as "Be joyful, and keep your faith and your creed, and do the little things that you have seen me do and heard about".

It emphasizes focusing on daily, manageable actions of kindness and service, rather than only pursuing large, monumental tasks.

As children in Wales, we boys loved wearing the largest Leaks that could be found, often then sword fighting with them in the school playground, whilst the girls were dressed in national costume and wore Daffodils.

On the 15<sup>th</sup> March, we will commemorate Mothering Sunday, 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent.

There is an old Jewish saying: God could not be everywhere, and therefore He made mothers.

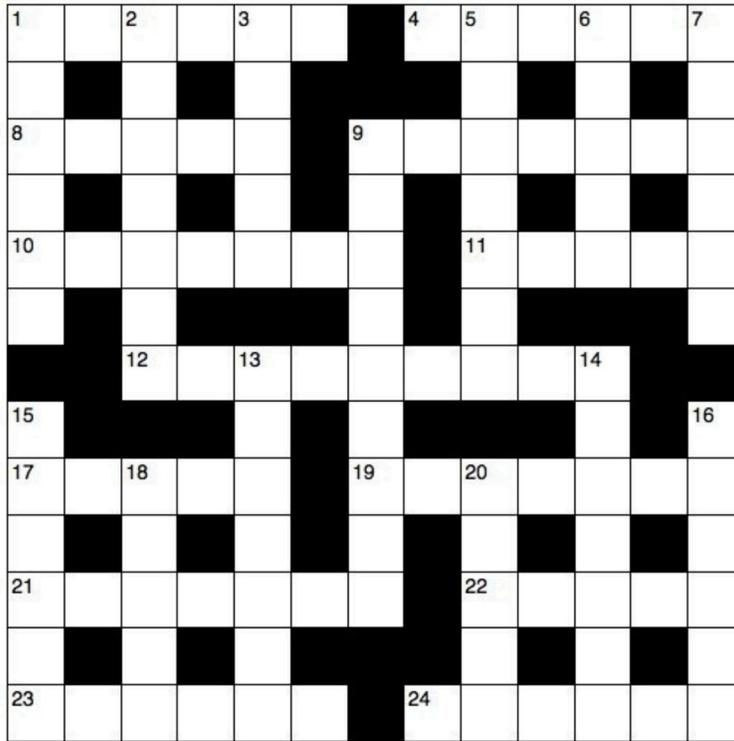
Mother Church, Mother Earth, Mother of the Gods – our human mothers – all of them have been part of the celebration of ‘Mothering Sunday’ – as the fourth Sunday in Lent is affectionately known. It has been celebrated in the UK since at least the 16<sup>th</sup> century.

In Roman times, great festivals were held every Spring to honour Cybele, Mother of all the Gods. Other pagan festivals in honour of Mother Earth were also celebrated. With the arrival of Christianity, the festival became one honouring Mother Church.

During the Middle Ages, young people apprenticed to craftsmen or working as ‘live-in’ servants were allowed only one holiday a year on which to visit their families – which is how ‘Mothering Sunday’ got its name. This special day became a day of family rejoicing, and the Lenten fast was broken. In some places the day was called Simnel Day, because of the sweet cakes called simnel cakes traditionally eaten on that day.

In recent years the holiday has changed and in many ways now resembles the American Mother’s Day, with families going out to Sunday lunch and generally making a fuss of their mother on the day. It’s not an easy Sunday to take a service, as there are so many different expectations and concerns in the congregation. Of course we want to celebrate Mothers and all they have done for us, but we need to do this sensitively, having in mind those who have lost and mourn their mother, those that mourn not having been able to have children, those who were brought up by others, and those who may have had a difficult or abusive relationship with their mother. Let’s be as sensitive as we can with each other on this day, recognising the need to celebrate but holding in tension those who might find the day a challenge.

Every Blessing Phil.



