

*the*KEY

Number 238

September 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



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Dear Reader,

Welcome to the September edition of the Key.

There are loads of dates for your diary in the coming weeks so please take a look through the notices.

We also have a sermon from Sophie, an update from Ed after his long walk to Rochester, an update from the charity CarePlus, and opportunities to help with Fellowship, the Church clean up and 'The Big Knit'.

I hope you enjoy this edition and all the upcoming activities.

Best of luck to all the students and teachers going back after the holidays.

With love,

Lisa

Thank you to Sophie for sharing her sermon for us to revisit.

Sermon for 10th Sunday after Trinity.

Over the summer, during the services I take in three Bromley Care Homes, residents have been sharing their reminiscences of summer outings - not just the successful ones but also those trips where things went a bit pear-shaped. My clearest childhood memory of such an outing was with some New Zealander friends, returning from a visit to Canterbury to their home in Hove. Somewhere in East Sussex the car broke down. A phone box was duly located and the AA summoned. My friends were thrilled to discover that we were only a mile from Etchingham Station and proposed that three of us should set out home by train. Being more familiar than they with BR Southern Region, I knew this was a tall order on a Sunday evening. But that wasn't going to put them off. And so we left my friend's Dad to wait and embarked on what I thought was a crazy journey that would probably end up with a night in Leonard's. In the end we managed all the changes by the skin of our teeth. We barely beat my friend's Dad but it was quite fun.

I hope those of you who've been out and about this summer won't have had too many journeys like that. But if you have, the Gospel readings for the 9th and 10th Sundays after Trinity might just resonate a bit. Last week we heard about a day when the crowds followed Jesus to a deserted place. It was getting late, people were hungry and the disciples were quite worried until Jesus showed them that miracle of food shared. This week we hear how Jesus sends the disciples off in a boat to the other side of the lake while he goes to pray alone. Some of them are seasoned fishermen but it's windy, the water is choppy and they get stuck for several hours in the darkest part of the night. And they must be thinking 'why did Jesus leave us just on this particular night?' As dawn breaks Jesus comes shimmering across the water like a ghost. Now they're really terrified. Out of the blue Peter decides that with

Jesus' help he might just be able to do this too. So he asks Jesus to call him across the water. Just as he begins to walk towards Jesus he feels the power of the wind, loses confidence and begins to sink. But Jesus hears his cry for help, holds out a hand; they get into the boat and the storm is stilled.

It is to our modern ears a strange story. But it's actually a motif known in a number of religious traditions including Buddhism. For Jewish listeners it might have recalled references to God being alongside us as we go through water. Crucially, Jesus' command over the water would have identified him with God's power over the waters of chaos (for example in the Genesis Creation Story, or Psalm 104).

What's pretty clear though, is that the disciples found the sight of Jesus terrifyingly strange. And perhaps in our world, when we feel that we are a bit stuck in the dark like the disciples on the lake and can't see our way through, Christ can appear a mysterious figure, disturbing and confounding our assumptions and expectations, but also offering hope and undreamt of possibilities.

Unique to Matthew's version of this story is Peter's partially successful attempt to copy Jesus. In many ways, it sums up the whole pattern of Peter's discipleship. He knows that remarkable things happen when Jesus commands, yet here, as so often, he falls at the first hurdle and has to seek help afresh. In Chapter 16 he'll be the first person to recognise and acknowledge Jesus as the Christ, but Jesus will also rebuke him for wanting to prevent his death. Later, after swearing he'll never forsake Jesus, he'll deny him three times and then shed those bitter tears of penitence which JS Bach conjures up so movingly in the *Matthew Passion's* aria *Erbarme Dich*.

And perhaps it is Peter's very human, enthusiastic yet fallible nature in this story that makes it an encouraging one as well as a challenging one for us. Peter steps out into the water without thinking too much about it. He acts in a

flash of trust. He's willing to step outside his comfort zone because Jesus is there. Maybe that's because it was such an impulse that brought him to follow Jesus in the first place. Jesus did not recruit disciples by saying 'listen to what I have to say and see what you think'. He simply called them to come follow. That is effectively what Peter wants Jesus to do again now. Dietrich Bonhoeffer, in his book *Cost of Discipleship*, says that often when people get stuck on their faith journey it's because they and others feel that they need great understanding in order to believe, whereas sometimes what we need to do is simply to step out, to hear God's call and follow.

In a way, it might seem a recklessly gratuitous thing to do, what Peter did, rather as I thought my friend's parents were a bit silly to send us on a long train journey on a Sunday evening, putting more trust in British Rail than the AA. But if we never take a risk, exciting things are much less likely to happen. And for Peter to become the Rock on which the Church was founded he would need to try extraordinary things in faith over and over again. And so do we too sometimes if we want to live life in all its fullness.

But perhaps the most reassuring part of the story, is not that Peter had this great flash of faith, but rather that when the winds and waves distracted him, when he began to sink, his wobbly, imperfect faith was still good enough. And may it be so for us too. When we find ourselves amidst choppy waters and feel the wind and the waves, may we have that assurance that Christ is near and hears our call; that even if our faith be weak his grace is always sufficient.

