

# the KEY

Number 226

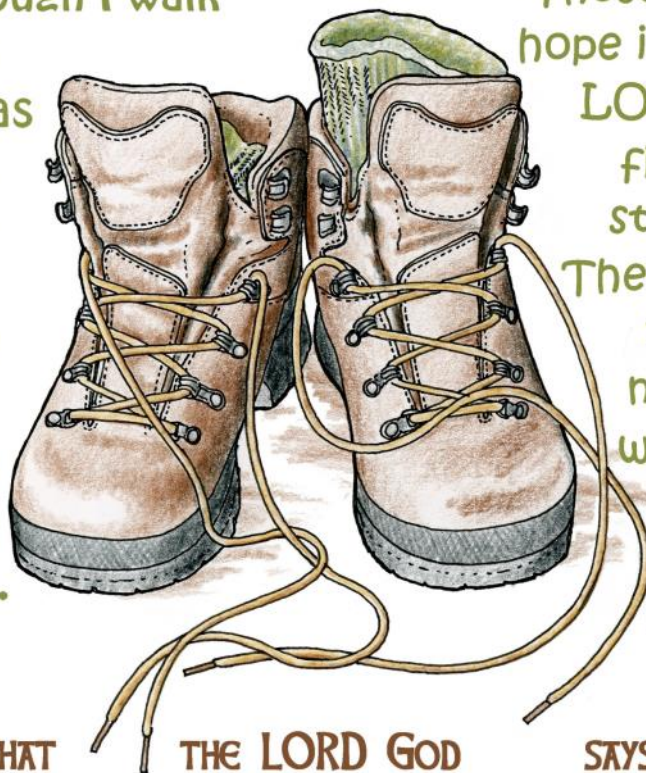
September 2022

50p

Website: [www.bromleyparishchurch.org](http://www.bromleyparishchurch.org)

**What does the LORD God want from you? To respect Him, walk in all His ways, and to love and serve Him. Deut 10:12-13**

Even though I walk  
through  
valleys as  
dark as  
death, I  
will not  
fear any  
danger,  
because  
You are  
with me.  
Ps 23:4



Those whose  
hope is in the  
LORD will  
find new  
strength.  
They will . .  
run and  
not tire,  
walk and  
not  
faint.  
Is 40:31

**THIS IS WHAT THE LORD GOD SAYS, "STAND AT THE CROSSROADS AND LOOK. ASK FOR THE ANCIENT PATHS, THE GOOD ROADS. WALK IN THEM AND YOU WILL FIND REST FOR YOUR SOULS." JEREMIAH 6:16**

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](mailto:vicar@bromleyparishchurch.org)

***Parish Office*** Hours: 9:30am to 12 noon

**020 8464 5244** – please use this number for all enquiries

Contact: Lynn Hedges, Parish Administrator

[administrator@bromleyparishchurch.org](mailto:administrator@bromleyparishchurch.org)

For contributions to the Key, or if you would like to receive the Key by email, please contact [thekeyeditor@gmail.com](mailto:thekeyeditor@gmail.com)

*Many thanks to Mike for kindly sharing his sermon from 7th August with us for reflection.*

**TEXTS:**

Old Testament: Isaiah 1.1, 10-20

Psalm: Psalm 50.1-8, 3-end

New Testament: Hebrews 11.1-3, 8-16

Gospel: Luke 12.32-40

For Christmas 2020 our younger son and his girlfriend gave us a present in 2 parts. The first part were the ingredients to make a cocktail they had enjoyed during, and helped them to survive, lockdown. The second part was a gift voucher to a cocktail making course in Shoreditch. However, as lockdowns came and went, the voucher slipped into the background until I remembered to book it before it expired. It was great fun, and, a bit like Abraham and Sarah from our Epistle reading who thought they were past it, we attended the course, thereby bringing the average age of the attendees up and the hipster rating down – only my beard helped to ensure that the hipster rating did not plunge even lower.

I am told that my family often fidget nervously when I begin a sermon, worried at what family story I might dredge up to illustrate my sermon. I hope that, this morning at least, our younger son can relax and feel happy that I am comparing him with God – although, it does mean that, with that comparison, from now on, the only way is down!

For we are told at the start of our Gospel reading that it is God's pleasure to give us the Kingdom. But, if we listen and read on, we find that, much like our sons' gift of the voucher, we are not asked to be passive recipients of this gift from God, but need to do something with the gift to ensure it comes to fruition.

The immediate response appearing later in the passage is the call to be ready, coupled with the warning that we may not know when the moment will come when we shall need to be ready. So, we are called to be in a state of constant readiness.

Ready for what? There is no doubt that Jesus is referring to his second coming, that unknown moment in the future when he will return and the final working out of all that God has promised, the full realisation of God's Kingdom and the complete revelation of God's glory, will all come to pass. But this morning's Gospel reading is part of a larger section in Luke's account when Jesus is speaking to, and responding to questions from, his followers, his

opponents and those who are undecided. More immediately it follows Jesus' teaching on possessions and the fear and misgivings that follow the uncertainties of life. While the core of Jesus' is about being ready for his second coming, it is as much a rebuke that they weren't ready for his first coming.

It is not enough simply to know that we are to be ready, waiting, alert, but doing nothing – it is about doing something, working to bring about God's kingdom.

Ultimately, the lesson about being watchful and ready is more positive than negative. They are words of assurance and promise to motivate the faithful, that those who work for God's kingdom will be blessed, rather than that those who don't will be punished.

More than being what could be called the practical advice of being ready, is the connection between the "treasure in heaven" that we are called to store for ourselves, between that treasure and our emotional response. It is not just a case of banking treasure in heaven to ensure that we have enough credit there as some form of accounting exercise. For Jesus says that, "where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." It is about deciding, what is "real treasure"? What do we value? And what values drive us?

It is about laying down those things which we cling to for security – possessions, status. It's about turning our focus to the gift that comes from God, the gift that we know lasts forever, but which we can find here, now, even if the full revelation of the gift lies in the future. Jesus uses the example of the master who comes home, knocks and finds some of his household slaves alert and ready – whether in the middle of the night or at dawn. For those slaves, roles are reversed. It is the master who invites his slaves to sit as he serves them the banquet.

Again, the importance is not only what lies ahead in the future, but also what is happening here and now. We are told that God has given us the kingdom. We may look at it, turn it round in our hands and wonder what to do with it, what it does. We may not fully understand how it works, but we know we must do something with it. But because we know it comes from God, we can learn something by looking at what God is doing around us, and joining in that work. We can also learn from Jesus' ministry on earth, what he teaches, the example he gives on living a kingdom-centred life.