**Across**

- 1 Arouse (Song of Songs 2:7) (6)
- 4 Extinguish (Isaiah 1:31) (6)
- 8 “They — — ,” you will say, “but I’m not hurt!” (Proverbs 23:35) (3,2)
- 9 Unhappiness (Nehemiah 2:2) (7)
- 10 Jewish (7)
- 11 Dirge (anag.) (5)
- 12 ‘A truthful witness gives honest — , but a false witness tells lies’ (Proverbs 12:17) (9)
- 17 Paul quoted from the second one in his address in the synagogue at Pisidian Antioch (Acts 13:33) (5)
- 19 ‘Do not use your freedom to — the sinful nature’ (Galatians 5:13) (7)
- 21 ‘As you can see, he has done nothing to — death’ (Luke 23:15) (7)
- 22 Name applied by Isaiah to Jerusalem (Isaiah 29:1) (5)
- 23 ‘All the people — — one man, saying, “None of us will go home”’ (Judges 20:8) (4,2)

## Across - Continued

24 Lazarus, who was carried by angels to Abraham's side when he died, was one (Luke 16:20) (6)

## Down

1 Appalled (Job 26:11) (6)

2 'In an — to escape from the ship, the sailors let the lifeboat down into the sea' (Acts 27:30) (7)

3 Expel (Acts 18:16) (5)

5 'But I have a baptism to — , and how distressed I am until it is completed!' (Luke 12:50) (7)

6 'Of the increase of his government and peace there will be — — ' (Isaiah 9:7) (2,3)

7 Hurry (Psalm 119:60) (6)

9 'For I desire mercy, not — , and acknowledgement of God rather than burnt offerings' (Hosea 6:6) (9)

13 One of its towns was Sychar, where Jesus met a woman at Jacob's well (John 4:5) (7)

14 Shouting (Acts 7:57) (7)

15 Arachnid (Isaiah 59:5) (6)

16 One of Paul's first converts in Philippi was Lydia, a — in purple cloth (Acts 16:14) (6)

18 Donkeys (5)

20 Raked (anag.) (5)

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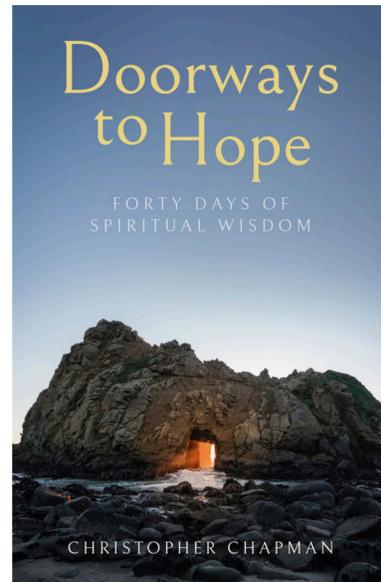
## How God works

A grandmother was taking her young grandson for a walk in the park. The daffodils were in bloom, and it was a beautiful Spring day. Wanting to encourage her grandson's spiritual understanding of the world, she said: "Doesn't it look like an artist painted this scenery? Did you know God did all this?" Her grandson replied: "Oh yes, and God did it left-handed, too." In astonishment, the grandmother asked what he meant. "Well, He must have done," said her grandson, "because we learned at church last week that Jesus sits on God's right hand."

## Book Reviews

**Doorways to Hope – 40 days of spiritual wisdom - By Christopher Chapman, Canterbury Press, £12.99**

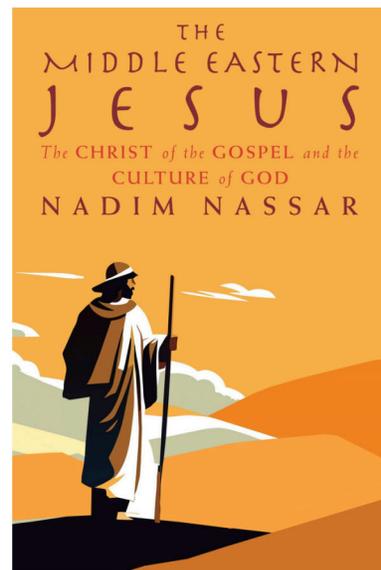
When so much seems to be falling apart, it is a struggle to find ground for hope. This book explores the nature of hope, and offers ways of cultivating it. Avoiding wishful thinking, it offers instead a hope that is incarnate and redemptive, forever coming along side us to renew what is broken. This is a liberating, encouraging book for all who feel powerless in the face of the pain of the world or hemmed in by personal circumstance.