Where there's despair in life, let me bring hope

In many Bromley houses there is an old person living alone who longs for the chance of an outing now and again – perhaps only a couple of hours, to revisit a local place of memories, to take a look at shops while holding someone's arm, to share a pot of tea to talk! Even for those occupying residential homes, the best standards of care cannot meet the greatest need for companionship. Often just half an hour's concerned listening is enough to visibly cheer someone who is lonely, or reassure where needless worry is causing anxiety. It doesn't seem a lot to give, does it? One day it may well be us who are left with just the television and the view from our window.

Those who come to this church's fortnightly Fellowship Group meetings are warm in their appreciation of the opportunity to get out and chat with others, sharing laughter and the sense of being valued. I know there are more who would like to attend but are unable to do so without transport (at present, on any occasion our two regular drivers cannot be available, their passengers have to be disappointed).

Is there anyone who would consider helping us out as a driver, regularly or occasionally? It is obviously understood that availability every time is unlikely and that family needs come first. Occasional assistance will be just as welcome, and if you are only able to provide just one-way transport this could sometimes make attendance possible.

Do please consider it, and speak to me for further details if you think this really key support is something you could offer.

Jane Cleveland - 0208 313 1654

Well done to Ed and his team for their amazing pilgrimage to Rochester Cathedral, read on below for what happened on the day...

Walk to Rochester from Bromley Parish Church

On 25th August 2023, 12 people made a sponsored walk from Bromley Parish Church to Rochester Cathedral. Ten, the Payne family – John, Kate, Emily, Jonathan and Steve - and Helen Hackney, Basia, Stuart Spence, Ed Tree and his son Chris, were walking to raise funds for our partner church, St Paul's in Highfield, Harare. We were joined by Nick Grief, curate of St Margarets in Rainham, who was raising funds for his partner church in Zimbabwe and Martin Pointing who was raising funds for Bromley Christians Against Poverty.



Leaving Bromley Parish Church, St Peter & St Paul's

Our relationship with St Paul's Church, Zimbabwe, dates back to June, 2012, when Ed and Anne Tree joined Bishop James visit to Zimbabwe to show support for the Anglican Church after President Mugabe placed a renegade bishop as head of the Anglican Church. The Church bravely opposed this, but the government confiscated all its property. As a result, St Paul's were worshipping in a huge marquee. Ed and Anne stayed with parishioners and were amazed at the generosity of their hosts. Some would buy food for the poor on their way to work in the morning, others helped with their outreach team.



Worship at St Paul's 2012

Since that time we have been a partner with St Paul's and maintained contact on a regular basis, in particular following their Outreach Team. Fortunately, Mugabe recognised that his actions made him less popular with Zimbabweans and the church now has its building returned. However, the economy has continued to collapse over the years; for example, inflation has meant that the value of the Zimbabwean dollar has fallen to 10% of its value a year ago. Imagine what would happen in Britain if your pound a year ago was now only worth 10p. This has led to widespread poverty which St Paul's struggles to overcome by donating food and medicines to the poor and hungry.

With this strong motivation, we set off from Bromley Parish Church at 08:00 and headed for Bickley Manor. From where we entered Jubilee Park and continued to Scadbury Nature Reserve where we encountered a bear (carved life size on a tree stump) and then Scadbury Moated Manor. The latter is



Preparing food parcels

believed to have been constructed in the early 15th Century and is now under excavation.

Leaving the nature reserve near the Orpington Bypass, we crossed over to walk along Chapman's Lane and footpath through woods, fields and farmland, 3 hours later arriving at the Swanley



Moated Manor

Premier Inn, which is at the boundary of Bromley Borough and Kent. Most people do not realise just how much parkland and countryside there is in the Bromley Borough nor how large. Just 15 minutes later, we were in Swanley Park, where we took a brief rest. It was full of families enjoying the sunshine, splash pool and boating lake. We all resisted the temptation to ride on the miniature railway.

Journeying through the Kent countryside



We then followed a country lane through Swanley Village with some attractive old cottages to arrive at South Darenth 90 minutes later, where we stopped for refreshments. There was an interesting building in South Darenth with a very tall brick chimney, which was previously a huge paper mill in the 1800s, but now converted into housing.



Lunch break

After lunch, we climbed a steep hill, not ideal with freshly filled stomachs, and continued onwards along more country lanes towards Longfield, where we avoided the town by climbing a short hill and walking across fields overlooking the town. We continued along an A road for a short distance to arrive in the small village of Nurstead.

It was here that, when I was on a reconnaissance walk, I met a gentleman who asked what I was doing. When I explained, he donated £5 to our cause – such kindness from a stranger. From Nurstead, it was back along country lanes until we reached an orchard full of apples. Being good Christians, we resisted the temptation to pick any as we walked through to the back of the church in the very attractive village of Cobham.

After Cobham, we entered the National Trust Property, Cobham Wood, which is 3 miles of natural woodland, with cattle grazing. We had to pass within 2 metres of two large animals. I didn't take the time to see if they had udders,

despite Nick having a red shirt. Part way through the woods, at Kate's suggestion, we split into 2 groups so that the faster members could get to the Cathedral before the doors closed. Anne had managed to persuade the Cathedral to keep them open till 18:30. After such beautiful scenery, it was a shock to pass under the M2 motorway and emerge into town. After half an hour we climbed over the Medway River Bridge, catching a glimpse of the Cathedral and arriving there at 18:28, just in time to enter. We were blessed by the priest there who then kindly made a donation of £10 to our cause.



