

the KEY

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Website: www.bromleyparishchurch.org



News of Saint Peter and Saint Paul

BROMLEY PARISH CHURCH

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"Proclaiming the Word and Work of God"

Member of Churches Together in Central Bromley



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Hello Readers, welcome to this edition of the Key.

This month, we have a sermon kindly provided by Mike, speaking about the importance of self-care. You'll also find information on the census, World Day of Prayer, some book reviews, and all the usual short Bible stories, puzzles and other articles to help keep you entertained. I hope everyone is keeping well, do keep in touch with the Church—it won't be long now before we can all see each other and worship in person again. There are lots of activities going on in our Church and surrounding Churches during Lent, including the Lent Course and Compline every week, please see the Diary Dates which are always at the end of the Key, kindly provided each month by Lynn.

Stay well, keep in touch, and I look forward to seeing you all soon.

With love,

Lisa

This month's sermon has been kindly provided by Mike, it was delivered on 14th February to our 10:30am Sunday service. Many thanks Mike for allowing me to reproduce this in the Key.

TEXTS:

Old Testament: 2 Kings 2.1-13

Psalm: Psalm 50.1-6

New Testament: 2 Corinthians 4.3-6

Gospel: Mark 9.2-9

I was in a bit of a conflict about the main theme for this morning's sermon. Do I take the lead from our Gospel reading and, this being Transfiguration Sunday, preach about our love for the Jesus revealed by Mark's account of his transformed appearance before 3 of his disciples? Or do I take my lead from this being Valentine's Day, and talk about our love for others? During this inner conversation another voice piped up and said, why don't you talk about yourself? When I say "yourself", I mean how do I, or indeed any of us, love ourselves?

This voice was not a completely random thought. One evening I was watching one of those documentaries about music in the 70s. One song they covered was Queen's song, "Somebody to Love", as one that showcased the lead singer's, Freddie Mercury's, song and lyric writing skills. Whilst some discussed whether this was Freddie Mercury's lament about difficulties in finding somebody else to love, another speculated whether Freddie Mercury was instead struggling to find ways of loving himself. Then, in one of those programs you ending up watching in lockdown for reasons on which it's best not to dwell, at the end of Ru Paul's Drag Race we are told: if you can't love yourself, how are you going to love anybody else? And finally to James' recent e-mail. With apologies, I am sure that James never expected to be mentioned in the same breath as Freddie Mercury and Ru Paul.

Having commented how, like many others, he found continuing life in lockdown to be increasingly strange, James added:

"I have taken comfort from the words of Psalm 145 which tell us that 'The Lord is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and rich in love', it is easy to take from such words the need to extend that compassion to others, but not always to ourselves. As we near the milestone of a year since the pandemic disrupted things, that lesson of self care is perhaps more important than ever."

And that is an important point, because there are many who may hear the

Great Commandment, first, to love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul and mind and, second, to love your neighbour as yourself, and have trouble with the second part. Not because they have a problem loving others. But because they have a problem loving themselves.

There are lots of stories emerging from lockdown of the increasing strain of mental health issues. These may not all be directly caused by the lockdown, but may have been amplified by it, and are varied in both cause and effect. Just 2 to be reported recently:

There was an article about the new role as a mental health campaigner of Dr Alex George, a contestant in the 2018 Love Island program, who, last July, had to face the suicide of his 19-year-old brother just as he was about to start medical school. One comment he made was:

“I do think there is something about doctors and nurses and teachers, people who are in a caring, nurturing role, who ignore their own needs sometimes and think, ‘I should be able to handle this.’”

The second is the revelation by the children’s minister, Vicky Ford, of her own battles as a teenager with an eating disorder at a time of rising numbers of young people being treated for eating disorders since the start of the pandemic.

All worthy stuff, you might ask, but perhaps more suitable for a sermon on another Sunday, and not one where, as one commentator put it, both New Testament passages “call believers away from personal preoccupations toward the subordination of ourselves to the will of Jesus Christ.”

One reason to mention it today is that, at different times and for different reasons, those of us who are Christians have problems loving God, loving other people or loving ourselves. If one part of this is out of kilter, it can throw out or damage the other relationships. However, when one of those relationships is struggling, it may be that one or both of the other relationships can help the healing process.

Another reason is that this is the last Sunday before Lent, a period when some might think that the last thing they need at the moment is a period of withdrawal and self-examination, that the 40 days that Jesus spent alone in the desert is nothing compared to the 328 days – so far – we have spent in lockdowns of varying strictness.

But whilst it is the last Sunday before Lent, it is also the last Sunday of Epiphany, a season characterised, among other things, by the theme of the light of God in Christ breaking into the world. A season that includes the feast of Candlemas as Anne so helpfully set in context for us recently – you can catch-up or re-live it in The Key. It is therefore reassuring and encouraging to see Jesus at the Transfiguration in his dazzling splendour – as Paul says in the

reading from his second epistle to the Corinthians we heard earlier, “the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.” A final glimpse, if you like, of the light before the relative darkness of Lent, Holy Week and Good Friday, before we once again behold the dazzling light of the resurrected Jesus on Easter Sunday.

But returning to the Transfiguration, the disciples saw with Jesus both Moses and Elijah, both of whom represent the continuity of Jesus with the law and prophets we hear about in the Old Testament, but with Jesus being the person to whom the law and prophets point. Jesus as the fulfilment of the law and prophecy.

