

May 2025 - 60p



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Parish of Whitehaven



WHO'S WHO

Rector

Revd. Alison Dobell Tel. 63937
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Paul Cox Tel. 07845175506
Richard Last Tel. 695418

Reader.

Anna Jones Tel. 691195

Verger.

Dorothy Graham Tel. 693895

PCC Secretaries.

Jane Nicolson Tel. 590803
Donna Flitcroft Tel. 07736643255

PCC Treasurer.

Jane Nicolson Tel. 590803

Organist and Leader of the Choir.

Sigrid H-Leech Tel. 693906

FWO Register and Covenant Secretary.

Jane Nicolson Tel. 590803

Electoral Roll.

Paul Cox Tel. 07845175506

Tower Captain

Richard Last Tel. 695418

Parish Magazine: Editor, Advertising and Distribution

Donna Flitcroft Tel. 599485

Safeguarding Officer.

Donna Flitcroft Tel. 07736643255

PARISH ORGANISATIONS

Mothers Union.

Branch Secretary: Shelia Kelly. Tel. 65154

St. James' Community Centre

Bookings: Jane Nicolson Tel. 590803/07749647534

Email: Jane.nicolson999@btinternet.com

Parish Administrator

Donna Flitcroft Tel. 599485/07927104083

Email: whitehavenparish@btinternet.com

St. Nicholas Centre

Café opening times: Wed, Thurs and Friday– times as advertised.

Parish Website: www.whitehavenparish.org.uk

From the Rectory

Dear Parishioner,

We had a wonderful service on Easter Sunday when we welcomed Bishop James Bell to lead our Easter Sunday Eucharist and confirm seven candidates, all of whom had been preparing for this special event in their Christian journey, over the weeks of Lent. Elsie was also presented by the Bishop with her server's medal in recognition of her faithful service over the last 16 months.

After his resurrection Jesus spends 40 days on earth visiting the disciples at various times. These post-resurrection stories are lovely accounts of how the disciples who at first hid themselves away in the upper room out of fear came to recognise the risen Lord in their midst. On the road to Emmaus, it was only in the breaking of bread that they recognised their travelling companion as Jesus; when the disciples were out fishing and a man on the shore suggested that they put their nets down the other side of the boat and the haul of fish was so large they had trouble holding on to it, then that they recognised the man as Jesus and then he cooks them breakfast. Some thought Jesus might be a ghost, so he asked for some food to prove he wasn't. And as Thomas hadn't been there when Jesus had appeared he doubted, saying he wouldn't believe unless he put his fingers in Jesus' wounds. When Jesus came again, there was no hesitation in Thomas proclaiming him as his Lord and God.

All these encounters gave the disciples confidence, as they realised Jesus had risen from the dead as he said he would and they had the opportunity to spend more time with Jesus, where there wasn't the rush and intensity leading up to Jesus' crucifixion, now there was just time to enjoy each other's company.

So, forty days after the resurrection Jesus told the disciples that he was ascending to the Father and in ten days he would send the Holy Spirit, the Comforter. The one that gives life and energy to the people of God. There was no sign now of the disciples hiding themselves away out of fear. Rather they were preparing to go and make disciples of all nations, baptising in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. And this they did from the day of Pentecost with great energy and enthusiasm.

We are an Easter people, living in the reality of Jesus' resurrection, may we have the energy and enthusiasm to demonstrate to others the love and welcome of God.

I wish you all a blessed Eastertide.

Alison

The Parish of Whitehaven Dates for May 2025

Thursday 1st May

9.30am Holy Communion at St Nicholas

Sunday 4th May – Fourth Sunday of Easter

10am Parish Communion

4pm Evening Service

Tuesday 6th May

1.30pm- 3pm Toddler Group in St James' Community Centre

Thursday 8th May

9.30am Holy Communion at St Nicholas for V.E. Day

Sunday 11th May – Fourth Sunday of Easter Christian Aid Week begins

10am Parish Communion, preacher The Rev'd Ruth Illman

Tuesday 13th May

Mothers' Union meeting at St Nicholas'

Thursday 15th May

9.30am Holy Communion at St Nicholas

Sunday 18th May – Fifth Sunday of Easter

10am Parish Communion

11.30am Family Service

Tuesday 20th May

1.30pm- 3pm Toddler Group in St James' Community Centre

Thursday 22nd May

9.30am Holy Communion at St Nicholas

Sunday 25th May – Sixth Sunday of Easter

10am Parish Communion

Tuesday 27th May

2pm Mission Community Tea Service at St Peter's Community Hall, Kells. (Dementia Friendly)

Thursday 29th May

9.30am Holy Communion at St Nicholas for the Ascension

Every Monday

10.30am to 12.30pm Cuppa & Crack at St Nicholas

High Days and Holy Days for May 2025

1st May - James the Less, quiet son of Alphaeus

One thing for sure: the apostles were not self-obsessed. In fact, many a church historian has wished that they had left us just a few more personal details about themselves in the New Testament. James the Less is an excellent example.

This is the name we give to James the son of Alphaeus, but beyond that, who was he? Sometimes he is identified as the James whose mother stood by Christ on the cross. Sometimes he is thought to be the James who was 'brother of the Lord'. Sometimes he is thought to be the James who saw the risen Christ. He has also, and often, been called the first bishop of Jerusalem. And finally, sometimes James the Less has been thought of as the author of the Epistle of James.

But who really knows? If none of these identifications are correct, we know practically nothing about James the Less. So perhaps on this day we can simply recall 'all' of the James' above, and thank God for the mother who stood by the cross, the brother that supported Jesus, the apostle who saw his risen Lord and gave his life to proclaiming the truth, the first bishop of Jerusalem, and the author of the marvellous Epistle of James. Whether it was one James or several, they were all faithful to Jesus, and proclaimed Him as the Messiah. So perhaps that should make them James the More!

