

**August/September 2025**

# OPEN DOOR



*Beeleigh Abbey Gardens - taken by John Firman*

**W**  
The Thurstable  
& Winstree  
Team Ministry

**£1.00**

**For Churches in Tiptree, Tolleshunt Knights,  
Great Braxted, Messing & Inworth**

# Contacts

## **Team Rector (to 7/9/25)**

Revd Anne-Marie Renshaw  
01621 815260  
amlrenshaw@btinternet.com  
Day off: Friday

## **Team Vicar**

## **Associate Ministers**

Revd Liz Barnes  
01621 333027  
liz\_barnes@sky.com  
  
Revd Christine Eaton  
christine.gorringe@btinternet.com  
  
Revd Michael Hatchett  
Rev.michael.hatchett@gmail.com

Revd Ruth Hatchett  
ruthhatchett54@yahoo.com

Revd Christine Newmarch  
07946 722801  
christinenewmarch@hotmail.co.uk

## **Licensed Lay Ministers**

Harold Toms  
01621 818595  
Harold.toms@talktalk.net

Anne Wild  
07837 248134  
awild2014@gmail.com

Wendy Borgartz  
01376 573184  
w.borgartz@btinternet.com

**Team Administrator** - Christine Hall.

The office number is 01621 819557 (with voice-mail).

Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday, available for phone enquiries from 10 am to 12.30 pm on the mobile: 07421 078981 (with voicemail). Available in St Luke's Church at the Office: on Tuesday afternoons by appointment only & on Thursday from 10 am to 12.30 pm.

Email: thurstableteamadmin@btinternet.com

www.thurstablewinstree.org

**Deadline for the next edition: October/November 2025**

**Sunday 7th September 2025.**

**Items for the magazine:** can be emailed to thurstableteamadmin@btinternet.com or delivered to St Luke's Parish Office or sent to m.borgartz@btinternet.com

## FROM THE TEAM RECTOR



This is my last letter to you all so I'd like to say what a great joy and privilege it has been to be your priest since 2011 (Tiptree, Tolleshunt Knights and Great Braxted) or 2013 (Messing and Inworth). There are some wonderful people in these villages doing some amazing things. I will miss the churches and the villages as I move on to new things in South Wales. My last services will be on Sunday 3 August at Great Braxted, 17 August at Inworth, 24 August at Messing and at St Luke's Church, Tiptree on Sunday 7 September.

It will be a few months at least before a new Team Rector is appointed. During the vacancy, my colleagues in the Ministry Team will be taking services, including baptisms, weddings and funerals. You will be able to contact them via the church office on 01621 819557 or [thurstableteamadmin@btinternet.com](mailto:thurstableteamadmin@btinternet.com).

Alice and I have been sorting out the house ready to move and have been finding all kinds of things we didn't know we still had. I was aware that there were three boxes in the corner of one of the bedrooms that had not been opened since we last moved house in 2011. One of them turned out to contain a prehistoric computer. I can tell you it was much heavier than the one I currently have in my study. Another box was full of records I didn't know I still had and the third contained memorabilia from my childhood that must have been boxed up when my mother moved out of the house I grew up in. Perhaps it is a good thing, as I prepare to move somewhere new, to be reminded of where I have come from and the person I used to be.

I remember somebody at one of our clergy study days telling an old story about a wise abbot who was on a long journey and arrived at a monastery late one evening seeking a bed for the night. The monk on watch at the gate asked him, "Who are you? Where have you come from and where are you going?" The abbot explained and was let in. As he was leaving the following morning, he sought out the monk and said to him, "In a year's time I will pass this way again and I would like you to ask me those same three questions."

These are questions we can ask ourselves at particular points in our lives, but they are also questions a church community can ask of itself. Perhaps now, at a time of change, our churches should be asking, "Who are we? Where have we come from and where are we going?" Telling our story can help us to see where God has been active in the life of the church in the past and can help us to imagine what God might be calling us to next.

I will pray for you as you embark on your next adventure. Please pray for me as I embark on mine.

*Anne-Marie Renshaw*



# **Announcement read at services on Sunday 20 July 2025 From Bishop Roger and Archdeacon Ruth**

We are delighted to announce the good news that (subject to the appropriate checks) The Rev'd Josephine Wood has been appointed Team Vicar Designate in the proposed new Team Ministry in Witham Deanery, with responsibility for Layer de la Haye St John the Baptist, Salcott Virley St Mary the Virgin, Tollesbury St Mary the Virgin, Tolleshunt D'Arcy St Nicholas and Tolleshunt Major St Nicholas. Jo is currently Assistant Curate in the Benefice of the Rodings, Easters and Great Canfield, in this diocese.

Jo says: "I am delighted to be joining the team in the Witham Deanery and very much looking forward to getting to know lots of new people and places. I have enjoyed being part of the rural communities where I have served my Curacy and love seeing God at work in the rural church. I am greatly encouraged by all that is already happening in the parishes for which I will have particular responsibility and excited to see what new opportunities for mission and ministry we will discover as we begin this new chapter together."

We look forward to welcoming Jo into this new role and ask for your prayers for her as she prepares to move and to take up her new ministry. Jo will be licensed in the autumn. We also pray for Jo's current parishes as they prepare to say goodbye to her.

## **From The Rodings, Easters & Great Cranfield website**



*Rev'd Jo Wood*

I was born and grew up in NW Essex and have lived in Great Dunmow for the past 25 years. Before ordination I had a varied teaching career, including three years in Nepal. I also spent time working in public libraries and with a charity supporting prisoners and their families. Most recently I worked as a peripatetic clarinet teacher.

As well as music, I love reading, so I'm often found with my nose in a book. I also enjoy exploring local and family history; spending time in the garden or on the allotment and getting out for walks in our lovely local countryside.

Christian faith and belonging to the family of the church has always been an important part of my life. I was ordained in 2021 and my training included a particular focus on rural ministry. I love to see rural churches and communities flourishing and caring for one another and feel privileged to be able to join in with what God is already doing here in the Rodings, Easters and Gt. Canfield.

## Rev'd Anne-Marie Renshaw

Just after the last edition of Open Door came out it was announced that Anne-Marie had been appointed as Archdeacon of Morgannwg in the Diocese of Llandaff in Wales.

Anne-Marie's last Sunday with us will be the 7th September when there will be a farewell bring and share lunch at St. Luke's. If you would like to contribute to a leaving gift please place money in an envelope addressed to Martin Borgartz labelled 'Anne-Marie collection' or see Sheila Gunson at St Luke's.

The Bishop of Chelmsford, the Rt Rev'd Dr Guli Francis-Dehqani said:

*"I warmly congratulate Anne-Marie on her appointment as Archdeacon of Morgannwg. She has been a faithful servant to the churches, schools and communities where she has ministered in our diocese and I know she will be greatly missed. Please join me in praying for Anne-Marie and her family as she prepares for this next chapter in her ministry."*

the Bishop of Colchester, the Rt Rev'd Roger Morris said:

*"We give thanks for Anne-Marie's ministry with us in the Colchester Area, as a parish priest and Assistant Area Dean. She will be missed by those she has worked and served with, including all of us in the Colchester Area Team. Her appointment is good news for the Archdeaconry of Morgannwg and the Diocese of Llandaff and we'll be praying for her as she prepares to move in the autumn."*

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## Give Him a call!

The phone was a great invention. How easy, to press a few numbers on our small devices and speak to someone the other side of the world. Once a phone was a luxury item; now we take it for granted that this gadget in our pocket enables us to contact anyone, at any time, in any place.

However, how many times have you rung someone, only to be given a recorded message giving a variety of options? Then you must wait in a queue for ages before your call is answered. A voice informs you that 'your call is important to us' ... but meanwhile you are left waiting, listening to endless music.

Yes, a phone may be useful in all kinds of circumstances, but they can also be very frustrating! So, it's good to know that God can be contacted immediately we need Him.

There is no celestial call centre where our messages are delayed or referred. With prayer we can call on God directly. This service is free, with no charges. He hears our every call, and we can be confident that our Creator will answer us in ways which are only for our good.