**Middle Eastern Jesus – the Christ of the Gospel and the Culture of God**

**By Nadim Nassar, Canterbury Press, £16.99**

Every culture shapes its image of God and interprets Scripture through its own assumptions – often missing the richness of the text. Nadim Nassar invites readers to step into Jesus’ world and see the Gospels through Middle Eastern eyes. Drawing on his heritage and deep knowledge of Middle Eastern culture, language, and Scripture, Nadim Nassar invites readers to encounter Jesus not only as a figure of faith but as a living presence within a region marked today by profound human suffering. In a time when the Levant is torn by political instability and religious tensions, this book explores how the peace revealed in Christ confronts cycles of hatred and opens a path toward reconciliation, healing, and restorative justice.



# Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in  
Matthew 25: 14-30

Jesus told a story to help his disciples  
to be ready for the end of time. 'A  
rich man was about to go on a journey...'

He gave his servants money  
to look after, depending on  
what they could do.

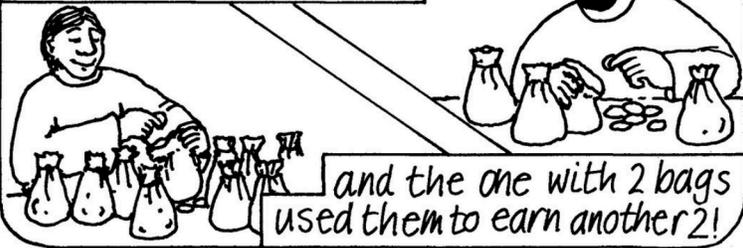


He gave 5 bags of coins to the  
first, 2 to the second, and 1 to the third.

As soon as he had gone,  
the first two servants  
started to work.



The one with 5 bags of coins  
used them to earn 5 more,



and the one with 2 bags  
used them to earn another 2!

The third servant dug a  
hole and buried his bag.



When  
the master  
came back,  
he called  
his  
servants  
to him...



The first two showed him they  
had doubled his money, and he  
was very happy with them.



You are a hard man  
who expects us to work. I  
was afraid so I just hid it.

If you knew what I  
expected, why didn't  
you do it?



Get out of here!



s	e	c	o	n	d	j	w	o	r	k
t	h	x	o	y	z	e	j	h	k	m
a	i	o	p	i	b	s	o	r	m	o
r	b	m	w	e	n	u	u	n	a	n
t	p	m	e	e	c	s	r	u	s	e
e	c	o	u	l	d	t	n	i	t	y
d	i	s	c	i	p	l	e	s	e	d
f	i	r	s	t	o	r	y	d	r	d
s	e	r	v	a	n	t	s	i	d	t
b	a	g	s	r	i	c	h	a	r	d
h	o	l	e	n	d	t	e	a	r	n

could

story

end

hard

disciples

started

Jesus

money

third

servants

bags

expected

buried

time

coins

second

rich

showed

master

hole

earn

first

work

journey

# Graham

Graham is well, but currently a bit snowed under with removal boxes! He will be back just as soon as he can be!

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## News around the Circuit

### Bromyard

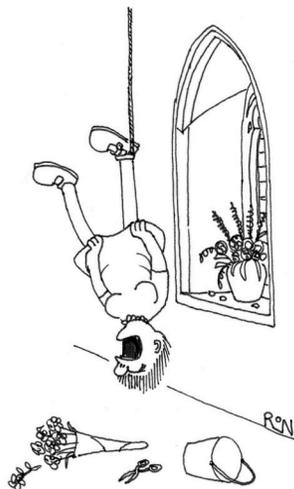
On the last Sunday in January, the Methodist Church invited the members of St. Peter's Church and the Roman Catholic Church to join together to celebrate the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity.

The Service, which was held in the afternoon, was led by the Rev. Philip Warrey, along with members of the other Churches taking part. The "jolly" hymns were accompanied by the Bromyard Methodist Ukelele Group.

