

new **winepress**

40p

May & June 2018



Devoted to Christ
Dedicated to Community



Christ
Church
Orpington



'He said to them: "Go into all the world and preach the Gospel to all creation".'

Mark 16:15

It was with many emotions that we boarded the coach to Southwark Cathedral on Sunday 15th April, going to Jay's Installation in his new role as Canon Missioner. Feelings of excitement, sadness at saying goodbye, pride and joy amongst many others. Derek drove us up through London in his usual meticulous fashion, squeezing through gaps most of us would have avoided in a car, let alone a 54-seater coach!



On arrival at the Cathedral for Choral Evensong, we were met with many friendly faces – one lady was heard to say “we’ll look after him”. The Cathedral was full with many other folk who had travelled by train joining us. It was a delight to see Rev Dozie Moneme, Nnenna, Chimdieuto and Chukwubikem there to support Jay. They send their love to all at Christ Church. It was also amazing to see Jay's parents – we have been praying for them all as Douglas has been so unwell. Such a blessing he was

able to be there.

The service began with the uplifting hymn Alleluya! Alleluya! which resounded around the Cathedral and was a triumphal Hymn of praise and rejoicing. The choir from St Alphege in Solihull (who had stepped in at the last minute and travelled from 6.30am to be there) led the congregation and were in strong voice. They also sang Psalm 142, which is a Psalm of David crying to the Lord when he was in the Cave.



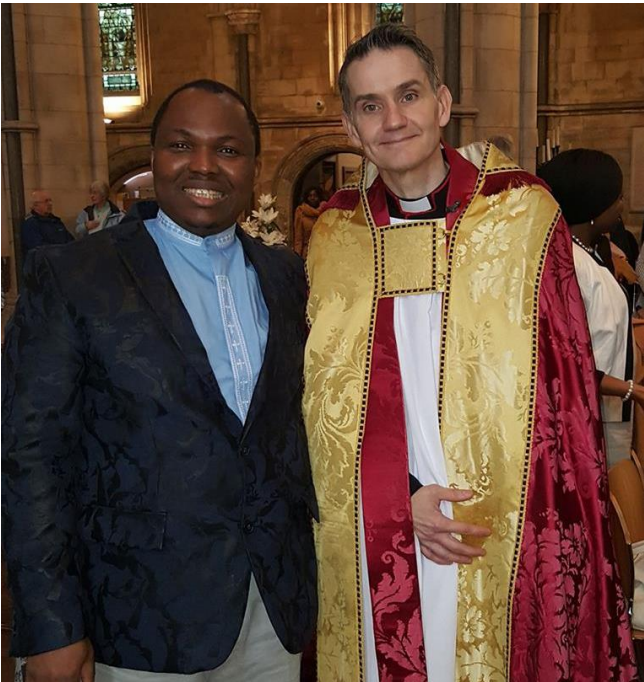
Jay's installation formed the middle section of the service. He was led to the front and presented to the Bishop, who read the Deed of Institution. After being blessed by the Bishop, Jay was robed with the Chapter Cope and led to his stall. He was then admitted and invested, and was given a Bible and a copy of the Constitution and Statutes of the Cathedral. Jay then promised to faithfully read and preach the word of God, administer the sacraments in due order and obey the Constitutions and Statutes of the Cathedral. Jay was then welcomed as Canon Missioner and was greeted with applause. Evensong continued with the choir singing the Magnificat. The Bishop of Southwark,

The Right reverend Christopher Chessun spoke, including Jay very much in his sermon. After prayers, the congregation again sang, this time “Come, ye faithful, raise the anthem”

After a blessing by the Bishop, the choir, Bishop, Jay and other members of the Cathedral team processed out



A reception of tea and cake was held in the Garry Weston library – a lofty, airy library with fabulous views over the river Thames. Jay was able to greet those who had travelled to support him



Derek drove us back over Tower Bridge and through docklands, before safely delivering us back to Christ Church

Anon



**Open Garden Bishopscourt
Saturday May 12th 2018**

11am to 3pm

24 St Margaret’s Street, Rochester

Teas, Home-made Cakes,
Plant Sale

Entry: £3. Proceeds and donations to



Wheelchair access.