And that continuity is important as it shows God’s saving presence in the world is not something new that appeared with the birth of Jesus, nor something that ended with his ascension. Just as, in our Old Testament reading, we hear Elijah parting the waters like Moses had done before him. God is constantly at work in the world.

Something else from the Old Testament reading, it is in part about the succession of Elijah by Elisha. At the start Elisha is the dependent protégé, silencing the future which he doesn’t want to face. But the future does happen, Elijah departs and Elisha is left on his own. How will he react? This is change – unknown, frightening, disconcerting. Yet whilst change is inevitable, it may be reassuring that the same God who represents continuity in the world is also the agent of change in the world.

I have taken a few liberties with the lectionary today, because much of the Transfiguration is about revealing who Jesus is and his purpose for the world. We have often heard that Jesus is not the Messiah that many were expecting. It should be reassuring to us that, in the same way, sometimes others are surprised when they see us, or something in us, that is different from what they were expecting.

Also, Tom Wright suggests, Jesus’ transformed appearance is not necessarily a sign, on this occasion, of his divinity, otherwise that would make Moses and Elijah divine. And it is important to note that it is Jesus’ appearance, not his nature, which is changed. Instead it is a sign of Jesus being bathed in the love, power and kingdom of God, a sign of his whole being transformed by light. Although this all points to Jesus, and stealing from Luke’s account where the appearances of Moses and Elijah were also changed, we can also be transformed in our way by the love, power and kingdom of God, and feel the light of his love shining on us.

The conclusion of the Gospel story also takes us back to the start of Epiphany when we heard about Jesus’ baptism by John and the voice of God declaring that “this is my son.” Then, we do not know if those present heard God’s voice. At the Transfiguration, we again hear the voice of God, but that this

time it is directed at the disciples. This time, in addition to declaring that Jesus is his son, there is a final command – “listen to him.”

If we listen to Jesus, there are so many things we can learn – about self-sacrifice, about service, about taking up our cross and following him, about caring for the sick, the poor and those in need. And that is only to scratch the surface – it's all we need to live our lives. But we can also hear the words of comfort, that, if we are weary or burdened, he will provide rest. Above all, if we listen we know that we are loved. We are not left to struggle or grope our way through life alone, doing the best we can. When we get scared and do or say the wrong things, we may find that glory of which Paul writes creeps up on us unawares, strengthening us when we least expect it.

It is also reassuring that, at the end of our reading, when Moses and Elijah have gone, Jesus is still with the disciples, does not abandon them on their journeys, just as he does not abandon those called to discipleship. We live by listening to him. And as we hear about Jesus' Transfiguration we too get to share one of those moments when the veil between heaven and earth is momentarily lifted, and we can glimpse the true nature of Jesus and the glory of God – and try not to analyse or rationalise it – but simply bathe in the light!

This is the God that Jesus calls us to love with all our heart, soul and mind. For, if we know that we are loved and cherished by God, perhaps, we can start to find a way to find somebody to love within ourselves as well.

The census is coming. By taking part, you can help inform decisions on services that shape your community, such as healthcare, education and transport.

The census is a unique survey that happens every 10 years. It gives us a snapshot of all the people and households in England and Wales – the most detailed information we have about our society.

It's important that you fill in your census questionnaire. Without the information you share, it'd be more difficult to understand your community's needs and to plan and fund public services.

In one way or another, your information touches the lives of every single person living in England and Wales, whether it's through using census information to plan new schools, doctors' surgeries or bike lanes.

Because these things matter to us all, everyone needs to complete the census. Do not worry, government officials dealing with applications you've made or payments or services you receive cannot see it.

The Office for National Statistics (ONS) runs the census in England and Wales and is independent from government. Your details are protected by law and information published is always anonymous.

Census Day is Sunday 21 March 2021. You can fill yours in online as soon as you get your access code in the post. If your household circumstances change on Census Day, you can let the ONS know.

Everyone should have the support they need to fill in the census. If you, or anyone you know, needs help, there's a wide range of support services available.

These include a contact centre that can give you help over the phone and guidance in a range of languages and accessible formats, including paper questionnaires and large print.

If you need help or have any questions, visit www.census.gov.uk.

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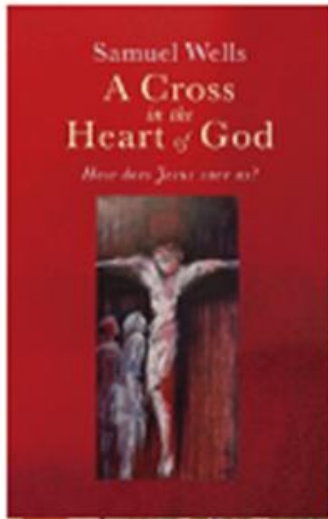
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Below are some book recommendations from the editors at Church magazine website Parish Pump. Perhaps some of them will appeal to you for yourself, or as gifts, or to read to the grandchildren over Zoom?



A Cross in the Heart of God – reflections on the death of Jesus

By Samuel Wells, Canterbury Press, £10.99

It is not too late to buy a Lent Book – if you move fast. The Canterbury Press Lent book for 2021 focuses on the Cross – the event at the very centre of Christianity.

Samuel Wells explores the cross in the purposes of God, and how this act brings about salvation. Over three sections, each with six short chapters, he explores the cross in the Old Testament (Covenant, Test, Passover, Atonement, Servant, Sacrifice); the Epistles (Forgiveness, Obedience, Foolishness, Example, Reconciliation, Boast) and

in the Gospels. (Finished, Judged, Betrayed, Pierced, Forsaken, Mocked).

