

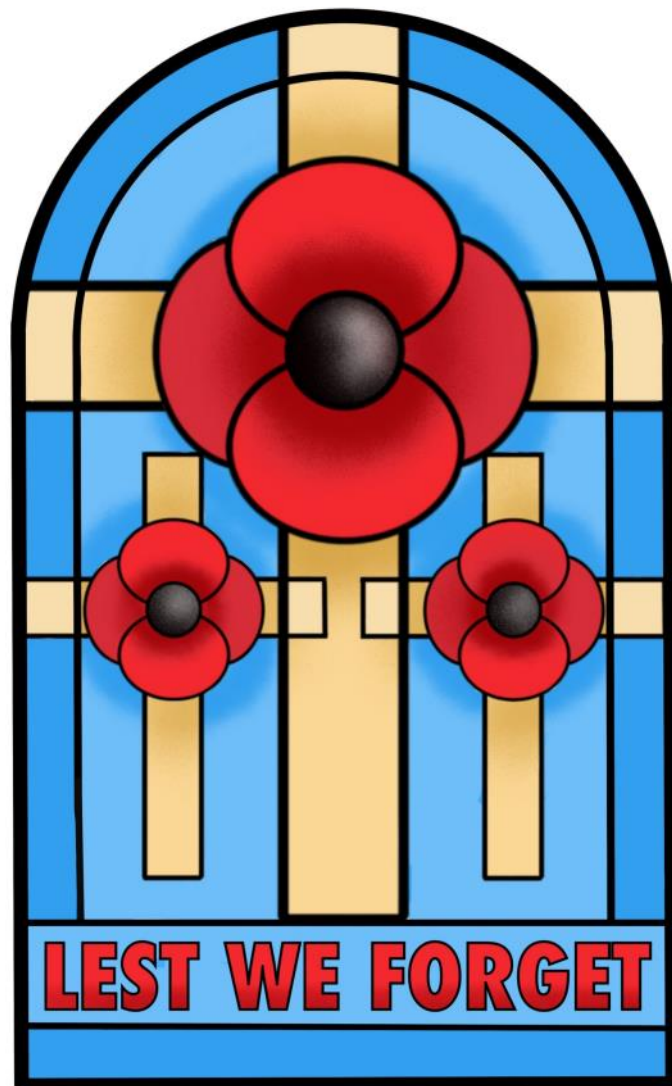
*the*KEY

Number 240

November 2023

50p

Website: www.bromleyparishchurch.org



News of Saint Peter and Saint Paul

BROMLEY PARISH CHURCH

Church Road Bromley BR2 OEG

"Proclaiming the Word and Work of God"