We know that "heaven" is not simply somewhere you go after death. It is that place where God's sphere of created reality exists, where the values and priorities of God are in play. It is the opposite to the greed and anxiety of the world. Above all there is an urgency to act now as the battle between good and evil plays out, challenging our loyalties to ensure that it is God's priorities that prevail, not those of the world.

And because it comes from God, the gift comes with the assurance that it comes with God's love, that divine love which frees us to devote ourselves to God's purposes. Free to live as citizens of God's kingdom where God's will is actively done, where human needs are met, sins are forgiven and humans are transformed. It becomes the basis of the standard of life to which Jesus calls us to live now. Not necessarily to give away all our possessions, but to lead lives of selfless generosity to help those in need, whatever those needs may be.

In the Roman world "treasures" were shared to place the other person in your debt, to create an obligation of repayment, or to secure advancement. In God's world we are encouraged to embrace those in need as part of our family, but where we will actually be repaid by God, not by those others we help.

Some of those themes are taken up in our reading from Hebrews. There is little time to do justice to one of the great statements of faith – that answers the questions: how do we understand faith? What does it mean to trust someone?

For the writer of Hebrews the key to faith is seeing something beyond the things that are around us. Whilst living in the uncertainty of our temporary lives here we look ahead to the permanent home we are promised in the future.

For if we want to understand what to do with the gift of the kingdom given to us by God, the writer points us to faith as the key to unlocking that gift, faith as the manual by which we can get the most out of that wonderful gift, faith as the strength to sustain us on our journey to the heavenly city.

The writer encourages us to lead lives of more than nominal faith, to lead more than aimless lives. We are given examples from the Old Testament – some from our passage this morning, others elsewhere in the letter – of those whose lives should inspire us to live active lives of faith. A faith which is rooted in history but looks forward to God's future as the goal of faith, a faith which is dynamic, open-ended, moving ever forward.

Faith is a huge subject. The writer picks on only some of those aspects. But this morning I want to finish with 2 which follow from the opening verse of our reading:

Faith is the assurance of things hoped for. It is looking at God and trusting him for everything.

Faith is the conviction of things not seen. Of perceiving realities not visible to the naked eye: that the universe is not random but is created by God as an expression of his love, and is sustained by him; that God takes responsibility to restore his creation; that Jesus Christ is lord of all, reigning in majesty but currently hidden from view; and that his resurrection assures us of our own

resurrections when we shall be fully remade in God's image.

If we are being asked to put the gift of God's kingdom to good use, if we are being asked to wait, watchful and alert, then it is the assurance and conviction of faith that will help us to do the former and strengthen us whilst we do the latter.

For if we are to live in obedience to the will of God it is because the things that we hope for are already starting to become real, and will become fully real. We want to start living now the kind of lives that God promises for the future.

There is the inward reality of confidence that God's promises of peace, justice, mercy and salvation can be trusted. And with that confidence there is the outward force of our moving as the advance force operating behind enemy lines to bring about God's victory and the revolutionary world to come. Or as one writer put it: inwardly, faith moves hearts; outwardly, it moves mountains.

It took me 18 months to look out our gift voucher from our son and do something with it. Is the gift of God's kingdom that each of us has been given likewise sitting in a drawer waiting to be taken out and used? Or is that gift already being put to good use, but perhaps we are unsure what exactly to do with it, or we find that using it is not always as easy as we hoped, or with the immediate results we hoped for? Whatever we are or are not doing with that gift, we should have faith that we can trust God to deliver on his promises, that we should persevere knowing what we cannot see clearly now we can be confident will be fully revealed to us in the future...





***Save the date!! Sign up now!!***

**The Sleep-Out will be on:  
Saturday 8 October 2022**

**Bromley Parish Church from 7pm**

**If you are interested in taking part in the Sleep-out and raising money for Bromley Homeless Shelter visit [www.bromleyhomeless.org/annual-sleep-out](http://www.bromleyhomeless.org/annual-sleep-out) for more details**

**Or to support those sleeping-out by buying a meal ticket for £10 and joining with them for a hot meal and entertainment on the evening call 020 8460 0042 or email [events@bromleyhomeless.org](mailto:events@bromleyhomeless.org)**

**To donate to the work of Bromley Homeless click on the link:**

**[Bromley Homeless - Donate now \(cafonline.org\)](http://Bromley Homeless - Donate now (cafonline.org))**

*Thank you to Donya for this informative piece on helping a charity. The images mentioned are on the following pages. If the pattern is not easy to see, you can access a PDF version of the Key on the Church website or email me at [thekeyeditor@gmail.com](mailto:thekeyeditor@gmail.com) and I will forward you a copy of the leaflet. Contact details for a local representative of the charity are also below.*

Some years ago when Matthew's father died we were left with a shed full of tools that we didn't want to destroy or scrap, but didn't need ourselves. Alison Kay pointed us in the direction of "Tools with a Mission" (TWAM) and we delivered a selection of garage tools and garden tools to a church in Shirley.

TWAM are a Christian charity established in 1984 and based on the belief "the Lord is close to those whose hearts have been broken. He saves those whose hearts have been crushed" Ps 34 verse 18.

They collect and refurbish donated tools which are sorted, sharpened, painted and brought into working order then packed into trade kits for skills such as carpentry, building, mechanics, plumbing, electrical, agriculture and ground working.

They also refurbish sewing and knitting machines and computers and laptops. On average annually they send 18 containers packed with tools to organisations in Africa who have developed a vision of self sustainability. They go to self-help groups, community workshops and school centres. TWAM support around 400 projects every year.

I recently made contact with them again to donate my mother's sewing machine, which at the moment will only stitch backwards. They assure me that they can turn it into a useful machine again and it was collected from my house this week. In conversation it became apparent that they also need help in the manufacture of haberdashery bags, needle books, tool rolls and scissor cases for the equipment to go with the sewing machines. Every machine is sent with a collection of things such as pins, sewing thread, patterns, thimbles and scissors.

I am sure there are people out there who would be able to make sewing kit bags to the specification required (see below), the charity are able to provide material and drawcord where necessary.

I have also attached an image listing the types of tools that they are seeking, just in case you have some hiding in your shed or garage.

Our local TWAM volunteer is Peter who is based in Orpington and can be contacted for collection of donations on (020) 8467 5120. For supplies for making haberdashery bags, please also contact Peter on this number.

