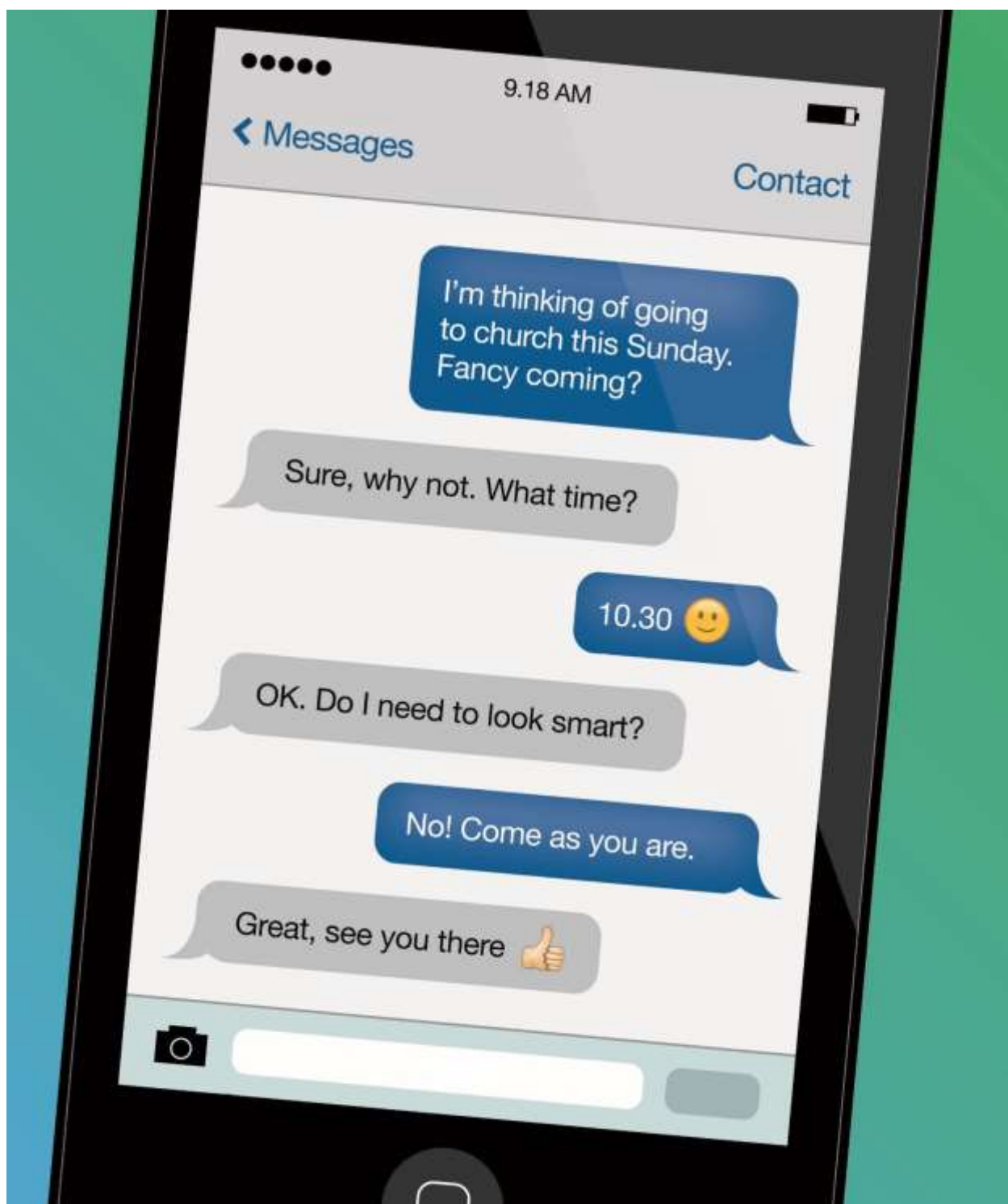


new **winepress**

40p

July & August 2019



Devoted to Christ
Dedicated to Community



**Christ
Church
Orpington**

Sharon's Sharings

Do you need a prune?

The sun is shining and I am sitting in my daughter's garden having a well-earned rest. My daughter and her husband live in a top floor maisonette, and to get into their back garden they have to go out of the front door, down the drive, past next-door's dustbins, and through a gateway into their small triangular patch of ground. When I had first seen it a few years ago it had looked small, dark and uninviting.

But despite not having easy access, they had painstakingly re-imagined and re-designed their little patch, laying a lawn, cleaning up the patio, putting in a raised herb bed, planting pretty shrubs and clearing away all the weeds. It was now lovely!



There was just one thing needed. The shed was leaking and damp, and the aged honeysuckle intertwined with an invasive ivy was covering the fence and shed roof making repairing the roof difficult. Even though it was mixed with ivy and preventing the shed from being mended, it still produced a few flowers. Should they cut it down? After all, it was still a honeysuckle. Was it right to cut down

something that had once been lovely and had been part of the garden for so long?

