



Dear Friends

Life is full of milestones, some which require exciting celebration, others which we simply notice and wonder what the world looks like now. This month marks the last time I will be able to say that I still have a child at school. I remember when Nathan left Primary school finding that quite a Rite of Passage, now seven years on it feels a little different, less sadness (I think) but a touch of poignancy as he moves on into what passes for adulthood. As with all young people he faces a future full of potential and some uncertainty.

As I write this I have no idea what will have happened in the EU referendum on June 23<sup>rd</sup>. Presumably by the time you read this (unless you pick up an early copy) the results will be known; but there will still be uncertainty. Moreover there will be many bridges to build and relationships to mend in the wake of a bruising campaign.

The last weeks leading up to the referendum have proved to be very difficult as in the news we see murder and mayhem both on the streets of Orlando and in a normally quiet Yorkshire village. We are reminded constantly of how easy it is to turn people against one another and of the imperative not to demonise people who are either different from us or who hold different views.

The Christian message of reconciliation is fundamentally about reconciliation between people and God but it doesn't stop there. There is an imperative to be reconciled to the people around us, whether they are people of different backgrounds whom we know very little, or people we know well who have hurt us deeply in the past. Reconciliation is itself a Rite of Passage and we move from a state of distrust to one where the hand of the other can be held. Whatever has happened in the referendum, we live in a world of rapid change where it can be difficult to see what is coming next and hard to cope with it.

Trusting in God is our only option. As we celebrate the 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday of Queen Elizabeth 2nd, it may not hurt to remember her father's Christmas broadcast in 1939 to a nation, and empire sitting on the brink of terrible times

He said,

"A new year is at hand. We cannot tell what it will bring. If it brings peace, how thankful we shall all be. If it brings us continued struggle we shall remain undaunted."

And then quoted from Minnie Haskins' poem "The Gate of the Year" (1908) :

I said to the man who stood at the Gate of the Year,

'Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown.'

And he replied, 'Go out into the darkness, and put your hand into the Hand of God.

That shall be better than light, and safer than a known way.'

Whatever milestone we are marking, this sounds like good news.

**Priscilla**

## Aspects of life at St Faith and St Laurence

**Morning prayer** – is normally said Monday to Thursday and Saturday at 8.15 am in the Lady Chapel. We use Common Worship Daily Prayer, all are welcome to come and join in.

**Reflections** A chance to meet together over a cuppa and reflect on the Gospel reading for the previous Sunday. A group meets on Mondays from 1.45-3pm Venues are listed in the Programme of the month.

**Task Groups** – The church has a number of task groups enabling areas of church life. These are listed in the magazine with the contact details of the chairs. If you would like to be a part of a groups please contact the relevant chair or Priscilla. All are welcome to join.

**Stay and Play** meets on Thursday between 9.30 and 11am in the Hall to give a chance for people with young children to meet and the children to play. All are welcome. Cost £1.50 per family.

**Sunday Club** meets on the first and third Sundays of each month except during the holidays. We hold an extra Sunday Club on days when there is a baptism. All are welcome to join in hearing and experiencing a Bible Story and learning together about what it means for our daily lives.

**Messy Church** takes place on the first Saturday in the month most months. A chance for children and parents/ carers to have an informal time of worship, and discovering about a Bible story through song, craft, listening, cooking and so much more. Dates are published in advance and all are welcome to come along.

**Planned Giving** helps people make giving regular. You decide how much you can afford to give. You can join the envelope scheme weekly or monthly or pay by Standing Order or annually by cheque. Income tax payers are asked to Gift Aid their giving, so the Church can reclaim the tax on their donations at no extra cost to the donors. For details, contact Jackie Taylor or Brenda Stott

**Call in for Coffee** time together over a cuppa on a Wednesday morning from 10.30 -12.00. if needed we can arrange for someone to collect you and then take you home. Please ring Pauline Sitford (427 7005). If you are passing, do call in, or bring a friend, all are welcome.

