



THE PINNACLE



A Letter From The Vicar

In August we celebrate Jesus' transfiguration, when Jesus took Peter, John and James with Him up a mountain to pray (Luke 9:28-36). Jesus was transfigured alongside Moses and Elijah: 'As He was praying, the appearance of His face changed, and His clothes became as bright as a flash of lightning.' (29).

Jesus' Transfiguration: Watch!

The disciples' eyes were opened, as Jesus' hidden divinity was revealed. The presence of Moses

and Elijah confirmed Him as God's promised Messiah, who fulfilled God's plan and purposes. By foreshadowing the cross, resurrection and ascension, this event powerfully calls us to entrust our lives into Jesus' hands to experience His presence and power.

The Father's Word: Listen!

There came a voice from the cloud covering them: 'This is my Son, whom I have chosen; listen to Him.' (35). God affirmed His love and call on Jesus, as His beloved and chosen Son. This is the second

time God spoke audibly about Jesus (cf Luke 3:22), but on this occasion He was speaking for the benefit of the disciples. Do we hear God speaking these same words to us? We listen to what Jesus says to us, knowing that like Him we are deeply loved and accepted by God.

The Disciples Response: Learn!

'The disciples kept this to themselves and did not tell anyone at that time what they had seen' (36).

(cont. on page 2)

Vicars Letter, continued from page 1.

They were impacted by this experience and needed time to reflect on what they had seen and heard about Jesus. Eight days before they were asked by Jesus: ‘Who do you say I am?’ (Luke 9:20). In the transfiguration their understanding of Jesus was being transformed. As we reflect on Jesus’ ministry, to encounter the real Jesus, we are also transformed.

No one who meets Jesus ever stays the same.

Have a lovely summer,
Rev'd Mike

Overheard at a boys choir practice...

“How is it that you are late again?” the choir master demanded of the boy.

“I overslept.”

“What? Do you sleep at home as well?”

A Christian musing

Make sure it is God’s trumpet you are blowing – if it is only yours it won’t wake the dead, it will simply disturb the neighbours.

W Ian Thomas

Quick Sudoku

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

Answers next time.

Parish Update

In the last few months there have been lots of things going on in our parish. We have had concerts of various types, a children's activity afternoon, the work on the Parish Rooms and we are finally getting to grips with St Andrew's roof!

Along side that, in the last 3 months, we have had:

- 3 weddings
- 1 renewal of wedding vows
- 9 funerals
- 2 separate burials
- 4 baptisms

We have also, registered as a charity, registered to claim Gift Aid again, Corrected the legal name on one of our Bank Accounts, worked with the Diocese to ensure all the bits we are doing are legal (Faculties and Minor Works Orders). All of this, as well as ensuring our services run as smoothly as possible, and those in need of a pastoral visit get one. Now we are hoping for a well earned break, and for things to be a little less busy in the next 3 months!



Photograph from Children's Activity session at St John's Cononley

What Shall I Do With My Life? The Wrong Question?

*Revd Canon Derek Walmsley
Diocesan Director of Ordinands and Vocations,
and our guest preacher on Sunday 29th October*



So the annual ordination services have taken place and we have another “batch” of deacons and priests serving in the diocese. Could you be joining them in a few years’ time? What would it take for you to offer yourself to explore ordination?

It would be easy to think that each of our new clergy had a special moment when God spoke to them in a clear audible voice - something like the Apostle Paul’s experience on the road to Damascus road. But what happened to Paul was descriptive, not prescriptive. God’s call comes in a variety of ways.

However, it’s true that (like for Paul) the call of God can often come as a surprise. Some of our new clergy would tell you that. It’s actually unusual for God to give a quick answer when we ask anything! If we pray, “Lord, what shall I do with my life?” It’s rare to get a rapid response!

After his sabbatical in 2019, Bishop Nick’s first sermon was at the Chrism Eucharist in Ripon Cathedral, and these were his first words, “Never ever take your vocation – to lay or ordained discipleship and ministry – for granted. For when you do, it will have become a private possession, a personal commodity, an exercise in vanity.

The call of God is and has always been very clear: it is not primarily for me/us; rather, it is to me/ us, but for the sake of the world and the church through whom the world is to be reached.”

Later he added, “I have come back this week with a renewed conviction that vocation must never become about me, my gifts and weaknesses, my ministry, my needs – unless these are held in the clear conviction (in practice as well

as theological or ecclesiological theory or aspiration) that the church and her ministers are called to lay down their life for the sake of the world.”

What shall I do with my life? Perhaps a better question might be, “Christ gave his life for me, so am I willing to do whatever it takes – to lay down my life – for his sake?”