James the Less has been given an unusual iconographic emblem: a fuller's club. Tradition has it that he was beaten to death with one, after being sentenced by the Sanhedrin in AD62. In England there are only 26 churches which are dedicated to James the Less.

8th May - Julian of Norwich, voice from a distant cell

Julian of Norwich was born in 1342 and wrote at the end of the 14th century, when our modern English language was slowly emerging from its origins in Anglo-Saxon and Middle English.

We know little about Julian's early life, but when she was 30, she fell ill and was near death when suddenly her pain left her, and she received 16 visitations. Julian wrote these down, in what became known as the 'short text'. 20 years later she extended this to become her 'long text'.

She was an anchoress – someone who had committed herself to a life of solitude, giving herself to prayer and fasting. St Julian's, Norwich was the church where she had her little 'cell'.

Julian taught that all things depend upon the love of God for their being. Her spirituality was focussed on the cross, and she wanted to share the sufferings of Christ. She believed that humanity is separated from God by sin, but redeemed through Christ, who reunites us with

God. Julian also emphasised Christ as mother, but within a clear Trinitarian understanding of the godhead.

Her masterpiece, *Revelations of Divine Love*, reveals a mystic of such depth and insight that it is still read by many thousands of Christians today. One of the notable features is that her theology determined her experience, rather than the other way round.

She is honoured this month in the Lutheran and Anglican Churches, but although she is held in high regard by many Roman Catholics, her own Church has never felt able to recognise her as a 'saint'. This is probably because she spoke of God as embracing both male and female qualities. *Revelations* is an account of the visions she received in her tiny room, which thousands of pilgrims visit every year.

Her most famous saying, quoted by T S Eliot in one of his poems, is 'All shall be well, and all shall be well, and all manner of thing shall be well.' These words have brought comfort and strength to many a soul in distress.

14th May - Matthias the Apostle, called by lots

Have you ever happened to be in the right place at the right time, with certain qualifications, and suddenly realise that God is singling you out for a special task? If so, Matthias is a good patron saint for you!

In Acts 1 (15 – 26) the apostles had a task to do: Judas had betrayed Jesus and died, and so a new apostle needed to be chosen. He had to have been a follower of Christ from the Baptism to the Ascension, and also a witness of the Resurrection in order to qualify. In the event, the choice fell to one of two: Joseph Barsabas and Matthias.

Lots were drawn, and Matthias was chosen. How confident he must have felt in his calling: what encouragement that would be when the going got rough in later years! Matthias is thought to have ministered in Cappadocia and even Ethiopia. His emblem is usually an axe or halberd, regarded as the instrument of his martyrdom. His supposed relics were translated from Jerusalem to Rome by the empress Helena.

25th May - Rogation Sunday (Sunday before Ascension)

In the Anglican Church, Rogation is celebrated on the fifth Sunday after Easter. Rogation means an asking of God - for blessing on the seed and land for the year ahead. It is appropriate in any emergency, war, plague, drought or foul weather.

The practice began with the Romans, who invoked the help of the gods Terminus and Ambarvalia. In those days a crowd moved in procession around the cornfields, singing and dancing, sacrificing animals, and driving away Winter with sticks. They wanted to rid the cornfields of evil.

In about 465 the Western world was suffering from earthquake, storm and epidemic. So Mamertius, Bishop of Vienne, aware of the popular pagan custom, ordered that prayers should be said in the ruined or neglected fields on the days leading up to Ascension. With his decision, 'beating the bounds' became a Christian ceremonial.

Rogation-tide arrived in England early in the eighth century and became a fixed and perennial asking for help of the Christian God. On Rogation-tide, a little party would set out to trace the boundaries of the parish. At the head marched the bishop or the priest, with a minor official bearing a Cross, and after them the people of the parish, with schoolboys and their master trailing along. Most of them held slender wands of willow.

At certain points along the route - at well-known landmarks like a bridge or stile or ancient tree, the Cross halted, the party gathered about the priest, and a litany or rogation is said, imploring God to send seasonable wealth, keep the corn and roots and boughs in good health, and bring them to an ample harvest. At some point beer and cheese would be waiting.

In the days when maps were neither common nor accurate, there was much to be said for 'beating the bounds.' It was still very common as late as the reign of Queen Victoria. Certainly, parish boundaries rarely came into dispute, for everyone knew them. (Do you know yours today?)

29th May - Ascension Day, 40 Days with the Risen Christ

40 days after Easter comes Ascension Day. These are the 40 days during which the Risen Christ appeared again and again to His disciples, following His death and resurrection. (*Matthew 28; Mark 16; Luke 24; and John 20.*)

The Gospels give us little of Christ's teachings and deeds during those 40 days. Jesus was seen by numerous of His disciples: on the road to Emmaus, by the Sea of Galilee, in houses, etc. He strengthened and encouraged His disciples, and at last opened their eyes to all that the Scriptures had promised about the Messiah. Jesus also told them that as the Father had sent Him, He was now going to send them - to all corners of the earth, as His witnesses.

Surely the most tender, moving 'farewell' in history took place on Ascension Day. Luke records the story with great poignancy: 'When Jesus had led them out to the vicinity of Bethany, He lifted up His hands - and blessed them.'