After much deliberation we felt the only way forwards was to cut it down, so we had spent an afternoon delicately, and not so delicately, cutting it away from the fence and shed until it was gone. What a difference it made! I don't think any of us had realised quite how much light it was stealing. Not only could the shed now be got at to be mended, but the whole garden somehow seemed bigger and lighter. It was hard work, took most of the afternoon, and required two car loads of branches to be taken to the tip, but it was really worth it. Their garden seemed so much nicer to sit in, and I for one was enjoying the fruits of our labours.

But sometimes it isn't just gardens that can do with a little help. It can be the same with our lives. There can be parts of our lives that we have lived side-by-side with for many years that were once good, that maybe even still showed the odd flower or two, and that we feel are part of us. But maybe they have stopped being quite as lovely as they once were; maybe they have even got intertwined with something invasive and are starting to hurt other areas of our life's garden; maybe stealing our light or stopping us from mending a "leak" in our lives that we need to attend to before it gets too late.

Large things easily spring to mind such as an addiction, a bad habit, a jealousy, envy, anger, or negativity. But sometimes there are less obvious things – small things that we might not even be aware we are harbouring but damaging all the same like fears, worries, or unforgiveness. Whatever it is that is stealing your light,

stealing your joy or your peace, stopping you from mending an area of your life that needs mending, or maybe even just takes up space where something more worthwhile could grow, I'd like to urge you to be brave, use whatever you need to cut it down, and let God's good, pure and healing light back into your life. You will feel better for it, and so might those who journey through life with you. Amen.

With much love,
Sharon

Vicar of Christ Church
Orpington



When God sends chariots of fire

God is glorified when His faithful people endure persecution, even unto death. But sometimes He chooses to glorify His Name by dramatic intervention to save their earthly lives. A marvellous catalogue of heroes of the faith, which we read in the eleventh chapter of Hebrews, moves seamlessly from the latter to the former halfway through verse 35. From the divine perspective, it seems that all are blessed, whether by dramatic or miraculous intervention or by the honour of suffering and martyrdom.

Barnabas Fund often reports on the anti-Christian violence which has beset northern Nigeria for many years. Whether it is Boko Haram militants or Fulani herdsmen, the pattern is all too familiar - armed men descend on a Christian-majority village, killing all who

do not manage to run away. Then they set fire to houses, churches, food stores, and any school or clinic there may be. Thousands of Christians have died in such raids, especially women, children and elderly who cannot run fast. Far more have become displaced and destitute.

A spate of such raids in February and March left nearly 300 Christians dead" in Kaduna State alone; brutal rapes and maiming with machetes were also reported. In Karamai village, 41 people died, nearly all women and children plus a few elderly and blind men. In Kajuru district the bodies of 73 women, some pregnant, and 101 young children, including babies on their mother's backs, were interred in mass graves.

But at the same time, there emerged from Nigeria, through a very reputable and down-to-earth international mission society, news of a contrasting event. It concerned a group of about 500 Christians from a Muslim background. They had gathered together in these unusually large numbers after suffering attacks by Boko Haram Islamist militants. But then they were attacked again. The majority managed to get away, but 76 were captured and taken to a Boko Haram camp where they were tortured.

The four male leaders of the captured believers were asked by Boko Haram to renounce their Christian faith and return to Islam, or they would be shot. The four refused and were duly shot, in front of their families and friends. A week later the four widows of the dead men were asked to renounce their faith and return

to Islam, or their children would be shot. They were given time to think over this dreadful choice, but, while they were agonising together that evening, the children came running into the room, excitedly telling their mothers that Jesus had appeared to them and had told them all would be well.

Jesus then appeared to the whole group of 72, and told them not to fear for He would protect them. He said they should not renounce Him but should stay strong, and that He was the Way, the Truth and the Life.

The next day the Boko Haram militants lined the children up against a wall and asked the four mothers whether they would deny Jesus and return to Islam. All said, "No." The soldiers prepared their weapons to take aim at the children, but suddenly began clawing at their own heads and screaming "Snakes! Snakes!" They ran from the scene, some of them falling to the ground dead.

One of the Christian men reached for the gun of a dead militant but a little girl, at four years old the youngest of the children, put her hand on his arm to stop him. "You don't need to do that," she said. "Can't you see the men in white fighting for us?"

Some have asked whether such a wonderful story can be true. It is a good question. We all know that God can do such miracles, as for example when He covered a mountainside with horses and chariots of fire to save Elisha from the king of Aram (2 Kings 6:17). But not every

claim made about the persecuted Church in the twenty-first century is accurate.