From the registers in the last 3 months

Weddings

Sophie & Thomas
Tamsin & Joss
Linzi & William

Baptisms

Charlie, Jospeh, Evie,& Maisie

Funerals

Maurice Drake
John Roberts
Anthony Luce
Bernie Whitlock
Hilda Harrison
John Hall
Eleanor Eastwood
Eileen Cutler

Please pray for them all.



ECO NEWS

Plastic is bad, we all know that. The UN has found that there are 13000 chemicals in plastics – of which 3,200 have one or more hazardous properties of concern that can be released into the environment at any stage in its lifecycle.

But plastic can also be very useful. Shrink-wrapped cucumber lasts three times as long as it would otherwise do, meaning, perhaps, that it isn't landfilled, releasing methane. So, going plastic-free is good – so long as we think carefully about what alternative we go with.

Eco-alternatives

Eco-alternatives are often not the answer. Cotton carrier bags need to be used 50-150 times to be better for the environment than a single use plastic bag. And a paper or bioplastic drinking straw is not the answer as they can be worse for climate change than a plastic straw.

Glass, rather than plastic bottles, will weigh more and increase the carbon cost of transport. So what do we do? The best eco-alternative has got to be nothing. Home-grown cucumbers don't need any packaging, use the shopping bag you already have at home and do you need that drinking straw?

Recycling

I'd always thought that using recyclable plastic was acceptable, but recent studies on plastic recycling challenge this assumption. There seem to be some very good reasons why recycling is the last of the 3 Rs. The recycling process releases toxic chemicals and microplastics into waste water, from where they can enter the food system.

Don't sweat the small stuff

One phrase that we often hear is "small steps, big difference".

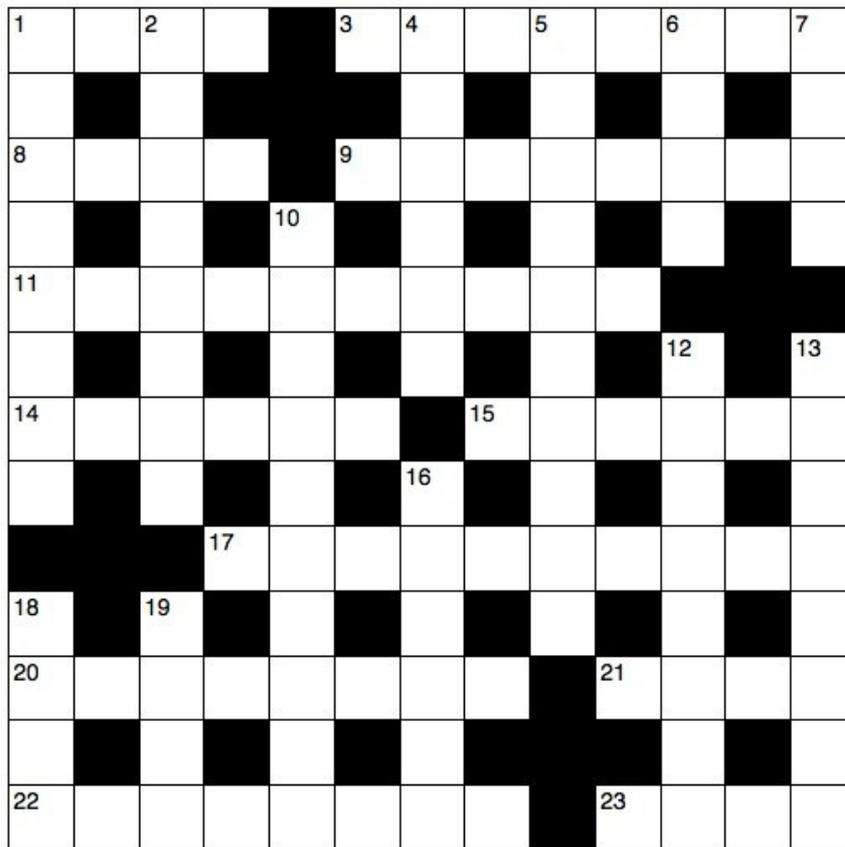
This is just not true.

If you've ever done a carbon footprint calculation you will know that how much plastic you use is unlikely to be one of the questions, and also that you have used up your carbon allowance for today before you get out of bed in the morning. We cannot, living in this country, live within the limits of this planet. We cannot live 'holy' lives that do not harm God's world and people. After repentance and acceptance of God's gracious forgiveness we must then look at the things over which we have control and try to live as gently on the earth as we can. And we may as well pick the big stuff that makes a difference, rather than sweating the small stuff. This isn't penance, it is our worship and joy to do so.

Do I bother with Plastic Free July/August/September...?