It was a wonderful occasion and gave us all the opportunity to worship together with our Christian neighbours. As Father Paul illustrated; "We are all like "Crisps", made from the same potatoes but with different flavours"

A delicious tea was provided by the hosting Methodists, complete with 3 Birthday cakes - 3 of our Methodist members were celebrating birthdays on that very same Sunday: Tudor Jones, Sandra Gale and Chris Ottershaw!

*Sandra Gale*



*Mrs Stebbings always did the flowers in the South Window, as Mrs Todger soon learned*

## Ledbury

The first Friday in March always marks the World Day of Prayer. This year, Ledbury Methodists are hosting the town's ecumenical service which begins at 2pm. The service has been prepared by Christian women in Nigeria, and we look forward to being a part of this worldwide occasion. On matters ecumenical, the Ledbury Lent groups take place in March (after an initial opening time of joint worship in late February). This year, as you may have seen from last month's In Touch, we are using the film Conclave. Although this is a fictional story around the election of a new Pope, it raises very many interesting questions, and it will be good to hear different points of view from those taking part. It runs for three sessions, either on a Tuesday afternoon or a Wednesday evening – you can mix and match days if you wish. There will then a final act of worship at the end of March in the Catholic Church based around the Stations of the Cross.

Another joint church event took place at the end of January to mark the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. The service seemed very relaxed and welcoming – and the sermon (from Rev Joan Wakeling, an Anglican priest) received a round of applause! In January, we were also delighted to offer the hand of friendship to Janice Powers as we welcomed her into membership at Ledbury. We hope to get you know more over the coming weeks.

We've also had a new sound system installed upstairs at 4a in the Activity Room where it has often been difficult to hear what a group leader was saying. It works a treat – once you've mastered its intricacies. So if you see some of us going round with a big question mark over our heads, it's probably because we haven't yet got our Master's Degree on how to use it. But we will. I think.

Finally, our eco-champions have been in full action mode recently. The annual carbon footprint survey has taken place, there has been a litter pick and a swap shop and work continues on the little garden across the road where the next phase will include bird boxes, hedgehog homes and bat hideaways. And what could be more appropriate with Spring just around the corner!

*Brian Hudson*

### **St. John's**

Hello. As I write, it's mid- February and it's raining. Two days ago the sun shone all day... and people smiled. The challenge is for us to smile on rainy days too but that's been a tough call recently.

Several of our members were involved in the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity and St John's hosted the final service - Phil led this one too (his third of the day!).

As we approach the season of Lent many will be considering what they might "give up". Chocolate? Television? Time?

Beginning on Friday, February 20th, Nigel Williams will lead us weekly in Lenten contemplations based this year on the film "West Side Story". Each week discussion will be followed by a Soup and Rolls lunch. We look forward to attending some thought- provoking sessions.

Lunch Club continues to be much valued and we are indebted to the folk who provide such a wonderful service throughout the year.

Bible study takes place online and plans are in place for face-to- face meetings in the summer. We very much value those who lead us in thinking " outside the box".

House groups continue to be a strong and meaningful support to many of our church members (more about each of the house groups elsewhere in In Touch).

There are plans for an “Away-day” later in the Spring/ early Summer. Details will be available nearer the time.

One of our members is involved with making trench candles for Ukraine and church members have rallied to her call for empty food cans, old candle ends and clean, plain brown corrugated card.

Until the next time, I wish all the people in our circuit...and beyond...peace and love and perhaps most of all—hope. The world may seem uncertain at times but we have been assured that all will be well.

*Pat Peden*

## **Women’s Breakfast Fellowship**

In January we started our new series on Women of the Bible. We began by naming as many women as we could – between us all there was a very long list! In our February meeting we thought about Eve- a woman of firsts! We looked more deeply at the Genesis story and found all kinds of insights and puzzles. We focused on God’s question to Eve, “What have you done?” and thought about the role of confession in our Christian living. Confession is hard – exposing and shaming perhaps but also shaping us, remaking us and enables us to have a closer walk with God.