Donya





## Yes please...

We couldn't list everything or expect you to know how to identify tools, but hopefully the list below will give you an idea.

**Agricultural tools:** Fork, spade, hoe, garden rake, hand fork and trowel, lopper, secateurs and hand shears

**Builders' tools:** Spade, shovel, 3ft spirit level, axe, crowbar, fork, sledge hammer, bow saw, bolsters, chisels, all types of hammers and trowels, pin and lines, tape measures, hacksaws and Stanley and hacksaw blades

**Carpenters' tools:** Bevel, braces, clamps, hand drills and bits, all types of files and hammers, Stanley knife, all types of planes and saws, pliers, rules, all types of saws and screwdrivers, squares plus screws, nails and bolts

**Electricians' tools:** Allen keys, hand drills and bits, all types of pliers and hacksaws, screwdrivers, spanners, soldering iron, voltmeter

**Motor mechanics' tools:** Allen keys, cold chisels, breast drill and bits, all types of hammers and pliers, punches, metric socket sets, spanners, adjustable spanners, cantilever toolboxes, tyre pressure gauge

**Plumbers' tools:** Basin or tap wrench, wire brush, breast drill and bits, various grips and saws, screwdriver, oil can etc

**Garage workshop:** Hydraulic jack, axle stands, battery charger, ramps and large engineers vice

**Power tools:** Hand and bench drills, sander, planer, jigsaw, circular, band and chop saws, lathe, cultivator, rotavator, welding machine and generator

**Sewing machines:** manual, electric, treadle and industrial

**Knitting machines:** machine and hand wool, needles and patterns

**Haberdashery:** needles, cottons, large material pieces/rolls, buttons, zips, tapes

**Fully working IT equipment:** Desktop computers and laptops running a minimum of Microsoft Windows 7, tablets, networking switch routers and cables

**Bibles:** in modern English



**"I want to start my own workshop when I finish my carpentry course."**  
Nicholas, Zambia



## No thank you...

It's not about what we want, it's about what people can use. What may be useful to us, may not be useful to recipients in our partner countries. If we say we can't take something, we're not being ungrateful, we're just being honest.

**All broken tools** - we can sharpen and remove surface rust, but can't repair or take tools with woodworm.

**Ladders** and step ladders

**Lawn rakes/long handled shears**

**Electric and hand lawnmowers**

**Printers, scanners, typewriters**

**Disability aids:** walking frames, wheelchairs, medicines and glasses

**Clothes and shoes**

**Bikes:** men's, women's and children's

**Books**

**Embroidery materials, curtains and weaving materials**

This is not an exhaustive list, just the main things we are offered by well meaning supporters on a regular basis. If you are unsure, please contact us using the details overleaf.



## Items to donate

### Sewing Machines

Machine needles, bobbins, shuttles, attachments  
Instruction Manuals  
Small oil cans and mini screwdrivers  
  
Sewing sundries  
Hand sewing needles  
Dressmakers pins - please send in a secure container  
Safety pins - thread 8-10 assorted together onto a large pin  
Buttons

Sewing thread - full or nearly full reels  
Materials - suitable for making clothes and no less than 1 metre (3 feet) square. Please check there are no pins in the material  
Fasteners - hooks and eyes, press studs, skirt and trouser fasteners and Velcro  
Zips—new and unused please  
Elastic and bias binding  
Tape Measures (metric)  
Thimbles  
Dressmaking scissors - sharp enough to cut two layers of material  
Unused paper patterns

### Knitting Machines

Wool winders  
Punches and blank punch cards  
Knitting machine yarn -sorted and bagged  
  
Knitting sundries  
Knitting Needles and Crochet Hooks - sort and pair, but do not use sticky tape  
Row counters  
Stitch holders  
Needle gauges  
Cable needles

### Items for both

Instruction books - dressmaking and knitting  
Modern patterns

## Haberdashery kits need bags to keep them safe

### Who hasn't lost a needle or misplaced a pair of scissors?

Our haberdashery kits have to travel thousands of miles by container and eventually on top of a bus or on the back of a motorbike. They need to be securely stored in a haberdashery bag. Could you make some bags?



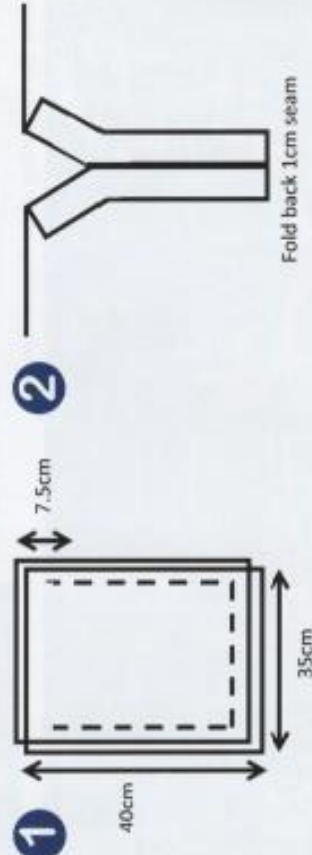
1. Sewing Kit bags
2. Needle books
3. Tool rolls
4. Scissor cases

### 1. Sewing Kit bag

**Material needed** - two pieces of strong fabric—minimum size 35x40cm (14x16in) and two pieces of strong tape 90cm (36in) each.

**NB:** the finished size must be at least 30x30cm (12x12in).

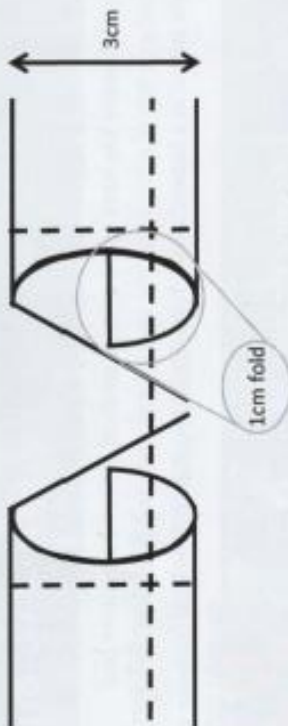
1. **Sew around the bag** leaving 7.5cm (3in) at the top of each side. Allow 1cm (1/2in) seam allowance on each side and at the bottom.