As Christmas began the story of Jesus' life on earth, so Ascension Day completes it, with His return to His Father in heaven. Jesus' last act on earth was to bless His disciples. He and they had a bond as close as could be: they had just lived through three tumultuous years of public ministry and miracles - persecution and death - and resurrection! Just as we part from our nearest and dearest by still looking at them with love and memories in our eyes, so exactly did Jesus: 'While He was blessing them, He left them and was taken up into heaven.' (Luke 24:50-1) He was not forsaking them, but merely going on ahead to a kingdom which

would also be theirs one day: 'I am ascending to my Father and to your Father, to my God and your God...' (John 20:17)

The disciples were surely the most favoured folk in history. Imagine being one of the last few people on earth to be face to face with Jesus, and to have Him look on you with love. No wonder then that Luke goes on: 'they worshipped Him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy. And they stayed continually at the temple, praising God.' (Luke 24:52,53)

No wonder they praised God! They knew they would see Jesus again one day! 'I am going to prepare a place for you... I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am.' (John 14:2,3) In the meantime, Jesus had work for them to do: to take the Gospel to every nation on earth.

31st May - Mary, the Blessed Virgin, visits Elizabeth

Mary – the virgin mother of Jesus. For centuries, the eastern and western churches have considered her pre-eminent among all the saints.

In the gospels, Mary makes her first appearance as a teenager. Nothing is known of her childhood, and what we do know of her is found mostly in Matthew 1 – 2 and in Luke 1 – 2. If you read both accounts, you'll notice that Luke's account seems to give the story from Mary's standpoint, whereas Matthew concentrates more on Joseph's side of things. In both accounts the virginal conception of Christ is clearly stated. Mary's quiet devotion to God and her total acceptance of His will shine forth.

Her visit to Elizabeth, when both were pregnant, is a moving and poignant account of two humble, ordinary women, suddenly caught up in a great event that would shape world history. Their trusting faith in God and acceptance of His will, shine through.

After Jesus is born, Mary fades into the background, and makes few appearances: when the family visits Jerusalem and she loses her son on the way home; when she urges Him to help the wedding party in Cana with its wine problem; and when Jesus gives her into the keeping of the beloved disciple when He is dying on the cross. Mary's last appearance is in Acts chapter one, just before Pentecost.

Mary obviously joined the early Church, but her role was never one of teaching and preaching, and indeed she remained so much in the background that nothing more about her is known for certain. Both Ephesus and Jerusalem have claimed to be the place of her death.

Mary, chosen to be the mother of Jesus Christ, one who is both God and Man, holds a unique place in the history of mankind. Down the centuries that have followed, the Church has paid special honour to Mary – and well deserved it is. "All generations shall call me blessed..."

Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

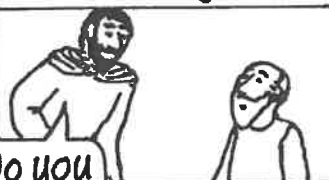
It can be read in the Bible in
John chapter 5 verses 1-18

Jesus was in Jerusalem for a festival, and he visited the pool of Bethesda. People said that an angel sometimes made the water ripple.

Sick people waited for the water to ripple, because they thought that the first person in would be healed.



Jesus went up to a man who had been sick for 38 years.



Do you want to be healed?

I've got no-one to put me in the pool, so I can never get in first.



Pick up your mat and walk!



He was healed! The man picked up his mat and walked around. But it was the Sabbath.

God had given the law that the Sabbath day was a rest day (Ex 20: 8-11)... but to make sure it was kept, the Jewish leaders had made up rules, and then more rules so that anything that even might be work was banned.

The Jewish leaders saw the healed man.



It's the Sabbath! You can't carry a mat, that's 'work'!

The man who healed me told me to carry it.



Which man?

I don't know.

Later, Jesus found the man in the temple.



You are healed now, but don't sin any more, or something worse might happen to you.

Now the man knew who Jesus was...



he went straight back to the Jewish leaders to tell them.

and they went to Jesus



You were working on the Sabbath!

My father, God, doesn't stop working on the Sabbath so I keep on working as well.

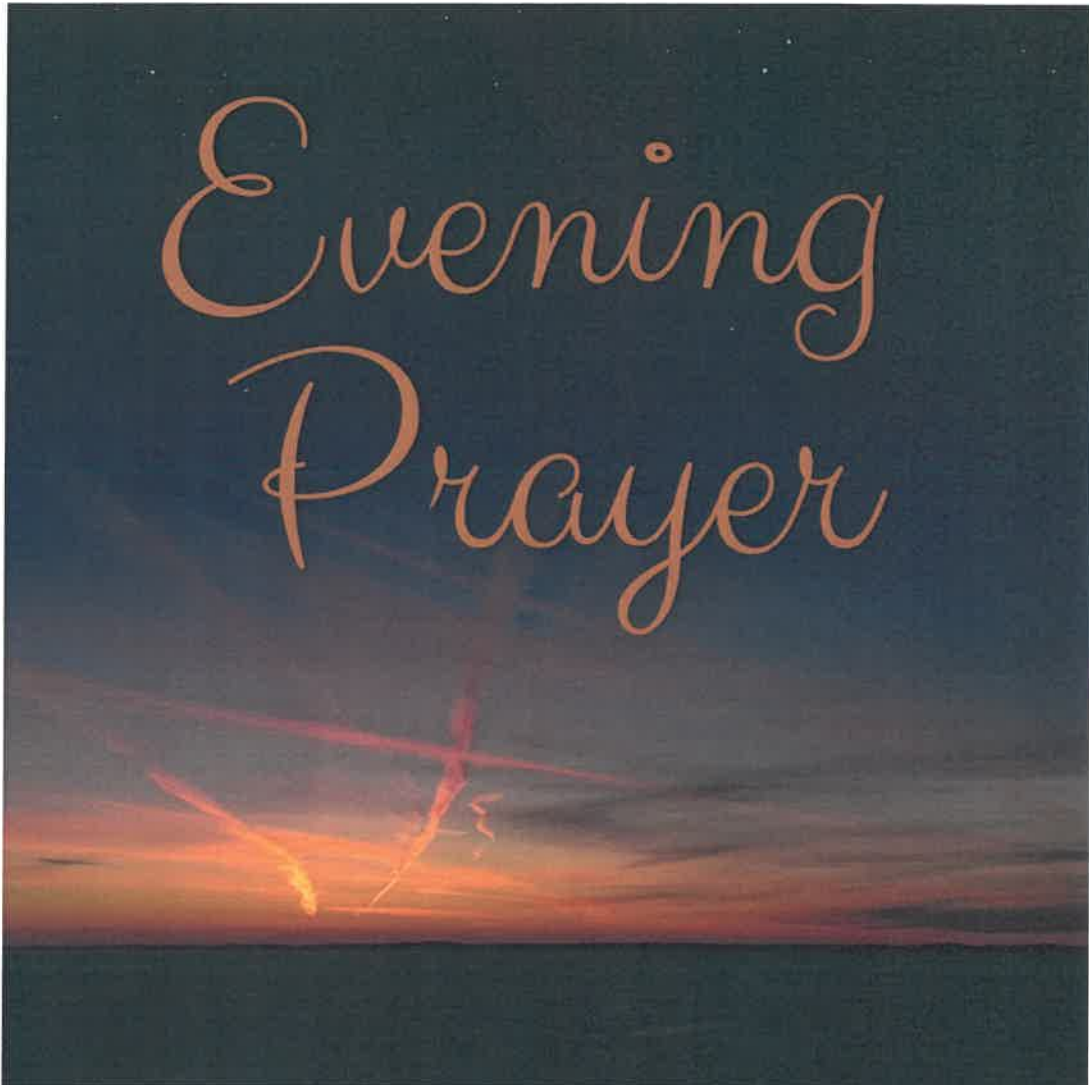
Not only does he disobey our Sabbath rules, but he says he is equal to God!