'When you pray, I will answer you. When you call to me, I will respond.' (Isaiah 58:9)

*Parish Pump*

## From Andy Butt

### Tiptree Youth Project Outreach

### Community Youth Worker

It's been another busy end to the school year in the world of TYPO: Sanctum Prayer Space being delivered to year 7's at Thurstable, Year 6 – 7 Transition lessons for over 180 children starting at Secondary School in September and Support for Thurstable School Activity Days all happening alongside the usual activities of Wednesday Youth Club, CITY Youth Group and weekly Thurstable Playground Pastoral walks.

But that's' not the big news.

Back at the end of June we welcomed two new members to the TYPO Staff team. Erika Hernandez-Osorio and Olga Zhernova have joined me to help deliver additional provision to Wednesday Youth Club and strengthen the team for CITY. It's been great to start to get to know them and look forward to what we can do from September

I'll leave them to introduce themselves to you in their own words.



*Picture Erika (left) and Olga (Right)*

Hello, I'm Erika, a counsellor for adult and youth, hence my passion for supporting young people. I've recently moved into the village with my husband and 2 children; we love the

outdoors, travelling, and exploring different cuisines. I'm excited to have joined the TYPO team and look forward to working with the youth in the community.

Based in nearby Colchester, Olga Zhernova has recently joined us to support local teenagers during after-school hours. Originally from Ukraine, she brings experience working with young people at university level and a warm, thoughtful approach to community life. As a mum of two, she understands the joys and challenges of growing up, and she's excited to bring fresh ideas for fun, creative, and meaningful activities. She's looking forward to meeting local families, so don't hesitate to say hello!

As I end this piece I must mention the support Anne-Marie has given both to me in my nearly 6 years with TYPO and more in her role as a trustee for the charity. I have been a real pleasure to have worked alongside her. She will be missed, but I wish her well in an exciting new role in South Wales.

**Andy Butt**

Contact me by email [Andy@TYPO.uk.net](mailto:Andy@TYPO.uk.net) or see me about the village

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## Where do cricket bats come from?

We see them, off and on, all summer: cricket bats. But did you ever wonder how they are made?

The timber comes from mature willow trees, each of which should give about 30 bats.

It is first cut into rounds, and clefts are split out.

Each cleft is then rough sawn, and waxed at the ends, to stop moisture loss. The clefts are air or kiln dried before being cut into a basic blade shape. The craftsman puts the springiest part of the bat in the centre.

Next, comes 'pressing the blade'. This is when the willow fibres are compressed, to strengthen the timber so that it can withstand the impact of the ball.

Then, the handle is fitted by glue. It is made of cane and rubber strips, and set slightly forward, for a perfect pick up.

The bat is then shaped by a hand-drawn knife and smoothed by a wooden plane. The shoulders of the bat are blended with the spoke-shave, and then the bat is sanded.

Finally, there is the process of minding, polishing and labelling. This is where the bat is mounted in a lathe, controlled via a foot treadle. The handle is bound, using twine and glue. The blade is then finely waxed, to a satin finish. Finally, grips are fitted onto the handle, and labels are applied.

*Parish Pump*



# The Nicene Creed:

## Who is Jesus?

*Canon Paul Hardingham*

*We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.*

This month we are looking at what the Nicene Creed affirms about the person of Jesus Christ.

*‘We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God’*: Jesus is presented as the unique Son of God. This reflects the big debate at the time, which was to counter the teachings of Arius, who taught that Jesus was the first and greatest of God’s creatures, but not the same as God the Father.

Today we can be more concerned about Jesus’ authority as a moral teacher, neglecting that Jesus the man is also truly God. *‘We have seen His glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father’* (John 1:14).

*‘eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father’*: These words affirm the divinity of Jesus. The phrase *‘begotten not made’* is crucial in understanding Jesus as the unique Son of the Father, who existed eternally of the same divine nature as the Father.

*‘In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning’* (John 1:1,2). It is a powerful reminder that our belief revolves around trusting a person, not simply in a set of beliefs and moral teaching.

*‘through Him all things were made’*: The Creed affirms that Jesus the Son cannot be made, because through Him all things were made and only God can create from nothing.

*‘Through Him all things were made; without Him nothing was made that has been made.’* (John 1:3). This implies that our world was made good, with a purpose in which we can share.

Also, Jesus has the last word in promising to bring everything in heaven and on earth together at the end of time under His Lordship (Ephesians 1:10). This makes a real difference to how we see and treat God’s Creation and those created in God’s image.

In response to this, can we say that Jesus is Lord of every area of our life?

## The Incarnate Jesus

*For us men and for our salvation He came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit*



*He became incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake He was crucified under Pontius Pilate; He suffered death and was buried.*

In this study we are looking at what the Nicene Creed says about the ministry of Jesus on earth.

*‘For us men and for our salvation He came down from heaven’:* Jesus came down to earth to save us all. Salvation involves healing and rescuing us from the wrong things in our lives, which result in death itself. The Creed demonstrates the importance of having a proper understanding of Christ that safeguards the gospel of salvation. *‘For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.’* (Luke 19:10).

*‘by the power of the Holy Spirit He became incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and was made man’:*

Although the word *‘incarnate’* doesn’t appear in the New Testament, it expresses the meaning of Jesus’ birth. Heresies of the time included Adoptionism (i.e. Jesus became God’s Son only at His baptism) and Docetism (i.e. Jesus appeared to be human, as a fully divine being). The incarnation affirms that the divine son, was conceived in Mary’s womb by the power of the Spirit and born in time as a human being: *‘The Holy Spirit will come on you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy One to be born will be called the Son of God.’* (Luke 1:35). If Jesus was not conceived both fully divine and human, the Christian understanding of salvation is lost.

*‘For our sake He was crucified under Pontius Pilate; He suffered death and was buried’:*

In the Creed we move straight from Jesus’ birth to His death, which is the climax of His ministry. Jesus dying for our sins on the cross lies at the heart of God’s plan of salvation. The mention of Pontius Pilate roots our faith in history and reminds us of the important part people played in God’s plan. *‘He himself bore our sins in His body on the cross, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; by His wounds you have been healed.’* (1 Peter 2:24).

What is the place of the incarnation in your understanding of the Christian Faith?

*Parish Pump*

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## Wildfires in the UK

If you venture into the countryside this month, be careful and stay vigilant: be wildfire aware. So warns the National Fire Chiefs Council, after a record-breaking season for wildfires.

The concern is based on some alarming data. By June (the most recent data on hand) firefighters had responded to more than 500 wildfires across England and Wales. That was a 717 per cent increase on the same period as last year, and more than double the number seen in 2022.

Dry, sunny weather this Spring created ideal conditions for wildfires, which thrive on plenty of dead and dormant vegetation, and spread rapidly.

# **St. Luke's PCC Updates**

## **Vision Day**

On 28th June the Vision Day took place. Led by Rev'd Canon Philip Ritchie, those present were encouraged to look in detail at the parishes of Tolleshunt Knights, Tiptree & Great Braxted and identify areas of growth, areas where the churches were active and areas where we need to do more to engage with people. This was done by mapping the parish and drawing timelines, identifying what has been successful in the past, why and when. Groups were then asked to identify our Resources; Challenges and Opportunities. Finally the day identified 3 priorities which were taken forward for discussion at the PCC.

## **Finance & Stewardship Team**

This met on the 9th June and reviewed the management accounts to 31 May. The administration arrangements for the new team was discussed together with arrangements for the vacancy. Clive gave an update on various ongoing projects.

## **Team Council**

The Team Council met on 12th June. Invites had been sent out to all of the PCC's of the new Benefice. The meeting was more of a get to know you meeting rather than a formal team council. The meeting did spilt up into the new clusters to discuss amongst other things possible names for the entire team as well as names for the individual clusters.

## **Deanery Synod 18th June**

Deanery Synod started with a presentation from Caroline Harding, the Diocesan Lay Ministry Advisor, who outlined the various aspects of lay ministry, lay preaching and pastoral work. Updates were received on the new Central Benefice and the appointment process to date. Anne-Marie talked about the September sailing trip for the Deanery youth.