We support **Recycling**. We have boxes at the back of the church where you can leave batteries and printer ink cartridges to be recycled. We have a special collection on the first Sunday of every month when we collect ALUMINIUM cans and foil which can be sold and the money raised is donated to our Mission Partners in Chile (through USPG) We also have envelopes for recycling mobile phones again supporting USPG. Pauline Sitford (427 7005).

### Jesus / number quiz answers. ( from page 12)

1. **3.** The widow's son: Luke 7:11-17; Lazarus: John 11:43-44; Jairus' daughter: Matthew 9:18-26, Mark 5:21-43, Luke 8:40-56
2. **12** years old.
3. **3** days.
4. **5** loaves
5. **2.** Fish
6. **10** lepers
7. **33** yrs old
8. **6** months
9. **8** days old
10. **72** people
11. **6** days
12. Chapter **5**



... And if you add all these numbers together, you get 165

### Riddle-The Answer is: NOTHING!

NOTHING has 7 letters. NOTHING preceded God. NOTHING is greater than God. NOTHING is more Evil than the devil. All poor people have NOTHING. Wealthy people need NOTHING. If you eat NOTHING, you will die.

### Sonnet for St Thomas the Apostle– July 3rd

'We do not know ... how can we know the way?'  
Courageous master of the awkward question,  
You spoke the words the others dared not say  
And cut through their evasion and abstraction.  
O doubting Thomas, father of my faith,  
You put your finger on the nub of things:  
We cannot Love some disembodied wrath,  
But flesh and blood must be our king of kings.  
Your teaching is to touch, embrace, anoint,  
Feel after him and find him in the flesh.  
Because he loved your awkward counterpoint,  
The Word has heard and granted you your wish.  
O place my hands with yours, help me divine  
The wounded God whose wounds are healing mine.

*Malcolm Guite*

## Catching Oysters

A story is told about John Wesley and one of the early Methodist lay preachers, a man with little formal education. On one occasion, the lay preacher took as his text Luke 19:21, "Lord, I feared thee, because thou art an austere man." Not knowing the word 'austere', the simple lay preacher thought that the text spoke of "an oyster man."

So he spoke about the work of those who retrieve oysters from the seabed. He described in detail how the diver must plunge down from the surface, cut off from his natural environment, into cold water. He gropes in the dark, cutting his hands on the sharp edges of the shells. When he has the oyster, he kicks his way back up to the surface, up to the warmth and light and air, clutching in his torn and bleeding hands the object of his search.

So Christ, declared the lay preacher, descended from the glory of heaven into the squalor of earth, and sinful human society. His purpose was to retrieve humans, and bring them back up with him to the glory of heaven. His torn and bleeding hands were a sign of the value he has placed on the object of His quest. Twelve men were converted to faith in Christ that evening.

Afterwards, someone complained to Wesley about the inappropriateness of allowing preachers who were too ignorant to know the meaning of the texts they were preaching on. Wesley simply said, "Never mind, the Lord got a dozen oysters tonight."

## Dear Lord

So far today, I'm doing all right.

I have not gossiped, lost my temper,

Been greedy, nasty, selfish or self-indulgent.

I have not whined, complained, cursed

Or eaten any chocolate.

I have charged nothing on my credit card.

But I will be getting out of bed in a minute,

And I think I will really need your help then.

Amen

**Home Communion** We have a team of lay people trained and able to bring Home Communion usually on a monthly basis. This is for those who are unable to come to church long term. If the situation is more temporary for example after an operation you can also receive communion, usually from Priscilla. In either case please contact Priscilla.

## Traidcraft

Traidcraft sells a range of fairly traded food, cards, clothes and accessories. We use Traidcraft tea and coffee and everything we buy helps fight poverty and supports our church. You can order seasonal gifts through the church at Christmas time when catalogues will be available. Any questions, please ask Ruth Jeavons or Bronwen Jones.

## 'easyfundraising'

Next time you shop online, think of St Faith and St Laurence and raise free donations with 3,000+ retailers:

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/stfaithandstlaurence>

**Gridiron Club** is a friendship group for men and women. It meets monthly, usually on the third Tuesday, at 7.30 pm in the Committee Room. There are talks, outings and social events which are open to all.