Cattle in Cobham Wood



First group arrive at Rochester Cathedral



Payne family and Basia arrive at Rochester Cathedral

Although it was a long 10 ½ hour walk, it was enjoyable as we chatted and learnt more about each other. It was a pleasure to spend time with people sharing a determination to help the poor in Zimbabwe. I hope this article will cause you to share their enthusiasm by making a donation to the cause through this link <https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/rochesterwalk>



The Big Knit 2023

National Baby Loss Awareness Week is in October every year when people join together in various ways to raise awareness of the loss people face. Did you know that 1 in 4 pregnancies end in miscarriage and that 1 in 20 babies are still born? Here at Making Miracles we are the only registered charity in the UK that supports the whole family through their loss from the parents, siblings and grandparents.

Prior to the pandemic Making Miracles, registered charity covering Kent and Medway, held an annual Big Knit and Natter at The Rochester Cathedral where knitters and those who also crochet across the whole Diocese come together for a morning of fun, meeting other crafters and knit as many 6 x 6 inch squares as possible in the time available. This year we are back on Saturday 28th October. The morning starts at 9 am and finishes at mid-day (as the Cathedral has another event in the afternoon so we have to start earlier than previously).

The squares are sewn up after the event and made into blankets which we then sell to pay for much needed professional bereavement and trauma services for families who lose a baby either through miscarriage, at birth or up to the age of 1 year old. This includes up to 8 sessions free of charge of bereavement or trauma counselling provided by a specialist counsellor, step down services following counselling, supports groups and a range of other services. We also have a Baby Memorial Garden where those who have lost may have a pebble or slate to remember their lost baby on land owned by The Rochester Cathedral and the now Dean, Phil Hesketh, has been a Patron of ours since we started back in 2014.

Ideally each square would be one colour only and if people would like to knit prior to the day as well we would appreciate any squares knitted be kept to the same colour so that we can match them together (as we know that people knit at different tensions and its sometimes difficult for us to match them all up). One blanket will be either 36 or 49 squares so 6 x 6 or 7 x 7 squares.

However, if someone would like to knit the whole blanket and sew it together that would be even more amazing.

So, as a parish is this something you feel you would like to support? We would love to see you on the day itself. However we appreciate not everyone will be able to get transport to Rochester so we are also happy to receive blankets or squares in the post.

For catering purposes, we do need to know the numbers attending on the morning, so if you have any questions or need to confirm your attendance please email jodie@makingmiracles.org.uk asap.

We really hope to see as many parishes represented as possible at our beautiful Cathedral on 28th October.

Thank you.

6th September**Captain Allen Gardiner, founder of SAMS**

Captain Allen Gardiner is a saint for anyone who refuses to give up on their calling. For this courageous and indomitable man founded what became the South American Mission Society, though he sacrificed his own life in the process.

Gardiner had not started out to be a missionary. Born in 1794, he had left Berkshire to embark on a naval career which took him to Cape Town, Ceylon, India, Malaysia and China. But the death of his first wife in 1834 caused him to turn back to Christianity. He left the navy and became a missionary.

With his second wife, Elizabeth, Allen Gardiner felt called to South America. But from 1838 onwards he faced implacable opposition from the authorities there, both secular and religious. His efforts to evangelise among the Chilean Mapuches - which included a family journey of 1,000 miles overland by pack mule from Buenos Aires to Santiago and Concepción - met with hostility. So, in 1842 he settled on the Falklands, and tried to reach the Patagonian Indians. By 1844 he had founded the Patagonian Mission, because no other British Christian society felt able to take on responsibility for his work.

Next, Gardiner reached out to the Bolivian Indians of the Gran Chaco. But again, he was repulsed. So, he then decided on a bold attempt to evangelise the Indians of Tierra del Fuego.

He tried to raise the funds for a 120-ton schooner, which would have provided him with a secure base near Picton Island. But in the end, he could only manage two 26-foot launches, the *Pioneer* and *Speedwell*. Nevertheless, in December 1850 Gardiner and six other men sailed to Picton Island. But again, nothing went well. Fierce weather, Indian hostility, a series of errors and logistical problems led to disease and finally disaster. By March 1851 the group had had to flee for their lives. They sailed eastwards to Spaniard Harbour, a bay at the mouth of Cooks River. Here they waited in vain for fresh stores to arrive, and by September all six men had died of starvation.

Gardiner's journal, water-damaged but readable, was found in his hand the following year by the crew of HMS Dido, and includes the plea to God, "Let not this mission fail", and this prayer:

"Grant O Lord, that we may be instrumental in commencing this great and blessed work; but should Thou see fit in Thy providence to hedge up our way, and that we should even languish and die here, I beseech Thee to raise up others and to send forth labourers into this harvest..."

The work of the South American Missionary Society in the subsequent 160 years and the growth of the Anglican Churches of South America are God's answer to that prayer. Gardiner had to face many failures in his life, but his solid, resolute faith is an inspiration.



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



Bumps & Babies

A group for babies 0-18 months,
their parents/carers and
parents to be.