Dogs welcome on lead.

Enquiries: 07816 828439

The residence of the Bishop of Rochester, this one-acre historic walled garden is a peaceful oasis in the heart of Rochester with views of the castle from a raised lookout. Mature trees, lawns, yew hedges, rose garden, sculptures, fountain, wild flowers and mixed borders with perennials. Greenhouse & small vegetable garden.

SPINNAKER PRAYER FORTNIGHT

**Praying for your Local
Schools 13th - 27th May 2018**

Every year we encourage Churches and individuals to spend some time praying for their local schools, either as part of their Sunday Services, in prayer meetings or as individuals and this year we are encouraging people to get involved in 'Pray Bake' - see next page for more information.



Praying for your Schools and Community

Be thankful - for the opportunities there are to go into primary schools and get involved in assemblies, RE lessons, clubs and activities at Easter and Christmas.

Open Doors - Pray that children and teachers will be inspired by what they hear to find out more.

Make the most of every opportunity - Pray for all those visiting schools as they share the Christian message, that they may be wise and clear.

Pray for Teachers - Despite a great deal of pressure, the teachers and schools staff are fantastic. They work incredibly long hours and deal with many difficult situations. They are creative and insightful and want the best for every child in their care. Please thank God for them and pray for them as they hold the responsibility of developing the skills of the next generation.

COLOSSIANS 4:2-5

Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful. And pray too, that God may open a door for our message, so that we may proclaim the mystery of Christ, for which I am in chains. Pray that I may proclaim it clearly, as I should. Be wise in the way you act toward outsiders; make the most of every opportunity.



Pray Bake

A great way of connecting with your local schools and praying for them is to bake a cake for a teacher or school you know (or give fruit/biscuits). Many of us can think of friends, neighbours or members of our Churches that are teachers or staff in a school, or you may have a good relationship with a school as a parent, governor or visitor. Giving a cake for the staffroom is a great way to show our support and bless the staff in schools and of course pray for them as we bake.

Jo Gavin & Caroline Rous visit schools in our local area and it would be great to take some cakes into them and support this wonderful ministry. If you are a keen baker and would like to bake something for the teachers at these schools please contact Jo Gavin jo@ccorpington.org

Vacancy Viewpoint

These are interesting times at Christ Church Orpington. In a good way. We are between vicars, in a period known as an interregnum. Some may think that this is a quiet and subdued time, in which people try to keep things ticking over as best they can. Just mothball the church until the new vicar arrives and then we can see what he or she wants to do. Not a bit of it! There is plenty happening and there is much to be grateful for. There is a lot to join in with, if you fancy doing so.

The church services continue and we have had great times in these. There is still something for everybody, whatever background or age. For example, our 9.00 Sunday morning service is more traditional and people who relate to this and the peacefulness it includes will feel at home here.

Similarly, our 10.30 Sunday morning worship service continues to thrive and this is where our church family comes together in greater numbers. Our age range and diversity continues to grow. We have a well-equipped and well-run crèche for our youngest people and they seem to have a great time in this! There are groups for children and young people of all ages. The worship and teaching in the 10.30 services is something which has continued to flourish, even without a vicar in place. Our home-grown talent and visiting speakers have ensured that we have had a wealth of different involvement and encouragement.

We have continued with Holy Communion in various services. If this is something you particularly want to participate in, then bear in mind that our

pattern is to take communion at the first Sunday of the month for the 10.30 service and more frequently at 9.00 or on Wednesdays. If you are more interested in a service without this sacrament, then there are still at least three Sundays a month for you at 10.30!

Seriously, on this point, if you are thinking about coming to Christ Church as a visitor and you are wondering what it will be like, we can assure you of a warm welcome. We are a family, but we are a friendly family which wants to grow and to have new people join us. Our services are reasonably full, but there are still plenty of empty seats at every service and there is room and desire for visitors to join us. People will be made to feel comfortable and at home, but we also give space to people who prefer to reflect quietly and untroubled by others, if this is what they want to do.