2. **Fold back side seams**

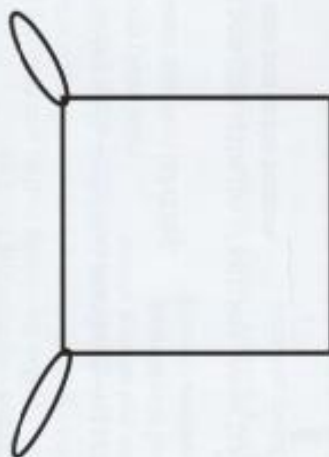
3. **Turn under top edge 1cm (1/2in)** on top edge then make 3cm (1.25in) hem. Sew all round the top leaving an opening each side for the tapes. Do not leave large openings at the sides as small items will slip out.

3



4. The two tapes must run easily through the channel and be capable of drawing up the mouth of the bag. The two loops will be tied together to contain the contents of the bag. Two lengths of tape pull up better than one.

4



**Note**  
Other finished bag sizes can be made in the same way:  
Larger bags for knitting wool 45x45cm (18x18in).  
Smaller bags 18cm wide x 20cm high (7x8in).

Below: Button sorting in the Penarth Centre

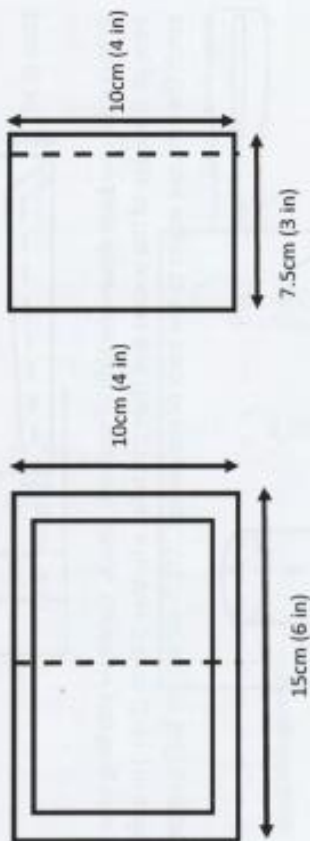


## 2. Needle Books

Use fairly stiff material for the outer cover. Use felt or soft material for page(s) to hold needles.

1. Stitch down the centre

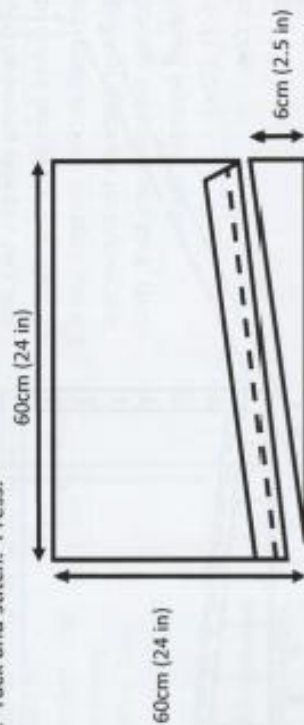
2. Fold and stitch down the spine to keep the book flat



## 3. Tool Roll

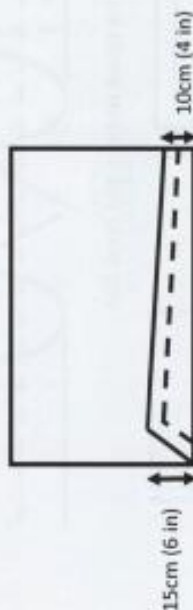
Tool Rolls are used to hold hand tools in our Mechanics kits. Take a 60cm (24in) square of strong closely woven fabric, which could be denim, corduroy or even some furnishing fabrics. There is a 1cm (1/2in) seam allowance.

1. With right side uppermost, measure 5cm (2in) up from right hand bottom edge, tapering to nothing at left hand edge. Cut off this wedge. On the cut edge make a small hem. Tack and stitch. Press.

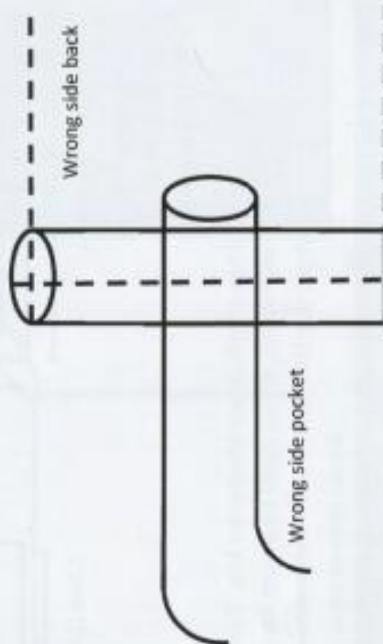




**2. To make the pocket,** turn up bottom edge to right side, measuring 16cm (6in) on left hand side and 10cm (4in) on right hand side. Pin, tack and stitch 1.5cm (1/2in) seam. Turn right side out. Press

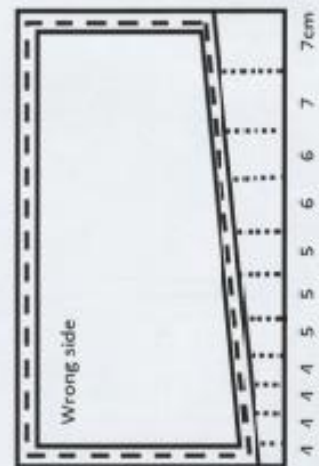


**3. Make narrow hem** down one side of tool roll. Stitch. Continue stitching over the hem on the edge of the pocket and then stitch for a further 5-6cm (2-3in) in order to stitch the two raw edges to the back of the pocket. Stitch other side in the same way. Press well.

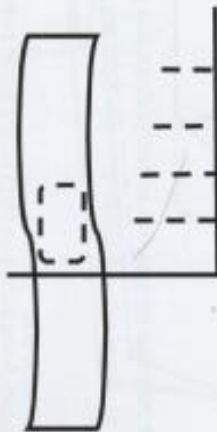


**4. On the wrong side** pin, tack and stitch small hem along top edge. To make small pockets for tools use the suggested spacing's for the vertical stitching. Measure, pin, tack, stitch. Finish off securely. Press.

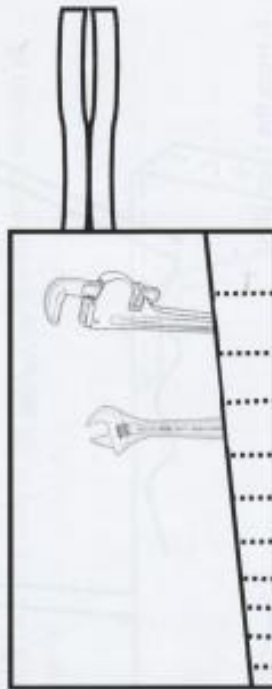
- 4cm (1 1/2in)
- 5cm (2in)
- 6cm (2 1/2in)
- 7cm (3in)



**5. Finish** with at least 75cm (30in) of 1-3cm (1/2-1in) tape or a tie made from suitable fabric. Pin and tack the middle of the tie to the right side of the tool roll. Positioning it above the tallest vertical pocket. Stitch. Press well.