Therefore, the local Christians in Nigeria set up a Discernment Committee to look into the story told by the 72 survivors. One of the actions of the Discernment Committee was to create a book of 26 pictures of Jesus. The book was shown to each of the 72 men, women and children, who were asked to choose the image that most resembled the man who had appeared to them that night. All 72 picked the same one.

So let us rejoice that our sovereign Lord still acts in power to save His people from those who plan to harm them. We may wonder why He does not do this always, why, even this time, He allowed four husbands and fathers to be slaughtered. But, as Christians, we know that His ways are not our ways (Isaiah 55:8) and can take comfort that He is working all things together for the eternal good of those who love Him (Romans 8:28).

Reproduced with kind permission
from Barnabas Fund

Barnabas Fund seeks to identify and respond to the latest needs of Christians around the world who are living with pressure and persecution. In some cases, Barnabas Fund is the first organisation to respond when disaster strikes.





St Mark's Biggin Hill

On Saturday 13th April, Alan and I joined with a group of parishioners from St Mark's Church, Biggin Hill to celebrate 60 years since the church arrived there from Peckham.



The story of how All Saints Church, North Peckham became St Mark's Church, Biggin Hill is an interesting one and one unknown to me until we did the walk.

In 1904 Biggin Hill was a small village of 200 people and a tiny temporary church was opened. It was, however, over 50 years before a permanent structure was built, by which time the population had risen to nearly 4,000 and Biggin Hill was a famous Royal Air Force base. The Diocese had no plans for building a new church in Biggin Hill in the foreseeable future as post-war difficulties meant building a new church 'from scratch' was not

possible. Then along came the Rev Vivian Symons with visions of a new church – built by dismantling an old one. Permission was granted take down the old redundant church of All Saints' North Peckham and to move it to Biggin Hill.

From August 12th, 1952 the Rev Symons spent every available moment working on the dismantling, sometimes with a group of inexperienced volunteers but usually on his own. It took over 3 years – with the vicar clocking up 33,000 miles moving 125,000 bricks, 200 tons of stonework and all the roof timbers to Biggin Hill.



It was another 3 years before building work started. Land, given in a legacy, needed to be cleared and levelled – again the Rev Symons did most of the work himself. By 1958 all was set to start the actual building. And the professionals moved in – Durtnells Ltd., a local building firm offered to build it on a no-profit basis.

The volunteers stayed busy though, making hassocks and pew covers and furniture (made from

£300 worth of English oak donated anonymously) and recurving the old stone. The vicar continued to learn new skills – engraving the windows and making an altar cross, chalice, alms dish and paten from gifts of gold and silver.

On Saturday, 25th April, 1959, the church was consecrated by the Lord Bishop of Rochester.

Two of the people on the walk had helped with the demolition 60 years ago while they were still students – Tony Naden and Christopher Idle. Tony is shown in the photo below swinging a pick axe on top of the church; H&S was obviously more relaxed in the 1950's! and they are both sitting on the steps in the photo above.



Photos of demolition used with permission of St Mark's Biggin Hill.

Andy Goddard

Deuteronomy chapter 15 v 11

"Since there will never cease to be some in need on the earth, I therefore command you, 'Open your hand to the poor and needy neighbour in your land.'"

It was long ago in the late 1970's that I was reading my Bible one morning when I was truly taken aback by the above verse. My heart cried out "but what can I do about it Lord?"

Then came into my mind the idea of a monthly collection for TEAR FUND. The members of Christ Church were a generous people and surely they would not object to a small donation of say, 20p monthly, in support of such a worthwhile organization – one which brought relief of suffering in so many countries.

And so began a very worthwhile and truly blessed collection – straight from God's heart and mind!

Today TEAR FUND is widely known and loved throughout the world, and we belong to it, personally and collectively.

THANK YOU each and everyone for the part you are playing in the relief of suffering. BUT may I invite more people to subscribe, as sadly many of our original members are no longer with us.

Thank you
Carol Thuaire





Summer's Music Festivals – time for the angels to come!

Summer is here and for thousands of young people that means heading off to music festivals.

At several music festival events teams of Festival Angel volunteers will be on hand to offer welfare and support to ensure that those attending have a safe and fun festival experience.

Festival Angels started life as a Prayer Cafe, run by local church communities, at Leeds Festival in 2011. The Prayer Cafe at Leeds is now one of the most popular spaces at the festival with a £5 mug deal giving festival-goers a souvenir mug and free tea, coffee and hot water refills for the duration of the event. The Leeds team also run the Lost Property and Left Luggage tent, with a success rate of around 60% items returned to owners. Detached teams, very much like Street Angels in town and city centres, offer support and welfare across the massive festival site.

The success at Leeds has meant that other coordinators wanted Festival Angels at their own festivals. This year Festival Angels will be at over 12 music festival events including Boardmasters, Royal Ascot, Eastern Electrics and, for the first time this year, Kendal Calling where teams will run campsite safe hubs.

