

IN TOUCH

AUGUST 2026

Climate

Celebrate

Explore



The Lord supports those that stumble,
and lifts up those who are down. Ps 145:14

Have you, like me, been wondering about what you could do to mitigate against the heat waves we have been experiencing whilst at the same time being aware that the cost of gas and electricity needed to heat our homes will no doubt be rising again this winter? The one thing that is now clear is that the climate is changing and along with it our lives. Then there are the wider costs that are a consequence of climate change. Food prices are rising as farmers' yields fall due to 'bad weather'! This bad weather included a particularly wet and stormy autumn and spring. Now, the hot weather in June and July means that the oceans surrounding our shores are having their own heat wave. This means that the seas will be at their warmest in the autumn. Warm seas lead to more moisture being picked up by the winds that sweep across the Atlantic. This moisture will then fall as rain onto hardened and dry land causing flash floods due to surface run off. So we face another cost as our insurance premiums rise. These rises will become even worse when the support provided by the Government to help those living on a flood plain is removed in 2039.

When people say we cannot afford to move to green energy, often the costs of doing nothing do not feature in their arguments. For instance, who is going to pay to instal the air conditioning needed in all our schools up and down the country; the 'taxpayer', you and I, of course! More importantly, in their effort to argue for a maintenance of the status quo whereby we continue to burn fossil fuels, a presumption is made. Namely, that these fuels will remain cheap and available which ignores the geopolitical reality of today. Not to mention the nature of many of the regimes our petro dollars finance.

Saying all this is not intended to fill you with despair but rather to encourage us to be truthful with ourselves and our fellow citizens. As Christians, being truthful, 'telling it as it is', is important. We do not do this from a position of doom and gloom but from one of hope and confidence.

We believe our God to be the Creator and Sustainer of his creation. 'In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth... God saw of

everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good.’ – Genesis 1:1, 31. This is important because rather than feeling helpless and hopeless, we know that in our efforts to care for creation we are aligning ourselves with our God who is active in the world. So, too, we recognise that there are issues of social justice involved in this climate change crisis and, as followers of Jesus, we know that we are morally obliged to stand with those adversely affected. Christians know that ‘Closing our ears to the voices of those most vulnerable to climate change would be nothing less than giving up our claim to be disciples of Christ.’ (Hope in God’s Future 2009).

I know the moment we mention social justice we tend to think of places in Africa, Asia or the Pacific Region. However, the impact is being felt here, too. We should be concerned to see ambulances waiting in queues outside hospitals in both summer and winter. Vulnerable people, especially in poor quality accommodation or financial need, find themselves adversely affected by the heat in summer and cold in winter. The excess death figures during hot and cold spells reveal the real, yet hidden, impact of climate change. These figures are not just numbers but actual people and their family and friends who mourn and experience pain in their loss.

Nigel

Middle East Justice Appeal supports Jerusalem Princess Basma Centre

The Jerusalem Princess Basma Centre has thanked the Methodist people for their part in a donation of almost £5,000 from the Middle East Justice Appeal. The money has been put to immediate use during the current crisis in Gaza.

Violette Mubarak, General Director at the Jerusalem Princess Basma Centre, commented, “Within so much devastation, we endeavour to rebuild, restore, and always seek opportunities to renew hope. We are grateful for the encouragement and support of all our international friends.”

David Hardman, Methodist Liaison Officer in Jerusalem, commented, “Princess Basma is a long-standing partner of the Methodist Liaison Office and works with children and young people with disabilities across the West Bank, from their base on the Mount of Olives in Jerusalem. The love and support that is offered to the children goes far beyond medical care.

NO!

“There Abraham built an altar and arranged the wood. He bound his son, Isaac, and laid him on top of the wood. He reached out for the knife to slay his son.

Then Abraham looked at the knife and looked at his son. He looked up to heaven and in a loud voice said: 'No! I cannot do what you ask'.

And God smiled and said: , Now I know that you are ready to be a leader of nations'." - unauthorised version.

The ending of the original story cannot justify the demand which God made. The requirement to kill the son as a test of obedience is abhorrent. We cannot, of course, sit in judgement on the storyteller. Likely enough he was writing long after Abraham lived. It is possible that its target is those who still believed that among the first fruits to be sacrificed to God was the firstborn son.

The story remains a dilemma for us. First because it has since been used as a crude template to interpret the meaning of the crucifixion, where the Father is said to sacrifice his own son for the sins of the world. But what would we have thought if, in the parable of the Prodigal Son, the father had killed the elder brother to enable him to forgive the younger? The idea would be unthinkable.