**Women's Fellowship** meets on the first Monday of the month from March to December. Meetings are held in the Committee Room 7.30 for 8pm. We have talks on a variety of subjects. See Programme of the Month for details.

## Prayer Ministry Team

Prayer ministry is offered during the 10am Communion on Sundays. People can receive prayer for themselves or for any situation that is important to them. It takes place in the Lady Chapel during the distribution of communion.

## Service with no name

This takes place on the first Thursday in the month in church at 7.30pm.

## Foodbank

We collect food for the Quinton and Oldbury Foodbank. There is a box in church and food can be placed there at any time. The list of things that are needed is in church and in the hall. Food is distributed from St Boniface Church on Wednesdays and Paul and Barney's place on Fridays. Vouchers are required to receive food.

## Choir and Music.

Choir Practice takes place weekly, normally on Thursdays 6-7pm. Anyone interested in singing in the choir should contact Simon Palmer, Organist & Choirmaster. (Contact details on page cover) We also like to encourage instrumentalists to perform in church, either in services or in concerts.

## Report of the meeting of the Parochial Church Council held on 7<sup>th</sup> June

The vicar welcomed Aimee Whittaker, a student on a five week placement at our church, who was attending the meeting to see what the PCC does.

### Transforming Church

#### a) Action Plan

Before the meeting an Action Plan had been drawn up by the vicar and distributed for discussion at the meeting. The action plan focuses on those areas of work which seem to be particularly important over the period May 2016-Dec 2017. It is a document designed to be continually updated and revised. Some items will be completed quite quickly, others will have a longer lifespan, and almost all are part of our ongoing life as a church community.

The Areas of work which have been highlighted are as follows: -

- *Children and Young People's Work*
- *Communications*
- *The 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Church in 2017*
- *Education for confident disciples ready and able to share their faith*

Key to all of the areas of work is the desire to be an outward-facing and growing Christian Community fit to serve the people of the community in which we are set, a community in which all can grow in confidence in faith and service.

After a long and fascinating discussion about the Action Plan several ideas were put forward and amendments suggested. The vicar is to send out a revised Plan reflecting these changes.

#### b) Talking Jesus Leaflet

The contents of the leaflet were the response to questions about Jesus and was commissioned by the Church of England, Evangelical Alliance and HOPE and carried out by Barna Group. The vicar had distributed the leaflets prior to the meeting. As there was a lot of the PCC missing, it was decided that we would have a discussion on a couple of items and discuss again in more detail at the next meeting. Again, the PCC had a really good discussion and some of the facts were very enlightening.

#### c) Welcome Leaflet

The vicar asked for any comments or thoughts we had to be sent to Bronwen and we would discuss this at the next meeting when Bronwen would be present.

**Vicky Hubble**

# Poetry

James Campbell, a poet, was in my school last month and did a workshop with us about how to write poetry. Below is the poem I wrote for my Grumpy (grandfather), to help his fight against cancer.

### **Impossible Gifts For Grumpy**

These are the gifts that I would, if I could, give to you...  
The care and aid of Mother Theresa;  
A lucky pearl from a mermaid's purse;  
The last breeze of Winter;  
The first breath of Spring;  
The fiery heart of a phoenix;  
A proud roar of a tiger;  
The light at the end of a long tunnel;  
Abilities to fight the big fight;  
The gift of bravery and courage;  
The gift to never be blue and only have gold in your heart;  
The power to heal physically and mentally;  
The magic, comforting teardrop of an angel;  
A shining star to give you hope;  
Moonbeams in a jar to make sure you're never in the dark;  
A beautiful, white dove to represent peace;  
An enchanted eraser to rub out your mistakes throughout your life and change things;  
A tub of rainbow colours to make you beam;  
And a key to open every door to your problems.

**Lilibeth Hubble (choir member) Aged 10.**

## Christian Aid Week House- to- House Collection



A big "Thank You" to everyone who helped with the collection and the count for this year's Christian Aid Week . The total money collected was £2062 though it is anticipated that there will be one or two late donations which could take the sum up to, or beyond, last year's total £2174.