A further option is our relatively new style of Sunday evening service. This is quite informal and we often sit in a café style around tables and discuss the topics raised in a talk. This talk is given to a group which is generally about 20-30 people. So this is more interactive and a great way to get answers to any questions or issues that we all have. This style also lends itself well to getting to know other people.

Finally, Christ Church is not just about Sundays. We have a fantastic number of events, clubs and gatherings, formal and informal, throughout the week. Again, everyone is welcome at these and these are continuing during our period without a vicar.

So Christ Church is very much open for business. Our business is about serving our local community in Orpington, about worship, prayer and teaching, and it is very much about getting to know and love our church family and anyone who wants to join it. Above all we want to share the good news of Jesus and his unconditional love for everyone. We do hope that you feel welcomed and loved, through as many clubs, services and friendships that you take part in at Christ Church.

Why do people suffer when they do not deserve it?

To be frank, there is no convincing answer to the question, 'Why am I suffering?' It is something that is experienced by every individual (indeed, everything that lives and breathes). Jesus, who grieved, agonised and finally died in shameful circumstances, was no exception. It is an unavoidable part of the world we have inherited.

There are a few things that Christians are able to say with confidence. Firstly, you are not suffering because God hates you. Secondly, your suffering will come to an end, and there will be an eternity in which peace and justice will compensate you. And thirdly, knowing the presence of God alongside you will make you stronger as you face painful circumstances.

The Christian faith teaches that God hates suffering. It was not part of His intention for humankind. However, He has created a world that has two features. Both these features are wonderfully beneficial to humans, but also result in a planet where suffering is inevitable.


First, the humans who are the part of creation that God loves are created capable of making choices. To a greater or lesser degree everyone chooses to do some bad things as well as some good things. Much of the suffering of the world is caused by humans in large numbers choosing together to do things that are evil. Wars, poverty and hatred are not caused by God. They are caused by people who are rejecting the ways of God. Tragically, people who are entirely innocent often suffer most.

Second, the world is held in a delicate balance in which every part of creation is dependent on every other part. This is true from heaving oceans to microscopic seeds to meat-eating animals. Science calls this ecology. A planet that sustains human life as part of this glorious interdependent system needs certain features in its design. They include the movements of the planet's surface that set life in motion, but also cause terrible destruction through earthquakes and volcanoes. They include the viruses that bring death to humans but life to other parts of our ecology.

How do we know that God cares about this? Christians recognise that God's loving commitment to a suffering world was so great that He visited it in person. Jesus was God. He experienced the very best and very worst of being human - living, dying in hideous circumstances and overcoming death. All we know of Jesus leads Christians to believe that wherever there is suffering, there is a sense in which God is alongside each human, hurting with them. Although Christians find pain terrible and hard to understand, this belief allows them to cling

to the possibility that suffering is not meaningless and death will not be the end.

Church bells will still ring out

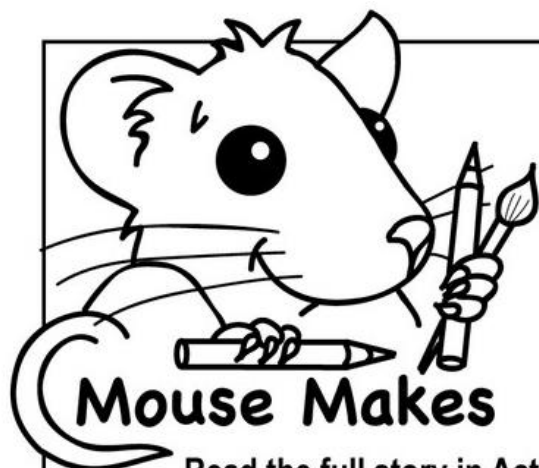


Planning policy is finally coming to the aid of church bells. No longer will people who move into areas with 'noisy' church bells be able to complain and have them shut down.

As the Secretary of State for Housing, Sajid Javid, recently said, 'Churches have been part of British life in towns and villages for centuries. Their bells should not be silenced by new housing going up, which is why planning policy will be strengthened to ensure it will be up to developers building new properties nearby to identify and tackle noise problems.'