Second, it raises the question of how we can recognise the voice of God. Did God give the command to Abraham or was he impelled by his own sense of obligation? Was it indeed God who commanded the Hebrews to slaughter the men, women and children of the Canaanites? Should they not have said: “No!”? How many fanatics, past and present, believe that they should do dreadful things because God has called them? It is not for nothing that humanity has evolved what we call conscience and, however this has come about, is it not also a gift of God?

In my own church tradition, a would-be minister was asked to test his call - by taking time, by consulting experienced ministers, and by seeking the advice of family and friends. On wider matters, we have to measure the wide miscellany of biblical writings by the best within them. Its ethical teaching has to stand with the prophetic call to “do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly before God”. As for the above story, we remember Jesus’ teaching that “whoever hurts one of these children – it were better for him to be cast into the depths of the sea”.

Perhaps the choice is between seeing God as an absolute monarch, who directs everything and everyone or as a father raising his children to be independent. Is this not why Jesus could expect his listeners to work things out for themselves (Luke 12:57)

Graham

Around the Circuit

Ledbury News

It was inevitable, of course. On the day when solar panels are fitted, you can almost guarantee that the weather will not be “normal”. The cynic will say that it will pour with the rain, whilst the optimist will expect wall-to-wall sunshine. On this occasion, the optimists were right. The temperature was 31C in the shade (I was clever, and stayed out of the shade) and within minutes, the dials were whirring and we had generated enough electricity to light up the Blackpool Tower. Well, almost. Full praise to the workmen who carried on despite the heat, and we now look forward to seeing what the effects of this will be.

It was also too hot for comfort on both days when we had scheduled new Bible study sessions. There was little choice but to postpone them – it would have been potentially dangerous to ask folk to come out when the temperature was around 32C, and it would have been very hard to concentrate on the subject in hand. We are going ahead with a two session study in August though (on August 4th and 18th) when Martyn Sanders will be helping us look at the first chapters of Genesis.

The town's Community Day was a success for the town – but not for us! All morning, we only had one visitor! But, strangely, this was a lady who had access to some grant money and wondered if we might be able to use some....

Congratulations to Caroline on her amazing swimming marathon. I'm not sure I could walk 10,000 metres these days, let alone swim it. And in achieving this, she raised a magnificent sum for the Hereford based Yeleni Cancer Support. Many congratulations again.

Talking of marathons, the town recently organised a "Masefield Marathon" – not an energetic sprint round the town, but an 8 hour reading of much of John Masefield's poetry and prose - John Masefield, a former Poet Laureate, was, of course, born in Ledbury. At least four of our members took part in this, so good that LMC was well represented amongst the volunteer readers.

As we near our goal of gaining the Eco Gold Award, there was another Litter Pick and Swap Shop in June (with further such events in August), and we are also encouraging people to sit outdoors for 15 minutes and record how many butterflies flutter by in that time – all part of the Big Butterfly Count. And you get a very colourful identification chart to help you. And just across the road from the church, the adopted garden is doing very well – many thanks to the small number of people who are looking after this.

And finally, our church Anniversary will be marked on the first weekend in August, and we are delighted to welcome back Jude Levermore, the Connexion's Head of Mission.

Enjoy your summer, and hoping that you neither melt nor freeze in our unpredictable climate!

Brian

St. John's

Since the last report for In Touch we have enjoyed, and learned much from, our Awayday held in May at Saxon Hall. This was hailed as a thoroughly worthwhile and productive experience for the many members who were able to attend. We were invited to be open and honest and to think "outside the box".

Early in September one of the suggestions made will come to fruition as we gather to explore the concept of a 'Worship Conversation'. Are we fine with the 'Status Quo' or do we have any novel/original ideas which might enhance our thinking? It's a start towards ensuring there will be action as a result of our Vision Day.

Twins & Tots has come to the end of another year and for a number of our children our last session in July was their last session with us, as they move on to school or nursery. We'll miss them so much but wish them well. We have a number of babies with us at the moment but know that very soon they'll find their feet and be playing with the toys and scrambling on the equipment! As I write, Lunch Club is continuing but it too will take a break over August and be back in September.

Very recently we heard of the sad news of the passing of our friend Simon Fraser. We hold his wife Anwyn and his family in our thoughts and prayers as we remember a quiet and lovely man with a gentle sense of humour.

Many of our members are currently on holiday and we pray that they will return with renewed energy to explore further outcomes as a result of our successful Awayday.

