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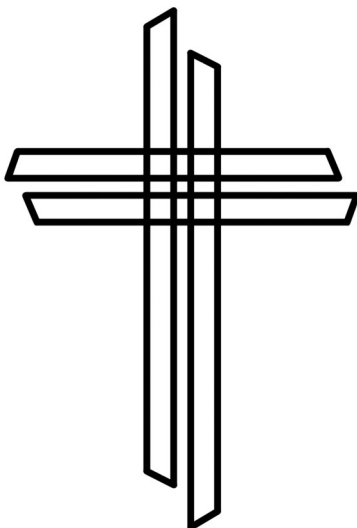
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Letter from Rev Allison:

A Summer of Admiration



This summer I have been impressed by some extraordinary achievements. Jamie and I went to London with our two oldest grandchildren; we are always amazed by the way that the London Underground works. To have so many lines built at so many different times by so many different railway companies and to put them together into one system which (most of the time) works so efficiently is an extraordinary achievement. I know our Metro system is also great – apart from not coming out to Newburn and Throckley – but it had the advantage that it was mostly built at one time and as a co-ordinated system from the start.

The next thing that impressed me was watching the Paralympics on the television. To see people who had adapted to disability from birth, or from illness or from terrible accidents and to achieve such incredible sporting achievements was truly humbling.

Then finally I was fortunate enough to go to Barcelona with my best friend. There were lots of great things to see, but the best of all was the extraordinary cathedral, the Sagrada Familia. Awesome is an over-used word but it's hard to think of any other way to describe a building that is quite unlike any other

Of course, not all of the people involved in these feats were Christians, but some were. Antoni Gaudi, the man responsible for the creation of the Sagrada Familia, is

often referred to as a deeply religious man, but I would prefer to call him a man of faith. And Kadeena Cox OBE gave God the credit when, after suffering the heartbreak of falling off her bike in one event due to a flare up of her multiple sclerosis, she returned to take gold in the team pursuit.

Kadeena once said on twitter:

“If I trained once a week for a few hours I could never expect to be one of the best athletes in the world!! So how can anyone expect to be a good God loving Christian when you only go to church, open your Bible and praise God on a Sunday.”

Her words are a reminder that we must give our all to God. I think it's safe to assume that no one reading this has the gifts to become a world class athlete, to design one of the world's greatest cathedrals or to join up fourteen different railways lines, but we all have gifts and can choose to use them or not for God's glory. With the winter coming, it's easy to opt for inactivity, to choose to spend our time watching quality TV dramas or the not so quality programmes about minor celebrities going on holiday with their family or friends.

But to follow Jesus means to give everything over to his service: our time, our energies, our money, our gifts and everything else. We may not feel that we have much of these things, but what we have should be used for God. And the Bible makes clear that all Christians have gifts that have been given by God and should be used in his service. There is no hierarchy here – if any Christian uses their gifts fully they will bring just as much glory to God as the achievements of Kadeena Cox or Antoni Gaudi.

“There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit distributes them. There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. There are different kinds of working, but in all of them and in everyone it is the same God at work.” 1 Corinthians 12: 4-6

Rev Allison Harding



Sunday Service Information

9.30am St Michael's

11am St Mary's

6pm (4th Sunday) St Mary's

Thursday 10am The Vicarage

Morning Prayer Service

*The following information can be
applied every month:*

1st Sunday: Communion

2nd Sunday: All Age Family Communion

3rd Sunday: Communion

4th Sunday: Morning Praise (am) & Contemporary
Worship (pm)

5th Sunday: JOINT SERVICE 10am

From the Registers:

Weddings:

Brett and Megan Dewfield
wedding blessing 24th August
St Mary's



Funerals:

Joan Fraser Died 07/09/24 Funeral 26th September
Andrew Curtis Died 09/09/24 Funeral 23th September
Clifford Westwood Died 10/09/24 2nd October