Member of Churches Together in Central Bromley



Vicar

Reverend James Harratt

vicar@bromleyparishchurch.org

Anna Chaplain

Reverend Sophie Sutherland

07962 156673

Parish Office

Usual office hours: Monday - Thursday, 9am to 1pm

020 8464 5244 – please use this number for all enquiries

Contact: Lynn Hedges, Parish Administrator

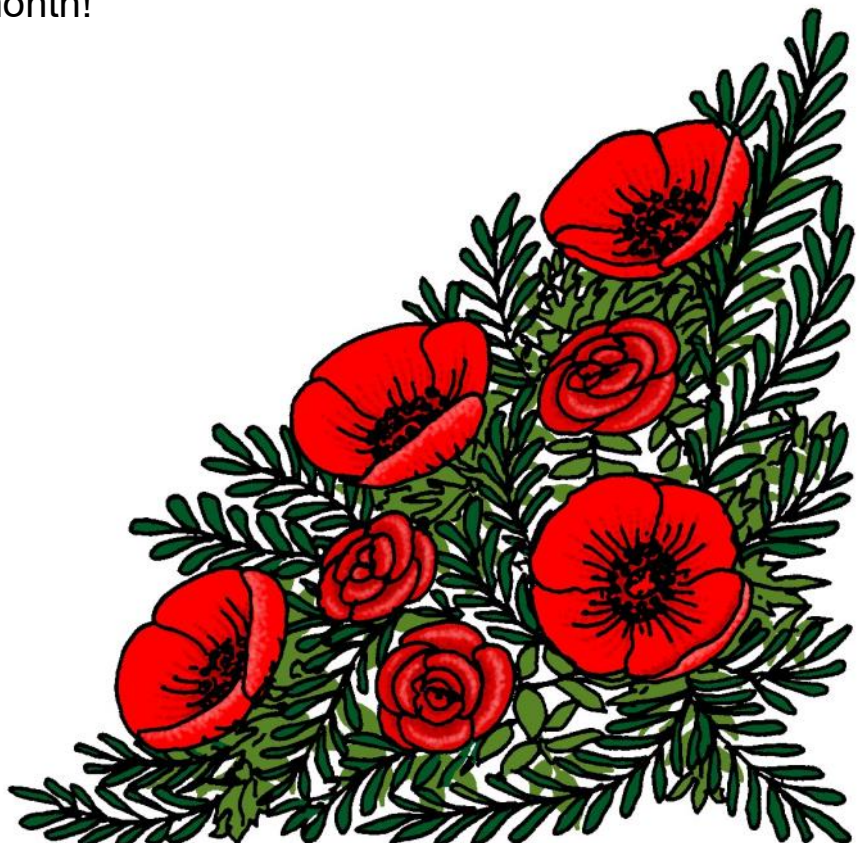
Dear Reader,

Welcome to the November edition of the Key. Many thanks to those who have contributed to this, especially to Mike and Gillian.

I hope you have a good month!

With love,

Lisa



Thank you to Mike for kindly sharing his sermon from Compline on 15 October.

TEXTS:

Old Testament: Isaiah 43.1-7

Fans of James Bond may remember a scene from the film “Skyfall” when secret agent James Bond, played by Daniel Craig, meets his new Quarter Master, “Q”, played by Ben Wishaw, at the National Gallery in London. They are sitting before the “Fighting Temeraire”, the painting by JMW Turner. Q opens the conversation by saying, “It almost makes me a little melancholy, a grand old warship being ignominiously hauled away for scrap. The inevitability of time, don’t you think?” The sub-text is whether there is a place any more in the British Secret Service for an ageing secret agent in the field, when so much damage can be done on-line – “first thing in the morning in my pyjamas before my first cup of Earl Grey”, as Q indelicately puts it.

That is the essence or meaning of this much-loved painting – the indignity of old age when something that once had a glorious history is, without ceremony or fanfare, towed away by a paddle steamer for scrap in 1838, the same year that the painting was completed. The ship was one of the last of the ships of the line to have been involved in the great victory at the Battle of Trafalgar, and its last voyage attracted substantial press coverage. Turner was a master painter of seascapes, capturing weather, sea and light.

One of the first things that strikes you is that the subject of the painting, the old warship, is to the left of the painting, not in the centre. The painting has been much analysed, but in a nutshell there is the sun setting on the age of sail as the brave new world of steam dawns – the “Fighting Temeraire” and other sailing vessels appearing almost ghostly, whilst the paddle steamer pulling, and the other tugboat on its way towards it, appear dirty, blackened and churning the calm waters. Change is coming, and it’s not always welcome.

Change happens. Sometimes for the better. Sometimes for the worse. Often it is inevitable. Whenever it happens it can be difficult, painful, traumatic and final for those involved or otherwise caught up in it.

Whilst the obvious conclusion might be the results of aging, the decline and obsolescence this might bring, there are numerous other examples where this might be the case. At the end of this talk there will be a moment to reflect upon what it might mean for you. But think of other examples where you may no longer feel wanted or valued – children given up for adoption, children leaving home, divorce or the breakdown of a relationship; redundancy, retirement; or facing the ravages of injury or illness, both your own or to those you love; or coping with bereavement.

And it's not just at the personal level, there can be broader changes such as Turner was reflecting, here those brought about by the industrial revolution. Perhaps you might see in the painting a reflection of the demise of religion in general, or the Church of England in particular. The grandeur of church worship and faith being towed away – other cherished beliefs and practices being scrapped in favour of other ways of life or doing things, or of other beliefs – or a move to secularism in general.

Change happens. Sometimes for the better. Sometimes for the worse. Often it is inevitable. Whenever it happens it can be difficult, painful, traumatic and final for those involved or otherwise caught up in it. I choose this painting and this passage from Isaiah because it is easy to feel alone, abandoned, unsure of what to do, resigned to your fate.

But think for a moment about the “Fighting Temeraire” – even if in this case being towed away for scrap, if it really is the end, realise that it still had a glorious past, was home to many who lived and fought on it, was part of a larger fleet. It was not alone. If it is the right thing to do, accept the change, take pride in who or what it stands for and bask in the love of those who will miss

it. And the same applies to us as individuals or the groups or institutions which we cherish.