This beautifully clear book will give you a comprehensive understanding of the story at the heart of scripture, and the central event in history.

Live Lent: God's Story, Our Story

By Stephen Hance, CHP, £1.99.

This book invites you to reflect on your own story of God and how you might share it through your everyday lives as part of our Christian witness.

For each of the days of Lent, this booklet includes a short Bible passage, a reflection and a prayer. It is part of a wide range of resources for individuals, groups and churches available via www.churchofengland.org/livelent



God in the Garden

By Philip Eley, Kevin Mayhew, £12.99

This book offers you a year of weekly Bible reflections that follow the seasons and changes of the gardener's year. That may make it a good gift for gardener's, organic food growers, families with allotments and fans of our Wild Worship series.

The devotions help to encourage consistent devotional time - outside with God and deepening a spiritual relationship.

Wild Lent – discovering God through creation**By Rachel Summers, Kevin Mayhew, £7.99**

Wild Lent could change how you experience Lent this year. Instead of a nice cosy room, coffee, biscuits and lots of discussion about the meaning of Lent, you'll be wrapping up warm and heading off into the wilds!

You could get up close and personal with creation and make a shadow clock, have a sunrise breakfast walk, go on a giant egg hunt, hug a tree, walk barefoot... and share God's creation with others. The book gives you lots of ideas for things to make and do, whatever the weather.



Rachel Summers is a Forest School Practitioner and runs Curious Wilds, which provides forest school sessions.

The Rhyming Series 3 Pack**By Bethan Lycett and Hannah Stout, 10Publishing, £7.99**

Your young child will enjoy these three delightful children's books, focusing on Noah's Ark, The Lost Sheep and the Pearl of Great Price.

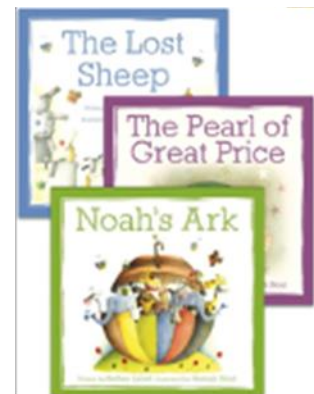
Just a sample from Noah's Ark:

From every direction, God sent them along;

All of the animals in such a great throng.

But why did God do it, and were they in twos?

And how long did they spend on their world cruise?



The Revd Peter Crumpler, a Church of England priest in St Albans, Herts, and a former communications director for the CofE, has a football story to tell...

Football club takes faith to the airwaves

Thousands of BBC local radio listeners across England recently tuned in to an unusual sporting-themed church service.

It wasn't broadcast from a typical place of worship, a church or a cathedral, but from Wycombe Wanderers FC – a football club in the Championship, the second rung of English soccer.

Four of the team's leading players joined the Buckinghamshire club's chaplain Benedict Musola for the special act of worship broadcast across the country's 38 BBC local radio stations.

Professional footballers Adebayo Akinfenwa, Jason McCarthy, Alex Samuel and Cameron Yates spoke of their Christian faith during the 30-minute service broadcast in January.

Chaplain Benedict Musola explained how the team prayed on the pitch before matches and held regular Bible studies at their training ground.

He told listeners: "I am grateful for the opportunity to serve God in this role, which uniquely combines my passion for God and my passion for football."

The service featuring Wycombe Wanderers underlined the close links between football and faith.

In 'Thank God for Football,' (SPCK, 2006), author Peter Lupson featured chapters on the Christian roots of soccer clubs including Aston Villa, Barnsley, Birmingham City, Bolton Wanderers, Everton, Fulham, Liverpool, Manchester City, Queen's Park Rangers, Southampton, Swindon Town and Tottenham Hotspur.

Last December, League Two side Bradford City FC hosted an online carol service with Bradford Cathedral.

It included readings and contributions from City manager Stuart McCall, and players Billy Clarke, Clayton Donaldson and Richard O'Donnell. The service was streamed across all the Yorkshire club's social media channels.

A spokesperson for the club explained: "An online carol service has been a possibility for a while now, and 2020 presented the perfect opportunity to do so.

"This year has been far from straightforward in every sense, but we hope our service brought some much-needed festive cheer as we approached a 2021

full of promise and positivity.”

The Wycombe Wanderers service is one of a series of Christian acts of worship broadcast on BBC local radio stations at 8am on Sundays since the onset of the pandemic last March.

The services have included speakers and musicians from a wide range of denominations and have won praise for easing feelings of loneliness and isolation.

The Sunday services have formed part of the important role played by local media during the series of lockdowns.

Callers to BBC local radio stations – often older people – have been expressing their thanks for keeping them in touch and raising their spirits during the pandemic.

Commenting on the church services, Chris Burns, Head of Local Radio for the BBC, said: “We know from personal testament just how important these broadcasts have proved to be. They have played an important role in bringing communities together virtually so no one need feel they are on their own.

“We expanded our religious programming on the first weekend of lockdown in March and will continue to broadcast services and reflections until life returns to normal.”

24th March: Catherine of Sweden, the good-natured carer

Families are divided in two kinds of people: givers and takers. Blessed is the family with at least one 'giver', that someone of a cheerful, generous nature who does not panic when you ask them for help. These kindly saints are on hand when you need them, not fleeing with the cry "But I have to think of myself in all this!"