We definitely have to kill him.

Evening Services at St James'

The monthly Evening Services at St James' will be on the first Sunday of each month at 4pm. Style of services will vary.



May – Evening Prayer led by Rev Dave Flitcroft

June – Evening Prayer for the Visitation of Mary to Elizabeth

July – Evening Prayer led by Rev Dave Flitcroft



"Summer Church"

Monday 9th June

3.30pm to 5.15pm

at

St James' Community Centre

This is the second after school church club for Primary School age children and their parents/carers to come together for a bible story, crafts, games & singing.

Followed by a tea of hotdogs and snacks.

Hope to see you there.

Rev Alison

If you have questions, please email me:

rector.whitehaven@gmail.com

(All children must be accompanied by an adult)

Back in January a letter arrived in a fine quality envelope with a crest mark and the words Buckingham Palace on both front and back. I was sure it was some marketing literature of no particular interest, until it was opened, it informed me that I had been nominated to be a recipient of the annual Maundy Money which was to be presented by HRH King Charles in Durham Cathedral on April 17th I was asked to confirm acceptance.

Of course I was delighted to do so and confirmed immediately. Then followed weeks of emails instructions and security vetting before entry tickets and security passes arrived for both myself and Muriel.

We travelled over to Durham the evening before and met up with other recipients nominated from the Diocese. We made an excited group.

On the day of the Maundy service we were greeted with warm sunshine for the uphill walk to the Cathedral, we had priority entry and were seated just 4 rows away from the Royal party. The Cathedral was full, the service was majestic, the atmosphere was electric. King Charles conversed with each of the recipients. It was a honour and a privilege to be in attendance.

It was also a honour to be nominated by the Diocese via the Parish of Whitehaven (thank you Alison).

I would like say that there are many in the Parish who work tirelessly without any recognition, also a loyal congregation. This presentation is for the whole Parish.

Alan and Muriel.





TAKE 30 SECONDS TO HELP SUPPORT THE PARISH OF WHITEHAVEN



Scan the QR code



The Parish of Whitehaven has at its heart the promotion in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church.

We seek in all we do to fulfil the mission and vision statements of the Parish

Mission Statement:

By God's grace, to grow God's Kingdom in Whitehaven

Vision Statement:

To grow disciples of all ages

The Parish of Whitehaven includes St James' and St Nicholas Church buildings and St. James' Community Centre.

SATURDAY

MAY 17th

9-30 - 12-00

**COFFEE
MORNING**

SAUSAGE ROLL

**With
HOT DRINK**



£5-00

All Welcome

FUNDRAISING RAFFLE

The Goldfinch. (*Carduelis carduelis*)

There can be no doubt that the goldfinch is one of the most colourful of British birds, as can be seen from the accompanying photograph. Only some 12 cms in length, it sports a particularly striking plumage, with its brown back, black and white tail, black wings each with a broad yellow stripe, and a red face, with the rest of the head black and white. The appearance of male and female is the same. In courtship, they can be seen to open and droop their wings and sway from side to side. They have a very attractive “song” and it was for this reason that thousands were trapped in the past for the cage bird trade, while in addition their colourful feathers were taken for the decoration of ladies hats; putting an end to such practices was one of the first aims on the formation of the RSPB. Goldfinches feed on the seedheads of thistles and other tall plants, such as burdock, but they also take insects on which to feed their young. They are very fond of nyger seed, which is provided in appropriate feeders in many gardens. The fact that they prefer small seeds is reflected in the size and shape of their beaks, which are far more delicate than that of most finches. They often feed in flocks, which are known as “charms”. They are partial migrants, in that some prefer to winter on the continent. The goldfinch is a beautiful bird.

Alan Gane.





THE PARISH REGISTERS

Holy Baptism: *God has received you by baptism into his Church. We welcome you into the Lord's family.*

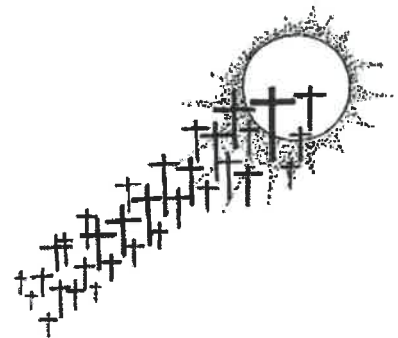
Palm Sunday – 13th April

Joseph Montazeriani, James-Ali Hassani Mehr and Mark-Amin Karamnya Shirazi.