## **Youth and Children's Work Team 5th June**

At the June meeting of the Youth and Children's Work team it was agreed that Wendy Borgartz would take over doing DBS checks. Updated checks were needed for the leaders of the Parent and Toddlers group and for some Messy Church helpers, and Churchwardens will need to do Leadership Safeguarding training in preparation for the interregnum. Messy Church is going well. Wendy is leading on confirmation preparation for four young people, with support from Anne-Marie and others, with thanks to the URC for offering premises and help with this. Wendy will take over schools work with St. Luke's and Milldene from Anne-Marie and continue her work with Tiptree Heath. TYPO have employed two part-time sessional youth workers to support Andy.

## PCC 9th July

This being the first PCC since the APCM we started off with a communion service in the church. Clive then played a selection of the communion settings currently in use for comments. The consensus was that a variety was good and we were happy with those in use. Afterwards in the extension the various PCC Teams membership was reviewed. The main topic discussed was the outcome of the vision day. The maps and timelines from the day were on display for those unable to make the day itself.

Reports from the various teams who had met were received. A small team was set up to work together with the other parishes in our cluster to start looking at drawing up the Parish Profile so that after Anne-Marie's departure and when the PCCs meet with Bishop Roger and Archdeacon Ruth we can be ready to hit the ground running.

# Parent & Toddlers at St Luke's

Meet here every  
**MONDAY** morning  
9.15am – 11.15am

(includes holidays, but not bank holidays) photo by Marcus Spiske Unsplash



Everyone welcome! Parents  
or carers, grandparents,  
friends and childminders.



Meet up, have a chat, relax and play!



There is a small charge of  
£2.00 per family – drinks &  
biscuits are included



Further information from Margaret Peek 01621 810804  
or Maureen Horn 01621 817497



## **All Saints' Church, Gt Braxted, CM8 3EN**

*You are welcome to join us for our services at any time.*

### **Services for 2025:**

**20<sup>th</sup> April 11.15 am Easter Day Parish Communion**

**1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of each month at 11.15 am, Family Service:**

**4<sup>th</sup> May, 1<sup>st</sup> June, 6<sup>th</sup> July, 3<sup>rd</sup> August, 7<sup>th</sup> September &  
5<sup>th</sup> October**

**Our usual pattern of services continues until October, with Family Service suitable for all ages on the first Sunday of the month.**

**Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> December 11.15 am Carol Service**

**Wedding couples establishing a qualifying connection are also able to attend St Luke's Tiptree, CO5 0SU any Sunday of the month at 9.30 am.**

**For any enquiries** please telephone Revd Anne-Marie Renshaw, 01621 815260 [amlrenshaw@btinternet.com](mailto:amlrenshaw@btinternet.com)

or, contact our Team Administrator, Christine Hall  
[thurstableteamadmin@btinternet.com](mailto:thurstableteamadmin@btinternet.com)





# 2025

## FRIENDS OF ST LUKE'S



26<sup>th</sup> Sept, 24<sup>th</sup> Oct, 28<sup>th</sup> Nov & 19<sup>th</sup> Dec  
2-4 pm, and every 4th Friday of the month,  
**Games Afternoons** join us in the Hall



### Games Afternoon

4th Friday, Every Month, 2-4pm

£3 per person  
Includes Biscuits, Coffee, Tea,  
& Good Company!

\*Hummikub, Cribbage, Scrabble, Mahjong, Cluedo...  
and many more Games available

For more information: 01621 819557



13<sup>th</sup> September 7.30 pm in the Hall  
**Barn Dance**  
Hosted by John Dorsett

27<sup>th</sup> September 10am in the Hall  
**Coffee Morning Fundraiser for Cancer**

*Craft Stalls, Bacon rolls, Face Painting  
Cakes & Raffle*



11<sup>th</sup> October 7.30pm in the Hall  
**Quiz Night**

22<sup>nd</sup> November 7.30pm in the Hall  
**Dance through the Decades Music Night**  
*All the hits from the 50's, 60's, 70's, 80's & 90's*



\*To book for FoSL events\* please contact [foslbookings@gmail.com](mailto:foslbookings@gmail.com)

# Book the Hall

## for your meeting, group or event

we are in St Luke's Church Extension, St Luke's Church,  
Church Road, Tiptree, CO5 0SU



**Good rates and  
improved facilities!**



**Hourly Rate:**

**£20 - regular bookings**

**£23 - one-off bookings**

***both including use of all facilities & kitchen***

**Wi-fi available for group leaders or speakers**

***(discuss your needs when making your booking)***



**Bookings & Enquiries to:**

**Gareth Williams: 01621 818069**

**Email: [hall.stlukestiptree@btinternet.com](mailto:hall.stlukestiptree@btinternet.com)**

**Why not give us a call?**

We now have a Facebook Page [www.facebook.com/tiptreechurchhall/](http://www.facebook.com/tiptreechurchhall/)



## Regular Hall Bookings, at St Luke's:

For all hall bookings call Gareth Williams

01621 818069

Email: [hall.stlukestiptree@btinternet.com](mailto:hall.stlukestiptree@btinternet.com)

Weekly	Morning:	Afternoon	Evening
Monday	Parent & Toddlers; Chair Yoga		
Tuesday	Tiptree Volunteers Coffee Morning, (2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Tues)	Chair Pilates, Up in Lights Dance Academy	
Wednesday	Slimming World, Jan Scott Dance WEA (autumn/winter)		regular private booking
Thursday	Sound Collective Coffee Morning & Choir	U3A Choir (2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Thurs)	
Friday	Tiptree Art Club	Chair Pilates	
Sunday	Coffee after Service	KYDS Youth Drama Society	

## Monthly

Sunday	Sunday Club (3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday morning)
Tuesday	Little City (1 <sup>st</sup> Tuesday morning)
Wednesday	U3A Line Dance (2 <sup>nd</sup> Wednesday afternoon) Tai Chi 2.30 pm (3 <sup>rd</sup> Wednesday) & 1.30 pm (4 <sup>th</sup> Wednesday)
	Tiptree Tiplers (3 <sup>rd</sup> evening in month)
Thursday	U3A History (1 <sup>st</sup> afternoon), Tiptree Garden Club (1 <sup>st</sup> evening), Flower Club (2 <sup>nd</sup> evening), St Luke's Ladies Group (3 <sup>rd</sup> evening)
Friday	Messy Church (1 <sup>st</sup> Friday afternoon), Priory Heath WI (2 <sup>nd</sup> Friday afternoon in the month) Games Afternoon (4 <sup>th</sup> Friday afternoon)

If you are interested in making contact with any of the groups listed, please contact the Hall Bookings Administrator on [hall.stlukestiptree@btinternet.com](mailto:hall.stlukestiptree@btinternet.com)

Find us on Facebook:  /tiptreechurchhall

May 2025



"We've had a tip-off that the sermon is going to over-run again."



"It's not a new stained-glass window – the Youth Club put its skateboard ramp too close to the church's west wall!"



JustGiving Page



## **Mighty Convoy – Convoy of Hope**

Andrew and Marco from Messing in Essex are raising funds to purchase and fill an ambulance with medical and aid supplies. They will then drive non-stop 1,250 miles across Europe to Ukraine, leaving on October 24<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

**We need £7,000 to achieve this.**

Their ambulance will form part of a convoy of 6 vehicles. Once there, the ambulance and supplies will be handed over to the relief agencies which desperately need them.

Mighty Convoy has done this 15 times so far and works closely with aid providers such as the International Christian Medical Aid Group – the Ukrainian branch of which will greet the convoy and take over the supplies and vehicles. The money raised will pay for the ambulance and aid supplies. These are all sourced by Mighty Convoy.

All other costs, flights home, hotel and food will be met by the drivers themselves.

Could you help with those funds please? If you would like to donate visit their JustGiving page, where additionally Gift Aid is available to donors who are UK taxpayers, which increases your donation by 25% at no extra cost. All donations go directly to the charity. The page is at [www.justgiving.com/page/essex-ukraine-mighty-convoy](http://www.justgiving.com/page/essex-ukraine-mighty-convoy), or you can go directly by scanning the QR code above.