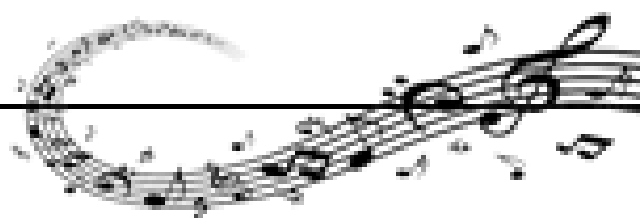
Mondays during term time
10:30am-midday
Bromley Parish Church



Many apologies, there will be no Choral Evensong in September.

We return as usual on October the 8th at 6.30pm.

Everyone is welcome to enjoy us for this lovely quiet service to end the day.



REPAIR

CAFE

Visit us at the Petts Wood Repair Cafe and contact us at:

pettswoodrepaircafe@gmail.com

We meet at The St Francis of Assisi church hall, Greencourt Road, Petts Wood, BR5 1QW, on Saturday afternoons from 2.00pm to 5.00pm.

Our 2023 meeting dates are:

Sat 27th May; Sat 24th June; Sat 22nd July; Sat 2nd September;
Sat 21st October and Sat 18th November.

**BIN IT?
NO WAY!**

Something broken? Before you throw it away, see if the repair cafe can help!

We provide a local voluntary community repair service for items such as small electrical appliances, mechanical objects, laptops / computers, clocks / watches, joinery, needlework repairs & bicycles.

No charge is made for repairs, but donations towards running costs are very welcome.

For a small charge, enjoy a slice of home-made cake and a drink whilst you wait for your item to be repaired.

| Transform
| Trade —

JOIN US for

Big Brew 2023

- ✓ Enjoy a lovely cuppa (or two!)
- ✓ Eat some delicious cake
- ✓ Make a difference in the fight for justice in trade

Sunday 10th September 2023

Bromley Parish Church

following the 10.30am service

So everybody benefits.

www.transform-trade.org/big-brew

Registered charity No. 1048752



The Bromley, West Wickham and Hayes branch of the RNLI is holding its AGM on Wednesday 13 September commencing at 8.00 pm at the Hayes Old Church School Halls, 86 Hayes Street, Hayes, Bromley BR2 7BA.

This is an exciting time in the RNLI as we approach our 200th anniversary next year.

You are invited to come along to hear about the activities of the local branch.

- Hear about our work with young people
- Guest Speaker - manager of Gravesend Lifeboat Station
- Refreshments will be provided

The big church clean up

Saturday the 16th of September from 10.30am.

If anyone can spare an hour or two to come along and help declutter the church we will be very pleased to see you.



HARVEST

*Bring and Share
Supper*

Bring along food to share and enjoy
with one another, plus an excellent
quiz and raffle.

6PM
30.9.23



www.bromleyparishchurch.org

Don't miss this!

Really Super Sale

**in the
Youth Centre
10.00am – 4.00pm
on**

Saturday 21st October 2023

**in support of
Mercy Ships, Sightsavers
and The Bible Society**

***A huge selection of items being sold at
unbelievably low prices to clear.***

Refreshments available, too!

***Please find a moment to support this,
and spread the word among friends and
neighbours as well.***

Jane



Reg. Charity: 1061356
30 Cedar Rd, Bromley BR1 3BZ
T: 07930 955398
E: info@careplusbromley.org.uk
www.careplusbromley.org.uk

Summer 2023

Our work is as important as ever

The ongoing need for Careplus' work was underlined again by Bromley Council's Tackling Loneliness Summit which took place in June during national Loneliness Awareness Week. This summit builds on local experience of social isolation during the pandemic and the feedback of charities and voluntary groups such as ours. Many older people are in serious need of company.

During the pandemic Careplus volunteers, along with others, played a key role in shopping for older local residents, keeping in touch by phone (and in gardens, weather permitting!) and even helping a few discover online shopping and Zoom. Afterwards we were delighted to have our contribution recognised by the Mayor of Bromley. Now we continue our mission to support over 65s in the borough – mainly by befriending in person, shopping and/or providing lifts to medical appointments. We also have a regular coffee morning for clients and volunteers, occasional outings and two gentle exercise classes.

Currently 25 volunteers are helping 50 older people, putting in around 200 hours a month between them.

• Our lovely clients



Just one client enjoying the sun!

Our clients, several in their 90s are an amazing bunch (names changed):

Donald (77) was referred to us by the Royal Voluntary Service. He lives alone in poor health, with just one relation who lives too far away to help him. His volunteer does a weekly shop, and Donald enjoys our coffee mornings.



Deep in conversation at a coffee morning

Edna (86) heard about us from Age UK. Both she and her husband served in the Royal Navy. Now widowed, she relies on occasional Careplus lifts and advice.

Frances (67), referred by a local mental health team, is gradually re-building her confidence through regular short conversations with her volunteer.

Peter (78) was referred by his physiotherapist. He is bedridden and has local Council carers' support, but our volunteer's visits provide the chats and kind concern that brighten up his day.



A client shares a reading at our coffee morning

• **Careplus funding**

We are a small local charity, with no statutory funding, so we rely on donations from individuals and grant-making bodies.