Again there were mixed reactions to the appeal but most, if not all, collectors could tell of positive and sometimes moving responses on the doorstep.

It was encouraging to have additional collectors this year both from our own church, and from our friends at St Mary's CAFOD group.

Thanks also to all who helped with the count and also to Alan Jones for being my "minder" when taking the money to the bank.

**Judith/Geoff Bennett**

Our thanks also, to Judith and Geoff for all their hard work again this year.

## Court Oak House, Harborne

### We are seeking to appoint a WARDEN

Court Oak House provides supported accommodation for up to 12 people with 'life' problems, and this is an exciting opportunity to play a part in developing the care and support of the residents.

The new Warden will have experience of community living and some understanding of caring for people in a way that encourages their independence. This is a full time post and comes with a 1 bedroom flat if required.

For a full Job Description and Person Specification please e-mail us:  
courtoakhouse@gmail.com

We are a Christian based charity, and the person appointed will need to be sympathetic to and supportive of the Christian faith.

The closing date for applications is Friday August 19th

# Celebrating 80 YEARS

## The church celebrates its 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2017.

In 2007 we had a series of events throughout the year celebrating that anniversary and the general idea is that we do something similar this time. The events were a mix of services and social events with outreach as a key theme within the whole.

If anyone has any ideas for events, or projects that would be good to do for the year, please either speak to Priscilla or write it down and put it in the box marked Anniversary ideas.

Please do also consider volunteering for the Task Group.

## CHOIR NEWS



Many congratulations to the following choristers who have gained new ribbons in June:

**Dark Blue Ribbon** Charles Frank Amy Blackledge

**Light Blue Ribbon** Rahul Choudhary Alanah Hamilton

**Simon Palmer, Organist & Choirmaster**

## Email update from Colin and Audrey Gibson



### Lebanon May 2016

We have mentioned much about the refugee situation here in past newsletters but LSESD continues to minister to Lebanese children and adults too. Here are two examples from the ministries Audrey and I are particularly involved with. April is the month when SKiLD, Special Kids with Individual Learning Differences, hold their National Day to raise awareness across Lebanon of children with special educational needs. This involves much publicity in the press, on TV, social media and via text message to all mobile phone numbers in Lebanon. The highlight event this year was a sponsored mini marathon near the sea front just north of Beirut supported by the Minister of Education and a well known celebrity pop singer. The event culminated with the Minister announcing new financial resources from the Government to provide provision for SEN children in 60 public schools. A significant step forward as to date only private schools have seen any provision for these children.

### **Give thanks for this new Government initiative and please pray for all children with special needs in Lebanon.**

April also saw Dar Manhal al Hayat (DMAH), the publishing house for LSESD, and the Baptist Children and Youth Ministry hold a two-day conference for young adults exploring the themes of singleness and human sexuality. These are topics that are not often discussed openly in the church here so these were quite radical topics to choose. The main speaker was Dr Una Aboujanra a Lebanese American who has written a number of books on these topics, two of which we have recently translated into Arabic by DMAH, so this was also an opportunity to publically 'launch' these new books. Over 140 young people from churches across Lebanon attended the event and the feedback was overwhelmingly positive. We see this linking of our publishing work with teaching as an area that we can grow over the next few years. The next topic under consideration is Marriage. Give thanks for the opportunity to help young people in Lebanon by discussing these sensitive topics in a constructive way.

We recently went on another organised hike, this time visiting the ancient Greek and Roman ruins at Baalbek (Heliopolis) in north eastern Lebanon. These are some of the best preserved ruins in Lebanon including one of the largest Roman temples still in existence. A fascinating place and we had an excellent guide though unfortunately we had to rush our visit slightly as we ran short of time. Finally, our visa situation has had a setback. We recently returned to the issuing office expecting to receive our visas only to be told that another signature was required before they could even begin to process our papers. So we expect to have to wait another 6 weeks at least. (NB. This supersedes what we wrote a couple of weeks ago in the Linkletter that you will receive soon from CMS.

## Church of England prayer calls for "humility in victory, and dignity in defeat"



The Church of England (CofE) has released a special prayer for the Euro 2016. It asks that teams be "ambassadors for their sport" and calls for "humility in victory, and dignity in defeat".