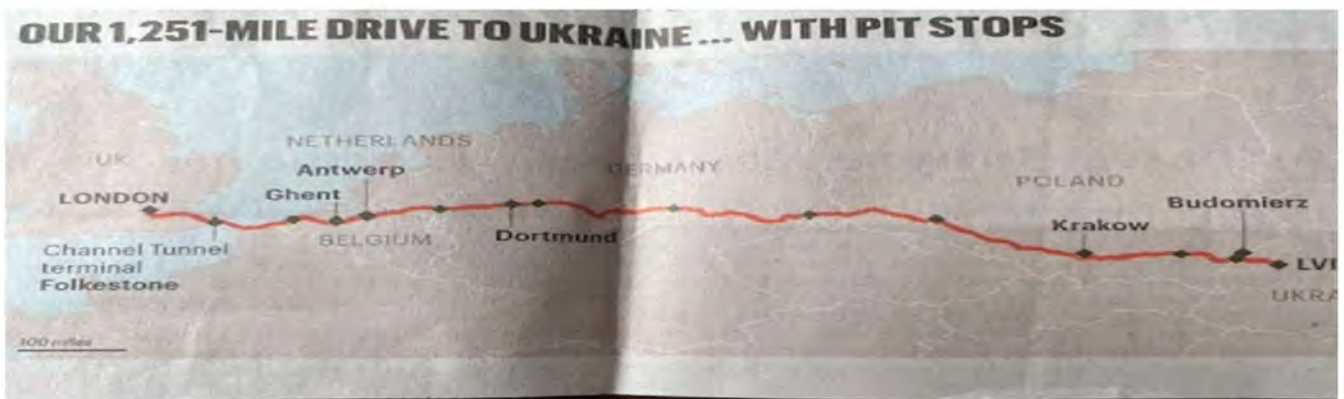
If you would like more information, please contact Andrew Harding or Marco Hughes on [aharding1956@outlook.com](mailto:aharding1956@outlook.com).

**Thank you**

Ukraine needs your help and aid – please do what you can.







Andrew and Marco  
from Messing's  
JustGiving Page



# Lord's Prayer tops Shakespeare, Dickens, Churchill and National Anthem in public recognition poll

People in the UK are more likely to identify correctly a short extract from the Lord's Prayer – also known as the Our Father – than one from the National Anthem and other sources chosen for their deep cultural resonance, a new poll has found.

The polling, carried out for the Church of England, also found the reference in the prayer to being forgiven and forgiving others was the element people found most meaningful to them.

Pollsters Savanta surveyed more than 2,000 people across the UK. They asked them to match seven famous lines - spanning areas ranging from literature and history to popular culture – with their source, from a list of correct answers.

Overall, the phrase from the Lord's Prayer was recognised correctly by the largest number of people (80.3 per cent), just ahead of Star Wars (79.9 per cent).

They were followed by Hamlet's "To be or not to be" (73 per cent) the extract from the National Anthem (63 per cent); the line from Churchill's 'The Few' speech (61 per cent); and You'll Never Walk Alone (58 per cent).

Overall, 89 per cent of those surveyed said that they had previously heard of the Lord's Prayer or the Our Father. This was highest among those who described themselves as Christian (95 per cent), but also by 88 per cent of those who said they had no religion.

The Archbishop of York, Stephen Cottrell, is currently leading a 'Lord's Prayer Tour' of events at churches and cathedrals across the north of England attended by thousands of people, as part of his *Faith In The North* initiative.

He said: "In a world of shifting cultures and changing circumstances, the Lord's Prayer remains a steady guide - perhaps never more so than now.

"Lines like 'Give us this day our daily bread' speak powerfully to today's challenges, reminding us to seek sufficiency, not excess, and to consider what 'enough' truly means."

*Parish Pump*



# Messy Church !



Join us here at  
St Luke's Church:  
after school on

**Friday 5<sup>th</sup> September**

**Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> October**

**Friday 7<sup>th</sup> November**

**from 3 pm to 5.30 pm**

**For:**

**A simple  
meal**

**Songs**

**Friends**

**Games**



**Activities**

**Stories**

**Crafts**

**a short service**

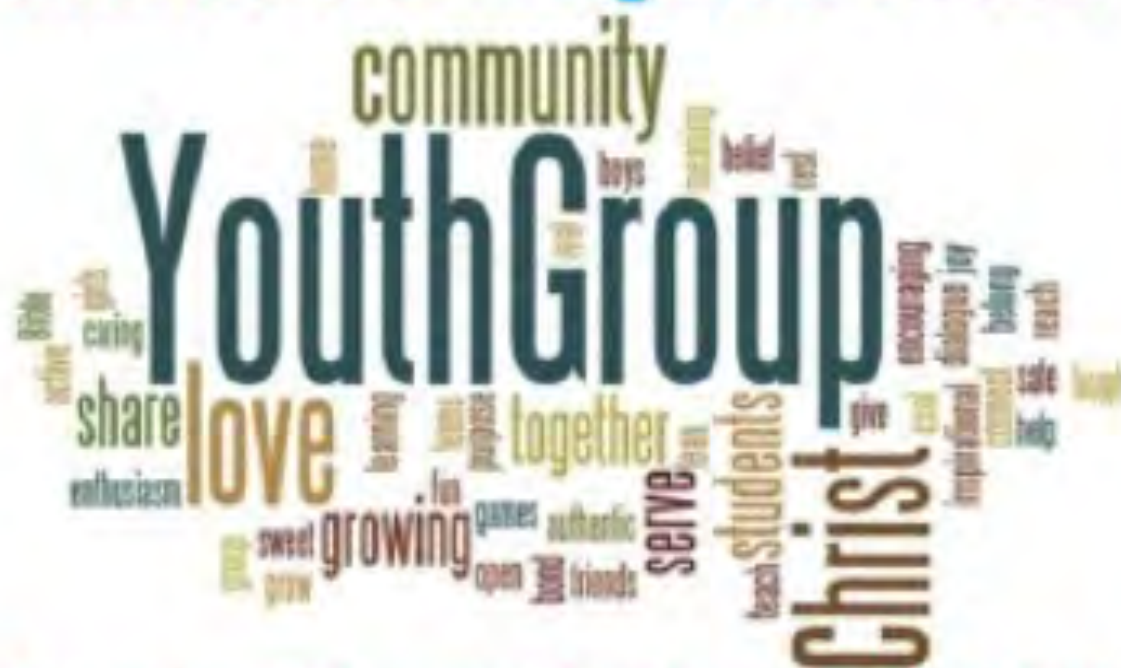
St Luke's Church, Church Road Tiptree, CO5 0SU

 Find us on Facebook: [/tiptreestlukes](https://www.facebook.com/tiptreestlukes)



# CITY

**Churches In Tiptree Youth**



**An inclusive Christian faith based Youth Club  
for young people in school years 7\* – 11 (ages  
11 – 16) \* open to year 6 from Easter**

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**Churches In Tiptree Youth**





*Rogation Walk - photo by Audrey Beckett*



*Ascension Day Celebrations*



# **Cantus Firmus**

## **Pilgrimage of Song**

### **19th July 2025**



On Saturday 19th July members and supporters of Cantus Firmus walked from Feering Church to Kelvedon Church, and then onto St Luke's Tiptree via Inworth Church. The above shows the group at Kelvedon and the one below at St Luke's. A service at St. Luke's was taken by Rev'd Christine Newmarch and was followed by a fish and chip supper.





Friends   
of St Luke's, Tiptree



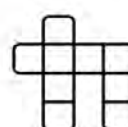
# Games Afternoon

4th Friday, Every Month, 2-4pm

£3 per person

Includes Biscuits, Coffee, Tea,  
& Good Company!