For recent support, our sincere thanks go to: Bromley and Beckenham Rotary Clubs, Marsh Charitable Trust, several Masonic Lodges, Bromley Little Theatre, National Lottery Local Community Fund.

Donations can be made by post or on our website: www.careplusbromley.org.uk

Pls follow us on Facebook:

www.facebook.com/careplusbromley

• **Occasional outings**

In April a large group of volunteers and friends, plus one client, went to see 'Hedda Gabler' by Ibsen at the Bromley Little Theatre. It proved to be a very enjoyable evening, and BLT raised nearly £500 for us.

• **We always need more volunteers!**



This is how some of our volunteers fit in assisting our clients (names changed):

Mandy who has a young family and works, takes her client out once every fortnight for a couple of hours in her car.

Carly works but has no childcare responsibilities, so she helps more than one client, mostly befriending them in their own homes. She manages without a car.

Charles is retired; he befriends one long term client and also picks up ad hoc tasks – lifts to hospital, shopping.

Luke is young, busy at work but does one straightforward weekly shop for his client. They find their contribution very rewarding, and we are very grateful for them!

Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in
Genesis chs. 37:1-36, 39:1-20

Jacob had 12 sons but his favourite was Joseph, his beloved Rachel's son. He even gave him special clothes to wear...

His older brothers hated him.



Daddy's little pet

I dreamed the sun, moon and eleven stars bowed down to my star



Really?

He means us, doesn't he?



Not if we can help it!

Joseph visited his brothers as they looked after their flocks of sheep.



Let's kill him!

Put him down this dry well for now



Then some Ishmaelite slave traders came by



We'll sell Joseph instead!

What will we tell Father?



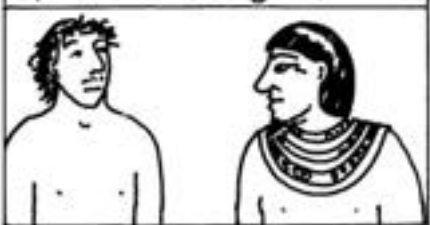
Put some goat blood on Joseph's fancy coat.

So they tricked Jacob

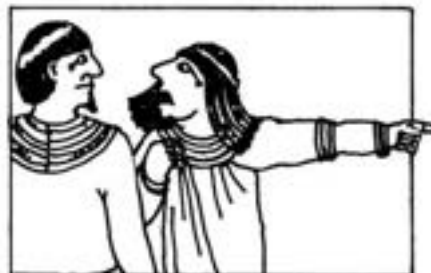


An animal must have killed him.

In Egypt, Joseph was sold to Potiphar, the captain of Pharaoh's Royal Guard



Potiphar was very pleased with Joseph's hard work and put him in charge of his household, but..



Potiphar's wife made up bad stories about Joseph..

so Joseph was put in prison



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brothers

coat

captain

traders

well

Joseph

Jacob

dream

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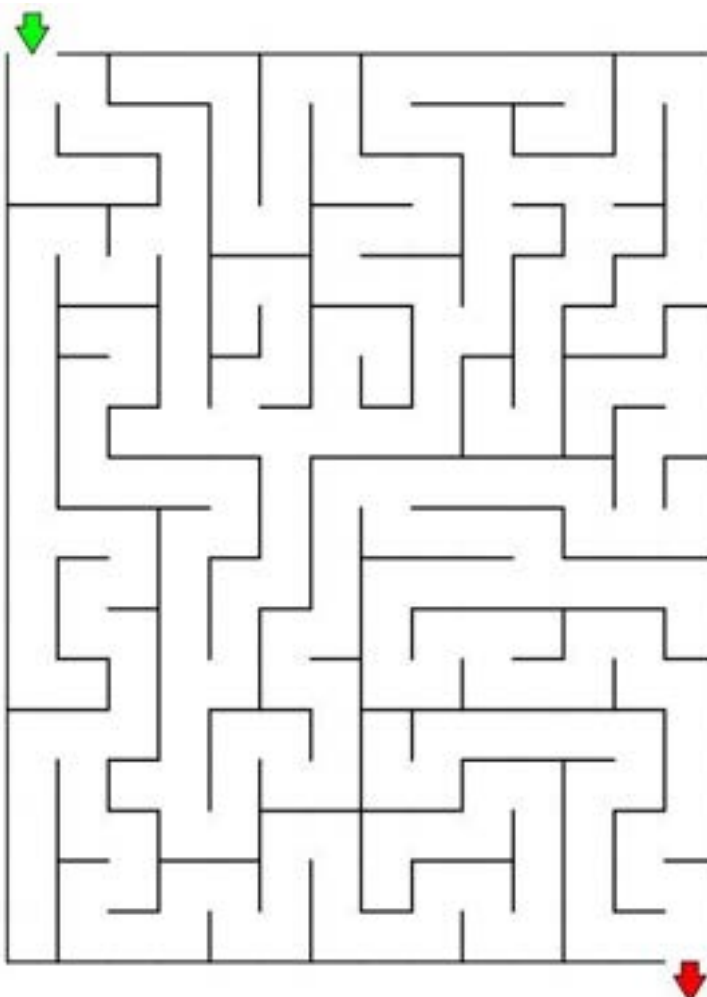
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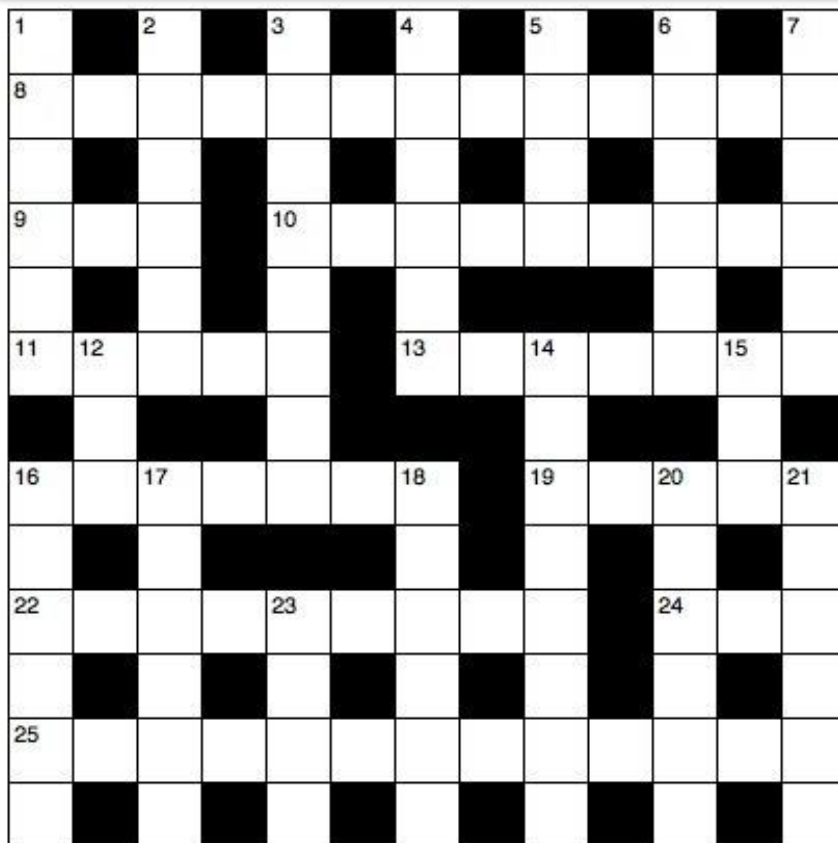
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Sudoku:

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





Answers:

ACROSS: 8, Kiriath Jearim. 9, Toe. 10, Ill at ease. 11, Hated. 13, Miletus. 16, Started. 19, Micah. 22, Leviticus. 24, Eli. 25, Mary and Joseph.

DOWN: 1, Sketch. 2, Priest. 3, Samizdat. 4, Shalom. 5, Wept. 6, Breast. 7, Embers. 12, Art. 14, Limassol. 15, UNA. 16, Salome. 17, Adverb. 18, Decade. 20, Clever. 21, Height. 23, Tear.

Across

8 Where the Ark of the Covenant was kept for 20 years (1 Samuel 7:1) (7,6)

9 One of the parts of the body on which blood and oil were put in the ritual cleansing from infectious skin diseases (Leviticus 14:14-17) (3)

10 Uncomfortable (3,2,4) 11 'Yet I have loved Jacob, but Esau I have —' (Malachi 1:3) (5)

13 Where Paul said farewell to the elders of the church in Ephesus (Acts 20:17) (7)

16 'Jesus bent down and — to write on the ground with his finger' (John 8:6) (7)

19 Prophet from Moresheth (Jeremiah 26:18) (5)

22 Comes between Exodus and Numbers (9)

24 and 2 Down 'Then Elkanah went home to Ramah, but the boy ministered before the Lord under — the —' (1 Samuel 2:11) (3,6)

25 There was no room for them in the inn (Luke 2:7) (4,3,6)

Down

1 Rough drawing (2 Kings 16:10) (6)

2 See 24 Across

3 Underground literature (including Christian books) circulated in the Soviet Union (8)

4 Lo, mash (anag.) (6)

5 The Bible's shortest verse: 'Jesus —' (John 11:35) (4)

6 'Can a mother forget the baby at her — and have no compassion on the child she has borne?' (Isaiah 49:15) (6)

7 Can be seen in a dying fire (Psalm 102:3) (6)

12 'Send me, therefore, a man... experienced in the — of engraving, to work in Judah and Jerusalem' (2 Chronicles 2:7) (3)

14 Second city of Cyprus (8)

15 United Nations Association (1,1,1)

16 One of the women who first heard that Jesus had risen from the dead (Mark 16:1) (6)

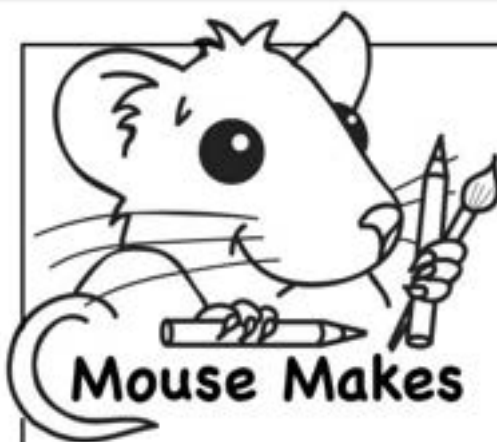
17 Braved (anag.) (6)

18 — of Evangelism, outreach initiative in the 1990s (6)

20 'Woe to those who are wise in their own eyes and — in their own sight' (Isaiah 5:21) (6)

21 'Neither — nor depth... will be able to separate us from the love of God' (Romans 8:39) (6)

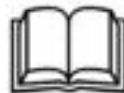
23 What Jesus shed in 5 Down (4)



THE WEEDS AND THE WHEAT

What did the enemy sow amongst the wheat?