The prayer reminds players that "the game isn't everything" and prays for fans to "remain open to friendship" alongside their passion for success.

### **The prayer:**

"God our Father, thank you for all your gifts to us, and especially the beautiful game.

"We pray for the teams that in the heat of competition they may be ambassadors for their sport.

"We pray for the players that as they give everything to their cause they remember the game isn't everything, win, lose or draw.

"We pray for the officials for wisdom and clarity, for there to be a respect for authority even in fallibility.

"We pray for the fans that in sharing their passion they remain open to friendship.

"We pray for humility in victory, and dignity in defeat.

"Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen."

Speaking about the football competition, Revd Canon Debbie Flach, from Christ Church Lille, told how France is feeling.

She said: "The atmosphere is one of ongoing concern because of the terrorist attacks - either up the road or down the road - Brussels is only half an hour on the train and Paris is an hour on the train, and we've very much felt in the middle of both those terrorist attacks."

She went on: "Nobody's walking around really anxious, they were after the attacks, yes of course we all were because they were so random and so mindless.

"But there's a general apprehension simply because this is a great occasion for people gathering together."

When asked who she would be supporting, Revd Canon Debbie Flach said: "Oh dear that's a difficult question - I always start with supporting England until something unpleasant happens and they go out - then I turn my affections to France."

## Prayer of the month

### Prayers for summer

Summer is well and truly here. Some people may be going away on holiday – others staying at home. Whatever we are planning to do during the next few weeks, let us give grateful thanks to God for our beautiful world. I found these prayers on the website of St Matthew's, the Parish church of Edgeley and Cheadle Heath.

#### Blessings before the Summer Holidays

Take time to claim your strength; this is a gift from God.  
Take time to have fun; it is God's way of teaching you your strengths.  
Take time to grow yourself; only you can grow you.  
Take time to trust yourself; God trusts you.  
Take time to be self-reliant; it is better than being dependent.  
Take time to share with others; they will bless you and you will bless them.  
Take time to have hope; you are a child of God.

#### Lord God,

We put ourselves into your hands, and pray that you will bless us and our families during the wonderful months of summer. May we all help make our home a place of relaxation, joy, love, peace and safety.  
May we be generous and considerate, not thinking only about ourselves, but helping others enjoy the blessings of summertime.  
We ask this through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen

#### Prayer for the summer break

Lord, what about you and me? I don't want to forget you just because I'm away from my normal routine. Keep close to me, Lord, and remind me that my relationship with you should never take a break.

#### A Summer Blessing

May you walk with God this summer in whatever you do and wherever you go.  
May you talk to God this summer and every day and in every situation. May you talk with God every day.

#### Sally Griffiths

St Matthew's Parish of Edgeley and Cheadle Heath  
[www.edgeleyandheadleheath.org.uk](http://www.edgeleyandheadleheath.org.uk)

## A saint for a rainy day

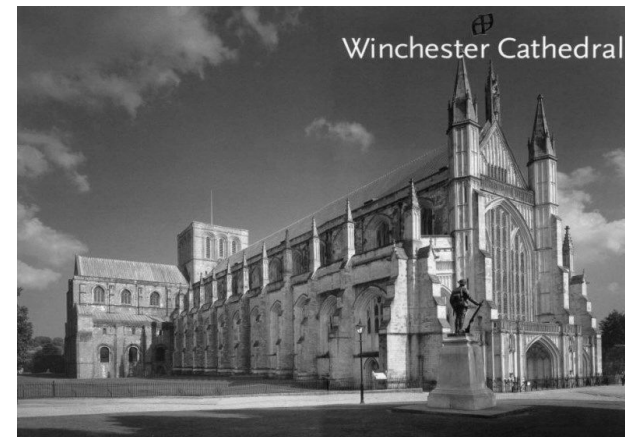
### 15th July St Swithun (or Swithin)

St Swithun is apparently the saint you can blame for rainy summers. It is said that if it rains on his special day, 15 July, it will then rain for forty days after that. It all began when he was made Bishop of Winchester in 852 by King Ethelwulf of Wessex.