There is another way to look at it where that change may be something positive, a challenge: embrace it, adapt and be part of the future.

However you see it, you are not alone. The passage from Isaiah came at a difficult time for Jacob and for Israel. But God was able to reassure, to comfort and to strengthen them. Just to pick out some of the themes as God says:

I created you and I formed you;

Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;

I have called you by name, you are mine;

When you pass through the waters, I will be with you;

The rivers shall not overwhelm you;

The flame shall not consume you;

You are precious in my sight, honoured, and I love you;

Do not fear, for I am with you;

Everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made.

So powerful are the verses that they have been adapted as one of the responses in the service of Morning Prayer.

A final thought. If you park Turner's presentation of the paddle steamer as something dirty, focus instead on the fact that this seemingly small craft is able to pull, lead, guide and protect a much larger craft. We are taught about a powerful God whose magnificence and glory are beyond our imagination, but remember that he chose to reveal himself to us on earth in human form

through his Son, Jesus Christ. And that revelation is celebrated in 2 of the Church's major festivals as something that, from first sight at least, appears less than powerful – the birth of the baby Jesus at Christmas, vulnerable and dependent upon his parents, as any baby is; and the death of Jesus on a cross on Good Friday, in agony, alone and seemingly defeated. Yet through these deceptively small and weak acts, the Christian faith was born and grew, the hidden power of the incarnation and the resurrection evidence that God will always be with us and will lead us, and that through Him we shall be saved.

Fear not, for I have redeemed you.
I have called you by name; you are mine.

All **Fear not, for I have redeemed you.**
I have called you by name; you are mine.

When you pass through the waters, I will be with you.
When you walk through fire, you shall not be burned.

All **I have called you by name; you are mine.**

Glory to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit.

All **Fear not, for I have redeemed you.**
I have called you by name; you are mine.

Almighty God,
you have made us for yourself,
and our hearts are restless till they find their rest in you:
pour your love into our hearts and draw us to yourself,
and so bring us at last to your heavenly city
where we shall see you face to face;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

All **Amen.**

- 43 But now thus says the Lord,
he who created you, O Jacob,
he who formed you, O Israel:
Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;
I have called you by name, you are mine.
- 2 When you pass through the waters, I will be with you;
and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you;
when you walk through fire you shall not be burned,
and the flame shall not consume you.
- 3 For I am the Lord your God,
the Holy One of Israel, your Saviour.
I give Egypt as your ransom,
Ethiopia^[a] and Seba in exchange for you.
- 4 Because you are precious in my sight,
and honoured, and I love you,
I give people in return for you,
nations in exchange for your life.
- 5 Do not fear, for I am with you;
I will bring your offspring from the east,
and from the west I will gather you;
- 6 I will say to the north, 'Give them up',
and to the south, 'Do not withhold';
bring my sons from far away
and my daughters from the end of the earth—
- 7 everyone who is called by my name,
whom I created for my glory,
whom I formed and made.'

SOCIAL EVENT

On Saturday 30 September 22 people enjoyed a happy night in the Church Rooms at the Harvest Supper. After plenty of social chat we sat down at tables to eat the bring and share food. There was a lovely variety of main courses and deserts which we all enjoyed.

After eating, experienced Quiz Master, Sam (Richard) Sammons, organised us into teams of 4 people. His able assistant and wife, Gill, revealed the scores to much hilarity. The outstanding winners were the One Show team, James and the Hutton family, Jonathan, Lisa and Daniel. Raffles prizes were won by various people although Garvin was happy to win several boxes of chocolates, which he shared with other tables.

Thanks are due to Donya who organised the evening, helped on the day by her Home Group friends. Thanks also for the delicious food everyone prepared and for the help they also gave.

More events are planned and it would be lovely if more people come to enjoy themselves as we did.

Gillian Million

16th November St Margaret of Scotland

Some women have power, and some women are good. When a woman with power is also good, she can achieve an astonishing amount.

Margaret of Scotland has been called 'The Pearl of Scotland', but she began life in Hungary about 1045. She was born to the expatriate English prince Edward the Exile, and so was an English princess. The family returned to Wessex in 1057, when she was 13, and following the death of King Harold II at the Battle of Hastings in 1066, her brother Edgar Aetheling should have been King of England, but he was never crowned. Instead, the family fled north, to Scotland, where she was married to Malcolm III of Scotland by 1070. As a Scottish queen she went on to become mother of three kings of Scotland, and of a queen consort of England.