And so it is that under the new guidance, it will be up to developers to soundproof the homes they build near churches with bells, music venues, and community and sports clubs.

The Church of England has welcomed the decision, pointing out that bell-ringing has been part of Christian worship for more than 1000 years.



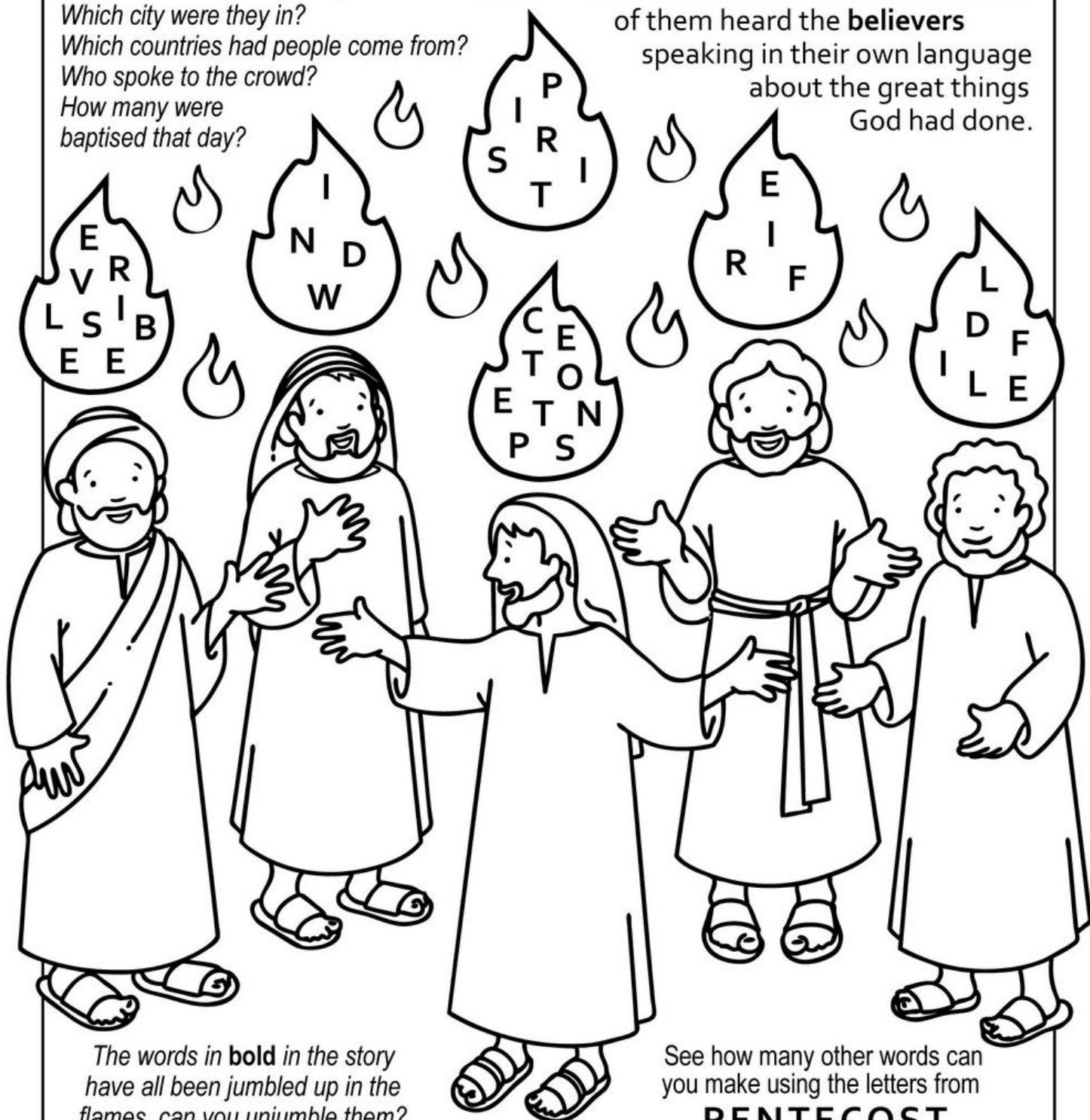
Mouse Makes

Read the full story in Acts 2

Which city were they in?
Which countries had people come from?
Who spoke to the crowd?
How many were
baptised that day?