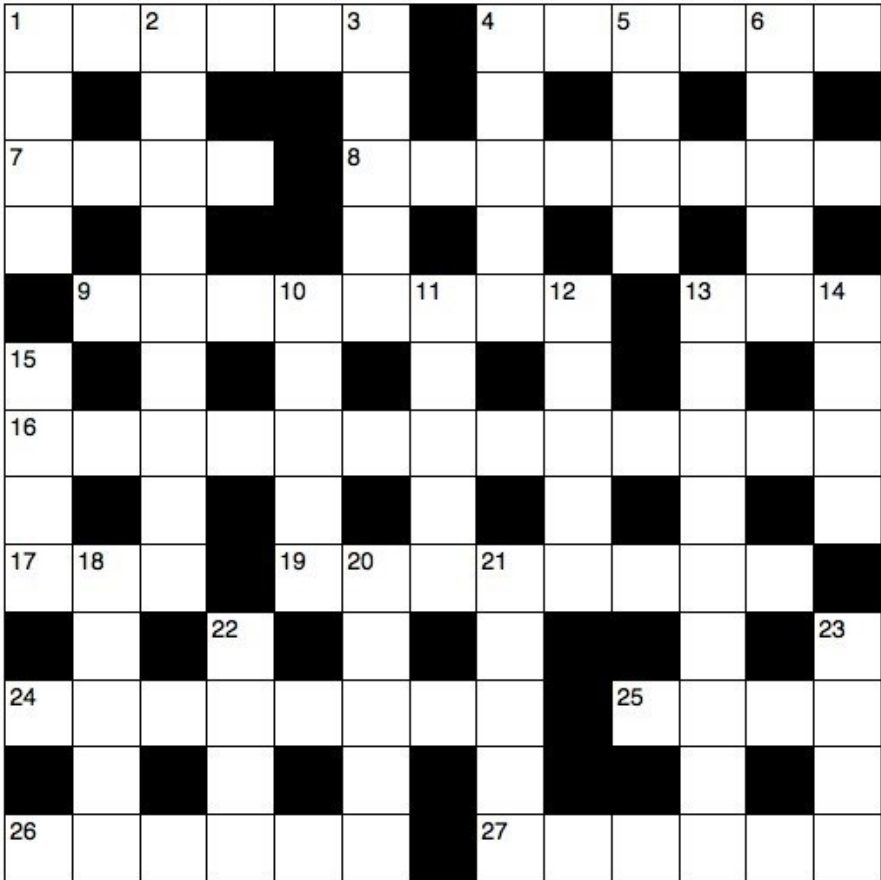
Baptisms:

Phoebe Scott
21st September St Michael's,



Ronan Philips
22nd September St Mary's





Across

1 He must be ‘the husband of but one wife and must manage his children and his household well’ (1 Timothy 3:12) (6)

4 ‘For we must all — before the judgement seat of Christ’ (2 Corinthians 5:10) (6)

7 ‘They reeled and staggered like drunken men; they were at their — end’ (Psalm 107:27) (4)

8 See 19 Across

9 It concerned who among the disciples would be the greatest (Luke 9:46) (8)

13 Formed by the Jews in Thessalonica to root out Paul and

Silas (Acts 17:5) (3)

16 'He has sent me to bind up the — ' (Isaiah 61:1) (6-7)

17 Moved rapidly on foot (Matthew 28:8) (3)

19 and 8 ' — a great company of the — host appeared with the angel' (Luke 2:13) (8,8)

24 Hindrance (Romans 14:13) (8)

25 Comes between Luke and Acts (4)

26 Empower (Acts 4:29) (6)

27 'Get these out of here! How dare you turn my Father's house into a — !' (John 2:16) (6)

Down

1 Sunrise (Psalm 119:147) (4)

2 The part of the day when Cornelius the Caesarean centurion had a vision of an angel of God (Acts 10:3) (9)

3 He was one of those who returned with Zerubbabel from exile in Babylon to Jerusalem (Nehemiah 7:7) (5)

4 'No one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born — '(John 3:3) (5)

5 Animal hunted or killed as food (Ezekiel 22:25) (4)

6 'He encouraged them — — remain true to the Lord' (Acts 11:23) (3,2)

10 Ruses (anag.) (5)

11 Jewish priestly vestment (Exodus 28:6) (5)

12 Visible sign of what had been there (Daniel 2:35) (5)

13 This was the trade of Alexander, who did Paul 'a great deal of harm' (2 Timothy 4:14) (9)

14 'This is my — , which is for you; do this in remembrance of me' (1 Corinthians 11:24) (4)

15 One of Noah's great-great-grandsons (Genesis 10:24) (4)

18 Traditionally the first British Christian martyr (5)

20 Relationship of Ner to Saul (1 Samuel 14:50) (5)

21 Jacob had one at a place he named Bethel while on his way to Haran, fleeing from Esau (Genesis 28:12) (5)

22 Bats (anag.) (4)

23 'You strain out a — but swallow a camel' (Matthew 23:24) (4)

ECO CHURCH FOCUS

OCTOBER:

[Unblocktober](#) – 1st October 2024 – 31st October 2024

This annual, month-long campaign was started to create and promote awareness on how we can improve the health of our sewers, drains and seas. First launched in 2019, thousand of people up and down the UK have made pledges to change their bathroom and kitchen habits. Many of us don't realise the wider environmental implications of what we put down our drains.