It was an important posting: Winchester was the capital of Wessex, and during the 10 years Swithun was there, Wessex became the most important kingdom of England. During his life, instead of washing out people's summer holidays, and damping down their spirits, Swithun seems to have done a lot of good. He was famous for his charitable gifts and for his energy in getting churches built. When he was dying in 862, he asked that he be buried in the cemetery of the Old Minster, just outside the west door.

If he had been left there in peace, who knows how many rainy summers the English may have been spared over the last 1000 years. But, no, it was decided to move Swithun. By now, the 960s, Winchester had become the first monastic cathedral chapter in England, and the newly installed monks wanted Swithun in the cathedral with them. So finally, on 15 July 971, his bones were dug up and Swithun was translated into the cathedral.

That same day many people claimed to have had miraculous cures. Certainly everyone got wet, for the heavens opened. The unusually heavy rain that day, and on the days following, was attributed to the power of St Swithun. Swithun was moved again in 1093, into the new Winchester Cathedral. His shrine was a popular place of pilgrimage throughout the middle ages. The shrine was destroyed during the Reformation, and restored in 1962. There are 58 ancient dedications to Swithun in England.



**'Where earth's children bleed and die, it is Christ we crucify.'**

These lines from Alan Gaunt's hymn, 'Body broken for our good', were sung during the Corpus Christi Eucharist at our cathedral on May 26th.

The word 'inspirational' is over-used. But a recent edition of Desert Island Discs was exactly that. It grabbed my attention and also almost reduced me to tears. Kirsty Young's castaway was Welsh consultant Dr David Nott, in his late-50s, a qualified pilot and surgeon at the Royal Marsden, St Mary's and Chelsea and Westminster Hospitals in London.

For the past 20 years he has taken unpaid leave to work in the world's hellholes: Syria, Gaza, Afghanistan, Bosnia, and Iraq. He will operate on anyone, friend or foe. But he is no pious do-gooder. He operated on a man while six Islamic State fighters brandishing AK-47s watched his every move. If they'd realised he was British he would have been executed on the spot. In Gaza, tending a little girl with her guts hanging out, he was ordered to leave the hospital - and the child - because it was about to be bombed. He and his anaesthetist stayed put. How could they leave her to die alone? The hospital was not bombed and the little girl survived her operation.

Unsurprisingly, he suffers from post-traumatic stress syndrome and told an extraordinary story about meeting the Queen at a private lunch at Buckingham Palace. She asked him a question about the situation in Aleppo in Syria and immediately sensed his distress.

"She asked if she could help me. I wondered how on earth can the Queen help me?" said David. The Queen then called for her corgis, broke a dog biscuit in half and suggested they feed them together under the table. "And so for 20 minutes the Queen and I just fed the dogs. And she did it because she knew that I was so seriously traumatised. The humanity of it was just unbelievable."

Those who remember the TV series M\*A\*S\*H, will know that frontline, kitchen-table surgery requires skills that aren't the norm for doctors in a well-equipped NHS hospital. Dr Nott has now set up the David Nott Foundation, a charity to train surgeons and medics in these special skills.

David Nott is an amazing man. Catch up with his Desert Island Discs if you can, to hear his incredible story.

I won't be offering my services in Syria, because like most of us, I'm frightened of being burnt to death in a cage. However, I shall soon be taking part in a fund-raising event to support unaccompanied refugee children arriving from some of those war-torn countries. Please see article on the following page.

*Peter Stokes*



**FROM THE REGISTERS**

**Funeral at the Crematorium**

8<sup>th</sup> June Mary Peatfield

**Confirmation at St Peter's Harborne**

19<sup>th</sup> June Paul Miller (also Baptised)  
Harriet Robinson  
Alison Wood

**FACTS AND FIGURES**

Week Beginning	Communicants	Loose Plate £	Planned Giving £	Gift Aid £
May 22	80	99.38	393.88	5.00
May 29	86	42.12	489.61	5.00
June 5	82	78.31	489.26	10.00
June 12	35	45.01	285.21	47.71
<b>Standing Orders</b>			<b>1640.00</b>	<b>21.42</b>

**GRIDIRON UPDATE**

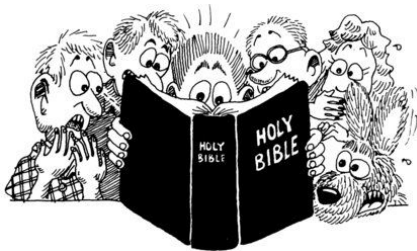
The outing planned for June was cancelled due to lack of support, but our July meeting will go ahead as planned.