Margaret was a Christian, and became a good friend of Lanfranc, a future archbishop of Canterbury. Her biographer tells of how she read narratives from the Bible to her husband, thus helping to 'civilise' him. He was illiterate, but so admired her reading, that he had her books decorated with gold and silver. She was also credited with helping her youngest son, the future King David I of Scotland, towards becoming a just and holy ruler.

Margaret introduced the worship and practise of the Church of Rome into Scotland. She also wanted to help the many pilgrims travelling in Scotland, and so she established a ferry across the Firth of Forth, which is where the towns South Queensferry and North Queensferry got their names.

Margaret performed many charitable works for the poor, and she interceded for the release of English exiles who had been forced into serfdom following the Norman conquest. She also began the restoration of Iona Abbey.

In private life, Margaret spent much of her time in prayer, using a cave on the banks of the Tower Burn in Dunfermline as a place of devotion and prayers. St Margaret's Cave is still there today, covered beneath a municipal car park.

Margaret died in 1093, and in 1250 Pope Innocent IV canonised her. Her relics were dispersed after the Scottish Reformation, but at one time Mary, Queen of Scots, owned her head.



We clean your oven..... so you don't have to.

Call today to have your oven, hob, extractor or Aga professionally cleaned

Rob Hadgiyianni contact details

Tel 01689 253525 Mob. 07957 325452

E mail robhadgiyianni@ovenwizards.com

www.ovenwizards.com

HEALING PRAYER

Before Covid Lockdown the Healing Prayer Group met once a month in the Children's Chapel. It was started by Alison Newman when she was our Curate. The group has become very small, just 4 of us, and has not met face to face since Covid started. Throughout this period members of the group carried on with prayers at home with our leader, Christine Finlay, phoning once a month to sort out names.

After Alison the group was ably run by Margaret Thompson, then Rhoda Mackenzie. We had a short presentation each meeting followed by prayers. Prayer requests were shared out between us and were confidential.

We have decided that the group has reached a natural end and should like to thank Christine for her leadership over several years.

Gillian Million

Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in
Genesis chapters 41:46 - 45:28

Joseph: sold by his brothers, taken to Egypt,
now in charge of the stored food as famine
spreads through Egypt, and beyond...

Joseph's father sent 10 of Joseph's
brothers to Egypt to buy food.



Joseph saw they did not recognise him.
He wanted to see his little brother Benjamin.

To prove you are
not spies, you must
bring your other
brother to me...



They needed more
food so they had
to take Benjamin
to Egypt.

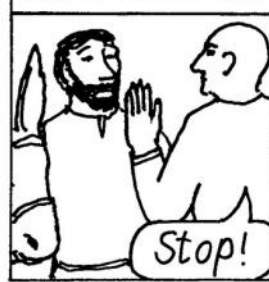


Joseph gave them food...



but to test them he
had his cup put in Benjamin's sack.

Then as they
went home...



You have stolen my
master's special cup.



It was
in Benjamin's sack.

The servant
took them back
to Joseph.



You are a thief and
must stay as a
slave.



But Judah said



It would break our
father's heart. Let
me take his place.

Joseph saw that his brothers had
changed.



I am your brother Joseph. You
sold me but God sent me to Egypt.

I can look after you.
Come and live with me.



So all of Joseph's
family moved
to Egypt.