[International Walk to School Month](#) – 1st - 31st October 2024

Led by [Living Streets](#), this is a month-long campaign to encourage children and parents to walk to school. Promoting better travel [habits](#) that are kinder to the environment, road safety awareness and the fun of exercise, there are many ways to get involved.

[No Disposable Cup day](#) – 4th October 2024

This day is dedicated to not using a disposable cup. Their website states “Daily in the UK we use more than 7 MILLION DISPOSABLE CUPS – 500,000 are dropped on the floor! UK is one of the worst in the World in disposable cup waste using 2.5 billion cups a year – this would create a pile of disposable cup waste as big as the Albert Hall in London!” This one is easy to solve. Get yourself a reusable cup.

[Recycle Now Recycle week](#) – 14th – 20th October 2024

This annual event, hosted by Recycle Now, serves as their primary initiative to promote and foster recycling throughout the entire country. They're really keen to get schools involved in this great initiative and learn how they can get involved.

[International E-waste Day](#) – 14th October 2024

International E-Waste Day acts as a platform for heightening awareness regarding the problem of electronic waste. Any or-

ganisations that have an issue with E-waste can take part. *'You can recycle anything with a plug, battery or cable! International E-Waste Day to shed the light on 'invisible' electronic waste.'*

Eco-Tips Calendar:

OCTOBER Contribute to wildlife conservation. Clean bird feeders to prevent diseases spreading to winter migrants. Install a nest box well before breeding season to provide a cosy retreat for small birds during cold winter nights. As you observe the local birds reflect on this verse, 'I know every bird in the mountains, and the insects in the fields are mine.' Psalm 50:11



Our hedgehogs are in crisis

It is feared that there may be just one million hedgehogs left in Britain. This compares to about 36 million during the 1960s. About 150,000 hedgehogs are killed on our roads every year.

With this in mind, England's first 'hedgehog crossing' road signs have recently been launched in several Borough Councils around the country. The aim is to try and save the species from eventual extinction.

The new sign features a hedgehog with white quills inside a red triangle above a message that reads 'hedgehogs crossing'.

The design has been approved by the Department for Transport and it is hoped that the signs will make a big difference in preserving the hedgehog population. The aim is to raise awareness among motorists, to get them to slow down, and also among people using a strimmer in their garden.

Prayers for October

Heavenly Father,

As we enter the month of October, we thank you for your Gospel, the great, good tidings we may carry in our hearts to give us joy in this present time, even though on all sides people are in anguish and agony.

Help us to share your Gospel through our thoughts, actions, deeds, and words.

Through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour. Amen

Heavenly Father,

We acknowledge your power. As humans we can forget that ultimately, God created the world.

We pray for those in our world facing challenges and difficult situations. We pray for those in power, leaders across the world, who are human just like us.

Give us the strength and resources we all need to support those that are suffering, bringing comfort, healing and peace in Your name.

Through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour. Amen

Heavenly Father,

As the winter approaches, do not allow us be cloaked in its darkness.

Help us to be kind to our neighbours and ourselves.

May we always be aware of your love, graciousness and compassion, and let your light everlasting shine to show us the way, the truth and the life.

Through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour. Amen

If you would like to join the Annual Magazine Prayer Rota, or even

Prayer by Joanne Batey

Heavenly Father,

Thank you for allowing us to worship in your churches of St Michaels and St Marys.

While we pray help us to feel the power of the Holy Spirit descend upon us. Let your Spirit fill us with Your love and compassion. Help us to show others that Gods love lives in all of us.

Since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour. Amen

Lord,

As we move into autumn and the month of October, the normal seasonal changes are all around us, the beautiful colours, the falling leaves, the cooler days. And that is reassuring.

But, so much else in our world is changing so rapidly, often in ways we don't understand. And that can be worrying.

Thank you that You never change. You are always the same, faithful, present and loving. And You tell us in Your Word, not to be anxious about anything, but to bring all things to You in prayer and to trust You. When we do this, You promise us Your Peace – a peace of heart that steadies us and helps us move forward.

Thank you that whatever comes, we are secure in You, when we put our trust in Jesus.

In His name, we pray. Amen.

By Daphne Kitching

Just do a one off prayer, please get in touch with Helen Dawson.



"It's either an appeal to youth culture
or we can't afford to service the boiler
for the Winter season"

REFLECTIONS FROM MY DAILY BIBLE NOTES

What more could God do for You?