Confirmations

Easter Sunday – 20th April

Joseph Montazeriani, James-Ali Hassani Mehr, Mark-Amin Karamnya Shirazi, John-Hossein Monaramy, Paul-Nader Dilgo, James Muhammad Asif Munir and David Butler Craddock.



Christian Funeral: *Blessed are those who mourn for they shall be comforted.*

Kenneth Jackson 9th June 1940 – 26th March 2025



MOTHERS' UNION -STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Notices: In future the Diocesan News booklet will now be online. Sheila asked if she could have everyone's email so she could send it to us all.

Celia Devine was presented with a gift in celebration of her Golden Wedding Anniversary.

Change of date for May, the meeting will now take place on the original date the 13th.

Our thanks go to Joseph and Ali who very carefully wheeled the television down from Church, it was very funny to see.

The Stations of the Cross, which Revd Alison led, originated in a church in Sussex. It was very different as it was taken from Jesus' Mother Mary's feelings, what she witnessed and how she felt. It was wonderfully illustrated by small wooden carvings, but also incredibly sad as it was very easy to put yourself in Mary's place. We sang two beautiful hymns, one of them There is a Greenhill Far Away again that feeling of sadness. It was good to be among friends unlike poor Mary who seemed to be very much on her own.

We finished with refreshments then waved goodbye to Joseph and Ali as they very carefully wheeled that tv back up to St. James.

The next meeting will be on Tuesday 13th May at 2pm in St. Nicholas.

Jan Whinn



VE DAY 8th May 1945

We hope everyone has enjoyed reading the memories of parishioners from the book that we printed in 2005 on the 60th Anniversary of VE Day. In 1995 in celebration of the 50th Anniversary we printed, in the parish magazine, the memories of two of our parishioners the late Harry and Jennie Wilson. Their memories inspired us for the 2005 booklet.



The Husband's Tale

I was 23 years old, an Able Seaman with the Royal Navy previously on a minesweeper in the Mediterranean and now on a Hunt Class Destroyer, HMS Lamerton, returned from patrols to Harwich. We tied up and half the ship's company were allowed shore leave in celebration, unfortunately I was not in that half. Orders came through to proceed to sea; the ship's company ashore were quickly rounded up (except a dozen who had gone up to London). We went to look for any U Boat or E Boat Commanders who hadn't been informed of Germany's surrender, there was also the Death or Glory Do or Dies who might take a last-minute swipe at the allies. A very long and frightening 48-hour patrol.

The Wife's Tale

I was 21 years old, working seven days a week as an air raid signals operator in the shipyards. I had been married two years and had only seen my husband one day since our wedding. My father owned a pub, The Davy Inn, close to the banks of the River Tyne and all the women from the surrounding streets came to celebrate (there were very few men around). My eldest brother, who ran the pub, wouldn't give any intoxicating liquor to the women, it had to be kept for the men only! So, after the first frenzy of excitement, we all sat quietly along the bar drinking our lemonade. Later my mother and I opened some miniatures, which were a decoration on her sideboard and shared them in

celebration that my husband and four brothers had come through safely.

But of course, there was still the allied forces in the Far East to think of, their victory was yet to come.

Jennie& Harry Wilson, May 1995



BRASS CLEANERS FOR MAY

The Three Musketeers

Maureen Moore, Susan Kitchen and
Val Hinde





Dying crops means food stops.



Join us this
Christian Aid Week
11-17 May

Amelia with her daughter,
Yakelin, beside their dying
banana tree.

Extreme weather is ravaging the farms of Indigenous communities in Guatemala. But with training from our partner, Congcoop, Amelia's beginning to grow resilient crops to fight the effects of the climate crisis.

Donate now to help fund vital agricultural training, so someone like Amelia can protect their children from hunger.



**Please donate
at caweek.org/Donate10
or scan the QR code.**

Thank you



Christian Aid is a UK member of OET. All recipients should check charity no. 1105851. Scot charity no. SC039150. Germany no. 3371535. Christian Aid Ireland: NI charity no. NIC101651. Company no. NI059154 and R01. Charity no. 20314172. Company no. 429924. The Christian Aid name and logo are trademarks of Christian Aid. © Christian Aid January 2025. Photo: Christian Aid/Andy Sheppley J518174