Date: Tuesday 19th July Time: 7.30pm Venue: Committee Room  
Speaker: Keith Cheetham Subject: The Heart of England

This is an opportunity to welcome Keith back as he has visited us before and we know that he is an accomplished speaker. As always, the meeting is open to all, so please feel free to join us.



## JESUS / NUMBER QUIZ



The answer to each of these questions about Jesus' life, is a number. Add the numbers up and that's the final answer.

1. How many people did Jesus raise from the dead? (Matt 9, Mark 5, John 11, Luke 7&8)
2. How old was Jesus when He first taught in the temple in Luke chapter 2 ?
3. How many days did it take for Mary and Joseph to find Jesus after he went missing following his teaching in the Temple ?
4. How many loaves of bread did Jesus use to feed the 5000 in John chapter 6?
5. How many fish did he use to feed the 5000?
6. How many lepers did Jesus heal in Luke' gospel?
7. How old was Jesus thought to be when he was crucified?
8. How many months pregnant was Elizabeth, when the angel Gabriel told Mary she was pregnant with Jesus? (Luke chapter 1)
9. How many days old was Jesus when he was circumcised ( Luke chapter 1)?
10. How many people did Jesus send out ahead of him in Luke chapter 10?
11. In John chapter 12, how many days was it before the Passover, when Mary anointed Jesus' feet?
12. In which chapter of Matthew's Gospel are the Beatitudes recorded?

(Answers are on page 19) **Quiz created by Christine Terry .**

## A RIDDLE

Here is a riddle that only 5% of Stanford University graduates figured out!  
Can you answer all seven of the following questions with the same word?

1. The word has seven letters....
2. Preceded God...
3. Greater than God...
4. More Evil than the devil...
5. All poor people have it...
6. Wealthy people need it....
7. If you eat it, you will die.

Try hard before looking at the answers on page 19

## Going down to raise children up

War, persecution and torture force many children to flee to this country by themselves. The Government's decision to bring unaccompanied children fleeing war and persecution from Europe is important, but it must make sure that once these children arrive in the UK, they get the support they desperately need. It is vital they not only get immediate protection but also the help they need to keep them safe throughout their childhoods.

In addition to access to specialist mental health care to help them recover from the unimaginable trauma they have suffered, access to social workers and appropriate housing to provide them with vital stability and keep them safe, it is crucial that these vulnerable unaccompanied children are given an independent legal guardian to help them navigate the complex immigration and legal systems they will have to face.

**The Children's Society**, will help these children find accommodation, overcome language barriers and, most importantly, to rebuild their lives in new communities, surrounded and supported by friends. They work collaboratively with a range of charities to help refugee children. They co-chair the Refugee Children's Consortium, a group of over 30 non-governmental organisations (NGOs) working collaboratively to ensure that the rights and needs of refugee children are promoted, respected and met in accordance with relevant domestic, regional and international standards.

To raise funds for this valuable work, the **Children's Society** are asking volunteers to abseil down from the top of the tower of Liverpool's Anglican Cathedral on July 30th.

I shall be joining up with other intrepid volunteers on that afternoon, hoping for calm weather during our descent.

In the words of the poet John Betjeman, Liverpool Cathedral is 'one of the great buildings of the world'. It was built 'by the people of Liverpool, for the people of Liverpool, to the glory of God'. It is an iconic part of the city's skyline and plays a prominent role in the life of the people of Merseyside and beyond.

The single, massive Vestey Tower, named after its benefactors, the Vestey family, replaced the original twin-tower concept for the Cathedral. It has a floor to top height of 101m (331ft) and is the highest cathedral tower in the UK.