Author Ray Brennan tells the story of how he was given the name Brennan. Growing up his best friend was called Ray Brennan. The two of them did everything together: went to school together; as teenagers started dating together. They even joined the army together, went to boot camp together and into action. One night sitting in a foxhole Brennan was reminiscing about the old days. Ray listened then took a chocolate bar from his pocket and shared it with his friend.

Suddenly a grenade landed in their under ground cover. Ray threw himself on the live grenade. It exploded, killing Ray, but Brennan's life was spared. Later on Brennan was ordained as a priest, and at that time it was customary to take the name of a saint. He thought of this friend Ray Brennan and chose the name Brennan. (Brennan being a Celtic saint.) Years later he visited Ray's mother. While they sat quietly sipping tea together he asked "Do you think Ray loved me?" She stood up and shook her finger and said "What more could he have done for you?" Brennan said at that moment he had an epiphany. He imagined he was standing at the foot of the cross wondering did Jesus really love me and he saw Mary, the mother of Jesus, point to her son and say "What more could he have done for you?"

When Jesus said, "IT IS FINISHED. FATHER, INTO YOUR HANDS I COMMIT MY SPIRIT." He paid the full price of our salvation, our salvation is secure. The question is will we accept Jesus as our Lord and Saviour? It is wonderful how a simple daily reading can speak to your heart. For more information about 'Word for today', United Christian Broadcasters Daily Readings, Radio and Prayerline, go to: UCB. CO.UK

Mary Weatheral

What's the Big Idea? - an Introduction to the Gospel of Matthew:

This month we turn to the New Testament and look at Matthew, the first of the gospels. Although linked to Matthew the apostle, it is generally believed that the author used oral tradition, written fragments, eye-witness accounts, as well as common material in the other synoptic gospels (Mark and Luke).

Matthew, in writing for Jews, sets out to prove that Jesus is the true Messiah. He connects Jesus' birth, life death and resurrection with the Old Testament Scriptures. In fact, he quotes the Old Testament more than any other New Testament author. This is reflected in the opening genealogy which traces Jesus back to Abraham; in his use of the terms *kingdom of heaven* and *Father in heaven*, reflecting a Jewish reluctance to use God's name; and in the way he portrays Jesus as the *Son of David*.

The whole gospel is structured around five blocks of teaching (chapters 5-7; 10; 13; 18; 24-25). This fivefold division reflects the structure of the Pentateuch (the first five books of the Old Testament).

Matthew provides a comprehensive context by which we see all God's creation and salvation completed in Jesus, and all parts of our lives (work, family, friends and future) completed in Him. At the end of his gospel, Matthew records Jesus' commission to His disciples share this good news, promising to be with them:

'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Me. Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely, I am with you always, to the very end of the age.' (28:18-20)

Canon Paul Hardingham

Care for Creation

António Guterres (United Nations Secretary-General) has said that we're at 'Code red for humanity: the alarm bells are deafening, and the evidence is irrefutable: greenhouse gas emissions from fossil fuel burning and deforestation are choking our planet and putting billions of people at immediate risk.' At this time of Creationtide, how are we to respond to these climate concerns?



The world belongs to God:

'The earth is the Lord's and everything in it' (Psalm 24:1). The world is not ours, but God's! We are called to share in care for God's world: *'Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky and over every living creature that moves on the ground.'* (Genesis 1:28). We represent God by governing with the same self-giving generosity that we see in His creation of the earth. This challenges our consumer mindset, that sees the earth's resources as both limitless and existing simply for our needs. For example, the fashion industry uses as much carbon per minute, as a car emits going six times round the world! How can we make a difference in our world?

We belong to Christ:

We also belong to the one who's plan is: *'to be put into effect when the times reach their fulfilment – to bring unity to all things in heaven and on earth under Christ.'* (Ephesians 1:10). We can look forward to the time when God will create a new heaven and a new earth and make everything new. Meanwhile, we are called to serve as He serves, caring for the earth and our fellow humans, by living simply, recycling, conserving energy and choosing reusable options.

In terms of our world, there is no plan B! God gave us only one planet!

Canon Paul Hardingham

Bethany - Welcome



BETHANY

We meet on the third Wednesday of the month in St Mary's, Throckley at 1pm.

We will be observing some restrictions owing to the continuing Covid situation. As previously we will have a time of worship, an activity or quiz and there will be a cuppa with light refreshments.

ALL ARE WELCOME - we look forward to seeing friends old and new.

There is no charge - voluntary donations to cover expenses can be given.