Rummikub, Cribbage, Scrabble, Mahjong, Cluedo...  
and many more Games available





Friends of St Luke's

# Coffee Morning

Bacon Rolls & Refreshments  
Raffle, Cakes, Face Painting  
Craft Stall

Saturday,  
27 September  
10am-1pm



Proceeds to Benefit  
Cancer Charities:

Breast Cancer Now  
Prostate Cancer UK  
The Teenage Cancer Trust  
East Anglian Children's Hospice



St Luke's Church Hall, Tiptree CO5 0SU



# The story behind the hymn: Eternal Father Strong to Save

*Eternal Father, strong to save,  
Whose arm hath bound the restless wave,  
Who bidd'st the mighty ocean deep  
Its own appointed limits keep;  
Oh, hear us when we cry to Thee,  
For those in peril on the sea!*

*O Christ! Whose voice the waters heard  
And hushed their raging at Thy word,  
Who walked'st on the foaming deep,  
And calm amidst its rage didst sleep;  
Oh, hear us when we cry to Thee,  
For those in peril on the sea!*

*Most Holy Spirit! Who didst brood  
Upon the chaos dark and rude,  
And bid its angry tumult cease,  
And give, for wild confusion, peace;  
Oh, hear us when we cry to Thee,  
For those in peril on the sea!*

*O Trinity of love and power!  
Our brethren shield in danger's hour;  
From rock and tempest, fire and foe,  
Protect them wheresoe'er they go;  
Thus evermore shall rise to Thee  
Glad hymns of praise from land and sea.*

The author of these words, William Whiting, was an Anglican clergyman in Winchester, which is hardly a seaside town. Yet Whiting had not only grown up by the sea, but had nearly died in it. As a young man he had been on a ship that got caught in a violent storm, and afterwards he felt certain it was only God who had saved the ship from sinking that night.

Some years later, as headmaster of the Winchester College Choristers' School, Whiting was approached by a student in distress. The student was due to sail to the USA and was simply terrified at the thought of 3,000 miles of ocean. To try and reassure the student, Whiting decided to share his experience. And so, he wrote this poem, basing the description of the power and fury of the sea on Psalm 107.

It is not known if it helped the nervous student or not, but within a year the poem had become a hymn, and soon sailed into the influential first edition of *Hymns Ancient and Modern* of 1861.

Another Anglican clergyman, John B Dykes, wrote the music for it. He was already a successful composer, with 300 hymns to his name. Dykes named this tune 'Melita', after an old name for Malta, where St Paul was once shipwrecked. Whiting released two more versions of the lyrics, in 1869 and in 1874.

During the rest of the 19<sup>th</sup> century the hymn became a favourite with the Royal Navy and the United States Navy. Other Services adapted it, including the Royal Marines, the Royal Air Force, the British Army, and the United States Coast Guard. Above all, it became known as the Royal Navy Hymn.

Well into the 20<sup>th</sup> century, it was the favourite hymn of President Franklin Delano Roosevelt, who had served as Secretary of the Navy during the Second World War. In 1963 *Eternal Father* was played by the Navy Band, as President John F. Kennedy's body was carried up the steps of the U.S. Capitol to lie in state. (Kennedy had been a PT boat commander in World War II.)

More recently, *Eternal Father* made a 'guest appearance' in the Hollywood blockbuster *Titanic*, and is also often chosen by ship's chaplains for use in civilian services at sea.

# ***Smile***

## **Baptism**

The vicar announced that an additional font would soon be placed in the church, so that babies could be baptised at both ends.

\*\*\*

## **Getting ready**

Two children watched their grandmother reading her Bible. "Why does she do that?" whispered one. "I expect she's studying for her final exams," came the reply.

\*\*\*

## **Vatican**

Once asked how many people worked in the Vatican, Pope John XXIII replied: "Oh, about half."

\*\*\*

## **Preaching hazards**

Showing your new parish that you are a forceful preacher may not always be a good idea, as the Revd Sydney Smith found out when he first arrived at All Saints Church in Foston in 1806. "When I began to thump the pulpit cushion on my first coming to Foston, the accumulated dust of 150 years made such a cloud that for some minutes I lost sight of the congregation."

\*\*\*

## **Music appreciation**

The music critic enthused: "Here is Tchaikovsky at his best. Music so beautiful that it has to be heard to be appreciated."

A lot of music is like that.

\*\*\*

## **Fish and chips**

Some tourists touring the north of England stopped to visit a Priory. The Prior gave them a tour of the buildings, ending in the kitchen, where one monk was making fish and chips. One tourist said brightly: "You must be the fish friar," to which the monk gravely replied, "No, I am the chip monk."

\*\*\*

## **Politicians**

Politicians are people who, when they see the light at the end of the tunnel, order more tunnel.

\*\*\*

## **Drama**

"Did the play have an unhappy ending?"

"Oh no – everyone was glad when it was over."

\*\*\*

## **Life choice**

A small boy returned from Sunday School in tears. When questioned by his mother for the reason of his distress, he gulped: "Jesus wants me for a sunbeam, but I want to be an engine driver."



### Baptisms

25 May Rosanna Parkhurst St Luke's

### Weddings

21 June Benjamin McSweeney & Madeline Hall  
St Luke's

### Funerals

11 June Joy Dennett St Luke's  
17 June Janet Barker Messing  
18 June Brian Fern St Luke's  
19 June Pearl Purtell Colchester Crematorium  
20 June Richard Lilley Tolleshunt Knights

## The vicar who won Wimbledon

*Tim Lenton looks back on an extraordinary clergyman ...*

Ninety years ago, on 21<sup>st</sup> August 1935, John Hartley, the British tennis player, died. He was the only clergyman ever to win Wimbledon and was World Number One in both 1879 and 1880 – winning Wimbledon both years.

The Revd John Thorneycroft Hartley was born in 1849 in Wolverhampton and was well connected: his parents were both from Staffordshire industrial business families, and he married Alice Lascelles Murray, daughter of the 4th Earl of Mansfield and a granddaughter of Henry Lascelles, 3rd Earl of Harewood. They had no children.

He won the 1879 Gentlemen's Singles title against Irish champion Vere St Leger Goold in three sets on 15<sup>th</sup> July, retaining his title the following year. But in attempting the hat-trick in 1881 he lost the shortest ever men's final, 0-6, 1-6, 1-6, in 37 minutes. He was said to have been ill at the time.

Hartley had become a priest in 1873. He was firstly curate of Christ Church, Southwark, and then became vicar of Burneston, a village in North Yorkshire, from 1874 to 1919. In 1891 he became Rural Dean of East Catterick, and later he was Honorary Canon of Ripon Cathedral.

As an amateur, he received no cash for his Wimbledon wins, and in the course of his first finals win he caught a train to Yorkshire so that he could do his duty and take his services at Burneston on the Sunday. Not only that, but he stayed with a dying parishioner until he passed away on the Monday – the day of the semi-finals. A rain delay helped him to get back to London in time.

At the Golden Jubilee Championships in 1926 he received a silver medal from Queen Mary as one of 34 surviving champions.

*Parish Pump*

# Books of the Bible

*Canon Paul Hardingham*

## 1 Corinthians

*‘When people become Christians, they don’t at the same moment become nice. This always comes as something of a surprise’ (Eugene Peterson).*

After founding the church in Corinth Paul spent a year and a half with them, showing them how to live out this new life as a community of believers. Corinth was a major commercial centre in Greece and a crossroads for travellers and traders across the Empire. Its people placed a high premium on wisdom, but Corinth was also known for its immorality. Little wonder that the church was plagued with so many problems! However, after Paul left the church factions developed, immorality was rife, and worship had become a selfish grabbing for the supernatural. Paul’s letter, written around AD 55 in Ephesus, is a response to these problems.

It is clear that, although the church was gifted (1:4–7), it was immature and unspiritual (3:1–4). Paul’s purpose for writing was to:

- instruct and restore the church in its areas of weakness, correcting erroneous practices such as divisions (1:10–4:21), immorality (ch. 5; 6:12–20), litigation in pagan courts (6:1–8) and the abuse of the Lord’s Supper (11:17–34).
- correct false teaching concerning the resurrection (ch. 15).

This letter is very relevant for us today, as we are also powerfully influenced by our cultural environment. Many of the questions and problems that confronted the church at Corinth are still with us. Yet despite the problems, Paul’s focus remained on knowing Christ in His life and trusting in the power of the cross: *‘For I resolved to know nothing while I was with you except Jesus Christ and Him crucified.’* (2:2).