It was the festival of **Pentecost** and the Apostles and other believers were all together in one place, when they heard a sound like a strong **wind** and saw what looked like flames of **fire** which spread out and touched each person. They were all **filled** with the Holy **Spirit** and began to talk in other languages as the Spirit enabled them.

A crowd gathered outside, they were excited and confused because each of them heard the **believers** speaking in their own language about the great things God had done.



The words in **bold** in the story have all been jumbled up in the flames, can you unjumble them?

See how many other words can you make using the letters from
PENTECOST

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

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ERIN	ADON	ENT	KEY	GJER	NGON	IDI	USAL	EMR
GJER	NGON	KEY	IDI	USAL	EMR	ADON	ERIN	ENT
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KEY	EMR	NGON	ERIN	ADON	GJER	ENT	IDI	USAL
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NGON	GJER	USAL	EMR	ENT	ADON	ERIN	KEY	IDI
ADON	KEY	ERIN	GJER	IDI	USAL	EMR	ENT	NGON

Last edition's solution
ENTERING JERUSALEM RIDING ON A DONKEY

Word Search

The disciples had spent 40 days with Jesus and now they were called to share that experience with others. Jesus told them to wait for the gift of the Spirit to empower them as witnesses. *'Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about.'* The Spirit also equips us to display Jesus' character (fruit) and enables us to witness (gifts). How does our life demonstrate the difference Jesus makes? The early Christians were called to witness for Jesus in ever-increasing circles of influence. For us, this will mean family and friends, workplace and community, and the wider world. Where is God calling us to serve Him?

ASCENSION

DISCIPLES

FORTY

JESUS

SHARE

EXPERIENCE

WAIT

GIFT

SPIRIT

EMPOWER

EQUIP

WITNESSES

JERUSALEM

FATHER

EARLY

CHRISTIANS

DEMONSTRATE

DIFFERENCE

FAMILY

FRIENDS

WORKPLACE

COMMUNITY

WORLD

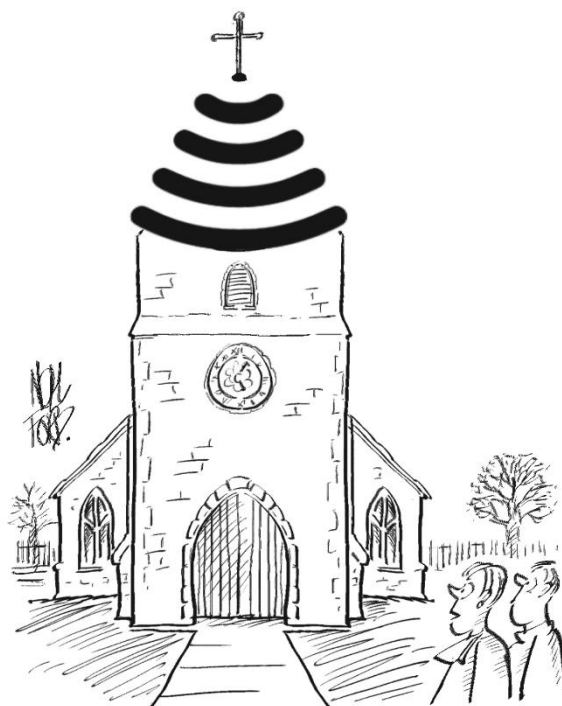
CALLING

SERVE

I	Y	C	R	E	P	Y	S	A	C	H	T	A	D	E
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K	W	S	I	E	E	C	I	T	Y	H	Y			
S	T	N	Y	P	C	R	O	W	D	S	D			

Last edition's solution



"Looks like they've introduced contactless payments for their collections."

London City Mission Day Centre Webber Street



In June 2017 a group from Christ Church visited LCM headquarters followed by a visit to the day centre for the homeless at Webber street, near Waterloo. It was challenging to hear from the workers about their ministry amongst the homeless and poor. One of the workers that we met, Mr Jean-Louis Kassiss describes the work there below. He will be visiting Christ Church on Sunday 10th of June to tell us more about London City Mission and Webber Street. There will be an opportunity to donate towards the work.