Please contact Margaret Ledger on 0191 2672953 for more info if required



Noah's Ark Playgroup

Wednesday 10-11.30am
(school term time only)

Newburn Parish Hall

£1.50 per family,
Refreshments provided



Reflecting Faith: Window Glass

Last month I wrote about the Arts and Crafts Movement's influence in the decoration of churches in Britain. This is often evidenced in the designs of windows – but why do we have so much coloured glass of all shapes and sizes in church buildings?

Stained glass in churches is similar to wall paintings in that it adds colour as well as traditionally serving the purpose of teaching non-literate people the great events and characters of their religion.

But glass is so much more than that.

The techniques used to create these windows have been refined over the centuries, and their intricate beauty has inspired countless artists and designers.

The way the light shines through the glass creates a unique atmosphere that is often described as ethereal or heavenly. In this way, the use of stained-glass windows helps to create a sacred space that is set apart from the secular world.

The light shining through the glass is shown onto the brickwork or stonework surrounding the glass and depending on the original colours, the intensity of the light, the angle of the sun's rays as well as the height and angle away from the watcher: these can range from vibrantly strong to softly muted.

Hundreds of years ago people saw the changes in light in this way as being very significant. It was thought that the light passing through was transformed or transmuted and because of this it had a healing and revivifying effect on people who placed themselves within its light.

This month

Visit a church on a sunny day and just enjoy the play of light being put on for you. What does it say about God's love for you?

The Revd Dr Jo White



A group of people are researching the history of Throckley, which will be recorded, photographed and a full report collated at the end of the project. A display will be produced to show all the findings—from the past to the

present day and on completion this will be displayed in Throckley Communiy Hall. The group would love to hear from anyone who would like to contribute to the research with memories, photographs, pictures or objects that could be added to the material already collected. Memories/stories could be written down or shared in conversation, objects could be photographed or given on loan to the project (they will be kept safe) & photographs could be copied so that originals are immediately returned. If you have anything to contribute please call in to the Community Hall (back Victoria Terrace) or telephone 0191 2644075 for further information.

Women in church leadership

Women are increasingly represented in church leadership across many denominations.

Some have had women in leadership right from the start, like the Salvation Army, while the Roman Catholics and the Orthodox still have none. The Church of England ordained women in 1994, and since then their numbers have increased every year since 2000. The average percentage of women clergy across denominational groups and the year range of 2000 to 2020 shows that in 2000 it was 14% and by 2020 it was 22%. In numbers, this has been an increase of about 630 more women priests year on year, spread across all these denominations.

Very broadly, research shows women are often preferred for pastoral and community care by 'those in the pew', while men tend to be seen as better administrators. But for competence in leadership, communication and foresight, gender is not usually a significant variable – age is seen as more important.

Dr Peter Brierley

Poet's Corner

Moving On

I gather up the post and stare down through the empty hall
Devoid of all humanity, no echoes there at all
Dear House.
You have witnessed my sorrows and shared in my joy
With the birth of a girl, then the birth of a boy
Mumps and measles, chickenpox
Bedtime stories with Goldilocks
Board games around the dining room table
Grandma, Uncle John and Auntie Mabel
Air raids, black out, family celebrations
Teenage music causing bad vibrations
The view from the attic of the garden in spring
The low bough on the apple tree where the children
Would swing
I always knew you were built to last
It's too late now the die is cast
The children have left, dear husband long gone
Life is too short I must move on
To live near a town in a very small flat
With not much more than a couple of yards
To swing the proverbial cat
Central heating, double-glazing built-in cupboards galore
A bathroom with a walk-in shower, who could ask for more?
Dear House.
How did you feel when they cleared each room?
Leaving curtains wide open to welcome the moon
My heart is heavy, do you sense my pain?
Knowing I will never cross your threshold again
I turn the key in the lock for the very last time
Goodbye, dear friend, you are no longer mine.

Audrey McAllister 2020

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Help with laundry, cleaning or shopping?



Support with Doctor/Hospital appointments?



Befriending services or help to join in with community activities?



Please contact John Hewitt or Lisa Langford for further details on :
01912673728



Rev Allison Harding (Vicar)

Please contact Allison to arrange Baptism, Confirmation or Marriage. If you know of people who are ill or are in hospital please let us know.

The deadline for any inclusions for the magazine is

Two Sundays before the last Sunday of the month

Please either email or hand to Helen Dawson.
helenrdawson@yahoo.co.uk

If you have any questions or opinions about the magazine content and style, or would like to write an article please get in touch.

All feedback welcome.

If you know of anyone who would like to receive a magazine (only £5.00 per annum) please get in touch and we will add their name to the distribution list.