Festival Angels will also include the trendy 'Jesus Loves Festivals' banner design which is a great conversation starter and 'selfie with Jesus' opportunity! The teams are also promoting 'Jesus calls will you follow' banner plane flypast that will pass over all the festival sites.

To find out more about the work of Festival Angels or to sign up as a volunteer check out festivalangels.org.uk or search Festival Angels on Facebook and Twitter.

The Importance of Walking

- I have to walk early in the morning, before my brain figures out what I'm doing.
- The only reason I would take up walking is so that I could hear heavy breathing again.
- I joined a health club last year. Haven't lost a pound. Apparently you have to go there.
- Every time I hear the dirty word 'exercise', I wash my mouth out with chocolate
- If you are going to try cross-country skiing, start with a small country.

THE BIG CATCH OF FISH

The disciples had spent all night out on the lake fishing. As the sun rose a man on the shore asked them, "Have you caught anything?" They answered, "Not a thing". He said to them "Throw your net out on the right side of the boat and you will catch some."

So they threw the net out and could not pull it back in because they had caught so many fish.

Then John recognised the man and said, "It is the Lord"

When they reached the shore there was a fire burning and some bread.

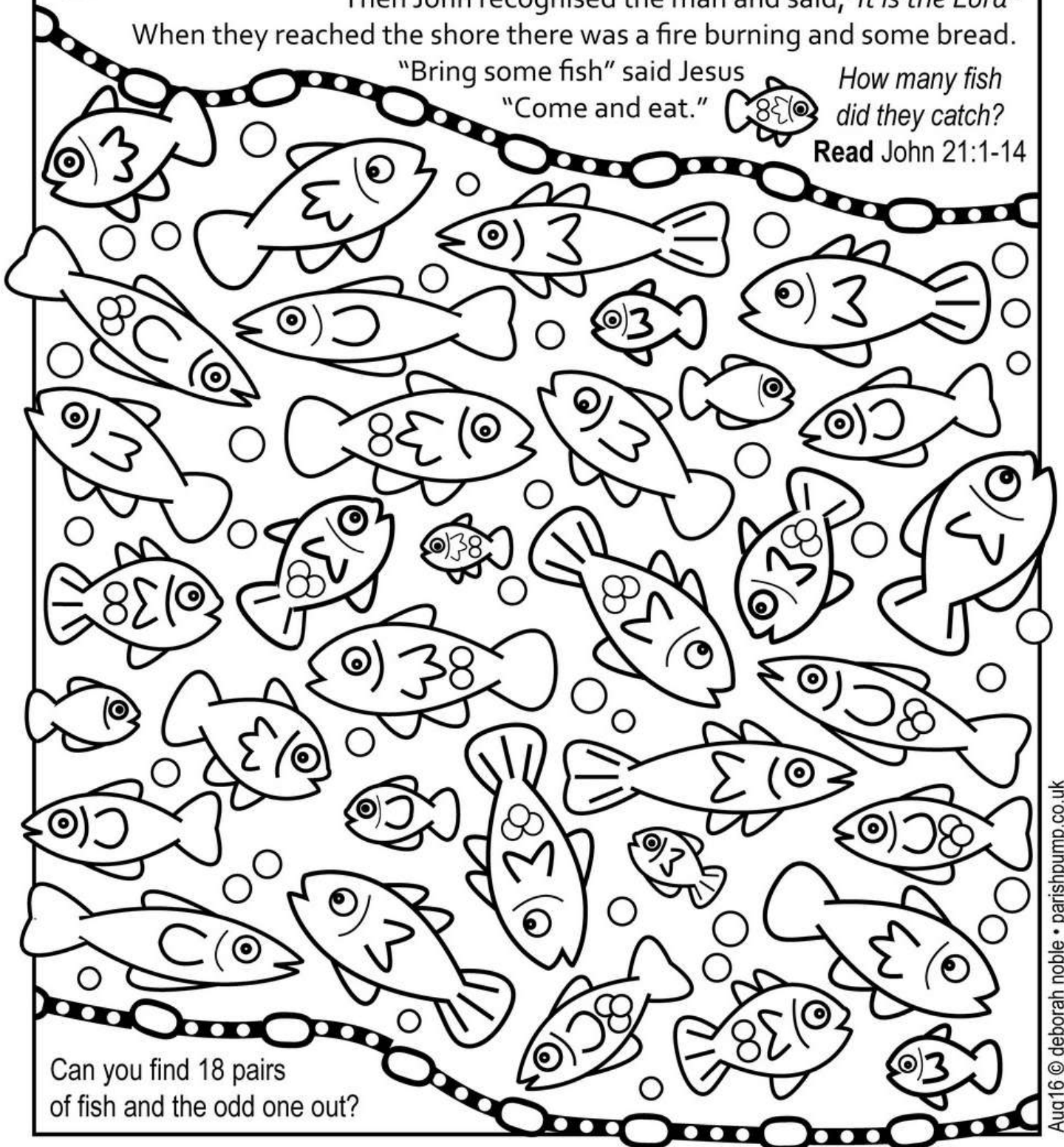
"Bring some fish" said Jesus

"Come and eat."