I am originally from Lebanon and work at Webber Street, which is the Mission's day centre working with London's homeless community in the Waterloo area. Around 100 guests come in every morning and we aim to not only meet an immediate, practical need by offering food, clothing, haircuts and showers, but to meet the emotional, mental and spiritual needs of our guests too.

It is vital to address the loneliness and brokenness behind their homelessness. Every person has a life story behind their situation and no two people have come to this point by the same route, sometimes through a relationship or family breakup,

job loss, or caused by an addiction - or a combination of these factors.

By offering friendship, a listening ear, and encouragement we seek to spur them forward. Sometimes we may be the only friendly smiling face they see all day. Most of all we want to build relationships with our guests, offer encouragement and a listening ear and speak about the freedom that comes from knowing Jesus Christ. We hope to see hearts, minds and bodies healed through the love of God in practical action.

Jean-Louis Kassiss



Church Pastoral Aid Society

Since being founded our activities may have changed with the times, but our original mission to enable churches to bring the gospel to men, women and children remains and is still the driving force behind all we do.

CPAS (the Church Pastoral Aid Society) was founded in 1836 by prominent Christians, including the pioneering social reformer Lord Shaftesbury. It was established as a Christian response to the massive social change brought about by the Industrial Revolution. What were once small village churches found themselves with the new urban poor on their doorsteps.

Lord Shaftesbury and his friends stepped in to set up a new charity that would resource these churches to cope with this change, through giving them grants to enable them to employ extra members of staff. Their aim was simple: the gospel should be taken 'to every

person's door, with a single eye to the glory of God'.

What was controversial – though hardly a surprise to us today – was that CPAS gave grants for the employment of lay staff as well as those who were ordained. One of the chief critics of this was William Gladstone, later to become Prime Minister. One of the first recipients of a grant was the Rev Patrick Bronte, Rector of Haworth, and father of the famous novelists, who was able to employ Rev Arthur Nicholls as curate.

Mr Nicholls actually married Charlotte Bronte and CPAS even merits a passing reference on the first page of her novel Shirley:

'Of late years, I say, an abundant shower of curates has fallen upon the north of England, but in eighteen-hundred-eleven-twelve that affluent rain had not descended. Curates were scarce then: there was no Pastoral Aid - no Additional Curates' Society to stretch a helping hand to worn-out old rectors and incumbents, and give them the wherewithal to pay a vigorous young colleague from Oxford or Cambridge.'

Over time, of course, the work of CPAS has developed. But nonetheless the vision of our founders burns strongly in us. Like them, we believe in resourcing leaders - both lay and ordained. Like them, we want to see the church equipped to cope with rapidly changing social circumstances. Like them, we want to see the gospel find its way to everyone's door. And as we do so, we know that we're building on the solid foundations of the past.

Pathfinders

For Pathfinders this term we are moving away from the Lectionary that the rest of the church are following, and we will be looking at the newly reimagined Alpha Youth Series.



The Alpha Youth Series is designed to engage students in conversations about life, faith and Jesus. Discussion time is interspersed throughout the short talks to make it simpler for young people to share their thoughts and questions.

Presented in video film by Jason Ballard and Ben Woodman, the brand new Alpha Youth Series has been totally reimagined for today's youth culture. Through 13 sessions filmed in Vancouver, London, Paris, Rome, Israel, and many other incredible locations, the Alpha Youth Series explores timeless questions about life, faith and God for a new generation.



The series offers compelling stories, images, questions, and discussion topics well spread throughout each episode to better engage youth, helping them think about how these issues relate to their lives as they discuss with their friends and leaders.

I am really looking forward to the Pathfinders asking "Big Questions" about life, Jesus, faith and prayer, and really hope and pray that we will have more disciples who want to make disciples, who want to tell their friends about Jesus and who are ready to make a commitment to HIM.