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

little
changed
sack
sent
test
Joseph
brother
God

family
slave
cup
food
spies
Egypt
father
master

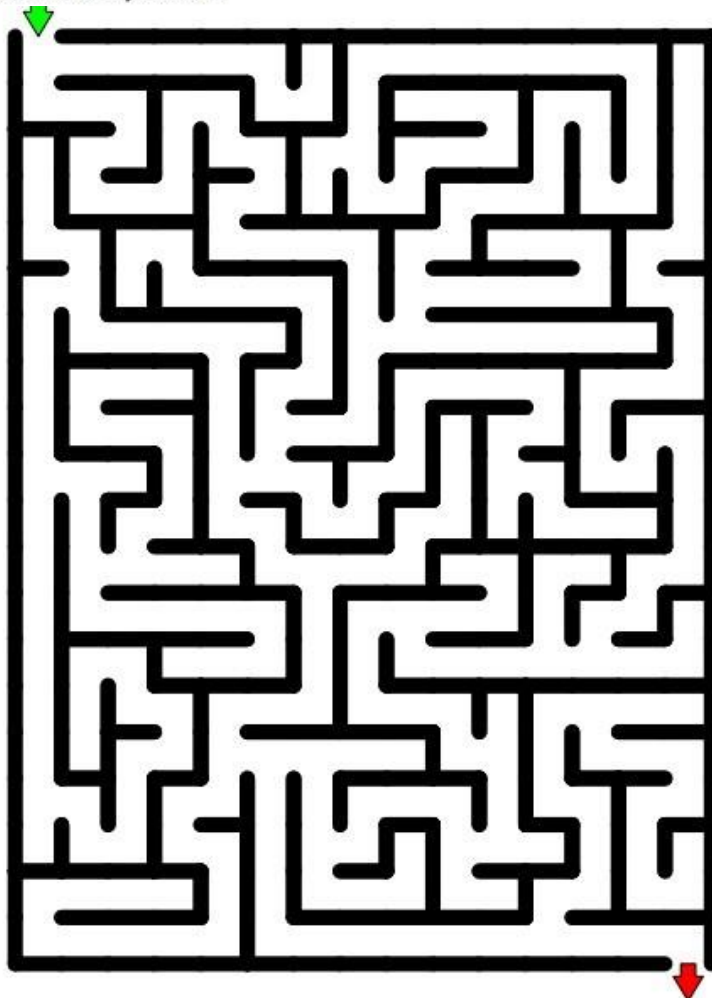
sold
Judah
famine
heart
recognise
Benjamin
servant
thief

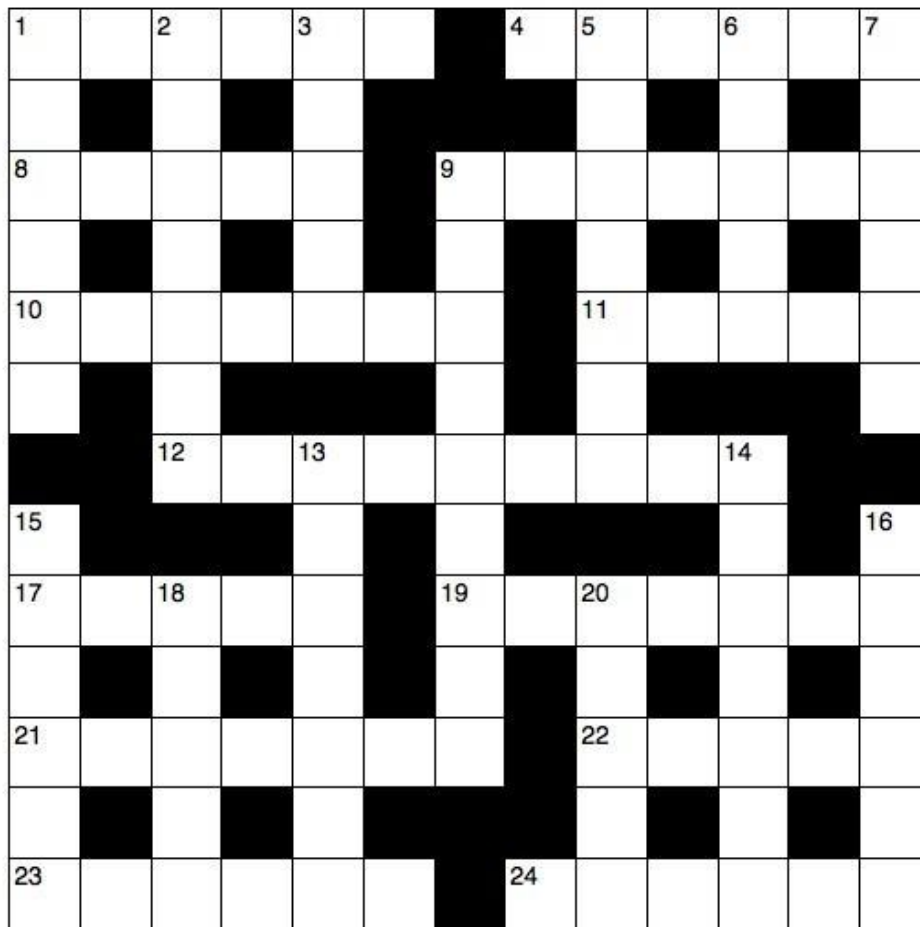
6						2		4
			3				6	
	1			4				
		9				7	8	
		2	1		5	6		
	8	4				1		
				2			1	
	5				7			
4		8						3

Sudoku:

Insert numbers 1-9 in every row, column and 3x3 box.