Catherine of Sweden (1331-81) should be the patron saint of all good-natured, compassionate family members. Givers usually start early in life, as did Catherine. She was the fourth of eight children of Ulf of Godmarrson and Bridget of Sweden, and she grew up caring for the needs of younger siblings.

One thing about giving – once you start, you are generally looked to for more help, and Catherine was no exception. Her parents married her to one Eggard Lydersson, an invalid, whom she proceeded to nurse devotedly. Catherine felt compassion for his helplessness and found her life in giving it for him.

In return, Eggard encouraged her to have a 14th century version of 'respite' fun at 'Spring Harvest,' for Catherine joined her mother to journey to Rome and Jerusalem for a time.

Refreshed and spiritually fortified, Catherine returned and nursed Eggard until his death. She then joined her mother's religious order, and ended as abbess of the convent of Vadstena. Her cell still survives to this day, with a window on to the church's sanctuary. Catherine was important in the history of the Brigittine Order, as she won papal approval for it in 1376.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

(A WOMEN LED, GLOBAL, ECUMENICAL MOVEMENT)



Press Release



BUILD ON A STRONG FOUNDATION

Women of the Republic of Vanuatu (located in the South Pacific Ocean) have prepared this year's service. The black and white sandy beaches, coral reefs with coloured fishes, lovely birds, fruits and nuts in the forest, all make the islands a pristine environment but they are vulnerable to frequent tropical storms, earthquakes, cyclones, tsunamis and active volcanoes. Women, men and children of all ages are called to 'Build on a strong foundation' and live in unity, love and peace in the context of ethnic and cultural diversity like Vanuatu and so many other places around the world.

World Day of Prayer is an international, inter-church organisation which enables us to hear the thoughts of women from all parts of the world; their hopes, concerns and prayers. The preparation for the day is vast. An international committee is based in New York and there are national committees in each participating country. Regional conferences meet to consider the service and then local groups make their plans. Finally at a church near you on **Friday 5 March 2021** people will gather to celebrate the service prepared by the women of Vanuatu.

The Day of Prayer is celebrated in over 170 countries. It begins in Samoa, and prayer in native languages travels throughout the world – through Asia, Africa, the Middle East, Europe and the Americas before finishing in American Samoa some 39 hours later.

For further information and resources, together with details of services in your area see the WDP website: wwdp.org.uk

SEE NEXT PAGE FOR LOCAL DETAILS

Additional details for World Day of Prayer:

We would normally hope to welcome all to an in-person service on the first Friday of March but sadly this is not the case this year, but there will be an online service at 10:30am Friday 5th March from St John the Evangelist, Park Road Bromley (www.saintjohnsbromley.com).

We are also hoping to be able to have an in-person service later in the year.

A collection is normally made to cover expenses and to give grants to world-wide Christian charities.

Individual donations will still be very much appreciated: by post, online via the website or by text as per the following details.

Donations to the work of World Day of Prayer

- a. By cheque, made payable to WDP, sent to WDP, Commercial Road, Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN1 2RR
- b. By online donation via the WDP website — www.wwdp.org.uk — minimum £10
- c. By TEXT message from your mobile phone. TEXT 2021WDP 5 to 70085 to donate £5. *Any amount can be donated up to £40 just add the sum after 2021WDP and your text will cost the amount plus one standard rate message.*

Gift Aid is an option if you are a current UK taxpayer.

Please use this space to pass messages on to the Church community – whether it is a prayer request, a thank you, a craft idea, a recipe...



Church of England Daily Hope free phone line – 0800 804 8044 - please spread the word.

The Church of England have set up a free phone line, available twenty four hours a day, particularly for those in mind who are unable to join online church services during this period of restriction. On offer are music, prayers, reflections as well as full worship services from the Church of England at the end of a telephone.

From Rev. James, see the next page for the recipe!

When I was at college, one place we used to escape to was a particularly posh garden centre near Burford– think antiques and original art in the life-style section, and large, mature trees in the plant section. The café was excellent, being noticeable for making its hot chocolates using melted chocolate as a base instead of the usual cocoa powder. The cakes they offered too were delicious, I remember vividly once an orange and polenta cake, moist and rich with syrup. This month I offer a similar cake, using almonds as the base instead of polenta. It is gluten free, but no less delicious (owing in part to the amount of syrup you pour over it) and goes well with an afternoon cup of tea. Seville oranges are desirable for their sharpness, but they are not always easy to get. Instead here I have used standard oranges, with some added lemon juice to impart a sharper flavour.



Sticky Orange Cake

For the cake

2 medium unwaxed oranges
225g caster sugar
1 tbsp honey
6 eggs, separated
300g ground almonds
1/4 tsp salt

For the syrup

4 oranges and 1 1/2 lemons
6 cardamom pods, lightly crushed
1-3 tbsp caster sugar, to taste
2 tbsp candied orange peel

First you need to prepare the two oranges for the cake. There are a number of ways to do this. The simplest way is to simmer them in a pan for two hours. Quicker is to pop them in a pressure cooker for half an hour. If you have a microwave, halving them and popping them in with some water and covered with pierced cling film, then microwaving for 10 minutes or so, apparently will do the job.

Once soft, puree the oranges in a food processor and allow to cool slightly.

Heat the oven to 180 degrees Celsius, and grease and line a 23cm cake tin.

Beat together the egg yolks, sugar and honey until thick and pale, then fold in the almonds, followed by the puree until well combined.