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A Prayer for May 2025

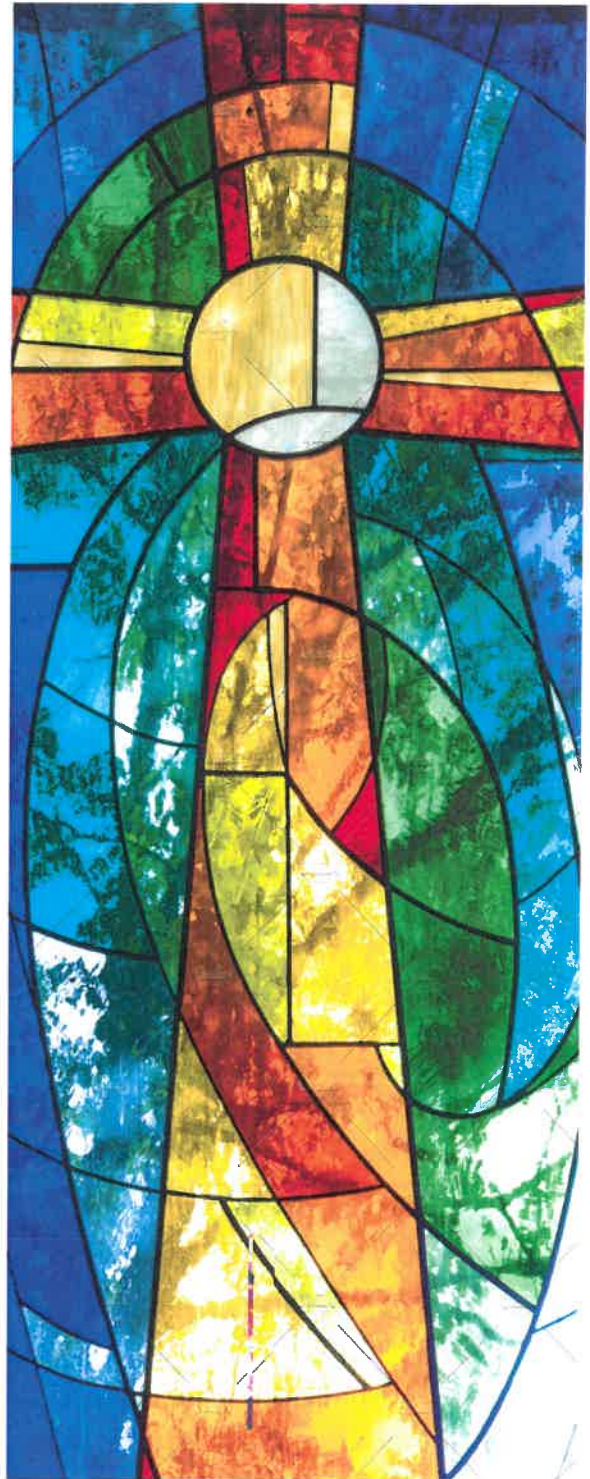
Prayer for Ascension Day

Dear God, our loving, sending and almighty Father, Thank you that because Jesus died, rose and ascended into heaven, You were able to send your Holy Spirit to empower Your disciples then and today. That, equipped by that same Spirit, we can confidently work for Your kingdom to come on earth, as in heaven.

Lord, in these strange, topsy- turvy days, where earthly rulers terrify and destroy and disappoint, we rejoice that You are the Sovereign Lord of all things, and all times, and all places.

You, our God and Father, truly reign. We are Your people. We are secure within Your love and protection. Thank you that at the name of Jesus *every* knee shall ultimately bow – and we pray, thankfully in His name,

Amen.



All in the month of May

It was:

1700 years ago, 20th May to August 325 that the First Council of Nicaea was held in what is now Iznik, Turkey. It was the first ecumenical council of the Christian Church.

1300 years ago, on 26th May 725 that the Venerable Bede died. This English Benedictine monk, historian, linguist, translator and teacher is known as 'the father of English history'. He helped to popularise the idea of dating years from the birth of Christ (*Anno Domini* – AD)

200 years ago, on 7th May 1825, that Antonio Salieri died. An Italian composer, he helped to develop operas and taught composers including Liszt, Schubert, Beethoven and Mozart. He was rumoured to have poisoned Mozart, but this was later proven to be false.

150 years ago, on 1st May 1875 that Alexandra Palace in London was officially opened. It became the home of BBC television in 1935.

125 years ago, on 17th May 1900 that during the Second Boer War, the 217-day Siege of Mafeking was relieved by 2000 British forces and South African volunteers. Colonel Robert Baden-Powell, who led the forces defending Mafeking during the siege, became a national hero, and later founded the Scouting movement.

90 years ago, on 19th May 1935 that T. E. Lawrence (Lawrence of Arabia) died in a motorcycle accident, aged 46. A British Army officer, military strategist, archaeologist and writer, he is best known for his activities in the Middle East during WW1.

80 years ago, on 1st May 1945 that German radio announced the death of Adolf Hitler. It was reported he had died a hero's death fighting, but in fact he had committed suicide.

Also 80 years ago, on 8th May 1945 that VE Day took place – marking Victory in Europe at the end of WW2. It was celebrated as a public holiday.

75 years ago, on 13th May 1950 that the first Formula One World Championship race was held, at Silverstone. (Also known as the 1950 British Grand Prix.)

Also 75 years ago, on 23rd May 1950 that Martin McGuinness, Irish republican politician, was born. A prominent member of Sinn Féin and a former leader of the IRA, he became Deputy First Minister of Northern Ireland until his death in office (2007-17).

60 years ago, on 21st May 1965 that Sir Geoffrey de Havilland, British aircraft designer and engineer, died.

50 years ago, on 12th May 1975 that Jonah Lomu, New Zealand rugby player was born. Widely regarded as one of the greatest players in the sport. Died 2015.

Also 50 years ago, on 27th May 1975 that Dibble's Bridge Coach Crash in Hebden, North Yorkshire took place. 32 people were killed and 13 injured when a coach's brakes failed on a steep hill. It remains the worst road accident in the UK, by fatalities.

40 years ago, on 13th May 1985 that the pop album *Brothers in Arms* by Dire Straits was released. It became the world's most successful album released on compact disc, and the first CD album to sell over a million copies.

Also 40 years ago, on 29th May 1985 that the Heysel Stadium Disaster took place in Brussels. 39 football fans were crushed to death during rioting at the European Cup Final between Liverpool and Juventus.

30 years ago, on 1st May 1995 that the World Health Organisation (WHO) published its first annual survey of global health.

Also 30 years ago, on 10th May 1995 that the British Minister for Northern Ireland, Michael Ancram, met representatives of Sinn Féin. It was their first formal meeting in 23 years, after a ban was lifted.

Also 30 years ago, on 13th May 1995 that British mountaineer Alison Hargreaves became the first woman to reach the summit of Mount Everest unaided (without bottled oxygen or Sherpas.) She died later that year, in August, in a storm, while attempting to climb K2.