© 2013 KrazyDad.com





Answers:

ACROSS: 1, Thanks. 4, Banner. 8, Esher. 9, Azariah. 10, Compare. 11, Ishma. 12, Doorposts. 17, Oaths. 19, Galatia. 21, Papyrus. 22, Frail. 23, Listen. 24, Hyssop.

DOWN: 1, Trench. 2, Ashamed. 3, Karma. 5, Ananias. 6, Neigh. 7, Reheat. 9, Areopagus. 13, Observe. 14, Satraps. 15, Compel. 16, Gallop. 18, Tapes. 20, Lofty.

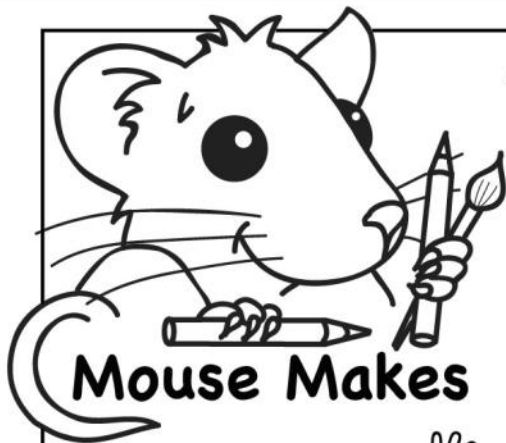
Across

- 1 'The Lord Jesus... took bread, and when he had given — , he broke it' (1 Corinthians 11:24) (6)
- 4 'He has taken me to the banquet hall, and his — over me is love' (Song of Songs 2:4) (6)
- 8 Surrey town that hosts the National Christian Resources Exhibition (5)
- 9 Also known as Abednego (Daniel 1:7) (7)
- 10 Liken (Isaiah 40:18) (7)
- 11 A son of Etam, descendant of Judah (1 Chronicles 4:3) (5)
- 12 A part of the temple where the blood of a young bull was to be smeared (Ezekiel 45:19) (9)
- 17 'They make many promises, take false — and make agreements' (Hosea 10:4) (5)
- 19 Roman province to which Paul returned after evangelizing it on his first missionary journey (Acts 16:6) (7)
- 21 Material used to make baby Moses' basket (Exodus 2:3) (7)
- 22 'And feeble as — , in thee do we trust, nor find thee to fail' (5)
- 23 'The watchman opens the gate for him, and the sheep — to his voice' (John 10:3) (6)

- 24 Stalk carrying the sponge of wine vinegar given to Christ on the cross (John 19:29) (6)

Down

- 1 Elijah dug one round the altar he built on Mount Carmel and filled it with water (1 Kings 18:32) (6)
- 2 'I am not — of the gospel, because it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes' (Romans 1:16) (7)
- 3 Buddhist term relating to belief in reincarnation (5)
- 5 Damascus disciple who, at God's command, restored the sight of the blinded Saul of Tarsus (Acts 9:12) (7)
- 6 and 16 Horses: their sound (Jeremiah 50:11) (5) and their gait (Joel 2:4) (6)
- 7 A three (anag.) (6)
- 9 Athenian council addressed memorably by Paul (Acts 17:22) (9)
- 13 Abide by (Galatians 3:5) (7)
- 14 Persian princes (Daniel 3:2) (7)
- 15 Force (Galatians 6:12) (6)
- 16 See 6 Down (6)
- 18 Paste (anag.) (5)
- 20 How the cedars of Lebanon are described (Isaiah 2:13) (5)



"Do not be anxious about anything,
but in every situation, by
_____ and _____

with thanksgiving, present your
_____ to God."

Philippians 4:6-7 NIV

"The _____

is _____

to all who _____

on him in _____."

Psalms 145:18

"For where two or three _____

in my name, there
I am with them."