Whisk the egg whites and salt until stiff, then gradually fold into the batter, being careful to knock as little air out as possible.

Spoon into the tin and bake for about 45-50 minutes, or until firm on top.

Meanwhile, squeeze the fruit for the syrup into a pan and add the cardamom and a spoonful of sugar. Bring to a simmer, stirring to dissolve the sugar, then taste and add more sugar as necessary. Add the peel then allow to cool.

When the cake comes out of the oven, leave it in the tin and poke a few holes in the top with a skewer. Pour over the syrup a little at a time, and allow to sink in, then scatter with almonds and leave to cool completely before transferring to a plate.

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I asked on Facebook, what are you most looking forward to doing once lockdown is over? Pat kindly offered her thoughts on this:

"I am looking forward to taking my new great grandson and his brother to the park, also looking forward to seeing my other great grandchildren which I haven't seen since August, what a joy that will be! Also hope I will be able to go to the Isle of Man where my youngest son and family live, I haven't been able to see them since last February and my Grand daughter who will be 21 in June for nearly 2 years so I hope that will be later this year. So that's my wish list!"

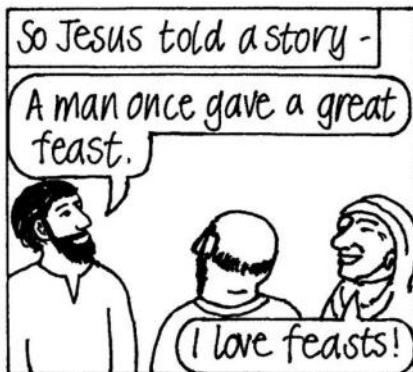
We all hope this comes true for you Pat, congratulations on your newest great grandson! How wonderful it will be when we can socialise again and celebrate these joyful events.

Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in
Luke chapter 14 verses 15-24

Jesus was at a dinner when one guest said
how good it would be to be at God's feast
for His people at the end of time.



Wordsearch—can you find the words from the *Bible Bite* story in the grid?

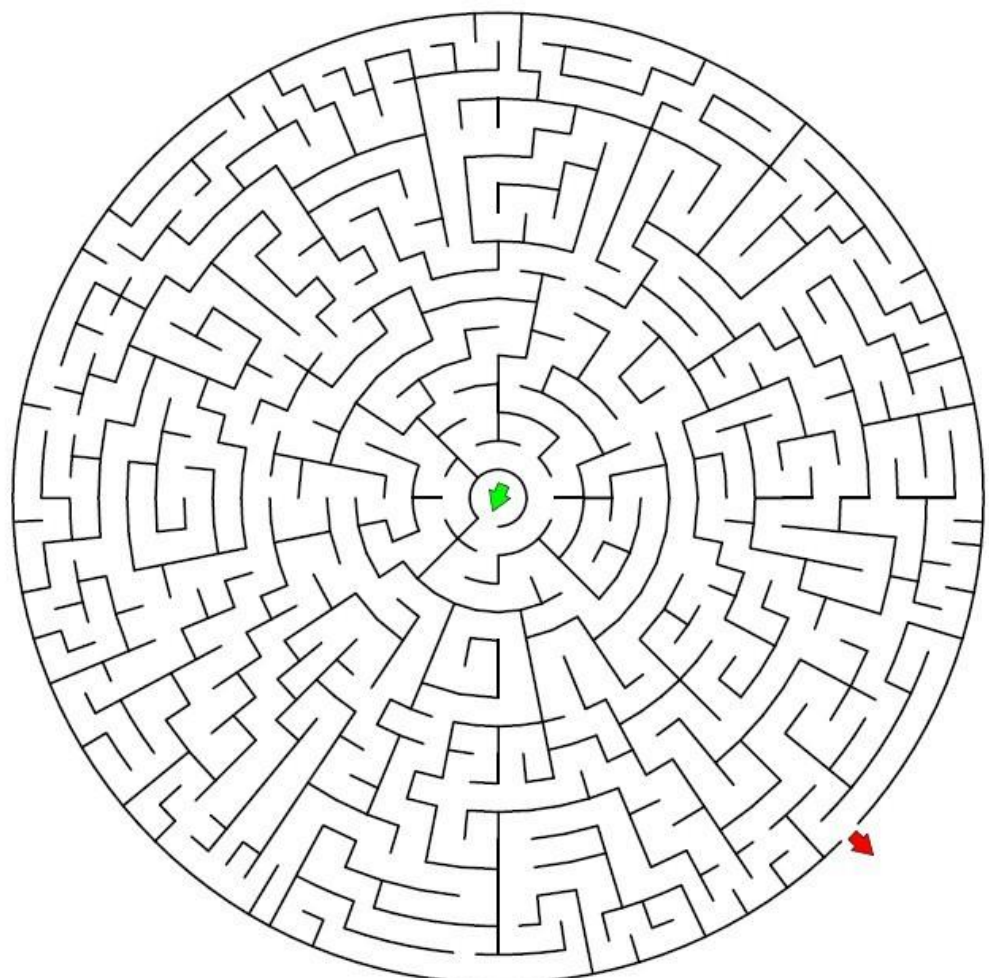
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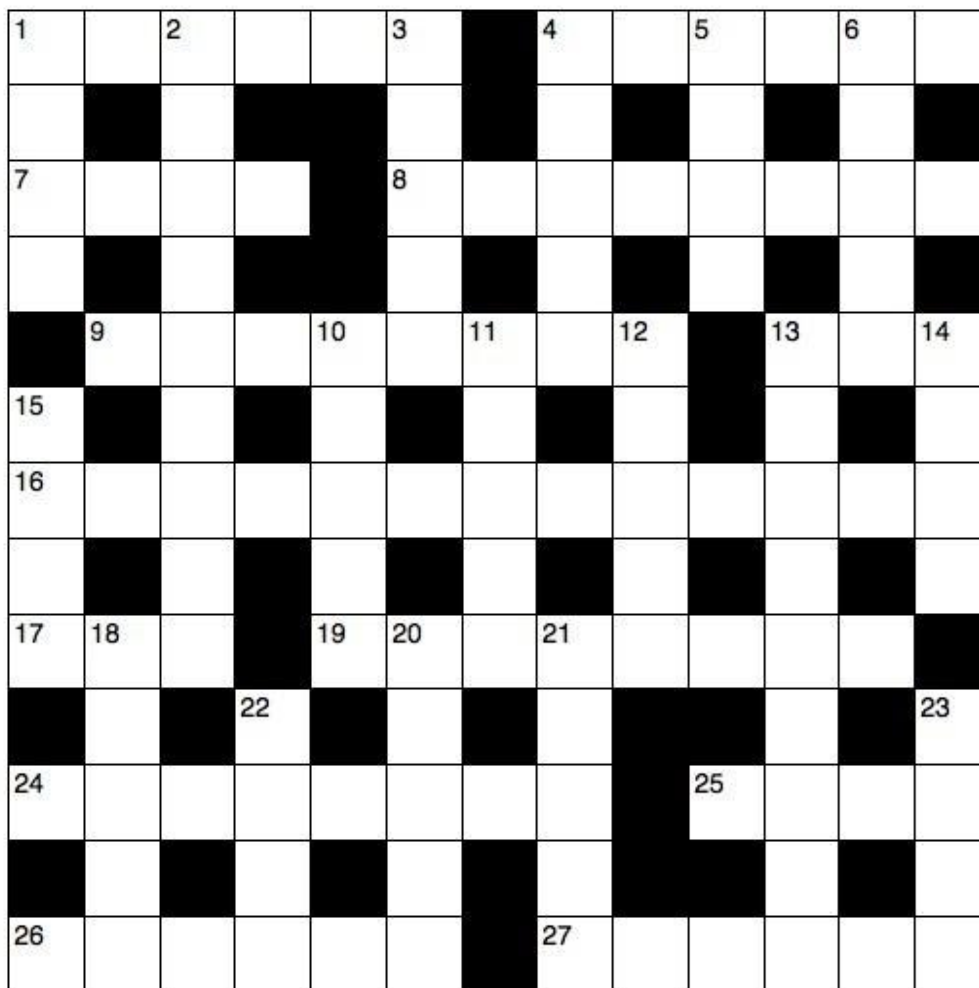
dinner	story	excuses
land	bought	Jesus
time	feast	married
generous	everyone	servant
guest	dressed	rude
street	God	oxen
invited	house	town
angry	master	leftovers