Pat P

Crossword Answers

ACROSS: 8, Prince of Peace. 9, INF. 10, Unmarried. 11, Gulag. 13, Treason. 16, In aid of. 19, Arena. 22, Calvinist. 24, Pad. 25, Moses and Aaron. DOWN: 1, Spring. 2, Sinful. 3, Scourged. 4, Commit. 5, Spur. 6, Matins. 7, Feed on. 12, Urn. 14, Erastian. 15, Own. 16, Income. 17, At last. 18, Friend. 20, Empire. 21, Adding. 23, Inst.

Across

8 One of the titles given to the Messiah in Isaiah's prediction (Isaiah 9:6)

(6,2,5)

9 International Nepal Fellowship (1,1,1)

10 Single (1 Corinthians 7:27)

(9)

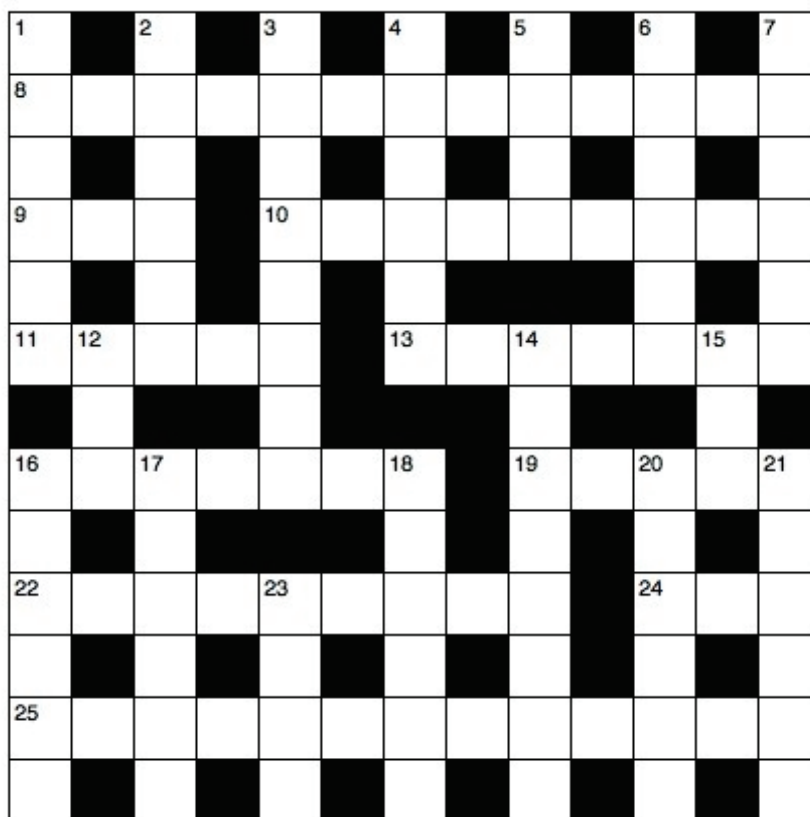
11 Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn's seminal book about Soviet prison camps, The — Archipelago (5)

(5)

13 Treachery (2 Kings 11:14)

(7)

16 Of India (anag.) (2,3,2)



19 'God has put us apostles on display at the end of the procession, like men condemned to die in the — ' (1 Corinthians 4:9) (5)

22 Follower of a theological system characterized by a strong belief in predestination (9)

24 'Put these old rags and worn-out clothes under your arms to— the ropes' (Jeremiah 38:12) (3)

25 They brought together all the elders of the Israelites in Egypt (Exodus 4:29) (5,3,5)

Down

1 The season when kings 'go off to war' (2 Samuel 11:1) (6)

2 Simon Peter's response to Jesus by the Sea of Galilee: 'Go away from me, Lord; I am a — man' (Luke 5:8) (6)

3 Beaten with whips (1 Kings 12:11) (8)

4 'You shall not — adultery' (Exodus 20:14) (6)

5 Encourage (Hebrews 10:24) (4)

6 Service of morning prayer in the Church of England (6)

7 'Take and eat this in remembrance that Christ died for you, and — — him in your heart by faith with thanksgiving' (4,2)

12 Run(anag.)(3)

14 Member of 17th-century party that denied the right of autonomy to the Church (8)

15 'We will triumph with our tongues; we—our lips'(Psalm12:4) (3)

16 Earnings(1Corinthians16:2)(6)

17 'I rejoice greatly in the Lord that—you have renewed your concern for me' (Philippians 4:10) (2,4)

18 How Paul described Philemon (Philemon 1)(6)

20 Multiple territories under the rule of a single state(Daniel11:4)(6)

21 'You have been unfaithful; you have married foreign women,—to Israel's guilt' (Ezra 10:10) (6)