*Parish Pump*

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## Romans

*‘Paul’s letter to Rome is the high peak of Scripture...all roads in the Bible led to Romans, and all views afforded by the Bible are seen most clearly from Romans’ (J I Packer)*

Paul probably wrote his letter to the Christians in Rome around AD 57 at Corinth, on his third missionary journey. The original recipients of the letter were predominantly Gentile, although Jews would have constituted a substantial minority of the congregation.

Paul set out to explain the relationship between Jew and Gentile in God’s plan of



salvation, as the Jewish Christians were being rejected by the larger Gentile group in the church. Paul begins by showing that both Jews and Gentiles are sinners in need of salvation. He shows how the life, death and resurrection of Jesus eternally affects both world history and every person.

This salvation, secured by Jesus, must be received *by faith*, as the example of Abraham shows. As salvation is not just about starting the Christian journey, Paul goes on to show how believers are freed from sin, law and death. This is made possible both through their union with Christ in His death and resurrection and by the indwelling presence and power of the Holy Spirit.

The theme of the book centres on the Gospel of Christ, which brings us into a right standing with God through faith: *'I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes: first for the Jew, then for the Gentile. For in the gospel a righteousness from God is revealed, a righteousness that is by faith from first to last, just as it is written: "The righteous will live by faith."*' (Rom. 1:16,17).

Parish Pump

---



# Eustace King

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# On the annual war of pumpkin-growing

From The Rectory  
St James the Least



My dear Nephew Darren

Anyone who thinks that the English are a peaceful race has obviously never organised the annual pumpkin growing competition. Very regrettably, one of the Pilgrim Fathers sent a handful of pumpkin seeds to a relation in this parish in the 17th century and ever since, the church has been obliged to hold an annual competition to see who can grow the largest. I suspect some of the original recipients of those seeds still compete. There is a certain irony that the church, which is supposed to promote peace and harmony, sponsors the most war-like activity in the annual calendar.

Mobilisation starts at the beginning of the year when seeds are planted. From that moment on, every other potential entrant is regarded as the Enemy. Once seedlings are planted out, then heavy armaments are placed at boundaries to deter possible invasion. By late Spring, paranoia has taken over and rumours begin to circulate of espionage and sinister undetectable herbicides. Anyone in the village with a beard is looked on with deep suspicion.

In the weeks before the competition, homes, partners and children are abandoned, as contestants talk to their pumpkins by day and snuggle up with them at night. Should bad weather arrive at this point, then I am blamed for not having prayed sufficiently fervently for sunshine and light rain. If only I had such influence.

On the day before the show, tables are put out and woe betide anyone who places their cake stand where Mrs Cholmondeley has put her tea urn for the past 25 years; she now believes she has squatters' rights to that place, and any challenge to her claim would probably result in litigation.

I find this competitive spirit a little bemusing, as for the last 25 years, the Earl of Stowe has always won first prize. That his mother, the Dowager Countess, is the judge, is, I am sure, pure coincidence. That she has arrived for the past three years with a white stick and accompanied by a golden Labrador does, however, raise doubts.

To award the Earl any prize at all does seem a little unfair, when the only time he ever gets mud on his boots is when he falls off his horse while hunting. I suspect he would be hard pressed to find where the kitchen garden is on his estate. But to give any credit to his gardening staff would be seen as bad form, so we all keep quiet.

It has been tentatively suggested that another judge should be appointed, but no one has so far had the courage to step forward. They may have the privilege of nominating the winner, but they would also have to face a 12 month period of hatred from all those who were not successful. Christmas card lists will be amended. Families may have sat next to them in church for generations, but would suddenly find it more congenial to worship in another part of the church. Letters would be strangely mis-delivered, and the butcher's boy would suddenly deliver lamb when pork had been ordered. Who could dare to take on such a poisoned chalice?

Your loving uncle,  
Eustace

# The parable of the Fish and the Nets

JESUS OFTEN TOLD  
STORIES WITH  
HIDDEN MEANINGS



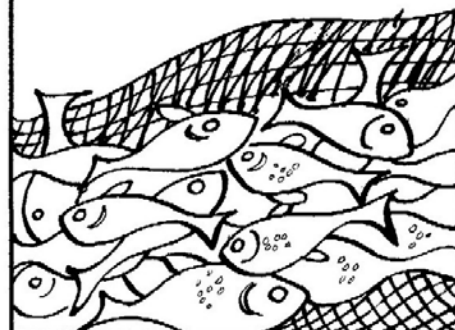
ONCE JESUS SAID THE KINGDOM  
OF HEAVEN WAS A BIT LIKE  
CATCHING FISH!

WHEN PEOPLE GO FISHING  
THEY THROW THEIR NETS  
INTO THE LAKE...

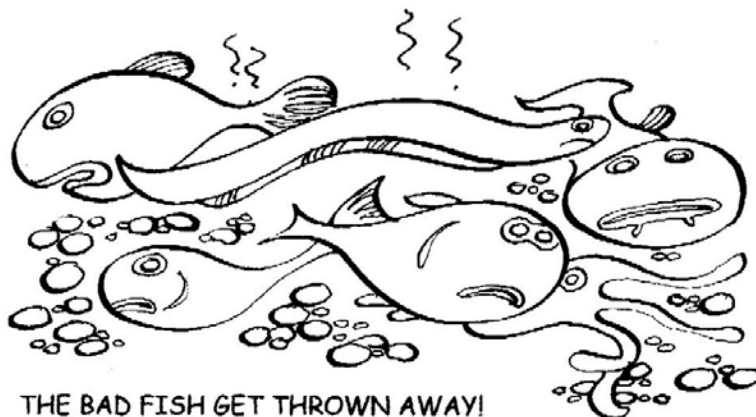
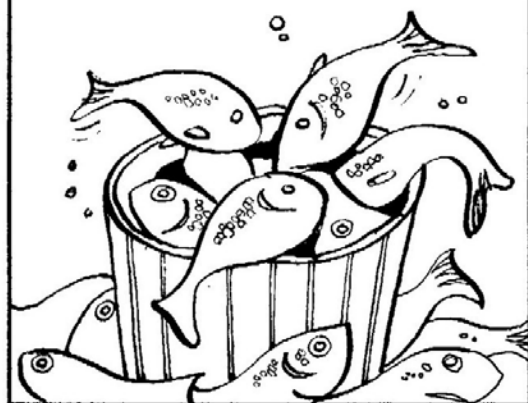


...WHEN THE NETS ARE FULL,  
THEY PULL THEM TO SHORE

ONCE ON SHORE THE FISH  
HAVE TO BE SORTED OUT.

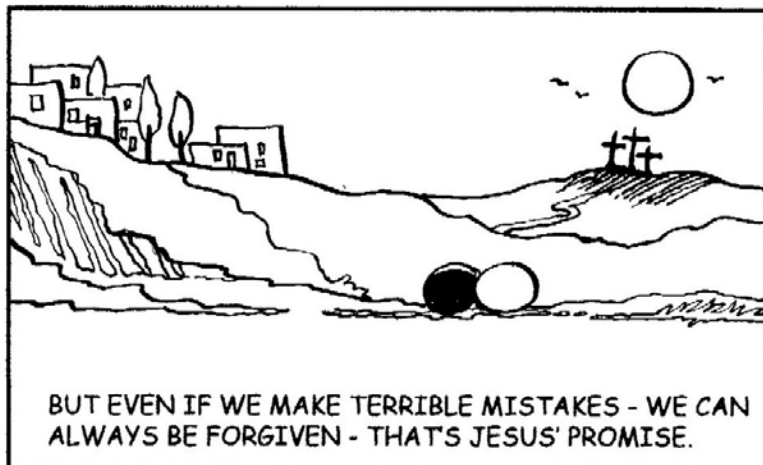


THE GOOD FISH GO INTO BUCKETS



THE BAD FISH GET THROWN AWAY!

JESUS EXPLAINED THAT WE TOO WILL  
BE SORTED LIKE THE FISH. WE CAN  
CHOOSE TO DO GOOD OR BAD THINGS  
WITH OUR LIVES.