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	7	4			2		9	

Sudoku:

Insert numbers 1-9 into each row, column, and 3x3 box





Answers

ACROSS: 1, Planet. 4, Rugged. 7, True. 8, Augustus. 9, Attitude. 13, Bed. 16, Participation. 17, War. 19, Hillside. 24, Baldhead. 25, Bede. 26, Census. 27, Arisen.
DOWN: 1, Path. 2, Adulterer. 3, Tract. 4, Rigid. 5, Gust. 6, Exude. 10, Irish. 11, Uriel. 12, Esau's. 13, Blindness. 14, Deny. 15, Spew. 18, Awake. 20, Ideas. 21, Lydia. 22, Odes. 23, Lean.

Across

- 1 The earth is one (6)
4 'On a hill far away stood an old — cross' (6)
7 'I am the — vine and my Father is the gardener' (John 15:1) (4)
8 The Caesar who was Roman Emperor at the time of Jesus' birth (Luke 2:1) (8)
9 'Your — should be the same as that of Christ Jesus' (Philippians 2:5) (8)
13 Jesus said that no one would put a lighted lamp under this (Luke 8:16) (3)
16 Involvement (1 Corinthians 10:16) (13)
17 Armed conflict (2 Chronicles 15:19) (3)
19 Where the Gaderene pigs were feeding (Mark 5:11) (8)
24 What jeering youths called Elisha on the road to Bethel (2 Kings 2:23) (8)
25 The Venerable —, eighth-century Jarrow ecclesiastical scholar (4)
26 8 Across issued a decree that this should take place (Luke 2:1) (6)
27 Come into prominence (Deuteronomy 13:13) (6)

Down

- 1 Where some of the seed scattered by the sower fell (Matthew 13:4) (4)

- 2 Sexually immoral person whom God will judge (Hebrews 13:4) (9)
3 Gospel leaflet (5)
4 Physical state of the boy brought to Jesus for healing (Mark 9:18)
5 Tugs (anag.) (4)
6 To put forth (5)
10 Nationality associated with St Patrick (5)
11 Leader of the descendants of Kohath (1 Chronicles 15:5) (5)
12 'After this, his brother came out, with his hand grasping — heel' (Genesis 25:26) (5)
13 At Dothan the Lord struck the Arameans with — at Elisha's request (2 Kings 6:18) (9)
14 'Peter, before the cock crows today, you will — three times that you know me' (Luke 22:34) (4)
15 Spit out (Psalm 59:7) (4)
18 'When I —, I am still with you' (Psalm 139:18) (5)
20 Concepts (Acts 17:20) (5)
21 Thyatira's dealer in purple cloth (Acts 16:14) (5)
22 Does (anag.) (4)
23 The second set of seven cows in Pharaoh's dream were this (Genesis 41:19) (4)

The Widow's little coins



JESUS OFTEN TOLD STORIES WITH HIDDEN MEANINGS



ONCE JESUS WAS WATCHING PEOPLE BRINGING GIFTS TO THE TEMPLE

HE SAW THE RICH PEOPLE BRINGING THEIR MONEY



THEY MADE A BIG FUSS

THE PROUD PEOPLE WANTED EVERYONE TO SEE HOW RICH THEY WERE.