Our group meets on the first Saturday of each month – anywhere between 15 and 25 women attend and conversation is definitely on the menu along with the croissants and fruit! Our March 7<sup>th</sup> Saturday is led by Lisa-Jayne Lewis – all women are welcome and we’d love to see you there.

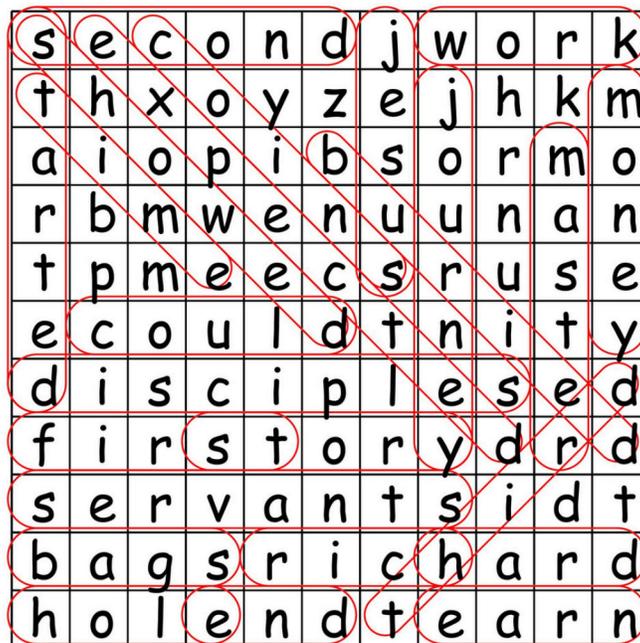
Margaret K and Caroline W



## The Hereford Passion

Friday 6 & Saturday 7 March, 7.30 pm

Following on from the success of The Hereford Passion in 2024, The Revd Canon James Pacey will once again bring the story of Jesus' final days to life this Lent. The production will use words, music, action to tell the events of that fateful week against the stunning architecture of the cathedral nave. The performance will begin at 7.30pm (doors open at 7pm) and tickets cost £10 per adult and £6 per child.



## Thank You

We are grateful for the love and support gifted by the Family of St. John's to Peggy Probert and her family after the death of Louis Probert. Many friends have gone above and beyond, but we would like to thank Dot for the catering, Sarah for the flowers, Gail for 'being there' and providing lifts, and Phil and Nigel for the services. Thank you to the St. John's Family from the Probert Family



## Link to Hope

A big thank you to all who've contributed to the shoe boxes. They have been sent to eastern Europe and delivered to children and families in countries including Ukraine and Moldova.

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## Crossword Answers

### ACROSS:

1, Awaken. 4, Quench. 8, Hit me. 9, Sadness. 10, Semitic. 11, Ridge. 12, Testimony. 17, Psalm. 19, Indulge. 21, Deserve. 22, Ariel. 23, Rose as. 24, Beggar.

### DOWN:

1, Aghast. 2, Attempt. 3, Eject. 5, Undergo. 6, No end. 7, Hasten. 9, Sacrifice. 13, Samaria. 14, Yelling. 15, Spider. 16, Dealer. 18, Asses. 20, Drake.

The  
Tale of the  
**TWO  
BUILDERS**



JESUS OFTEN TOLD  
STORIES WITH  
HIDDEN MEANINGS



ONE WAS ABOUT TWO MEN WHO  
BUILT THEIR OWN HOUSES



THE FIRST BUILDER SEARCHED HIGH  
AND LOW FOR A GOOD SOLID ROCK ON  
WHICH TO BUILD HIS HIS HOME.

AT LONG, LONG LAST HE  
FOUND THE IDEAL SPOT.



SO HE BEGAN TO BUILD.



THE OTHER BUILDER  
DIDN'T CARE WHERE HE  
BUILT HIS HOUSE

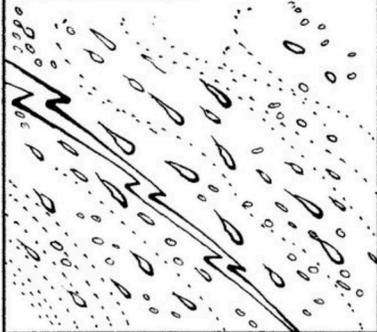
HE THOUGHT SOME NICE FLAT SAND  
WOULD BE AN EASY PLACE TO BUILD.