BUT EVEN IF WE MAKE TERRIBLE MISTAKES - WE CAN  
ALWAYS BE FORGIVEN - THAT'S JESUS' PROMISE.



## All in the month of August

It was

25 years ago, on 4<sup>th</sup> August 2000 that Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother celebrated her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday. (She died in March 2002, aged 101).

\*\*\*

60 years ago, on 6<sup>th</sup> August 1960 that the Beatles' Album *HELP!* was released.

\*\*\*

80 years ago, on 9<sup>th</sup> August, that the US Army Air Forces dropped an atomic bomb on Nagasaki, killing 40,000 immediately and more than another 33,000 by the end of the year. It was (so far) the last nuclear bomb to ever be dropped.

\*\*\*

75 years ago, on 15<sup>th</sup> August 1950 that Princess Anne, the Princess Royal, was born.

\*\*\*

50 years ago, on 20<sup>th</sup> August 1975 that NASA launched its Viking 1 space probe on a mission to Mars. It became the first spacecraft to land successfully on Mars, and to complete its mission.

\*\*\*

30 years ago, on 24<sup>th</sup> August 1995 that Microsoft released both Windows 95 operating systems and also Microsoft Office 95.

\*\*\*

It was 1,700 years ago, on 25<sup>th</sup> August 325 that the First Council of Nicaea ended with the adoption of the Nicene Creed. It summarised the Christian faith and established the doctrine of the Holy Trinity.

\*\*\*

## All in the month of September

It was

405 years ago, on 6<sup>th</sup> September 1620 that the Mayflower sets sail from Plymouth, carrying the Pilgrim Fathers to America

\*\*\*

110 years ago, on 11 September 1915 that the first Womens Institute opened in Wales.

\*\*\*

35 years ago, on 12<sup>th</sup> September 1990 that a treaty was signed by East and West Germany and the Allies of World War II allowing for the restoration of sovereignty to a re-unified Germany.

\*\*\*

85 years ago, on 15<sup>th</sup> September 1940 that saw the height of the Battle of Britain. Massive air raids took place against London, Southampton, Bristol, Cardiff, Liverpool and Manchester.

\*\*\*

280 years ago, on 28<sup>th</sup> September 1745 that "God Save the King" is sung for the first time at the Drury Lane Theatre.

\*\*\*

# Wordsearch

## The Transfiguration

The story of the Transfiguration is told in Matthew (17:1-9), Mark (9:1-9) and Luke (9:28-36). On that day, high up on a mountain, Peter, James and John were given a glimpse of Jesus' true glory. For Jesus' face began to shine as the sun, and his garments became white and dazzling. Then Elijah and Moses, suddenly appeared, talking with him.

Overwhelmed, Peter offered to build three tabernacles on that holy place, one for each. But God's 'tabernacling', or God's *dwelling* with mankind, does not any longer depend upon building a shrine. It depends on being in the presence of Jesus, instead. And so a bright cloud covered them, and a voice spoke, saying that Jesus was his beloved son, whom the disciples should 'hear'. God's dwelling with mankind depends upon our *listening* to Jesus.

*Why did Moses and Elijah appear?* They represent the Law and the Prophets of the Old Covenant, or Old Testament. But now they were handing on the baton, if you like: for both the Law and the Prophets found their final fulfilment in Jesus, the Messiah.



Transfiguration	Shine	Moses	Presence	Listen
High	Sun	Tabernacles	Jesus	Law
Mountain	Garments	Holy	Bright	Prophets
Glimpse	Dazzling	Dwelling	Cloud	Handing
Glory	Appeared	Shrine	Mankind	Fulfilment



**Tiptree Choral Society** recently held a Handel and Mendelssohn concert in St Luke's Church in Tiptree and would like to thank all those who attended for their support. There are so many events on at this time of year that it can be difficult to decide which to go to – we really appreciate your choosing ours!

The choir is taking its summer break now. It will reconvene on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> September at the URC in Chapel Road Tiptree to begin rehearsals for our Christmas concert so please put **Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> December 2025** into your diaries now! We are looking forward to performing John Rutter's 'Magnificat' for you at that concert, together with a selection of carols and Christmas music.

If over the summer you decide you would like to become a Friend of the Society, or become a member of the choir and sing this lovely music too, you can always get in touch by emailing [tiptreechoral@outlook.com](mailto:tiptreechoral@outlook.com). Or just turn up at the first rehearsal and have a trial sing with us, new members are always very welcome.

---

## **John Mason Neale, hymn writer and re-writer**

If you are the sort of person who looks at the small print beside hymns in the hymnal, then you may recognise the name J. M. Neale. For not only did he write some of our most beloved hymns, but he also translated many dozens more from the Latin, old German, or old French. J. M. Neale was so prolific, in fact, that fully one-tenth of the hymns in our *English Hymnal* are his.

So, who was he? Born in London in 1818, educated Trinity College Cambridge, and ordained in 1841, he was aiming for the parish of Crawley. But chronic ill health left him too weak for parish life, and so he was appointed warden of an alms-house in East Grinstead, where he lived and worked for the rest of his life.

Neale used the peace and quiet of his job to good effect: producing *All glory laud and honour, Jerusalem the golden, O happy band of pilgrims, The Day of Resurrection, O come, O come Emmanuel*, and *Christ is made the sure foundation*, among many many others.

But Neale's writing of hymns was only part of his wider passion for the worship and liturgical practices of the Early Church. At a time when Anglo-Catholics were 'in fashion', Neale provided an important balance by reminding the Church of its largely forgotten Eastern heritage.





# The Friends of St Luke's Present



## Dance through the Decades

50's, 60's, 70's, 80's & 90's

All your favourite music in one night with our live DJ

Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2025

7.30pm

St Luke's Church Hall, Tiptree CO5 0SU



Raffle

Bring your own drinks and nibbles

Tickets £12



Tickets on sale at Don Tyler Opticians, Tiptree

or

E-mail: [foslbookings@gmail.com](mailto:foslbookings@gmail.com)

# Prayer grows in popularity

Well over three million people have now used the Church of England’s Daily Prayer podcast and app,

( <https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/join-us-service-daily-prayer> )

which offers Morning and Evening Prayer in audio form.

Launched during the pandemic, the service has seen over 12 million downloads, with thousands tuning in each day. Blending scripture, music, and reflection, it reflects a wider resurgence of interest in regular prayer and spiritual rhythm, showing that ancient words continue to find new life in modern formats.



Parish Pump

---

## Crossword

1		2		3			4	5		6		7
8						9						
10								11				
		12		13						14		
15												16
17		18				19		20				
21								22				
23							24					

## Across

- 1 'The people were — at his teaching' (Mark 1:22) (6)
- 4 'He saved —; let him save himself' (Luke 23:35) (6)
- 8 He addressed the crowd in Jerusalem on the day of Pentecost (Acts 2:14) (5)
- 9 Father of James and John (Matthew 4:21) (7)
- 10 One who charges another with an offence (Job 31:35) (7)
- 11 ' — thy ministers with righteousness' (Book of Common Prayer) (5)
- 12 and 15 Down 'All — is God-breathed and is — for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness' (2 Timothy 3:16) (9,6)
- 17 'No — of the field had yet appeared on the earth and no plant of the field had yet sprung up' (Genesis 2:5) (5)
- 19 Made to feel embarrassed (Isaiah 24:23) (7)
- 21 This man built his house on sand (Matthew 7:26) (7)
- 22 David's hypocritical message to Joab on the death in battle of Uriah: 'Don't let this — you' (2 Samuel 11:25) (5)
- 23 Detest (Job 10:1) (6)
- 24 'God made two great lights, the greater light to govern the day and the — light to govern the night' (Genesis 1:16) (6)

## Down

- 1 To make a serious request (1 Corinthians 1:10) (6)
- 2 Launches an assault against (Genesis 32:8) (7)
- 3 'The wicked man — deceptive wages' (Proverbs 11:18) (5)
- 5 Tuba ale (anag.) (7)
- 6 'The day thou gavest, Lord, is — ' (5)
- 7 Old Testament measure of weight, equivalent to about 12 grammes (Exodus 30:13) (6)
- 9 Where Elijah restored life to the son of a widow with whom he lodged (1 Kings 17:10) (9)
- 13 Paul said of whatever was to his profit, 'I consider them — , that I may gain Christ and be found in him' (Philippians 3:8) (7)
- 14 City visited by Paul, described by the city clerk as 'the guardian of the temple of the great Artemis' (Acts 19:35) (7)
- 15 See 12 Across
- 16 Rioted (anag.) (6)
- 18 She had a surprise when she answered the door and found 8 Across outside (Acts 12:13) (5)
- 20 Maltreat (1 Chronicles 10:4) (5)



Tiptree Guild of Beer and Wine Makers

# Tiptree Tipplers



Meeting here every 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday  
7.30pm for 8.00pm

A fun night out in a friendly atmosphere  
Themed nights – see list

Why not come along & give us a try- no commitment  
New members always welcomed  
Annual membership only £35 with no entrance fee.