How many fish
did they catch?

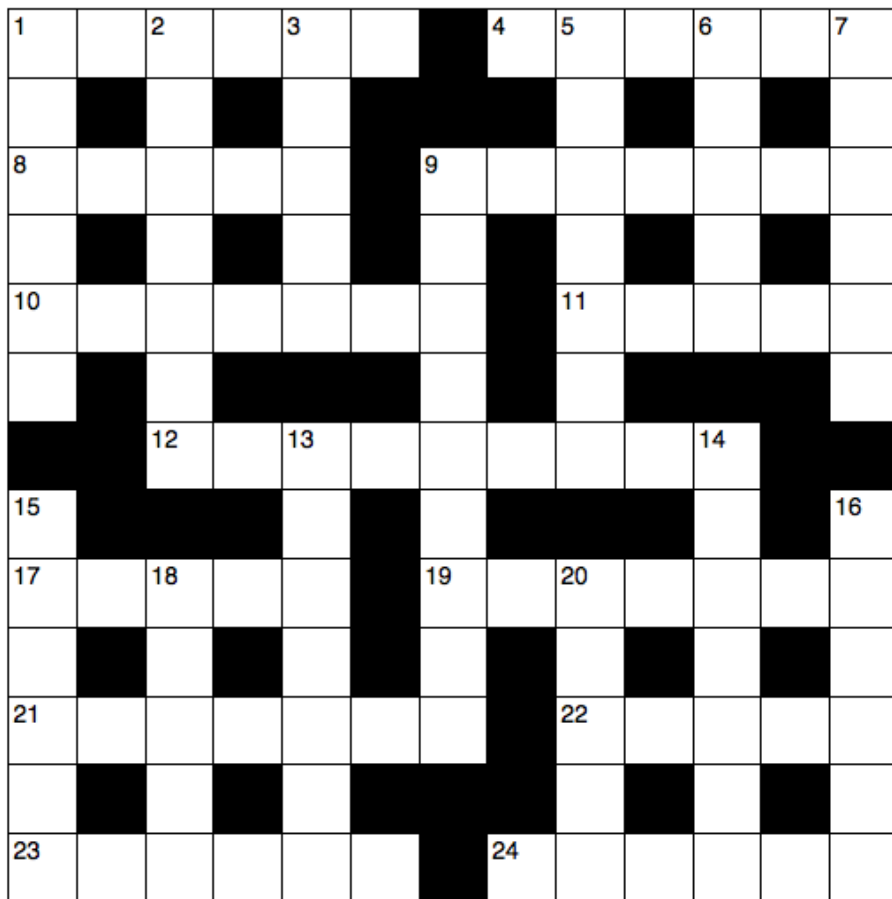
Read John 21:1-14

Mouse Makes



Can you find 18 pairs
of fish and the odd one out?

word



Across

- 1 Military tactic used by Joshua to attack and destroy the city of Ai, Joshua 8:2 (6)
- 4 Place of learning (6)
- 8 'When Moses' hands grew — , they took a stone and put it under him and he sat on it', Exodus 17:12 (5)
- 9 Unpleasant auguries of the end of the age, as forecast by Jesus, Matthew 24:7 (7)
- 10 Stronghold to which girls in King Xerxes' harem (including Esther) were taken, Esther 2:8 (7)
- 11 Where Saul went to consult a medium before fighting the Philistines, 1 Samuel 28:7 (5)
- 12 Propitiation, Hebrews 2:17 (9)
- 17 Turn away, Jeremiah 11:15 (5)
- 19 So clear (anagram) (7)
- 21 'I have just got — , so I can't come': one excuse to be absent from the great banquet, Luke 14:20 (7)
- 22 Long weapon with a pointed head used by horsemen (Job 39:23) (5)
- 23 Musical beat (6)
- 24 What the Israelites were told to use to daub blood on their door-frames at the first Passover, Exodus 12:22 (6)

Down

- 1 Fasten (Exodus 28:37) (6)
- 2 Art bite (anag.) (7)
- 3 'The people of the city were divided; some — with the Jews, others with the apostles' (Acts 14:4) (5)
- 5 Contend (Jeremiah 12:5) (7)
- 6 Possessed (Job 1:3) (5)
- 7 Sheen (Lamentations 4:1) (6)
- 9 'You love evil rather than good, — rather than speaking the truth' (Psalm 52:3) (9)
- 13 Large flightless bird (Job 39:13) (7)
- 14 They were worth several hundred pounds each (Matthew 25:15) (7)
- 15 'A — went out to sow his seed' (Matthew 13:3) (6)
- 16 How Jesus described Jairus's daughter when he went into the room where she lay (Mark 5:39) (6)
- 18 The part of the day when the women went to the tomb on the first Easter morning (John 20:1) (5)
- 20 Narrow passageway between buildings (Luke 14:21) (5)