**6. Finished tool roll**



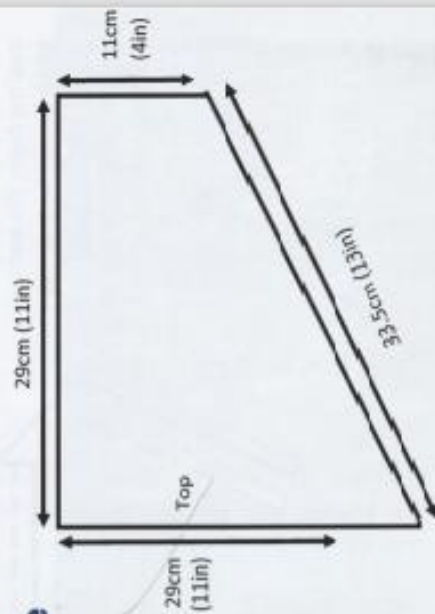
#### 4. Scissor Case

**1. Make the template and cut out fabric.**

Use cardboard for pattern template. Use strong close weave fabric and allow 1cm (1/2in) seam allowance.

**Note:**

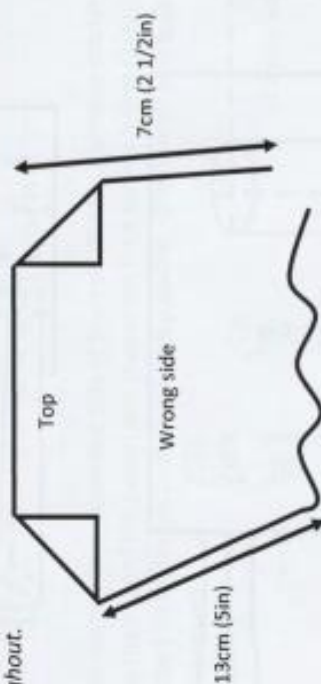
These are the minimum measurements needed.



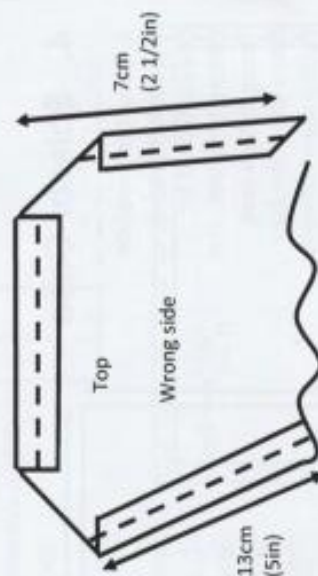
**2. With wrong side uppermost** measure and mark 13cm (5in) from point on longest side and 6.5cm (2 1/2in) from point on other long side as shown.

Fold down both corner points, left hand point 2.5cm (1in) and right hand point 1cm (1/2in). Press.

*If using thick fabric which cannot be turned inside-out, make a single fold in hem in step 3. Work right side out in step 4 and using zigzag or overlocking machine stitch throughout.*



**3. From the 13cm (5in)** mark make a small hem towards the corner folding half the turned down point into the hem. Pin and tack. Make a small hem across the top enclosing half a turned down point at each end. Pin and tack.

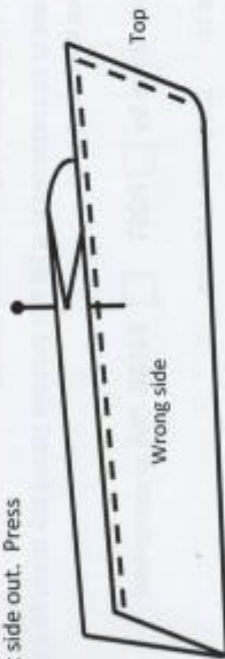


Make a small hem to the 6.5cm (2 1/2in) mark enclosing half the turned down point. Pin and tack.

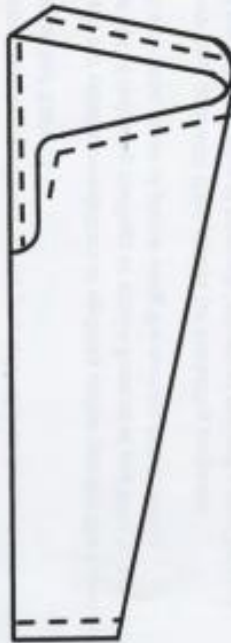
The two corners are now mitred. Stitch all three hems. Press.

**4. With right sides facing** bring together the two long straight sides. There will be a small triangle of fabric left at the bottom edge. With a pin at the ends of the hems already made, tack and stitch to the bottom end.

Turn right side out. Press



**5. Turn up the triangle** on to the body of the case. Pin, tack and stitch through all layers. Press thoroughly.



**25<sup>th</sup> September St Ceolfrith, the baking abbot**

Ceolfrith is a good patron saint for anyone who has studied hard for their profession, is strong in the face of tragedy, and who can also offer some homely care to others in need.

This well-loved abbot of Wearmouth and Jarrow came from a noble Northumbrian family, and was ordained at Ripon when he was 27. He travelled to Canterbury and Icanho (in East Anglia) where he studied ecclesiastical and monastic practices. But back at Ripon the monks soon came to appreciate him for another good reason: Ceolfrith was an outstanding cook. They asked him to be the monastery's baker, and he agreed.

In time, Ceolfrith was moved on to Wearmouth, and then in 682, when the monastery at nearby Jarrow was founded, Ceolfrith became abbot. It was here that disaster struck, when a plague killed all of the monks who could sing or read. Only Ceolfrith and the boy Bede were left alive. It would have been so easy to flee that empty house of death, but instead, Ceolfrith and the young Bede faithfully stayed on, because they believed God had called them to be there. Soon Jarrow prospered once more, and by 689 Ceolfrith was made abbot of both Wearmouth and Jarrow.

Ceolfrith seems to have been a kindly and energetic leader. During his rule 600 monks joined the monastery, the library was doubled, and the endowments increased. He died in 716. Ceolfrith's biggest legacy to history came when he commissioned from his own scriptoria three Pandects (complete Bibles in single volumes) in uncial script. One still survives today, as the Codex Amiatinus, an enormous volume in the Bibiloteca Laurenziana in Florence. It is the oldest surviving complete Latin Bible in one volume.