Upon arrival ask for Bill or Sonia who will welcome you  
and introduce you to our members



Our events for 2025 are –

Jan 15th – Wine Roulette  
Feb 19th – Non Alcoholic beer discussion  
Mar 19th– Scones & Bread Competition  
+ Quiz  
Apr 16th - Cheese/Port/Chocolate Tasting  
May 21st – Games Night + Pizza £3  
June 18<sup>th</sup> - Wine Competition + Quiz

July 16<sup>th</sup> – Summer Trip TBA  
Aug 20th – Wine Talk &  
Ploughman's  
Sept 17th- Beer/Chutney  
Comp.  
Oct 15th - AGM & Hot Dogs £3  
Nov 19th – Talk  
Dec 17th - Christmas Party

# The Quiet Revolution here at home

*by Hazel Southam for the Bible Society*

For years and years, we've all got used to the idea that fewer people are going to church in England and Wales and we've accepted the idea that the Church is in decline. But some amazing new research from Bible Society completely changes that. We've found that far from attendance dropping, it's actually risen by a staggering 50 per cent in England and Wales in the last six years.

The findings come in The Quiet Revival, an exciting new survey commissioned by Bible Society and conducted by YouGov.

The most dramatic increase is among young adults, particularly young men, and you may be seeing this in your church. In 2018, just 4 per cent of 18–24-year-olds said that they attended church at least monthly. Today, this has risen to 16 per cent, with young men increasing from 4 per cent to 21 per cent and young women from 3 per cent to 12 per cent.

The report's co-author Dr Rhiannon McAleer said: 'These are striking findings that completely reverse the widely held assumption that the Church in England and Wales is in terminal decline.'

'We've seen significant, broad-based growth among most expressions of Church – particularly in Roman Catholicism and Pentecostalism. There are now over two million more people attending church than there were six years ago.' Men (13 per cent) are now more likely to attend church than women (10 per cent). And the Church is also becoming more ethnically diverse. Today, one in five people (19 per cent) come from an ethnic minority. Close to half of young black people aged 18–34 (47 per cent) are now attending church at least monthly. So where the stereotype of the Church has been that it is white, ageing and female, today it is more likely to be ethnically mixed, young and male.

We know you'll be excited about this too, but Bible reading and confidence in the Bible have also increased. Some 67 per cent of churchgoing Christians read the Bible at least weekly outside church.

All this has an impact on society, as churchgoers are more likely to actively participate in things that benefit the local community, such as donating to food banks, volunteering, or giving to charity. Christians also report a higher life satisfaction than nonchurchgoers, with a greater connection to their community and less stress and anxiety.

*Read the report here: [biblesociety.org.uk/tqr-wia](https://biblesociety.org.uk/tqr-wia)*



# WEA Tiptree and Tollesbury

## Landscapes by David Brindley-5th November

6 weekly sessions Wed 11am-1pm St Lukes Hall, Tiptree  
CO5 0SU Tutor: Cost : £TBA Format: Hybrid  
Further information: 01621 735817  
Book: 0300 303 3464 Quote Course Code Q0022305

---

ALSO : Tony Tuckwell 15<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> October 11-1pm

### 1. Education and the Victorian agricultural poor (15<sup>th</sup>):

### 2. The Only Coastal Way is Essex (22<sup>nd</sup>)

(Not affiliated with WEA) Cost: £1200 Format: Face to face

Further information: 01621735817

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Empower your knowledge. Interactive learning environment in the classroom.



# St Luke's Ladies Group

<b>17 July</b>	Goat in a Soap - Irene Barnett
<b>21 August</b>	St Helena Hospice Charity Evening
<b>18 September</b>	In Costume from Kentwell House - Eleanor Jenkins
<b>16 October</b>	Live Your Life in Colour + Scarves - Sandra Sparrowhawk
<b>20 November</b>	Sugar Craft Guild
<b>18 December</b>	Christmas Meal + Entertainment
<b>15 January 2026</b>	Gemstone Talks - Jason Middleton

Various local charities are supported every year.

Look out for details about outings on the noticeboards.

**MEETING IN THE CHURCH EXTENSION**  
**3rd THURSDAY IN THE MONTH**  
**at 7.30pm**  
**ADMISSION £4.00**  
**INCLUDES RAFFLE**  
**& REFRESHMENTS**



## Keeping the county warm



**Fuel Services**

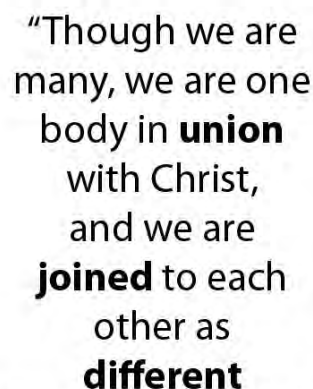
Contact BFS for prompt delivery of your domestic heating oil direct from our local Danbury Fuel Services depot. You'll find no better service, no better value.

**T 01245 425251    [www.bfsfuelservices.uk](http://www.bfsfuelservices.uk)**

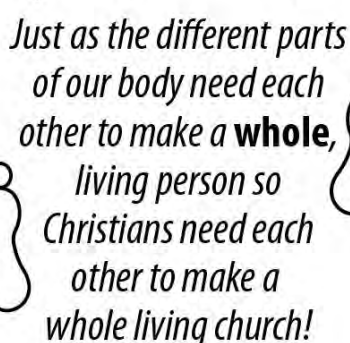
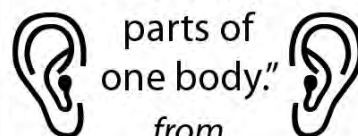


...Now you are the body of Christ,  
and **each** one of you is part of it."

from 1 Corinthians 12:12-27



from  
Romans 12:1-7



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

Look in the Bible verses for the words written in **bold**  
then look for these words too!

GOD • TOGETHER • EQUAL • ALL • EVERY  
HEAD • EYES • EARS • MOUTH • TONGUE  
TEETH • NOSE • ARMS • HANDS • FINGERS  
LEGS • KNEES • FEET • TOES • GIFTS





# Solutions:





# THE ITALIAN TENOR Yuri Sabatini

**A Summer Concert at Messing Church  
Saturday, 2 August 2025 at 7:00 pm**

**The most popular songs from the musicals  
and the loveliest arias**

There'll be something for everyone in this "crossover" programme of **the best songs from the musicals and the loveliest romantic arias**. Don't miss this chance to experience the lyric tenor voice of Yuri Sabatini, the Italian Tenor. **Yuri enthralls audiences with his natural musicality and expressive singing**. He has the power to thrill, delight, and move people of all ages and backgrounds to tears.



**Yuri has agreed to set aside a part of his performance  
to take special requests from the audience**

**DON'T MISS  
THIS**

**Refreshments will be available from 6:30 pm and afterwards**

**EARLY  
BOOKING DISCOUNT**

## **Tickets**

Advance tickets (up to 20 July) : £15  
from Paul [p4ul.marven@gmail.com](mailto:p4ul.marven@gmail.com)  
After that, pay at the door on the day: £18  
Children 12 and under free

**Enquiries, please contact Anne on 07837 248134, [awild2014@gmail.com](mailto:awild2014@gmail.com)**

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