23 This month(abbrev.)(4)



Malcolm and I were married on August 13th, 1966, at Wallington and Carshalton Congregational Church (now URC). We met as students in Birmingham. I was at Westhill Teacher Training College and Malcolm was at Handsworth Methodist Theological College. A friend of mine knew one of Malcolm's friends ! North and South met, as Malcolm was born in Yorkshire and I in Surrey. We have lived in 8 circuits and 10 manses! We have three wonderful daughters and seven grandchildren. We have never regretted retiring to Hereford 21 years ago and are so pleased to be part of the family of St John's. Thank you to all who have befriended and supported us.
Mary Brookes



West Midlands District Festival 4th July

I attended the Trinity Codsall Methodist Church for their Bloom Day and it was fantastic! There was a Bloom booklet guide to follow and on the brochure's introduction you were encouraged to go to each area where you got a sticker for the booklet and a coloured ribbon to go on the wooden ring provided at the entrance gate.

There were 2 food stations where Street Banquet and Wolves Waste Not catered for those who attended - both are charities catering for the Street Community/outreach and they use surplus food from supermarkets to make the meals.

There were different bands playing on the Innovation Stage throughout the day including a Zimbabwean choir with drums! There were plenty of workshops in the hall to get our minds thinking of the churches' futures which echoed our [St. John's] Vision Day.

There was story telling, puppet plays, craft areas and even a games area manned by Phil. It was an amazing day of fellowship and over 200 people attended the event.

The day finished with a communion service and I drove back to the campsite where I was staying with a very happy heart.

Sarah Bowring



Brenda Philipps

Brenda joined the Church family at St Owen's Street Methodist Church (now St John's) when she and her family moved to Hereford.

Brenda always had a smile on her face. She was an excellent listener and had great faith but also loved a laugh. She was Church Reader. Always read from the heart.

She and her family joined in many activities.

Brenda assisted in cooking the monthly Sunday lunch which many attended. They were delicious. We must not forget the Welsh cakes. They too were very delicious and were readily and lovingly made when necessary.

She was a member of the Drama Group and took part in many productions. Whenever there was a social event held Brenda read a poem or story in her wonderful Welsh accent.

Brenda was a large part of lunch club greeting members with a smile a chat, collecting the money and ensuring it was correct at the end.

Her knitting and crocheting were amazing and it was wonderful to see so many figures around the church at the Thanksgiving service.

Many of us will have remarkable memories of Brenda who will not be forgotten. Let us Clap our Hands with Joy that we were privileged to know Dear Brenda.

Beryl W

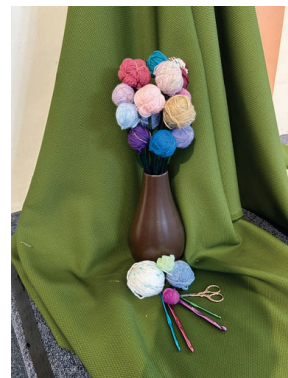
The family of Brenda Philipps would like to thank the ministers and members of St John's for their support and contributions at our beloved mam's celebration. Special thanks go to the ladies who provided the refreshments and endless cups of tea. We received donations of £350 split between Smile Train and Cancer Research UK.

Brenda certainly went forth with peace and joy.

Coral



An example of Brenda's work (left) and a tribute to her (right)



Baby Basics

After I received some amazing donations of knitted cardigans and jumpers for newborn babies, from St John's, Lindsay Coles (Ross on Wye) W.I. and a wonderful lady who comes into Oxfam in Ross, Rosi Taylor thought I should tell the circuit what it was all about!

Some of you will know about our church in Sunbury on Thames, Middlesex , in the Teddington Circuit, where I spent my first !! years, before I married Simon and we moved, permanently, to Herefordshire. In about 2010, that church had a "Way Forward" audit of what we could or couldn't do in the future. The prayerful outcome was to choose one or two things, do them well and admit that as a small church we could not do everything that we wanted to do!

One member with a nursing background had come across a project, based in Sheffield, called Baby Basics and she went to visit. She was inspired by what they did. Clients are Mums-to-be (or very new Mums), who are referred by midwives, health visitors or social workers. They can be victims of domestic abuse, refugees/ asylum seekers, women in prisons, those on low incomes etc, who are assessed as needing support.

We had a less used, small, Sunday School room that could be adapted as the collection/putting together/distribution point for completed Moses baskets for these clients. So, in 2014, with a group of volunteers, they started Baby Basics Sunbury.

They sort donations of preloved newborn clothes (given then, to others, to wash at home), changing mats and sheets, toiletries, nappies, wipes, babygros and sleepsuits and a small soft toy and newly made knitted cardigans and jumpers!! Everything to fill a Moses basket. If possible, 3 baskets are left fully "ready" to be collected, for when a call comes in to the co-Ordinator. This continues, every week, for 2-3 hours on a Wednesday afternoon.