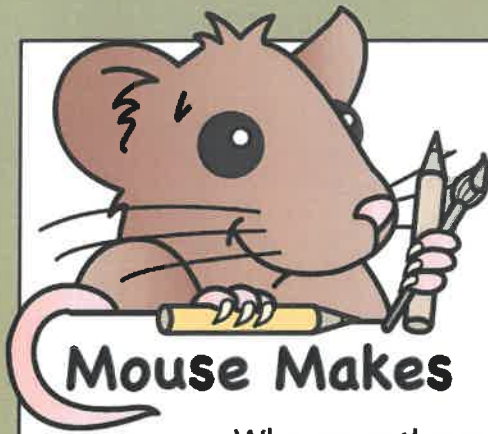
25 years ago, on 4th May 2000 that Ken Livingstone became the first Mayor of London.

Also 25 years ago, on 7th May 2000 that Vladimir Putin was inaugurated as President of Russia.

15 years ago, on 2nd May 2010 that during the Greek debt crisis, the European Union, European Central Bank and International Monetary Fund authorised a three-year 110 billion Euro bailout loan to Greece.

Also 15 years ago, on 6th May 2010 that the British General Election resulted in a hung parliament. A coalition government was formed on 11th May by the Conservative Party leader, David Cameron, and the Liberal Democrat party leader, Nick Clegg.

10 years ago, on 22nd May 2015, that the Republic of Ireland became the first country to hold a referendum on whether same-sex marriage should be legalised. It voted to approve, and same-sex marriage became legal in Ireland from that November.



MIRACLES OF PETER

At which temple gate
did the crippled man lay?

Acts 3:1-10



Who were the man and wife
who lied to God?

and _____

Acts 5:1-11

People carried the sick into
the streets so that when Peter
came by at least his

might fall on them.

Acts 5:12-16

How long had Aeneas
been paralysed for?

_____ years

Acts 9:32-35

Where had Tabitha's body been laid?
in the _____

Acts 9:36-42



"And the word
of God
continued to
increase,
and the number
of the disciples
multiplied
greatly."
Acts 6:7

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

After Jesus
ascended into
heaven, the
Holy Spirit
came upon
the Apostles
and Peter was
able to perform
many miracles
in Jesus' name.
*See the book
of ACTS*



PETER • SIGNS • WONDERS • MIRACLES • HEALED
CRIPPLE • LAME • WALK • LEAPING • PRAISING • LIED • DIED • SICK
AENEAS • PARALISED • TABITHA • ILL • PRAYED • ALIVE

Find the words from the questions too!