Word Search

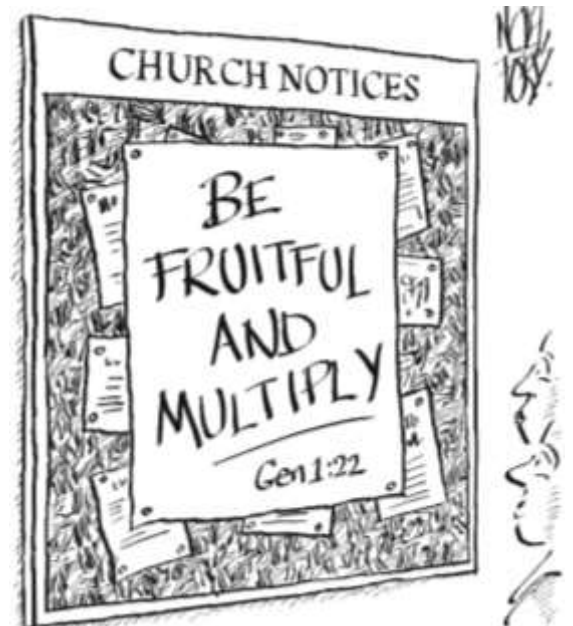
It is easy to understand the popularity of Mary Magdalene over the centuries: she is the patron saint of repentant sinners, and so represents all of us. We honour her on the 22nd of July. Jesus drove seven demons from Mary, who came from near Tiberius in Galilee. Mary is thought to have been the woman who anointed Christ's feet in the house of Simon (Luke 7:37). She certainly followed Jesus to the bitter end – from Galilee to Jerusalem. Mary was present during the crucifixion, standing heart-broken at the foot of the cross. Her love for Jesus did not end there, for she went to the tomb to anoint his body on the Sunday morning. Such faithful, humble devotion was richly repaid: she was the first person to whom the Risen Lord appeared on Easter Sunday morning. She thought He was the gardener at first. Mary Magdalene's feast has been kept in the West since the 8th century. England has 187 ancient churches dedicated to her, as well as a College in both Oxford and Cambridge.

| | |
|-----------|-------------|
| MARY | FEET |
| MAGDALENE | SIMON |
| PATRON | CRUCIFIXION |
| SAINT | JERUSALEM |
| REPENTANT | TOMB |
| SINNERS | ANOINT |
| SEVEN | BODY |
| DEMONS | EASTER |
| GALILEE | APPEARED |
| TIBERIUS | GARDENER |
| ANOINTED | FEAST |



Last edition's solution

The vicar's attempts to increase the number of children attending services were becoming less and less subtle...



Mystery Sudoku

Sudoku with a twist – solve the puzzle and you'll discover that one of the rows/columns/blocks spells out a word, phrase, place or a song

| | | | | | | | | |
|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| EAR | | | ORD | TL | HEE | SOF | | NT |
| | ORD | | | | OPE | | | |
| | | | | | | | TL | |
| | YE | TL | | MYH | | ORD | | |
| | | EAR | | | | OPE | | |
| | | OPE | | ORD | | YE | EAR | |
| | OPE | | | | | | | |
| | | | SOF | | | | HEE | |
| SOF | | NT | HEE | YE | TL | | | OPE |

Last edition's sudoku solution

| | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|-------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|---|
| | RRE | IFE | NDT | IAMT | HER | HEL | CTI | ESU | ONA | |
| | CTI | ONA | HEL | ESU | NDT | IFE | HER | RRE | IAMT | |
| ➤ | IAMT | HER | ESU | RRE | CTI | ONA | NDT | HEL | IFE | ◀ |
| | NDT | IAMT | IFE | CTI | HEL | ESU | ONA | HER | RRE | |
| | ONA | ESU | CTI | NDT | RRE | HER | IFE | IAMT | HEL | |
| | HER | HEL | RRE | ONA | IFE | IAMT | ESU | NDT | CTI | |
| | HEL | NDT | HER | IFE | IAMT | CTI | RRE | ONA | ESU | |
| | ESU | CTI | IAMT | HER | ONA | RRE | HEL | IFE | NDT | |
| | IFE | RRE | ONA | HEL | ESU | NDT | IAMT | CTI | HER | |

I AM THE RESURRECTION AND THE LIFE

Sir David Attenborough backs major new report on plastics from Tearfund

A new report has revealed for the first time that one person is dying every 30 seconds in developing countries from diseases and illnesses caused by plastic pollution and uncollected rubbish dumped or burnt near their homes.