BB also receives financial support from charitable foundations, local supermarkets, local schools, church and circuit members, Rotary and other philanthropic organisations and private individuals. From April 2014, they provided 61 baskets in that year. To date they have provided 2905!!

So why here and now? I casually asked at the Women's Breakfast one week if anyone knew any knitters and if they could be asked to knit said jumpers/cardigans, hence the wonderful response.

We do not know the recipients but get feedback from the referrers, from some, saying how delighted they are that folks care enough to provide them with these baskets.

If you want to know more about BB in general or specifically Sunbury, then the links are below. Similarly, if you know anyone who would like to help, please get in touch. Thank you.

Lynne Richardson, Ledbury

PS Following the start of BB at Sunbury, our sister church in Hampton, Middlesex, started the Extra Mile for older children/families and this includes collecting clothes, toys, buggies, bicycles etc. They too have been overwhelmed by the need and also immense gratitude.



baby-basics.org.uk
Registered charity no. 1168099
Baby Basics UK
Suite 1, Albion House
Sackville Street, Sheffield S4 7UD

The National Conversation is a UK-wide listening initiative set up in response to the upsurge in disturbances, protests and riots communities have experienced over the last two years.

You can respond to the survey as an individual or hold a group conversation. The deadline for responding is the end of August.

<https://www.thenationalconversation.org.uk/>

Now there's a Thought...

Don't walk out in a huff because they've changed the Communion wine or the time of the morning service, or even because the bishop has said something silly (especially if the bishop has said something silly, which he might well do). Each of us is a gift, to God, to the church, to each other. In our 'must-fit-me-precisely' culture we're used to everything being customised to our needs. But perhaps we're not the defining centre of everything. In which case, with humility, let's stay with God's people and make the church a truer reflection of the character of God.

John Pritchard

*Living Faithfully: following Christ in
everyday life*



"...and once you've done the flower arrangements, polished the pews, scrubbed the floor, shined the silver and taken a look at the problem with the boiler we wondered, well, you have to laugh, but all six bell-ringers are on holiday at the same time and..."

Orchids from Hawaii

‘Just how did a 24-year-old woman from a small corner of Surrey find herself serving as a chaplain at Ground Zero?’

Five months after the attacks of 11 September 2001, Lisa-Jayne Lewis arrived at the World Trade Center recovery operation expecting to help in practical ways. Instead, she found herself walking alongside recovery workers, grieving families and a city struggling to make sense of an unimaginable tragedy.

Twenty-five years later, she reflects on the experience that would shape the course of her life. Through stories of faith, doubt, loss, purpose and the search for meaning in the aftermath of disaster, *Orchids from Hawaii* is a deeply personal account of what happens when ordinary people find themselves in extraordinary circumstances.’

Yes, our very own Lisa-Jayne has written and published a book. Visit orchidsfromhawaii.net/buy-the-book to find out more. If you do decide to place an order, be sure to click on the orchid icon to avoid postage charges!

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Women’s Breakfast Fellowship

Over the last few months of this year, we have been learning about the Women of faith in the Bible. We have discovered more about Eve, The Samaritan Woman, Mary Magdalene, Rahab and Lois and Eunice. Each month we unpack the story – dive deeper, wonder and reflect. The testimony of women is touching, inspiring, moving and honest.

Over the breakfast, we share personal stories, insights into the Word and give encouragement through both. The study lingers in the mind and heart and can lead to further reflections and prayer as the days go on.

We meet on the first Saturday of the month (but please note - we’re NOT meeting in August, the next one will be on 5th September) – no need to book, just come along and you will be so welcome! We have breakfast from 9am and finish at 10.30am. Coming up we have studies on Lydia and the Woman who touched Jesus’ cloak. Hope to see you there!

Margaret Kunzer

The Unexamined Life

Flower in the crannied wall,
I pluck you out of the crannies,
I hold you here, root and all, in my hand,
Little flower-but if I could understand
What you are, root and all, all in all,
I should know what God and man is.

Alfred Lord Tennyson

Tennyson wrote these six short lines in 1863, perhaps in protest at the scientific reductionism of his day. The poem posed profound metaphysical questions which have relevance for us in the 21st century.

In plucking the flower from the wall he removed it from its source of life; destroying it in order to analyse it. Some critics have likened it to greed in wanting to possess the flower rather than appreciating it for itself.

However, the mystery of its life is now destroyed so it is no longer possible to grasp the flower in its entirety. Rather than pride in scientific knowledge there are limits to human understanding as St Paul said, “we only know in part.” So, rather than possessing, we should contemplate the beauty and connectedness of all things without destroying them.