Trying to go plastic-free is still a good thing to do. But while doing so, why not chat about why and how you try to live gently on God's earth. Widen the conversation from drinking straws to holidays, banking and campaigning. The motivation is the same – to protect people and creation. How much better to make a difference as well!

Summer Crossword



Across

- 1 and 3 Two of the disciples who witnessed the transfiguration of Jesus (Luke 9:28) (4,3,5)
- 3 See 1 Across
- 8 'Let us draw — to God with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith' (Hebrews 10:22) (4)
- 9 O Simon is (anag.) (8)
- 11 Form of government under the direct rule of God or his agents (10)
- 14 How Jesus found his disciples when he returned to them after praying in Gethsemane (Luke 22:45) (6)
- 15 In The Pilgrim's Progress, the name of the meadow into which Christian strayed, which led to Doubting Castle (2-4)
- 17 Glad sin rat (anag.) (10)
- 20 Spinal column (Leviticus 3:9) (8)
- 21 Valley of the Balsam Tree with a reputation of being a waterless place (Psalm 84:6) (4)
- 22 'The oracle of Balaam son of Beor, the oracle of one — — sees clearly' (Numbers 24:3) (5,3)
- 23 Adam and Eve's third son (Genesis 4:25) (4)

Down

- 1 David's great friend (1 Samuel 20:17) (8)
- 2 'The Lord... will bring me safely to his — kingdom' (2 Timothy 4:18) (8)
- 4 'I, Daniel, mourned for three weeks. I ate no choice food; — — or wine touched my lips' (Daniel 10:3) (2,4)
- 5 Seeking to vindicate (Job 32:2) (10)
- 6 Female servant (Isaiah 24:2) (4)
- 7 'For Christ died for — once for all' (1 Peter 3:18) (4)
- 10 'Offering spiritual sacrifices — to God through Jesus Christ' (1 Peter 2:5) (10)
- 12 Jesus said that some people had renounced this 'because of the kingdom of heaven' (Matthew 19:12) (8)
- 13 One of the three men thrown into the furnace for refusing to worship Nebuchadnezzar's golden image (Daniel 3:20) (8)
- 16 'You have — of good things laid up for many years. Take life easy; eat, drink and be merry' (Luke 12:19) (6)
- 18 'There before me was a white horse! Its rider held — — , and he was given a crown' (Revelation 6:2) (1,3)
- 19 Equipment to Charity Hospitals Overseas (1,1,1,1)

Answers next time.

August 9th - We remember Mary Sumner

The Mothers' Union is now more than 140 years old. It has accomplished a staggering amount in that time, and nowadays numbers more than four million members, doing good work in 83 countries. That is a far cry from the modest circle of prayer for mothers who cared about family life, which is how it all began with a rector's wife, Mary Sumner.

Mary was born in late 1828 in Swinton, near Manchester. When she was four, her family moved to Herefordshire. Mary's father, Thomas Heywood, was a banker and historian. Her mother has been described as a woman of "faith, charm and sympathy" – qualities which Mary certainly inherited. Mrs Heywood also held informal 'mothers' meetings' at her home, to encourage local women. Those meetings may well have inspired Mary's later work.

Mary was educated at home, spoke three foreign languages, and sang well. While in her late teens, on a visit to Rome she met George Sumner, a son of the Bishop of Winchester.

It was a well-connected family: George's uncle became Archbishop of Canterbury, and his second cousin was William Wilberforce. Mary and George married in July 1848, soon after his ordination. They moved to Old Alresford in 1851 and had three children: Margaret, Louise and George. Mary dedicated herself to raising her children and supporting her husband's ministry by providing music and Bible classes.

When in 1876 Mary's eldest daughter Margaret, gave birth, Mary was reminded how difficult she had found the burden of motherhood. Soon she decided to hold a meeting to which she invited the local women not only of her own class, but also all the village mothers.

Her aim was to find out if women could be brought together to offer each other prayer and mutual support in their roles as wives and mothers. That meeting at Old Alresford Rectory was the inaugural meeting of the Mothers' Union.

For 11 years, the Mothers' Union was limited to Old Alresford.



Then in 1885 the Bishop of Newcastle invited Mary to address the women churchgoers of the Portsmouth Church Congress, some 20 miles away. Mary gave a passionate speech about the poor state of national morality, and the vital need for women to use their vocation as mothers to change the nation for the better. A number of the women present went back to their parishes to found mothers' meetings on Sumner's pattern. Soon, the Mothers' Union spread to the dioceses of Ely, Exeter, Hereford, Lichfield and Newcastle. By 1892, there were already 60,000 members in 28 dioceses, and by 1900 there were 169,000 members. By the time Mary died in 1921, she had seen MU cross the seas and become an international organisation of prayer and good purpose.