Matthew 13:25



READ

the parable in

Matthew 13 v24-30, and v36-43

At harvest time the weeds are gathered, bundled then

but the wheat is stored in the

Matthew 13:30

Who sows the good seed?

Matthew 13:37

What does the field represent?

the

and who is the good seed?

The people of the

Matthew 13:38

Who sows the weeds?

The

Who are the harvesters?

The

Matthew 13:39

"He who has ears, let him

Matthew 13:43

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

PARABLE • HEAVEN • SOWED • GOOD • SEED • FIELD • ENEMY • WHEAT • GRAIN
GROW • TOGETHER • TIME • HARVEST • GATHER • BUNDLE • TIE
PEOPLE • DISCIPLES • JESUS • EXPLAIN • EVIL • FIRE • END • AGE • EARS

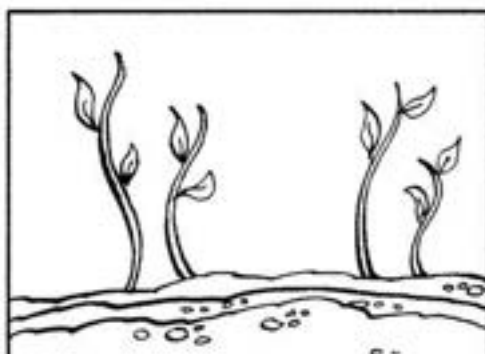
Find the words from the questions too!

The tale of
the
Wheat
and the
Weeds

JESUS OFTEN TOLD STORIES WITH HIDDEN MEANINGS.

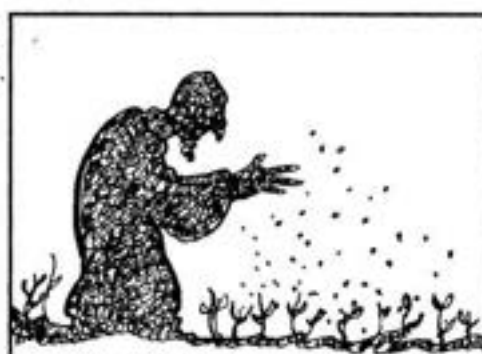


ONE WAS ABOUT A MAN WHO SOWED SEED IN HIS FIELD.



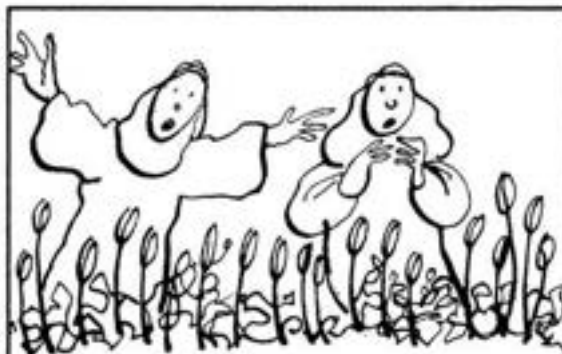
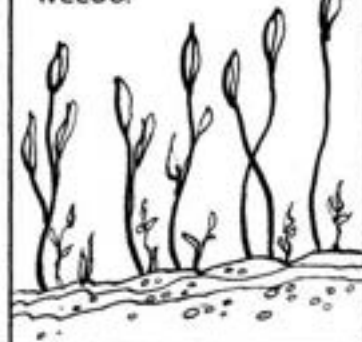
THE SEED TOOK ROOT, AND SOON STRONG PLANTS BEGAN TO GROW.

BUT ONE NIGHT, WHEN
EVERYONE WAS ASLEEP...



... AN ENEMY OF THE MAN, CROPT
INTO THE FIELD, AND SOWED
SEEDS AMONGST THE WHEAT.

AS THE WHEAT BEGAN
TO GROW, SO DID THE
WEEDS.

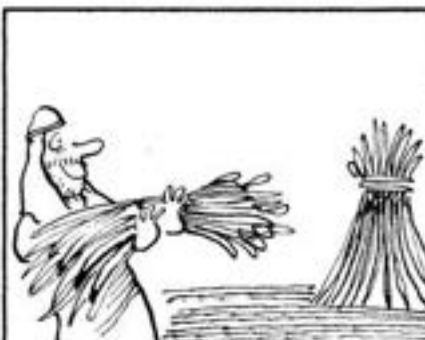


WHEN THE SERVANTS SAW THE WEEDS
THEY SUGGESTED RIPPING THEM OUT.

NO, LET'S LEAVE THEM
UNTIL HARVEST TIME!



IF YOU PULL THEM UP NOW,
YOU MIGHT KILL THE WHEAT
TOO. WE'LL SORT THEM OUT AT
HARVEST.