BUT ONE DAY THE  
STORM CAME...

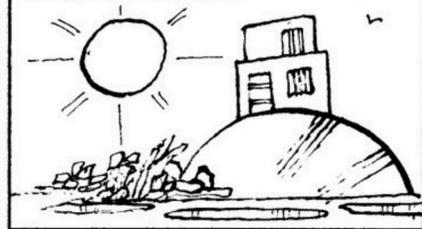


...AND THE WIND BLEW...AND  
THE RAIN FELL....



...AND THE HOUSE ON  
THE SAND COLLAPSED!

BUT THE HOUSE ON THE  
ROCK STOOD FIRM.



JESUS EXPLAINED -  
IT'S IMPORTANT OUR LIVES HAVE  
A FIRM FOUNDATION.

## Faith and Uncertainty

Christians in Ledbury are going through a period of change at the moment – due to the retirement of both the Anglican Rector, Revd Keith Hilton-Turvey, and the Roman Catholic priest Father Adrian Wiltshire. This comes against a background of change at a much higher level – with the beginning of a new Papacy and the appointment of a new Archbishop of Canterbury!

Although change brings opportunity, it also fosters uncertainty. This is an everyday human experience, affecting individuals and communities alike. But as I approach my eightieth year, I begin to wonder whether nothing really changes at all. We are in the season of Lent – a time of preparation and reflection, of penitence and expectation. And many Christians spend time during Lent in church services and house-groups exploring the deeper issues of our faith – those questions about Jesus’s ministry and death that we claim to be relevant to all aspects of human life. The largest question of all, of course, being the historical truth of Jesus’s resurrection. It is that question which distinguishes Christianity from all other religious faiths and approaches to human spirituality.

In changing times we are tempted to hark back to a ‘golden age’ of denominational vigour. I recently sat in a village chapel in almost the exact spot where my parents placed my carrycot when they first took me to church aged about two weeks old! It brought back memories of Sunday School, a Methodist youth club in Tenterden, MAYC London Weekends, a university MethSoc, studying to become an accredited local preacher - all in the context of a church which then claimed almost a million members throughout the UK.

My faith in Jesus Christ has endured, but so too have my uncertainties about the Christian church. In the recent movie 'Conclave' the Dean of Cardinals opens the conclave to elect a new Pope by saying: "God's gift to the church is its variety; its diversity". He goes on: "There is one sin that I have come to fear above all others - Certainty. Certainty is the great enemy of unity; certainty is the deadly enemy of tolerance." "Our faith is a living thing precisely because it walks hand in hand with doubt. If there was only certainty, and no doubt, there would be no mystery, and therefore no need for faith".

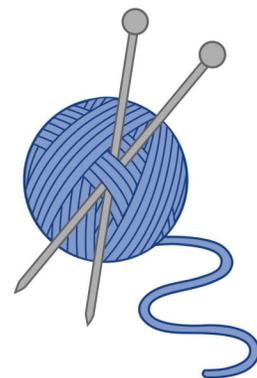
This is, I believe, very profound. And it is the antithesis of the narrow dogmatism of the conservative evangelicals who somehow manage to reconcile themselves to the likes of Donald Trump and Tommy Robinson. I find an echo in this speech, of the words of John Donne, the 17<sup>th</sup> century poet:

“.. doubt wisely; in strange way  
To stand inquiring right, is not to stray;  
To sleep, or run wrong, is. On a huge hill,  
Cragged and steep, Truth stands, and he that will  
Reach her, about must and about must go,”

*Stephen Chowns*

## **Knitting for charity**

The knitters at St. John's are in full swing again (Ann in particular is like a Duracell bunny!); if anyone around the Circuit has any spare wool, it would be very welcome.



## THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD

By William Holman Hunt

1853

I stand in front of this painting mesmerised,  
The crowned central figure holds my gaze,  
The low held lantern glows mystically,  
Casting dancing shadows that creep upwards,  
The rich golds, bright oranges and muted greens of His robe  
Leap excitedly, flickering, contained within a warm soft brown cloak.

My eyes glide upwards, guided by the lantern,  
To a still shadowy gentle face, looking out at the world.  
His eyes secretly seek mine, holding my gaze,  
Capturing me, inviting me into His world,  
An unknown world of love, peace.  
Calling to me, Enter, enter into the spirit of the painting,  
He, patiently knocking at the door – waits.

All this in contrast to the darkness surrounding Him,  
Silent, sinister black, suspended within an impenetrable wood,  
Tree trunks thickly wound angrily around each other,  
Quarrelling, choking, blocking out any light,  
Tangled weeds, decaying fruit block the door,  
There is no entry outside, no handle, no escape.

Still He knocks patiently, until I hear and see His message,  
Come into My Light, and all that I offer,  
A world of peace, love and life never-ending,  
Break free from the bleak darkness,  
Open the door, let darkness crumble away.  
I turn the handle inside, and know my soul is free.  
He is standing, still, waiting - it is for me He is waiting.

# Church Services in March

## **Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> March**     *2<sup>nd</sup> in Lent*

Bromyard	10.30am	Mrs. Wendy Werrell
Ledbury	10.30am	Revd. Peter Grimwood
Ledbury	2:30pm	Revd Phil Warrey - Relaxed
St. John's	10.30am	Revd. Mary Jolly

## **Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> March**     *3<sup>rd</sup> in Lent*

Bromyard	2.30pm	Mrs. Linda Williams
Ledbury	10.30am	Revd. Kath Baldwin    HC
Ledbury	6.00pm	Mr. Stephen & Dr. Gillian Chowns - Taize
St. John's	10.30am	Revd. Martyn Sanders    HC

## **Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> March**     *4<sup>th</sup> in Lent/Mothering Sunday*

Bromyard	10.30am	Revd. Mary Jolly
Ledbury	10.30am	Mr. Brian Hudson
St. John's	10.30am	Revd. Phil Warrey
	4.00pm	Revd. Phil Warrey, Tea Church

## **Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> March**     *5<sup>th</sup> in Lent*

Bromyard	2.30pm	Revd. Phil Warrey
Ledbury	10.30am	Revd. Phil Warrey     AAW
St. John's	10.30am	Mr. Chris Ottershaw

## **Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> March**     *Palm Sunday*

Bromyard	10.30am	Red. Kath Baldwin
Ledbury	10.30am	Revd. Peter Grimwood
St. John's	10.30am	Revd. Phil Warrey