THEY MADE SURE EVERYONE COULD SEE THEM PUTTING THEIR MONEY IN THE BOX

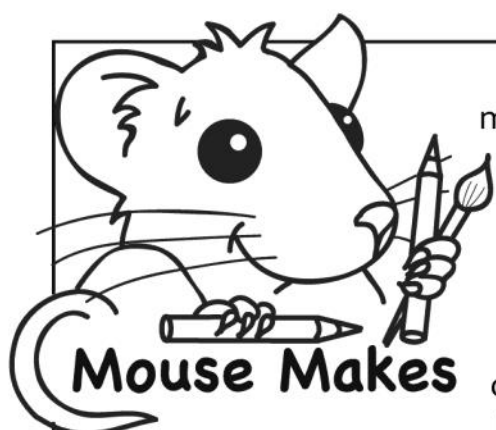


BUT THEN JESUS WATCHED A POOR WIDOW CREEP UP TO THE TEMPLE...

...AND DONATE TWO SMALL COPPER COINS.



"THE WIDOW HAS GIVEN THE GREATEST GIFT", EXPLAINED JESUS. "IT IS WORTH SO MUCH MORE THAN ALL THE RICH PEOPLE'S GIFTS!" see Luke 21.1-4



Jesus was **loved** by his mother Mary, she looked after him, worried about him and prayed for him. She **cuddled** Jesus when he was born, **cried** when he died and **rejoiced** when he rose from the dead.

SOLOMON
1 Chronicles 3:5

JOHN
Luke 1:57-60

ESAU and JACOB
Genesis 25:24-26

JESUS
Acts 1:14

Who is my mother?
Look up the Bible verses then find the mother's names in the word search

CAIN and ABEL
Genesis 4:1-2

JOSEPH
Genesis 30:22-24

ISHMAEL
Genesis 16:15

TIMOTHY
2 Timothy 1:5

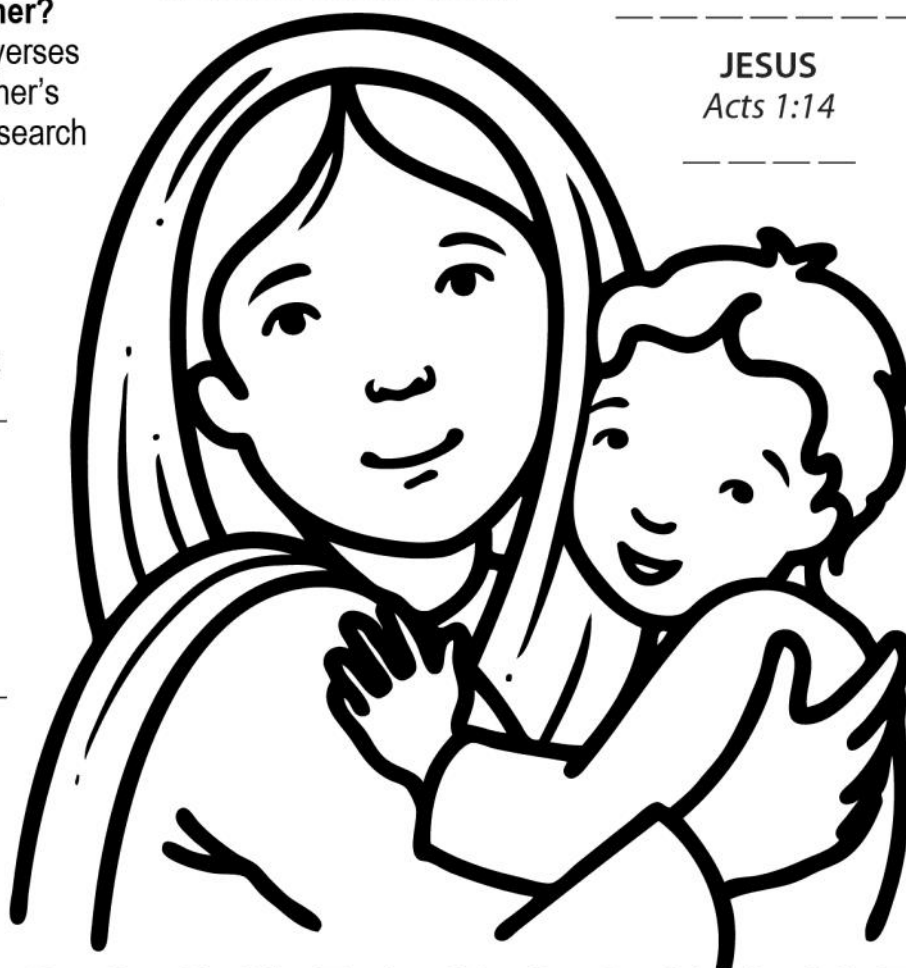
RUBEN
Genesis 29:32

GAD
Genesis 35:26

SAMUEL
1 Samuel 1:20

OBED
Matthew 1:5

ISAAC
Genesis 21:3



R	A	C	H	E	L	M	A	R	Y	A	V	Z
E	L	I	Z	A	B	E	T	H	H	E	V	I
B	Z	D	R	E	B	V	S	U	A	U	O	L
E	T	M	U	M	L	E	A	H	N	N	L	P
K	M	O	T	H	E	R	R	T	N	I	E	A
A	I	S	H	H	A	G	A	R	A	C	G	H
H	S	T	A	B	A	T	H	S	H	E	B	A

There are two other words in the word search, can you find them?