The new figures were released in ***No Time to Waste: Tackling the Plastic Pollution Crisis Before it's Too Late***, by international relief and development agency Tearfund, in collaboration with conservation charity Fauna & Flora International (FFI), the Institute of Development Studies and waste management charity WasteAid.

The report looks at the health impact of plastic pollution and rubbish on the world's poorest people for the first time.

It found that each year between 400,000 and a million people (at the upper end one person every 30 seconds) are dying in developing countries from illnesses and diseases like diarrhoea, malaria and cancers caused by living near uncollected waste and plastic pollution.

The report calls on multinational companies to fundamentally change their business models by committing to reporting the number of single-use plastic items they distribute in developing countries by 2020, and halving this by 2025.

"This report is one of the first to highlight the impacts of plastic pollution not just on wildlife but also on the world's poorest people," Sir David, a vice president at Fauna & Flora International, said.

"It is high time we turn our attention fully to one of the most pressing problems of today – averting the plastic pollution crisis – not only for the health of our planet, but for the wellbeing of people around the world."

"We need leadership from those who are responsible for introducing plastic to countries where it cannot be adequately managed, and we need international action to support the communities and governments most acutely affected by this crisis."

Globally two billion people (one in four), don't have their rubbish collected. This often leads to disease and death. When rubbish isn't collected it often builds up in rivers and causes flooding, which can lead to diarrhoea and a host of infectious diseases.

Often the only other way to dispose of waste is to burn it in the streets, with the resulting fumes being extremely damaging to health as well as - in some countries - being the single largest source of carbon emissions, contributing to climate change.

Dr Ruth Valerio, Global Advocacy & Influencing Director at Tearfund said: "Tearfund's new Rubbish Campaign calls for urgent action from four multinationals - Coca-Cola, Nestlé, PepsiCo and Unilever.

"They sell billions of products in single-use plastic packaging in poorer countries where waste isn't collected, in the full knowledge that people will have no choice but to burn it, discard it in waterways or live among it".

Other key facts in the report:

- Every second a double-decker busload of plastic waste is burned or dumped in developing countries

- Global plastic production emits 400 million tonnes of greenhouses gases each year – more than the UK’s total carbon footprint
- An estimated 8 to 12.7 million tonnes of plastic is entering the oceans every year
- Every 30 seconds the UK throws away two double-decker busloads of plastic waste.
- Living amongst plastic pollution and uncollected waste doubles the incidence of diarrhoeal disease.

To read the report log onto www.tearfund.org/notimetowaste

Holy Days or Holidays?

Some porters were hired to carry a group’s possessions on a trip through the jungle. The pace quickly increased until the head porter called a halt: ‘We’ve come so far, so fast we need to take a break and allow our souls to catch up with our bodies!’

How often do we feel like this? July is a month when many of us take a break. Jesus and His disciples often took time to withdraw from the crowds: ‘because so many people were coming and going that they did not even have a chance to eat, He said to them, ‘Come with Me by yourselves to a quiet place and get some rest.’ (Mark 6:31,32).

Jesus saw how tired and stressed His disciples were and wanted to give them a break from their busy lives. He loved them and cared about their wellbeing. He longs to do the same with us, so we can restore the balance of work, rest and play in our lives. Going on holiday or taking time off gives us an opportunity of letting

go the burdens of everyday life and renewing our rest in Him. This enables us to entrust Jesus with our issues and concerns, as we take time aside declare a holy day or holiday!

The story is told of the aged Apostle John playing with doves. A passing hunter expressed surprise at what a man as pious as John was doing. John pointed to the bow in the hunter’s hand and asked him why he carried it with a loosened string. The hunter replied, ‘it loses its strength unless it is given the chance to unbend’. John replied, ‘why are you surprised that a servant of Christ should not relax to keep himself stronger for his work?’

More of us are ‘going out’ on popular music

Hymns are on the decline at funerals. A recent survey by the Co-Op found that not a single one has made this year’s top 10 most popular pieces of music for funerals.

It is the first time ever that no hymns have appeared on the list, which was last compiled in 2016. Then the list included ‘The Lord is My Shepherd,’ ‘All Things Bright and Beautiful’, and ‘Abide with Me’.

This year the top three funeral songs are ‘My Way’ by Frank Sinatra, ‘Time to Say Goodbye’ by Andrea Bocelli, and ‘Over the Rainbow’ by Sarah Brightman and Eva Cassidy. Other popular requests include ‘Supermarket Flowers’ by Ed Sheeran and ‘We’ll Meet Again’ by Vera Lynn. It is thought that the results mirror the decline in religious funeral services.