Andrena Palmer

Definitely not a Spook

In June the Church celebrates Pentecost (we used to call it 'Whitsun'). It marks the occasion 50 days after Easter when the Holy Spirit was 'poured out' on the group of followers of Jesus who had obeyed his command to 'wait in Jerusalem' until they were 'clothed with power'. The gift of the Holy Spirit was that 'power'. It turned them from an anxious group of 120 men and women hiding in an upper room into a revolutionary movement. In their opponents' words, and despite fierce persecution, they 'turned the world upside down'. Within four centuries the Christian faith had captured the Roman Empire.

They took no credit for this. They saw it as the work of this 'Holy Spirit'. The fact that today there are billions of people in the world who believe the same message suggests that it still is. I think the problem for many people is that they associate the

word 'spirit' with 'Ghost', which was how for centuries he was named in English. I once deplored this at a meeting in Holland, only to be told by someone that we were lucky. In Dutch he used to be called the Holy Spook.

He is neither a ghost nor a spook, but the third 'Person' of the Holy Trinity. I refer to Him as 'he', but the word for Spirit in Greek is neuter. One scholar called the Spirit 'the executive officer of the Godhead' – the One who gets things done. God the Father created us, God the Son, Jesus, rescued us, and now God the Holy Spirit continues their purpose in the world until the kingdom comes.

Canon David Winter



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On the Grapevine

WELCOME

We welcome to the family of Christ Church
Orpington through Baptism
Darcy Nanette Annie Wood
baptised on 15th April 2018

WITH SYMPATHY

We remember those who have recently
passed away, mentioning in particular:
Bob Hemington
David King

new winepress
July & August 2018 issue

Write an article about a forthcoming church
event or report on one that has just
happened and get in touch with the wider
community, not just those who go to Christ
Church! Then email your articles to our
editor Vernon at vandjmapp@gmail.com or
contact Vernon on 01689 832433

The closing date for articles for the
next issue is **Friday 8th June**

If you need more time, please contact Vernon
*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*

Acknowledgements

Why do people suffer when they do not
deserve it?, Church bells will still ring out,
Mouse, Wordsearch, Definitely not a Spook
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 meets on a Sunday evening
(6pm-8pm) in the café area and is for
young people who are year 9 and above
who want to know God and spend time
with great friends.

JUICE is a place where you can be
yourself and hear something about how
great our God is!

JUICE begins with refreshments in the
café and worship with the evening
congregation. We then move downstairs
to the Undercroft for our session

Applied Law

A Sunday school teacher was discussing the Ten Commandments with her five and six-year olds. After explaining the commandment to "honour thy father and thy mother," she asked 'Is there a commandment that teaches us how to treat our brothers and sisters?'

Without missing a beat, one little boy answered, 'Thou shall not kill.'

You asked for it

The student, when asked by the teacher to write an essay on 'The Effects of Laziness', turned in a blank sheet of paper.

Say yes

We accompanied our son and his fiancée when they met with the priest to sign some pre-wedding ceremony papers. While filling out the form, our son read aloud a few questions. When he got to the last one, which read 'Are you entering this marriage at your own will?' he looked over at his fiancée.

'Put down "yes,"' she said.

Star-gazing

I can see how astronomers figure out the distance to the stars, and their individual size and composition and temperatures and all that. What really gets me is how they find out what their names are!

Be with you

The vicar at a local church experienced some technical problems with the sound system one Sunday. Instead of starting the service as usual with 'The Lord be with you', he said: 'There's something wrong with this microphone.'

Not hearing this, the congregation responded: 'And also with you.'

Closure

By following the simple advice I heard on a TV chat show, I have finally found inner peace. The TV doctor advised: "The way to achieve inner peace is to finish all the things you've started and never finished." So, I looked around my house to see all the things I started and hadn't finished, and before leaving the house this morning, I finished off a bottle of White Zinfandel, a bottle of Bailey's Irish Cream, a packet of Jaffa Cakes, the remainder of my old Prozac prescription, the rest of the cheesecake, some Doritos and a box of chocolates. You have no idea how good I feel! The man is a genius!

The retiring sidesman was instructing his youthful successor in his Sunday morning duties. "And remember, my boy," he said, "that we have nothing but good, kind Christians in this church – until you try to put someone else in their pew."