A kindly baking abbot who also happened to leave us the earliest complete Latin Bible – not a bad combination of skills!



*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...*

Ripley Recitals Association

## **Ripley Recitals**

55th Season Autumn Series 2022

**Friday 14 October at 7.30pm**

**Yoanna Prodanova - cello**

**Mihai Ritivoiu - piano**

**Friday 18 November at 7.30pm**

**Ensemble Mirage**

**Matthew Scott - clarinet**

**Emma Pond - viola**

**Alexandra Vaduva - piano**

**In the Music Room, Ripley Arts Centre**

**24 Sundridge Avenue, Bromley, Kent, BR1 2PX**

Tickets: £15.00 Children/students £5.00

Season: £25.00 Children/students £8

Available from: Christopher Town Tel: 020 8851 9116

Email: [christophertown@ntlworld.com](mailto:christophertown@ntlworld.com)

Ripley Recitals is a Registered Charity No 295897

# Bromley Parish Church St Peter & St Paul



## **Giving Sunday**

**Sunday 11 September 10.30am**

The service will include a presentation on the  
future resourcing of our Church.

Cake and coffee after the service and an  
opportunity to ask questions

***All Welcome***

## Church Walks

The first of our Autumn church walks is on

**Friday 23 September 2022**

Meeting in our church car park at 10am  
for a walk of approximately five miles  
exploring some of the parks and green spaces  
Bromley has to offer.

We aim to return to the church by 12noon.

We hope you will be able to join us, everyone is  
welcome!

Sally and Lynn x





**We are lighting up church pink and blue  
for Baby Loss Awareness Week**

**9th - 15th October**

**Remembering precious lives lost**

**Saturday 15th October 3pm**

**Wave of Light service**

**for those affected by baby loss**

**Ss Peter and Paul, Church Road, BR2 0EG**

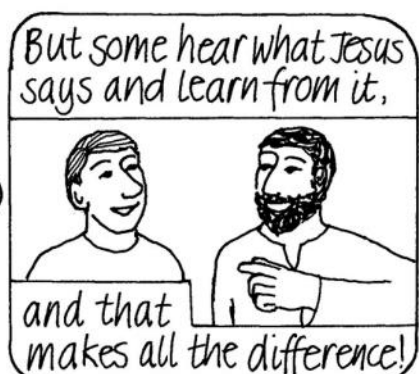
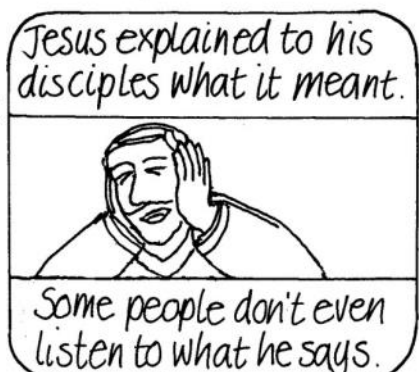
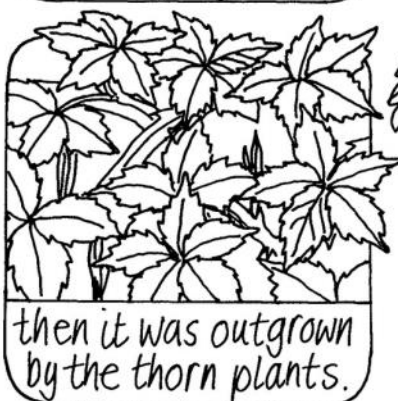
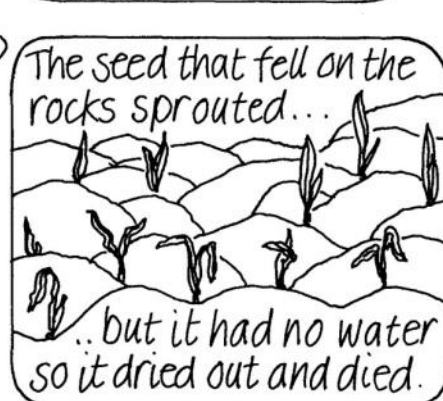
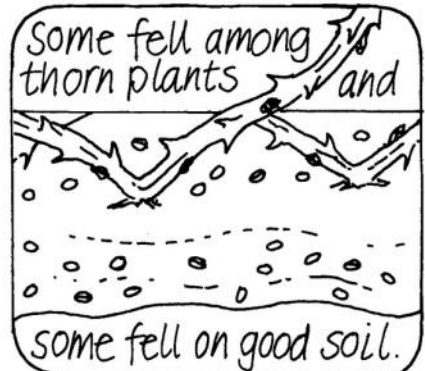


# Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in  
Mt. 13: 3-8, Mk 4: 1-9, Lk 8: 4-8

Crowds of people now came to hear Jesus, so he used stories to teach them; those who really wanted to learn would work out the meaning.



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

seed

ever

corn

difference

thorn

sprouted

soil

water

outgrown

farmer

learn

rocks

birds

good

harvest

best

field

fantastic

path

sower

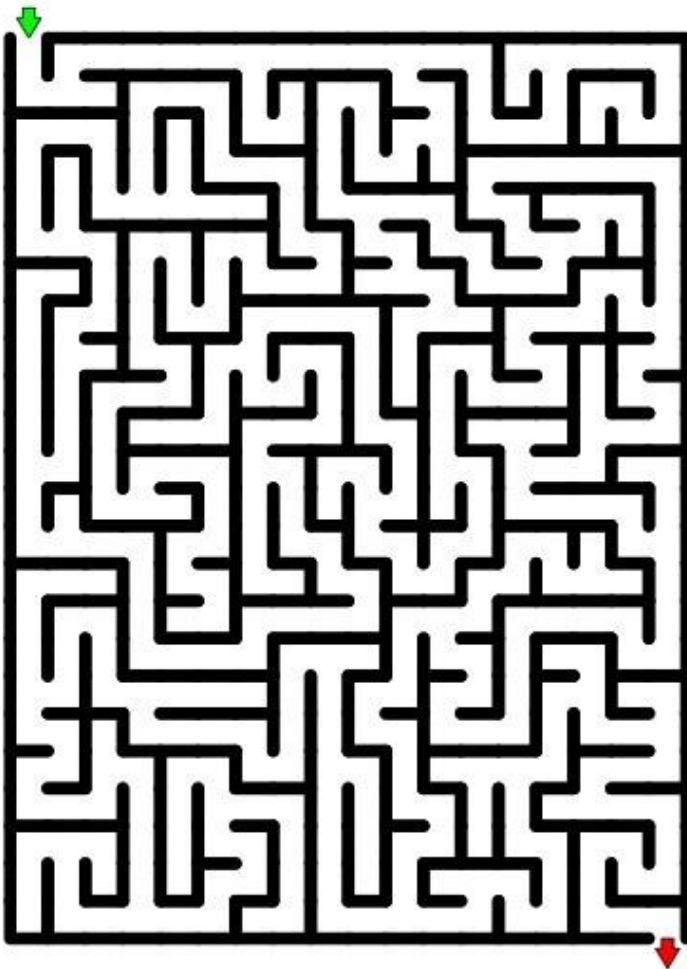
plants

grew

eaten

died





Sudoku:

Fit the numbers 1-9  
into each row, column,  
and 3x3 square.