2019 Diary...

Wednesday 3rd July
10.00am Holy Communion

Sunday 7th July
10.30am Holy Communion
6.30pm Evening Worship

Sunday 14th July
9.00am Holy Communion
10.30am Morning Worship

CHURCH BBQ
after the morning service
6.30pm Evening Worship

Sunday 21st July
10.30am All Age Worship
6.30pm Evening Worship

Sunday 28th July
9.00am Holy Communion
10.30am All Age Worship
6.30pm Evening Worship



During August
No 9.00am
or 6.30pm services

Sunday 4th August
10.30am All Age Worship

Sunday 11th August
10.30am All Age Worship

Sunday 18th August
10.30am Morning Worship

Sunday 25th August
10.30am Morning Worship

On the Grapevine



We welcome to the family of
Christ Church Orpington
Sophie Elizabeth Dulcie Burroughs
christened on 9th June 2019

Congratulations to
Stephanie Hall & Stewart Silcox
married on 4th May 2019

With Sympathy
We remember those who have
recently passed away:
Michael Herbert Wilson

new winepress
September & October 2019

Is there a forthcoming church event you would like to promote or write about one that has just happened (special days, weddings, baptisms etc), then **new winepress** may just be the place to tell everyone about it!

The copy (closing) date for articles for the next issue is **Friday 2nd August**
Please email your articles to our editor Vernon at vandjmapp@gmail.com
If you need more time, contact Vernon on 01689 832433

NB due to copyright issues we have had in the past, can you please make sure any pictures photo's etc can be reproduced with permission

Article A piece of writing included with others in a newspaper, magazine, publication etc.

Front cover
reproduced courtesy of www.parishpump.co.uk

Acknowledgements
Summer's Music Festivals – time for the angels to come!; The Importance of Walking; Mouse; Word Search; Cartoon; Sir David Attenborough backs major new report on plastics from Tearfund; Holy Days or Holidays?; More of us are 'going out' on popular music; Page 16
reproduced courtesy of www.parishpump.co.uk

Children's Groups

On Sunday's

During Morning Services:

The Rainbow Room Crèche is a fun, supervised soft play facility available on Sunday mornings for babies and children aged 0-3 years (inclusive)

CLIMBERS is for children aged 3 to 7 years and meet in the Small Hall. Activities each week include singing, Bible stories, games and craft

EXPLORERS is for children aged 7 to 11 years and meet in the Large Hall for singing and crafts in a framework of Christian teaching

Pathfinders is for young people aged 11 to 14+ and meet in the basement of the church for games, videos, drama and discussions, looking at the Bible and discussing relevant issues

During Evening Services:

Juice for young people who are year 10+ in a place where you can be yourself and hear something about how great our God is!
Juice meet on alternate Sunday evenings (6.30pm – 8pm) in the Undercroft at Christ Church.

ATSOC POD (for those year 11+) meet bi-weekly at
Costa, Tesco, 4pm - 5pm

Hearing

A man went into a church and asked the vicar to pray for his hearing. Touched by his faith, the vicar agreed. "Kneel here," he began in a loud voice. The man knelt, and the vicar placed a hand on each ear and bellowed a prayer. "I hope that will help," he finally shouted.

"Well, I won't know for a while," the man replied. "It isn't until next month".

Are politicians the oldest profession?

A surgeon, an architect and a politician were arguing as to whose profession was the oldest. Said the surgeon: "Eve was made from Adam's rib, and that surely was a surgical operation."

"Maybe," admitted the architect, "but prior to that, order was created out of chaos, and that was an architectural job."

"But," the politician pointed out in triumph, "somebody had to have created the chaos first!"

When technology goes wrong

The father of a family - who was a big-time techie - got his oldest daughter an iPhone for her birthday. He also got an iPad for his son. Later he bought an iPod for the youngest daughter. Then, when his wedding anniversary rolled around, he got his wife an iRon. That's when... ..best not to know!

Name three collective nouns.

Dustpan, dustbin, and vacuum cleaner.

Don't know nothin'

When Columbus started out, he didn't know where he was going. When he got there, he didn't know where he was. When he got back, he didn't know where he had been. And he did it all on other people's money. Can't help thinking that Columbus reminds me of some teenagers who go on family holidays...

Sky at night

The scientific theory I like best is that the rings of Saturn are composed entirely of lost airline luggage.

Bulletin Bloopers

The Seniors group will have a picnic on Saturday. Each person is asked to bring a friend, a vegetable, or dessert in a covered dish. Meat and drinks will be furnished.

Foreign food

Tourist in Spanish restaurant: I can't eat this soup.

Waiter: I'll call the manager, sir.
(Manager arrives)

Tourist: This soup - I can't eat it.

Manager: I regret that. I'll call the chef.
(Chef arrives)

Tourist: I can't eat this soup.

Chef: What's the matter with it?

Tourist: Nothing - no spoon.

And lastly...

If corn oil comes from corn,
where does baby oil come from?