Prayer for Families

Dear Father God,

In this month, when we especially think about mothers, we thank you for the families and friends you have given us. You know how hard it has been to have been separated over these past months, how much we have missed and longed for their hugs, their physical presence and fellowship.

As we hold on to the hope of overcoming the pandemic, help us to be strengthened by the power of the love we receive - and to strengthen others by the love we give.

May we know that, wherever we are, whatever our circumstances, we and our loved ones are held safe and connected by your unfailing love for us, revealed in Jesus – who is alive - and from whom nothing, no pandemic, no man-made turmoil, absolutely nothing and no-one can separate us, when we put our trust in Him.

Thank you, Father, that we belong to your family. Thank you for the love and security we have in you.

In Jesus' name, Amen.

By Daphne Kitching

If the loneliness fills you with gloom
And it feels like the house is a tomb,
In the space of a wink
Just click on a link
And join all your friends on a Zoom.

If your mind is befuddled with fog
It can help to go out for a jog.
But please cover your face
And give plenty of space
To the people who walk with their dog.

Margaret Elves

The Goldfinch

A flash of yellow, gold, and red
Dancing in our flower bed
Flocked together, bringing charm
Their joyful song restoring calm.

Through centuries since times of old
We've always loved their plumage bold;
As they gathered round to feed
Seeking grubs, and thistle seed.

So, go ahead, and plant some thistles
You will see, among the bristles.
Golden birds who dance and dart
Bringing joy to warm your heart.

By Nigel Beeton

The Upper Room

They meet together in the upper room
Gathering together in one accord,
He fetches a towel and washes their feet
And Judas slips out to betray His Lord.

The bread and wine are there on the table,
He takes up the bread and breaks it in two,
The cup is passed round, each drinking from it,
'These symbols,' He says, 'are given for you'.

'This bread is my body I freely give
This cup is my blood which soon will be shed',
They eat and they drink not really knowing
Or understanding of what lies ahead.

A new covenant that night has been made
Where God Himself gives His life for us all,
The Life divine in exchange is given
To free mankind from the curse of the fall.

Two thousand years on we come to partake
Of His life poured out to cover our sin
We eat and we drink the bread and the wine
With thankful hearts in remembrance of Him.

By Megan Carter

Dairy Dates for March

Public worship and Private Prayer are currently suspended due to current lockdown safety measure. Our services continue to be live streamed and can be found on our YouTube channel via our Facebook page. Updates to the current situation and changes to services will be posted on our website

www.bromleyparishchurch.org

Morning Prayer and Evening Prayer are said daily at 8.30am and 5.15pm, please join in from your homes.

A service booklet can be found on our website at

www.bromleyparishchurch.org, if you would like a paper copy please email the church office at administrator@bromleyparishchurch.org

Tuesday 2nd March

7.30pm CTCB Lent Course – Zoom

Wednesday 3rd March

10.30am Prayer during the Day

Thursday 4th March

10.00am – 11.00am Healing Prayer meeting ~ prayers will be said from homes for the sick and those in need.

8.00pm Compline – Zoom

Friday 5th March**World Day of Prayer**

10.30am Service from St. John's, Bromley - Zoom

Saturday 6th March

No Starter Pack donations collection morning, postponed until further notice

Sunday 7th March**Third Sunday of Lent**

9.00am Family Breakfast Club ~ Zoom, meeting details available from the parish office

10.30am Parish Communion

Tuesday 9th March

7.30pm CTCB Lent Course - Zoom

Wednesday 10th March

10.30am Prayer during the Day

Thursday 11th March

8.00pm Compline - Zoom

Saturday 13th March

BPC Gardening Club postponed until further notice

Sunday 14th March**Fourth Sunday of Lent****Mothering Sunday**

10.30am Parish Communion

Tuesday 16th March

7.30pm CTCB Lent Course - Zoom

Wednesday 17th March

10.30am Prayer during the Day

Sunday 21st March**Fifth Sunday of Lent**

9.00am Family Breakfast Club ~ Zoom, meeting details available from the parish office

10.30am All-age Worship with Communion

Tuesday 23rd February

8.00pm CTCB Lent Course - Zoom

Wednesday 24th February

10.30am Prayer during the Day

Thursday 25th March

8.00pm Compline

Sunday 28th March

Palm Sunday

10.30am Parish Communion

Tuesday 30th March

Holy Week

7.30pm CTCB Lent Course – Zoom

Wednesday 31st March

Holy Week

10.30am Prayer During the Day

**Updates to services and events
will be posted on our website**

www.bromleyparishchurch.org

**Here you will also find the pew
sheet with meeting details for
events taking place on Zoom.**