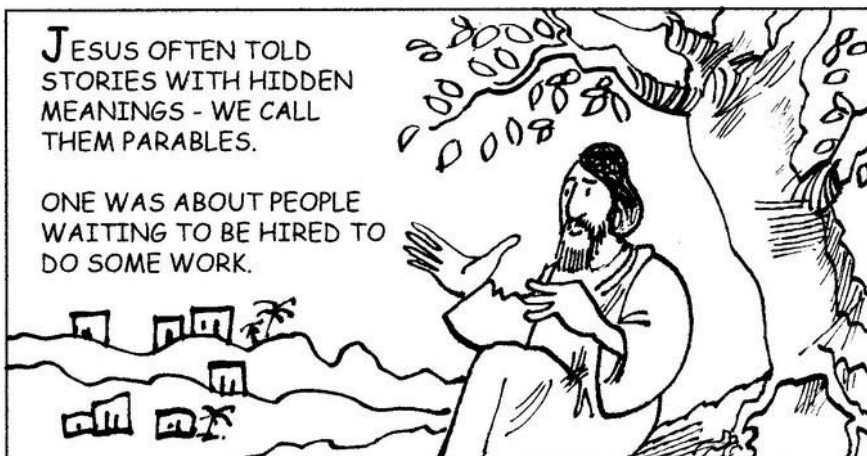
	3				2			6
7	9			8		2		
8								
		5					2	
		8	2		3	9		
	6					7		
								9
		1		4			6	8
6			1				5	

# The Hired Workers



JESUS OFTEN TOLD STORIES WITH HIDDEN MEANINGS - WE CALL THEM PARABLES.

ONE WAS ABOUT PEOPLE WAITING TO BE HIRED TO DO SOME WORK.



A HOUSEHOLDER HIRED A GROUP OF WORKERS FROM THE MARKET PLACE, FIRST THING IN THE MORNING. HE AGREED UPON A FAIR WAGE.



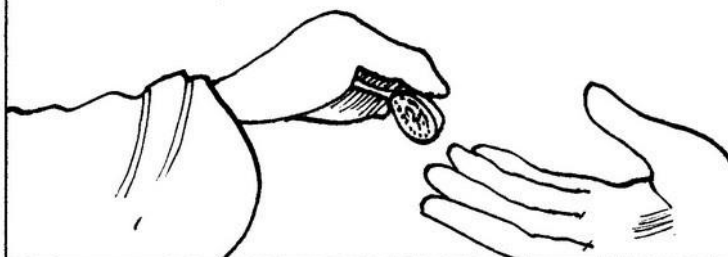
A BIT LATER ON THE HOUSEHOLDER RETURNED TO THE MARKET PLACE AND HIRED SOME MORE WORKERS.



HE RETURNED SEVERAL TIMES DURING THE DAY, EACH TIME HIRING MORE WORKERS. HE EVEN HIRED SOME PEOPLE JUST AS THE SUN WAS SETTING!



WHEN THE DAY WAS OVER THE HOUSEHOLDER BEGAN TO PAY THE WORKERS, STARTING WITH THOSE WHO HAD ONLY JUST ARRIVED. HE PAID EVERYONE THE SAME.



THIS UPSET THOSE WHO HAD WORKED ALL DAY. THEY THOUGHT THEY SHOULD GET MORE.

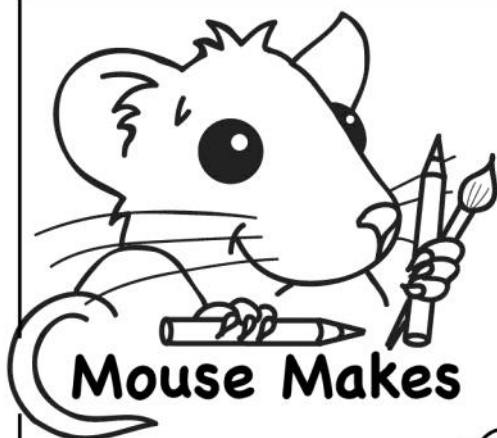


BUT THEY WERE BEING PAID WHAT THEY HAD AGREED AT THE START OF THE DAY.

JESUS CONCLUDED "SO THOSE WHO ARE LAST WILL BE FIRST, AND THOSE WHO ARE FIRST WILL BE LAST" - IT'S A HARD PARABLE!



see Matthew 20:1-16



Everyone who  
hears Jesus'  
words and **does**  
them will  
be like a



Everyone who  
hears Jesus'  
words and does  
**not** do them will  
be like a

The \_\_\_\_\_ fell,  
The floods came and the  
\_\_\_\_\_ blew.

Matthew 7:25



\_\_\_\_\_ man.  
On what did he build  
his house?

Matthew 7:24

\_\_\_\_\_ man.  
On what did he build  
his house?