# Lectionary Readings

## **1 March** 2nd Sunday in Lent

Genesis 12: 1-4a

Psalm 121

Romans 4: 1-5, 13-17

John 3: 1-17 or Matthew 17: 1-9

## **8 March** 3rd Sunday in Lent

Exodus 17: 1-7

Psalm 95

Romans 5: 1-11

John 4: 5-42

## **15 March** 4th Sunday in Lent

1 Samuel 16: 1-13

Psalm 23

Ephesians 5: 8-14

John 9: 1-41

or for MOTHERING SUNDAY

Exodus 2: 1-10 or 1 Samuel 1: 20-28

Psalm 34: 11-20 or Psalm 127: 1-4

2 Corinthians 1: 3-7 or Colossians 3: 12-17

Luke 2: 33-35 or John 19: 25-27

## **22 March** 5th Sunday in Lent 1st Sunday of the Passion

Ezekiel 37: 1-14

Psalm 130

Romans 8: 6-11

John 11: 1-45

**29 March** 6th Sunday in Lent 2nd  
Sunday of the Passion / Palm Sunday  
Entry into Jerusalem

Matthew 21: 1-11

Psalm 118: 1-2, 19-29

The Passion

Isaiah 50: 4-9a

Psalm 31: 9-16

Philippians 2: 5-11

Matthew 26:14 – 27: 66 or Matthew 27: 11-54

**3 April** Good Friday

Isaiah 52: 13 – 53: 12

Psalm 22

Hebrews 10: 16-25 or Hebrews 4: 14-16; 5: 7-9

John 18: 1 – 19: 42

**5 April** Easter Day

Acts 10: 34-43 or Jeremiah 31: 1-6

Psalm 118: 1-2, 14-24

Colossians 3: 1-4 or Acts 10: 34-43

John 20: 1-18 or Matthew 28: 1-10

## **A prayer as Lent continues**

Let me hold fast to You, beautiful Lord, whom the angels themselves yearn to look upon. Wherever You go, I will follow You. If You pass through fire, I will not flinch, I fear no evil when You are with me. You carry my griefs, because You grieve for my sake. You passed through the narrow doorway from death to life, to make it wide enough for all to follow. Nothing can ever now separate me from Your love. Amen

*Bernard of Clairvaux 1090 -1153*

# St. Johns House Groups

At St. John's we currently have four House Groups, with very individual styles. All of them would welcome new members, and there's nothing to stop new ones being formed, so if you're looking for a house group to join do take a look at the descriptions below and see if any appeal - if not, let Phil or Nigel know what sort of thing you're looking for and they may be able to put you in touch with the right people!

## Omega

We are an active group of people who meet on the second Saturday of each month at 2.30 pm at various houses.

On occasions we meet in between for a get together plus a meal e.g Istanbul in Union Street.

The group consists of 10 members but we can always welcome and accommodate more.

Currently we are studying "Parables" by John White. The meeting is opened with prayer followed by a Bible reading of the relevant Parable. John White lays out relevant questions for discussion and it is interesting to hear each others' thoughts and opinions and the relevance of these to today's life. The discussion concludes at approximately 3.30, after which there is tea/coffee and cake to enjoy.

*Beryl Williams*

## Stretton House Group

We are a warm, relaxed group, meeting in various homes and enjoying a varied diet of topics. Plus the cuppa and biscuits of course. We are a small group at present and would welcome anyone who would like to pop in. We endeavour to sort out transport between us.

*Roy Little*

### Rose Garden House Group

A house group with a difference: this group consists of roughly equal numbers of St. John's members and residents of the Rose Garden facility, and besides Methodists includes Anglicans, Roman Catholics, Quakers, Salvation Army, URC.... We meet monthly and follow a theme; currently we're looking at the Parables of Jesus, and different people take the lead each time. We also take it in turns to provide the biscuits (John and Ruth kindly provide the tea/coffee) and we have a donation pot; when it's getting full we decide on a charity to donate to, most recently we've given £75 to the Food Bank.

*John Thompson*

### River Group

River House group meets on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month at 2.30pm at St John's. We meet in the small room which is known as "the lounge".

We are a small group and when we all meet we number just 5. There is no charge and we have tea/coffee and a biscuit.

We vary our programme with discussions on many topics .

We do not always follow a series as a topic, but everyone is encouraged to speak, though we do not force it.

Everyone is welcome to join our small group and explore our faith together.

*Christine Guy*



*My sermon today comes from  
Apps Chapter 1 beginning at verse 2...*

# Diary Dates

## Saturday 7th March

9.00 - 10.30am Women's Prayer Breakfast at Ledbury

## Wednesday 11th March

7.00pm Zoom Bible study

## Wednesday 25th March

7.00pm Zoom Bible study



*One of my churchwardens is a stickler for 'Health and Safety'...*

## Keeping InTouch

Circuit contacts:

Rev Phil Warrey: t: 01531 634242 m: 07917 077785

e: phil.warrey@methodist.org.uk

Rest day: Usually Friday

Circuit Website: [www.herefordshiremethodists.org.uk](http://www.herefordshiremethodists.org.uk)

Circuit Administrator:

[admin@herefordshiremethodists.org.uk](mailto:admin@herefordshiremethodists.org.uk)

The deadline for the April edition of In Touch is Sunday

15th March ideally, please send material by email to

[hfdscircuitnews@gmail.com](mailto:hfdscircuitnews@gmail.com)

Or by Post to 18 Southbank Close, HEREFORD HR1 2TQ