The ultimate source of life is our Creator and the phrase, “all in all” alludes to 1 Corinthians 15:28 when God will be all in all. This will be at the end of the age when we will know more fully as his glory is revealed.

Whereas Tennyson was questioning scientific reductionism in his day his poem has relevance for us in our digital age. We have a culture of busyness- always available online so we are doing rather than being present in the moment. To truly flourish we need time to take stock- to reflect, as Socrates said, “The unexamined life is not worth living”.

So we do need time to meditate on the mystery of life and our reason for being. To see beauty in a simple flower, without needing to possess or destroy it and to look beyond that to the One who does hold everything in his hand.

Linda Williams

What's on at the Cathedral

Shaping early medieval faith: The Hereford Gospels

Monday 30 March until Saturday 12 September 2026

Discover the inner life of the oldest manuscript at Hereford Cathedral, the Hereford Gospels.

Made circa 800AD, the Hereford Gospels symbolise the continuity of the community at Hereford Cathedral. Shaping Early Medieval Faith explores how the Gospels were created and used through the centuries.

Stained Glass Tour, Wednesday 5 August, 1.30 pm

Discover more about the beautiful stained glass in Hereford Cathedral with this special tour. The tour will last around 1.5 hours and end with an opportunity to view up close a selection of medieval stained glass fragments from the cathedral's Library and Archives in Old Chapel.

Medieval Religious Symbolism Tour Saturday 15 August, 11 am

Discover the hidden meanings woven throughout Hereford Cathedral on this fascinating specialist tour of medieval religious symbolism.

Explore a world where animals, plants, carvings, monuments and stained glass carried powerful messages about faith, morality, life and death.

Saints & Pilgrimage Tour Saturday 15 August, 1.30 pm

Discover the fascinating world of medieval saints, relics and pilgrimage on this specialist guided tour of Hereford Cathedral. Explore how stories of faith, healing and devotion shaped the cathedral and drew pilgrims from across England for centuries.

Women in the Cathedral Tour Wednesday 26 August, 1.30 pm

Discover the hidden histories, deep faith, and lasting legacies of the women who shaped Hereford Cathedral on this specialist guided tour. Explore how stories of devotion, leadership, and change looked through the eyes of women across centuries of the cathedral's past.

Entry prices apply. For more information or to book ring 01432 374 202

John the Baptist

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

John
Baptist
Rough
Obscurity
Desert
Bugs
Camel
Heat
Sun
Challenge
Muddy
Jordan
Arrested
Dungeon
Head
Cut
History
Great
Unique
prepare

This month, on the 29th, we remember John the Baptist. By all accounts, he had a rough life. He grew up in obscurity, lived in the desert on a diet of bugs. He wore itchy camel hair. He worked in the heat of the sun, constantly challenging people, and wading in and out of muddy Jordan waters to baptise many. Then he was arrested and kept in a reeking, infested dungeon until one day they cut his head off. Not much comfort in that life. Yet the Bible tells us that of all the people in history, no one has even been born who was as great as him. Why? Because of the unique calling God gave him, which was to prepare the way for the coming ministry of his Son, Jesus. Jesus did not have an easy life, either.

INTO THE FIRE

**September
11th-12th 2026
7.30pm**

**Standard £9
Student £5**

Into the Fire is a bold dramatic two act play set in the final days of Pompeii. The play explores the relationships between parents and daughter, and what it means to choose your own fate in the face of disaster. With rich characters, exciting storytelling and moments of humour – this is a new, exciting piece of theatre. Tickets available on the Market Theatre Website

**THE
MARKET
THEATRE
LEDBURY**

Swimming Challenge

Thank you to everyone who sponsored me in swimming 10,000m in June. I managed to complete it, with one day to spare.

I was amazed at how much I raised, thanks to the generosity of so many people. The final total was £1800, which I presented to Nicky at Yeleni recently.



Royal Mail solar-powered digital post-boxes

Royal Mail has converted about 3,500 of the old trusty red post-boxes into digital affairs, out of the 115,000 post-boxes in the country.

The new solar-powered digital post-boxes feature a solar panel roof, a built-in barcode scanner, and an extra-large drawer that accepts parcels up to shoebox size.

The idea is that the solar panels on top capture sunlight to power the digital scanner and automated drawer mechanism. So, then all you have to do is to scan the 2D barcode on your pre-paid parcel label, using the box's scanner to automatically open the large drawer.

The traditional letter slot remains, for regular stamped mail.

As for proof of posting? You use the Royal Mail app on your phone to track and request confirmation when you drop off an item.