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O salutaris Deo

Launch Concert

20th August

St Andrew's Church
Kildwick, Keighley
BD20 9BB

Starts at 5pm

Tickets £15
Students / under 18 / low
resources £0



Have you ever considered the abbreviation A.S.A.P. (As Soon As Possible)? Generally, it brings even more hurry and stress into our lives. Yet there is another way to think of A.S.A.P., a way which might help us deal with those difficult times in our daily lives.

When there's work to do, and deadlines to meet, and your colleagues are rushing around, here's what you can do to help: A.S.A.P. – Always Say a Prayer.

When your worries mount up and you don't know how you are ever going to cope with what is coming at you: A.S.A.P. – Always Say a Prayer.

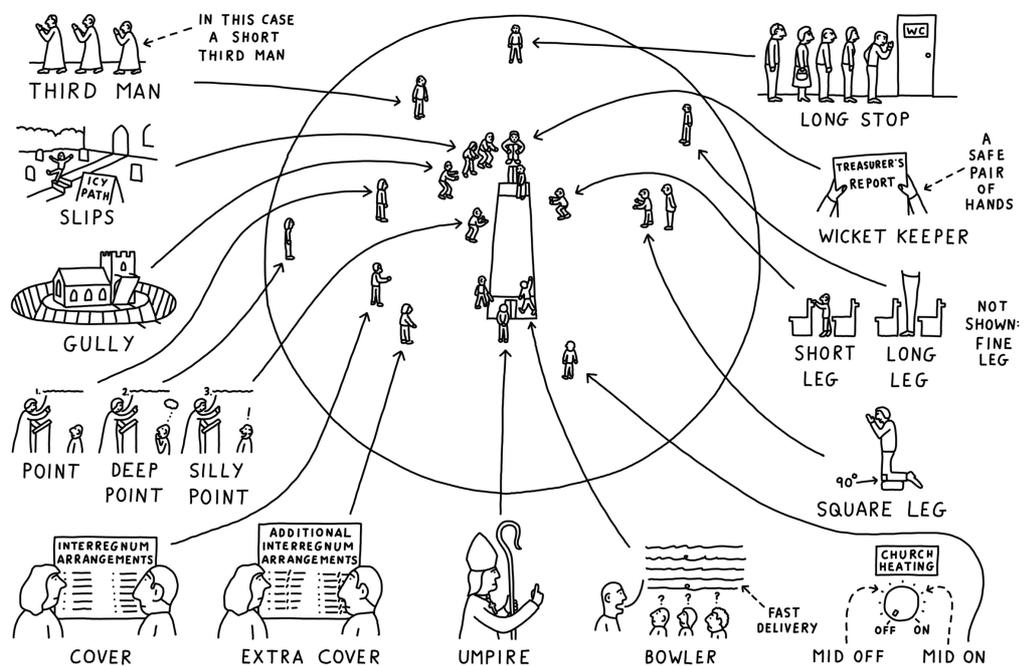
God knows how stressful our lives can be, and He wants to ease our cares. In the Bible He promises to respond to our calls for help. So – call Him! A.S.A.P.!

Earth flew in all directions as the crimson-faced would-be golfer attempted to strike the ball. "Goodness," he finally blurted to his caddie, "the worms around here will think there's been an earthquake."

"Never mind," said the caddie, "they are pretty smart – by now they will be hiding beneath the ball for safety."

CRICKET

FIELDING POSITIONS, AND THEIR ECCLESIASTICAL EQUIVALENTS



Coffee & Crumbs at the Parish Rooms is now open!

At 9am on Wednesday 19th July, Coffee and Crumbs opened in the Parish Rooms, Kildwick. As you can see from the photo below, the refurbished downstairs now look and feel like a cosy, contemporary café.

Rev'd Mike recalls how one elderly resident of Farnhill has told him that the café has opened up a whole new life for her. She has limited mobility and doesn't like pubs. The café will enable her to get out of the house and meet new people.

The café is open Wed & Thur 9-4

and Fri-Sun 9-5, and if you haven't popped in already, please do so and introduce yourself to Jon & Danny who run the café. The drinks are great and the cake is amazing!

As for upstairs, well 'The Upper Room' is still available for private hire as well as church activities. There have been a number of support groups who have also enquired about using it regularly. The future for this fantastic building we have is bright, and the money it brings into the parish is also very welcome!



"By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have LOVE for one another"

JOHN 13.35

PARISH VISION

Living out our faith, rooted in service; embracing everybody equally.

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If you would like to get a short article in the next magazine, please email it to **magazine@kcb.church** before 14th October 2023

Sign up to Rev'd Mike's weekly email newsletter for more church news at **www.kcb.church**