From the top of the tower, on a clear day you can see as far as Blackpool Tower and Mt Snowdon.

**If you would like to sponsor me, please see me at church  
or email me at [peterstokes@talk21.com](mailto:peterstokes@talk21.com)**

*Peter Stokes*

## PROGRAMME FOR JULY

Sat 2 10.30 am Messy Church *Hall*  
 2.00 pm Bubbly Barbeque *Hall and Garden*

### SUN 3 SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

8.00 am Holy Communion *Isaiah 66.10-14*  
*Galatians 6. 1-16; Luke 10. 1-11, 16-20*  
 10.00 am Family Communion with Sunday Club  
*Readings as at 8am*  
 6.30 pm Evensong *Psalm 65*  
*Genesis 29.1-20; Mark 6.7-29*

Mon 4 7.30 pm Women's Fellowship *Committee Room*  
 Colin Darling, Queen Alexandra's College

Tue 5 7.45 pm PCC Meeting

Wed 6 10.30 am Call in for Coffee *Committee Room*  
 11.00 am Holy Communion *Lady Chapel*  
*Hosea 10.1-3,7-8,12; Matthew 10.1-7*

Thu 7 9.30 am Stay and Play *Hall*  
 6.00 pm Choir practice *Church*  
 7.30 pm Service with no name *Church*

### SUN 10 SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

8.00 am Holy Communion *Deuteronomy 30.9-14;*  
*Colossians 1.1-14; Luke 10.25-37*  
 10.00 am Morning Praise  
 6.30 pm Sung Eucharist *Readings as at 8am*

Mon 11 1.45 pm Reflections *143 Balden Road*

Tue 12 10.30 am Queen Mother Gardens Service

Wed 13 10.30 am Call in for Coffee *Committee Room*  
 11.00 am Holy Communion *Lady Chapel*  
*Isaiah 10.5-7,13-16; Matthew 11.25-27*

Thu 14 9.30 am Stay and Play *Hall*  
 6.00 pm Choir practice *Church*

### SUN 17 EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

8.00 am Holy Communion *Genesis 18. 1-10a*  
*Colossians 1.15-28; Luke 10.38-end*  
 10.00 am Family Communion with Sunday Club  
 6.30 pm Evensong *Psalm 81*  
*Genesis 41.1-16, 25-37; 1 Corinthians 4.8-13*

Mon 18 1.45 pm Reflections *143 Balden Road*

Tue 19 7.30 pm Gridiron *Committee Room*  
 'The Heart of England-Keith Cheatham

Wed 20 10.30 am Call in for Coffee *Committee Room*  
 11.00 am Holy Communion *Lady Chapel*  
*Jeremiah 1.1,4-10; Matthew 13.1-9*

Thu 21 9.30 am Stay and Play *Hall*  
 6.00 pm Choir practice *Church*

### SUN 24 NINTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

8.00 am Holy Communion *Genesis 18. 20-32*  
*Colossians 2.6-15; Luke 11.1-13*  
 10.00 am Family Communion with Baptisms  
*Colossians 2.6-15; Luke 11.1-13*  
 6.30 pm Evensong *Psalm 88*  
*Genesis 42.1-25, 25-37; 1 Corinthians 10.1-24*

Mon 25 1.45 pm Reflections *143 Balden Road*

Tue 26 2.00 pm William Lench Court Service

Wed 27 10.30 am Call in for Coffee *Committee Room*  
 11.00 am Holy Communion *Lady Chapel*  
*Jeremiah 15.10, 16-end; Matthew 13.44-46*

Thu 28 9.30 am Stay and Play *Hall*  
 6.00 pm Choir practice *Church*

### SUN 31 TENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

8.00 am Holy Communion *Ecclesiastes 1.2, 12-14, 2.18-23*  
*Colossians 3.1-11; Luke 12.13-21*  
 10.00 am Family Communion  
*Readings as at 8am*  
 6.30 pm Evensong *Psalm 107.1-12*  
*Genesis 50.4-end; 1 Corinthians 14.1-19*