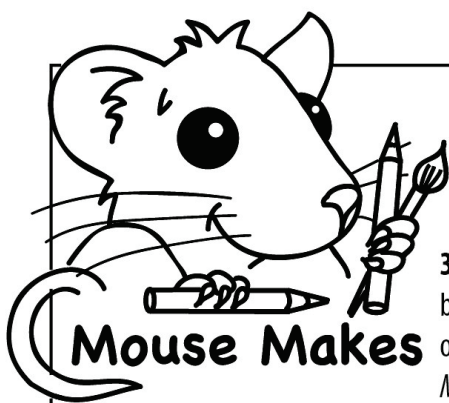
If you don't want to download an app or use a printer, the good news is that you can still send your parcels as before, at a post office counter.



Wedding guest

A little boy at Sunday School learned about the time Jesus went to a wedding and changed the water into wine. "And what did you learn from that story?" asked his father afterward.

The boy thought for a moment and answered, "If you're having a wedding, make sure Jesus is there."



1. To which city did God send Jonah?

Jonah 1:1-2



2. Where did Paul travel to after seeing a vision?

Acts 16:9-10

MOAB

3. Which sea did Jesus walk beside before he went up on the mountain?

Matthew 15:29

5. Which town did Naomi and Ruth travel to after leaving Moab?

Ruth 1:22



4 across

After Paul was stoned, where did he travel to with Barnabas?

Acts 14:19-20

LYSTRA

4 down

Where was Saul travelling to when Jesus appeared to him?