Matthew 18:20

SAY SORRY

PRAY FOR OTHERS

PRAY FOR YOURSELF

THANK GOD

FOR MY FAMILY

PRAY FOR FRIENDS

PRAY FOR THE NEEDY

PRAY FOR THE SICK

PRAISE GOD

PRAY FOR THE CHURCH

NIV



Look up the
Bible verses,
fill in the
blanks then
find them in the
word search

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

Find these
words too:

APPROACH
MEDITATE
HEAR • LISTEN
BLESS • PRAISE
FORGIVE • NAME
CRY OUT • AMEN

" _____
aways, _____
continually, _____
_____ in all circumstances."
1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

"Therefore, _____
your sins to one another and
_____ for one another,
that you may be healed."
James 5:16

" _____
yourselves
to prayer, being
watchful and
thankful."
Colossians 4:2

The
Tale of the
**TWO
BUILDERS**



JESUS OFTEN TOLD
STORIES WITH
HIDDEN MEANINGS



ONE WAS ABOUT TWO MEN WHO
BUILT THEIR OWN HOUSES



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

AT LONG, LONG LAST HE
FOUND THE IDEAL SPOT.



SO HE BEGAN TO BUILD.



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

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



BUT ONE DAY THE
STORM CAME....

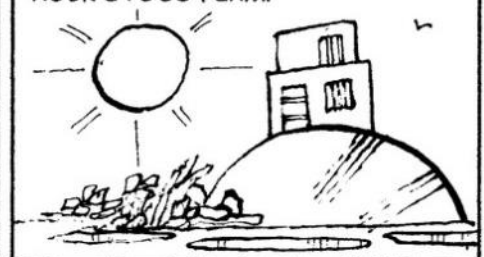


...AND THE WIND BLEW....AND
THE RAIN FELL....



...AND THE HOUSE ON
THE SAND COLLAPSED!

BUT THE HOUSE ON THE
ROCK STOOD FIRM.



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

Watch, Wait

(Mk 13:31-37, Rev 21:3,4,22:20)

Help us to watch, Lord,
While we wait.
To watch as we serve You,
On the margins,
In the mainstream,
In the mix-up of this world.
Yet always preparing,
Building for Your kingdom
Ready for Your return.

Help us to respond, Lord,
To the signs,
While we wait.
Not demanding details,
But trusting Your word,
Holding Your promise
To wipe away tears and suffering
When You make all things new
On that day.

Help us Lord, oh help us
While we watch
In the darkness,
While we wait
Through the between times
For You
To come,
To be our God,
Our glorious, victorious King.

Come Lord Jesus.

By Daphne Kitching

Making melody unto the Lord

Miriam plays her tambourine
In tribute to her Lord,
The harpists play their melodies
Their sound is heard abroad.

The trumpets and the cymbals too
Ring out throughout the earth,
Extolling God our Saviour
And telling of His worth.

So let there be a paean of praise
To Him who set us free,
Forgiveness and His gift of life
He gives to you and me.

This gift was bought by Christ's own blood,
A cost none could afford,
So let us join with heaven and earth
To praise our Risen Lord.

By Megan Carter

Prayer for November 2023

Father God,

November is not many people's favourite month, unless there is a birthday or a delight in bonfires. Short days, sometimes dismal weather can lower our mood. The days of springtime optimism and summer sunshine seem a long way away, whether we look back or forward.

Help us Lord, whatever the month, whatever our circumstances, whatever our mood, to know the reality of Your presence and peace; to treasure each new day and know it is transformed by You into the most precious and beautiful gift. Help us not to waste a single one of them, Lord. Thank You so much for November days.

In Jesus' name, Amen.

By Daphne Kitching

Nigel Beeton writes: The Sunday before Advent Sunday is often celebrated as Christ the King, when we acknowledge that Jesus is the King of all people, space, and time, sitting at God's right hand in Heaven, and one day He will finally banish all death and sin:

Christ the King

Christ is the King of all Creation

He is the King of all the earth;

Christ is the King of every nation

Lord of life, and death, and birth

On God's right hand our King is seated

Receiving praises for His worth!

He came from God to dwell with sinners

Sinners, including you and I

We know, with Him, we'll be the winners

Of life with Christ the King on High!

With all the angels we will praise Him

Who died and rose in victory!

Christ the King will come in glory

With trumpet blast – the glorious one!

All people then will know His story

All people bow before the Son!

No more death and no more sorrow

His Kingdom here on earth shall come!

Crown Him our King – His vict'ry praising

God of all gods, and King of kings

Sing of His grace and love amazing

He is the King above all things!

Through all Heav'n and earth all voices

Our song of triumph ever rings!

By Nigel Beeton

Please note the service times for Remembrance Sunday, 12 November.

9:00am Breakfast Church

10:50am Civic service of Remembrance

6:30pm Faure Requiem