WHEN THE WHEAT WAS
READY, IT WAS HARVESTED
INTO HUGE BUNDLES.

BUT THE WEEDS WERE
BURNED IN A LARGE FIRE.



THE PARABLE TELLS US THAT
ALTHOUGH WE LIVE
ALONGSIDE BADNESS, WE
CAN KEEP SEPARATE FROM IT.

Dear Father in heaven,

September is a time of change, a change of season, changes in many areas of our lives as a new term begins and new opportunities present themselves. It can be a time of challenge and uncertainty for many of us as well as excitement.

Thank you Lord, that You never change, Your promises never change, Your Holy-Spirit inspired Word never changes. You are constant and rock-solid, always.

Help us to remember that You make all things new when we put our trust in Jesus, You give us new life and new ways of understanding, but help us also to remember that You never contradict Your revealed self. Help us always to check out our thinking with what You say in Your Word. Help us to be faithful to You as we take each step forward, each new day.

In Jesus name, Amen

By Daphne Kitching

Prayer of thanks for teachers

Dear Father,

Thank you for teachers. Thank you for their gifts of knowledge and communication. Please give them patience and understanding in their work and most of all the wisdom to listen to you and to be directed by your Kingdom values. Thank you for Jesus – the best teacher of all. Help us all to learn from Him that greatest of all lessons, that you are the living God, His Father and ours, and that you love us and want us to know you.

Father, as we pray and trust in the name of Jesus, our teacher and Lord, may that close knowledge of you become our reality. Amen.

A Strong Hold

Should I slip and lose the way
The Lord will hold me fast,
Should I choose to walk away
I'm firmly in His grasp.

Though I walk through death's dark vale,
His rod and staff are there
I would not dare to walk this path
Without His loving care.

Although my hold on Him is light
His loving arms are wide,
What He's begun He will fulfil
Till I am safe on Canaan's side.

What God is this who loves us so?
Our future He has planned,
We're ever safe in His embrace
And none can snatch us from His hand.

By Megan Carter

The Secret of Living

The secret of living
Is learning to pray –
It's asking our Father
For strength for the day!

It's trusting completely
That His boundless grace
Will overcome care
And each problem we face!

It's walking by Faith
Every mile that we plod
And knowing our prayers
Bring us closer to God.

Anon

When Autumn Comes

Should we be sad
When autumn comes
And winter looms ahead?
Is it so bad
That days grow short
And verdant leaves grow red?

We'll miss the sun
And long, hot days
We'll miss the sea and sand;
But soon will come
The starry nights
And wintry landscapes grand!

Perhaps it's best
That nature sleeps
And things no longer grow;
We get a rest
From vibrant weeds
And grass we need not mow.

So celebrate
The equinox
The autumn season's here!
It is a date
To mark, with joy
The turning of the year.

By Nigel Beeton

Saturday 2

10am -12noon Starter Pack morning

Sunday 3

8.30am Holy Communion (CW)
10.30am Parish Eucharist with Baptism

Tuesday 5

7.30pm Bell ringing practice

Wednesday 6

12noon Midweek service
12.30pm -2.00pm Church open for private prayer

12.30pm Lychgate Lunch

Thursday 7

11.00am Funeral Anne Tottman
7.30pm Choir practice

Sunday 10

9.00am Breakfast Church
10.30am Parish Eucharist followed by the Big Brew in support of Transform Trade
No Choral Evensong

Monday 11

10.30am Bumps & Babies

Tuesday 12

11.00am Toddler Praise
4.00pm Schools Festival meeting
7.30pm Bell ringing practice

Wednesday 13

12noon Midweek service
12.30pm -2.00pm Church open for private prayer
12.45pm Bible reading group
8.00pm PCC meeting

Thursday 14

2.15pm Fellowship
7.30pm Choir practice

Friday 15

7.00pm Peal of bells

Saturday 16

10.30am Church Big Clean

Sunday 17

8.30am Holy Communion (CW)
10.30am All age Worship with Communion

Monday 18

10.30am Bumps & Babies
12.30pm Bereavement Group meeting
5.00pm Pastoral Group meeting

Tuesday 19

11.00am Toddler Praise
7.30pm Bell ringing practice

Wednesday 20

12noon Midweek service
12.30-2.00pm Church open for private prayer
12.45pm Bible reading group

Thursday 21

2.15pm Fellowship

Sunday 24

9.00am Breakfast Church

10.30am Parish Eucharist

Monday 25

10.30am Bumps & Babies

Tuesday 26

11.00am Toddler Praise

7.30pm Bell ringing practice

Wednesday 27

12noon Midweek service

12.30pm – 2.00pm Church open
for private prayer

12.45pm Bible reading group

7.30pm Hope Into Action meeting

Thursday 28

7.30pm Choir practice

Saturday 29

6.00pm Harvest supper & Quiz

Morning Prayer is said daily at 8.00am in the Children's Chapel, everyone is welcome.

The Children's Chapel is open daily for prayer and **Church is open for private prayer on Wednesdays** between 12.30pm and 2pm, consecrated bread is available for those who wish to receive

To join Sunday worship online please visit our website
www.bromleyparishchurch.org and follow the link on our homepage.

Updates to services and events are posted on our website
www.bromleyparishchurch.org