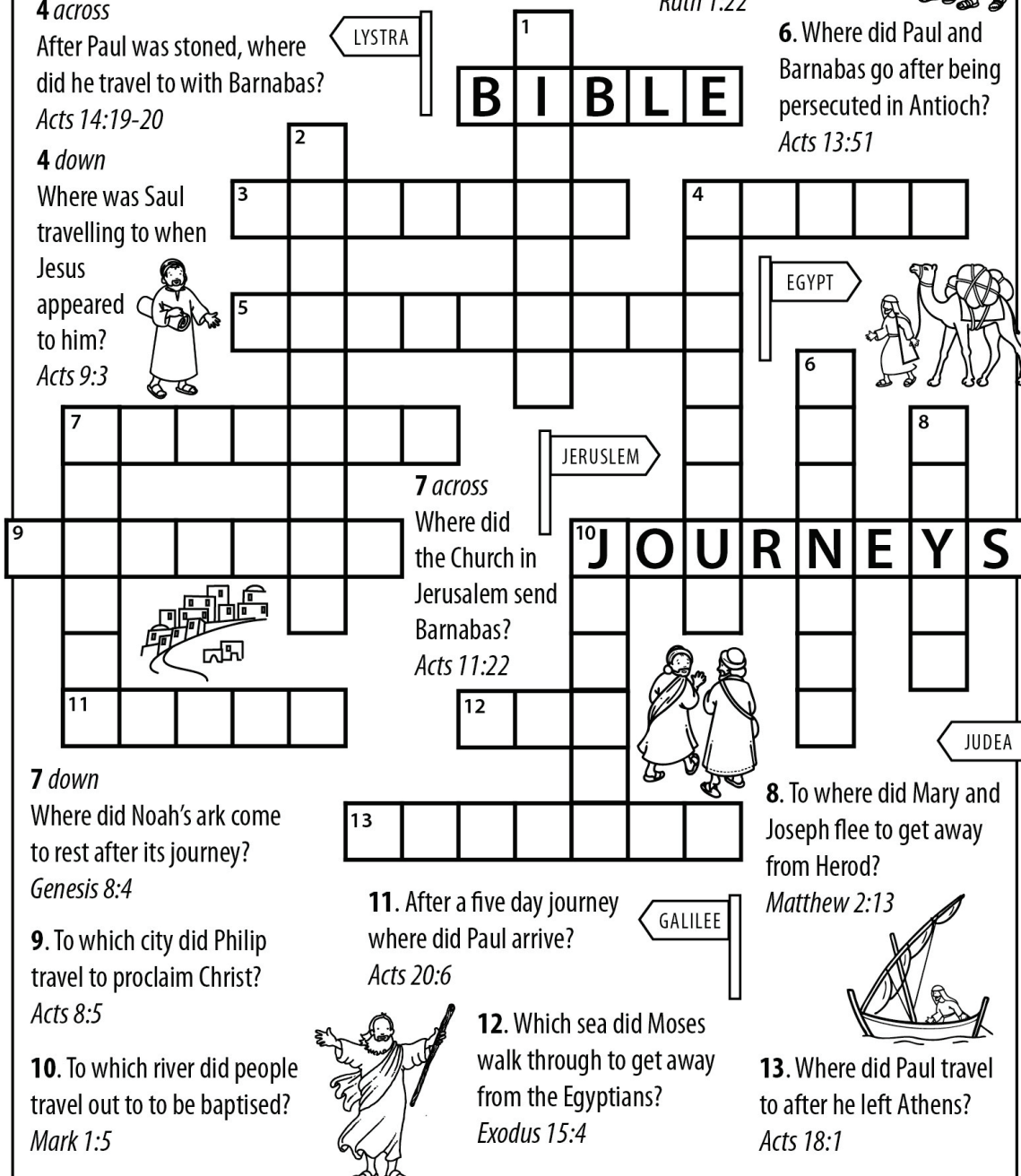
Acts 9:3



6. Where did Paul and Barnabas go after being persecuted in Antioch?

Acts 13:51

EGYPT



Lectionary Readings

2 August

18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Genesis 32: 22-31

Psalm 17: 1-7, 15

Romans 9: 1-5

Matthew 14: 13-21

9 August

19th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Genesis 37: 1-4, 12-28

Psalm 105: 1-6, 16-22, 45b

Romans 10: 5-15

Matthew 14: 22-33

16 August

20th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Genesis 45: 1-15

Psalm 133

Romans 11: 1-2a, 29-32

Matthew 15: (10-20) 21-28

23 August

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

Exodus 1:8 – 2:10

Psalm 124

Romans 12:1-8

Matthew 16:13-20

30 August

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Exodus 3: 1-15

Psalm 105: 1-6, 23-26, 45c

Romans 12: 9-21

Matthew 16: 21-28

6 September

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Exodus 12: 1-14

Psalm 149

Romans 13: 8-14

Matthew 18: 15-20

13 September

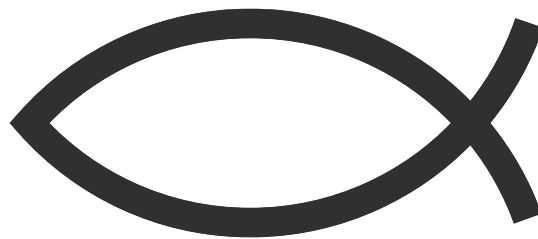
24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Exodus 14: 19-31

Psalm 114 or Canticle: Exodus 15:
1b -11, 20-21

Romans 14: 1-12

Matthew 18: 21-35



St. John's Tea in the Garden events

Saturday 1st August at Kath and David Baldwin's

Saturday 15th August at Jennifer and Tony Pitt's

Saturday 5th September at Pat and Roy Little's

For more details please see the St. John's Sunday notice sheets.

Worship in August

Sunday 2nd August

Bromyard	10.30am	Mrs. Wendy Werrell	
Ledbury	10.30am	Mrs. Jude Levermore	Chapel Anniversary/ Source
Ledbury	2.30pm	Revd. Phil Warrey	
St. John's	10.30am	Revd. Phil Warrey	

Sunday 9th August

Bromyard	2.30pm	Revd. Phil Warrey	Holy Communion
Ledbury	10.30am	Dr. Gillian & Mr. Stephen Chowns	
Ledbury	6.00pm	Revd. Phil Warrey	Iona
St. John's	10.30am	Mr. Tony Pitt	Source

Sunday 16th August

Bromyard	10.30am	Mr. Chris Ottershaw	
Ledbury	10.30am	Revd. Phil Warrey	Holy Communion/Source
St. John's	10.30am	Revd. Ruth and Mr Neil Eldridge	Holy Communion
St. John's	4.00pm	Revd. Phil Warrey	Tea Church

Sunday 23rd August

Bromyard	2.30pm	Mrs. Linda Williams	
Ledbury	10.30am	Revd. Kath Baldwin	
St. John's	10.30am	Dr. Gillian & Mr. Stephen Chowns	Source

Sunday 30th August

Bromyard	10.30am	Mr. Chris Ottershaw	
Ledbury	10.30am	Revd. Dr. Nigel Williams	Source
St. John's	10.30am	Revd. Paul Gill	

Diary Dates

Saturday 5th September

9.00 - 10.30am Women's Prayer Breakfast, Ledbury

Worship into September

Sunday 6th September

Bromyard	10.30am	Rev. Kath Baldwin	Holy Communion
Ledbury	10.30am	Rev. Martyn Sanders	Holy Communion
Ledbury	2.30pm	Rev. Phil Warrey	
St. John's	10.30am	Rev. Phil Warrey	Source



Keeping InTouch

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Rest day: Usually Friday

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The deadline for the September edition of In Touch is Sunday 16th August.

ideally, please send material by email to hfdscircuitnews@gmail.com

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