Matthew 7:26



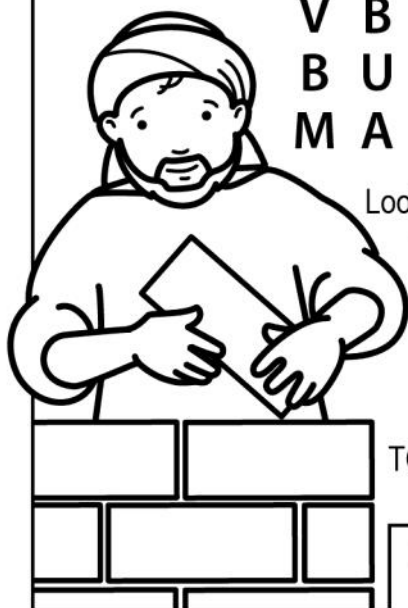
Matthew 7:24-27  
and  
Luke 6:46-49

What  
happened  
to the  
houses?  
Read  
Matthew  
7:25 and 27

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



What was  
the reaction  
of the crowd  
to Jesus'  
teaching?  
Read  
Matthew  
7:28-29



Look up the Bible references to find the missing  
words then look for them and the words  
below in the word search

JESUS • HEAR • LISTEN • WORDS  
DOES • BUILT • FOUNDATION • MAN  
DUG • DEEP • SOLID • GROUND  
STREAM • RIVER • BURST • FLOODS  
TORRENT • HOUSE • FELL • COLLAPSED  
RUIN • DESTROYED

How many other words can you make from the word  
**FOUNDATIONS**



*Here is a poem written with 'Back to Church' Sunday in mind, which this year is on 18<sup>th</sup> September.*

**Going back**

(Luke 15:11-32)

Could I go back  
After all this time,  
After all I've done,  
The places I've been,  
The wild living  
And the wasted years,  
Could I go back?

Would they let me in,  
Would *he* want me at all,  
Is it possible even now  
To turn round  
And simply go home?

From the coming to my senses  
Comes decision,  
Comes a risking,  
Comes a turning  
And a danger of rejection, after all.

But when I'm still far off  
And searching  
The way beckons like a beacon -  
And there He is,  
Arms wide in welcome.  
And He's running out  
To bring me in  
To the still place of the love  
That is my Father and my home.

*By Daphne Kitching*

## **Prayer for September**

Father,

September – a month of new starts for many. We pray for all starting school, university or college, or moving into a new class or job.

We pray for the new Prime Minister to prove to a person of integrity, dedicated to working for the good of all.

We especially ask you to help those struggling with the rising cost of living who don't know how they are going to make ends meet.

Have mercy on this nation, Lord and bring us back to Your ways.

Thank You for Jesus and that through trusting in Him we can know You, as Father and God of truth, mercy and compassion.

Thank You that You never give up on us. You will help us if we turn to You,

In Jesus name,

Amen.

*By Daphne Kitching*

## **Belonging to God**

How good You are, Lord, and how near You are to us –

so near that we may always talk to You,

be comforted by You,

breathe through You,

be enlightened by You,

find peace in You,

and gain spiritual nourishment from You.

Grant that my fellowship with You

may never be polluted by malice, pride, envy, greed, gluttony or falsehood.

Grant that I may belong wholly to you.

*By John Sergieff (1829 – 1908) a Russian priest of humble family, who became renowned for his prayers which ordinary people could use.*

*Nigel Beeton writes: "September is a time when we begin the celebration of harvest, and the rhythms of the seasons that lead up to it. But, as this Summer shows, the seasons have been disturbed. My cousins are farmers in Suffolk, and it has been so dry this year that they couldn't even drill one field until June.... So our harvest celebrations this year must be tempered with a humble awareness of the part we've played in upsetting the rhythms of creation."*

### **The Rhythms of Creation**

The rhythms of creation -  
The never-ceasing beat  
Of seasons in rotation  
As cold gives way to heat;  
We know, when it is raining  
The sun will dry the rain  
And when the moon is waning  
It soon will wax again.

The farmer drills his acres  
When springtime rains shall fall  
Then gathers wheat for bakers  
As sunflowers grow tall;  
In spring, the fruit trees, blooming  
Attract the busy bees;  
As autumn clouds are looming  
We pick from loaded trees.

The Lord, our Great Creator  
Allowed us, by His grace  
To be the regulator  
Of earthly time and space  
But mankind has been greedy  
In burning coal and oil  
So farmers now are seeding  
In dry and desert soil.

The rhythms of creation  
Are wand'ring from their beat  
Increasing suffocation,  
Of fire, flood, and heat.  
Lord, teach us new behaviour  
To spend, with care, our days:  
Dear loving Lord and Saviour  
Forgive our foolish ways!

*By Nigel Beeton*



## **The Wedding Guest**

There was a wedding in Cana in Galilee  
And Jesus joined friends along the way  
Together with guests to share in the feast  
Celebrating this special day.

Catastrophe, the wine was gone  
But this was to be a special sign,  
As water drawn from six stone jars  
Was miraculously turned into vintage wine.

Six denotes the number of man,  
We too can be filled with this wondrous wine  
The jars of stone like hearts transformed  
When touched from above with the Hand divine.

As a guest we need to invite Him in,  
He stands outside and knocks the door,  
To ask Him in will turn all things around,  
Enriching our lives as never before.

*By Megan Carter*

**Sunday 4****Trinity twelve**

10.30am Parish Eucharist

**Tuesday 6**

11am Toddler Praise

7.30pm Bell ringing practice

**Wednesday 7**

12noon -2pm Church open for private prayer

3.00pm Funeral John Bell, Bluebell Cemetery

7.30pm Children's committee meeting

**Thursday 8**

2.15pm Fellowship

7.30pm Choir Practice

**Saturday 10**

11am Wedding

Lavaniya Manohoran &amp; Chris March

**Sunday 18****Trinity fourteen**

10.30am Service of the Word

**Tuesday 20**

11.00am Toddler Praise tbc

7.30pm Bell ringing practice

**Wednesday 21**

12noon -2pm private prayer

**Thursday 22**

2.15pm Fellowship

6.30pm Choir practice

**Friday 23**

10.00am Church Walks – Bromley Parks

Meet at church at 10am

7.00pm Quarter peal

**Sunday 11****Giving Sunday**

9.00am Breakfast Church

10.30am Parish Eucharist

6.30pm Choral Evensong

**Tuesday 13**

11.00am Toddler Praise tbc

7.30pm Bell ringing practice

**Wednesday 14**

12noon -2pm Church open for private prayer

**Thursday 15**

7.30 Choir practice

**Sunday 25****Trinity fifteen**

9.00am Breakfast Church

10.30am Parish Eucharist

3.00pm Creative Funtime

**Tuesday 27**

11.00am Toddler Praise

7.30pm Bell ringing practice

**Wednesday 28**

12noon – 2pm Church open for private prayer

**Thursday 29**

6.30pm Choir practice

**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 12noon and 2pm, consecrated bread is available for those who wish to receive.

To join Sunday worship online please visit our website [www.bromleyparishchurch.org](http://www.bromleyparishchurch.org) and follow the link on our homepage.

Updates to services and events are posted on our website [www.bromleyparishchurch.org](http://www.bromleyparishchurch.org)