May25© deborah noble • parishpump.co.uk

Family Service

MONTHLY

11.30am

At St. James' Church

**Followed by free bacon butties in the
Community Centre**



**A service specially for families with young
children, but all are most welcome!**

18th of May

22nd of June

20th of July

CROSSWORD CLUES FOR MAY 2025

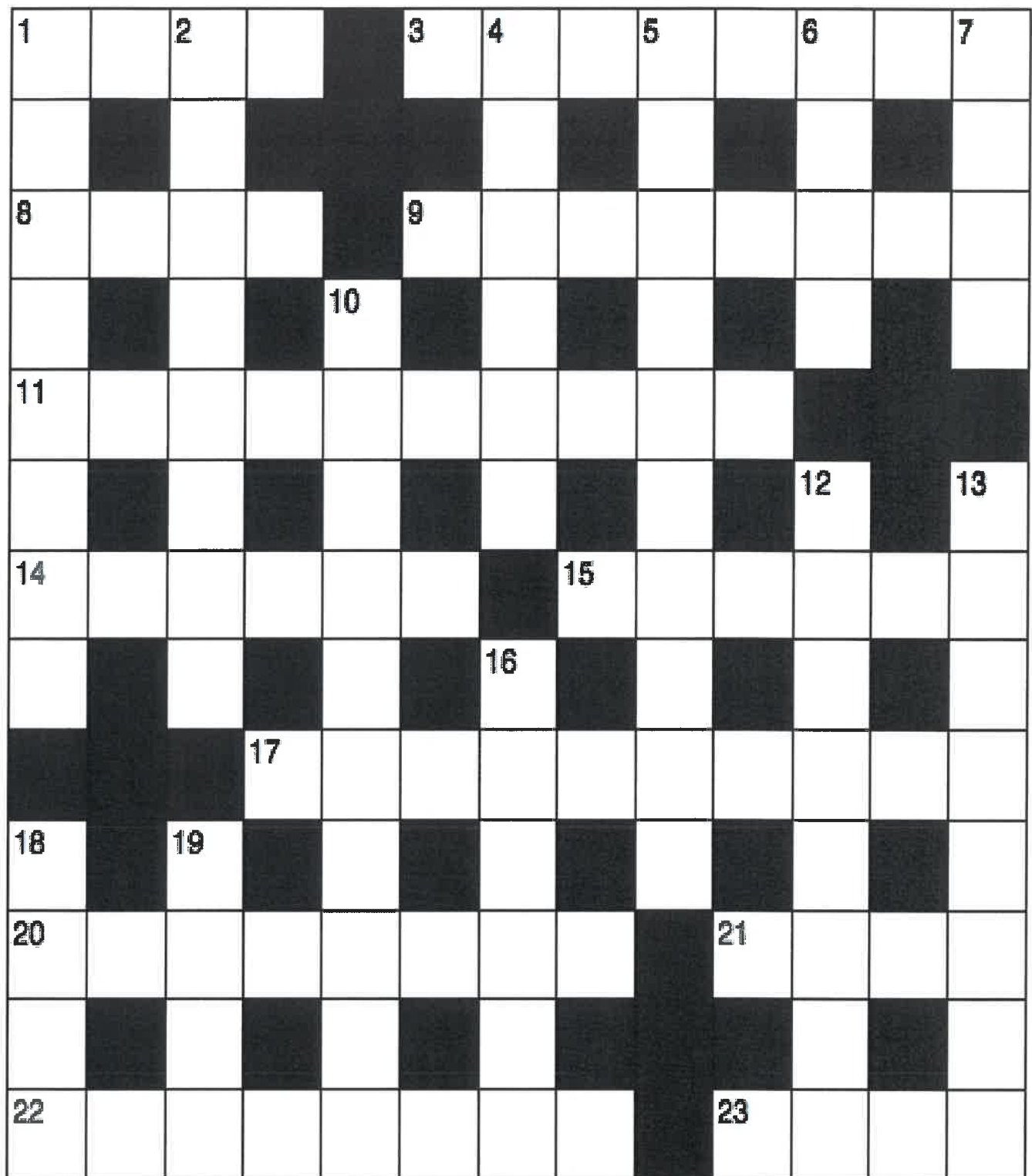
Across

- 1 Infant (Luke 2:12) (4)
- 3 Luis must (anag.) (8)
- 8 What Jesus called the devil (John 8:44) (4)
- 9 'My God, my God, why have you — me?' (Matthew 27:46) (8)
- 11 Anglican form of church government (10)
- 14 'Those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like — ' (Isaiah 40:31) (6)
- 15 Ministers of religion (6)
- 17 Make stronger (1 Thessalonians 3:13) (10)
- 20 Devoutness (1 Timothy 2:2) (8)
- 21 The father of Jesse (Ruth 4:22) (4)
- 22 Pool where Jesus healed a man who had been an invalid for 38 years (John 5:2) (8)
- 23 '[Jesus] said to them, " — here and keep watch"' (Mark 14:34) (4)

Down

- 1 Follower of Christ (Acts 16:1) (8)
- 2 One of the punishments endured by Paul (2 Corinthians 6:5) (8)
- 4 Soldiers (Exodus 14:9) (6)
- 5 Scholarly study of melody, harmony and rhythm (10)
- 6 'I am God, and there is none — me' (Isaiah 46:9) (4)
- 7 'And how can they preach unless they are — ?' (Romans 10:15) (4)
- 10 Favourablereception (1 Timothy 1:15) (10)
- 12 Hip orbit (anag.) (8)
- 13 End of life (Isaiah 22:14) (5,3)
- 16 'About midnight the sailors — they were approaching land' (Acts 27:27) (6)
- 18 He married Jezebel (1 Kings 16:30–31) (4)
- 19 'According to your great compassion — out my transgressions' (Psalm 51:1) (4)

Time for a cuppa and a puzzle!!



If you know of anyone who would like to subscribe to the Parish mag then please contact Donna in the office.

Submissions deadline for the June mag is Monday the 19th of May.

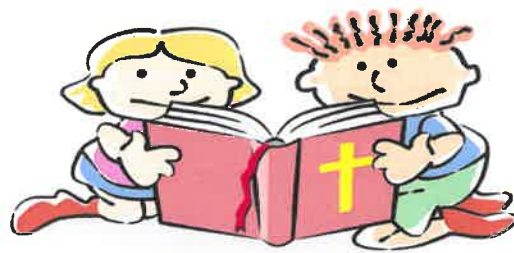
We'd love to hear from you with funny stories, trips down memory lane, recipes, hobbies of interest, celebrations, words of thanks etc etc.

All material needs to be a word document attached to an email.

whitehavenparish@btinternet.com

ST. JAMES TODDLER GROUP

Come join us and be sure of a warm welcome, where everyone can feel relaxed. From the tiniest of babies, right up to those starting school and their carers.



1:30pm to 3pm

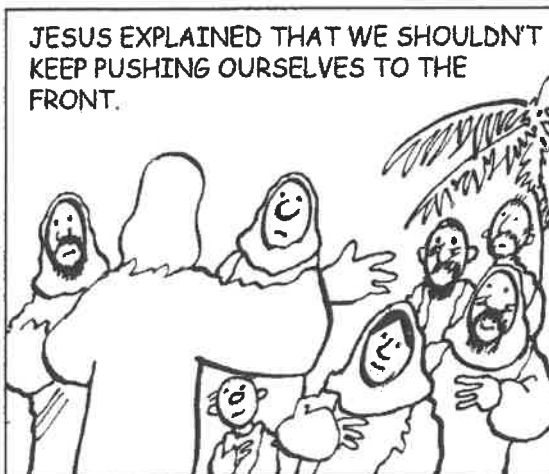
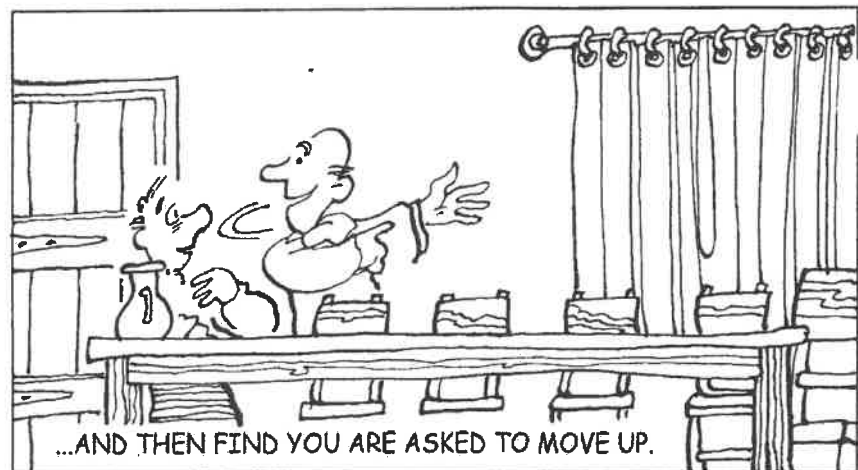
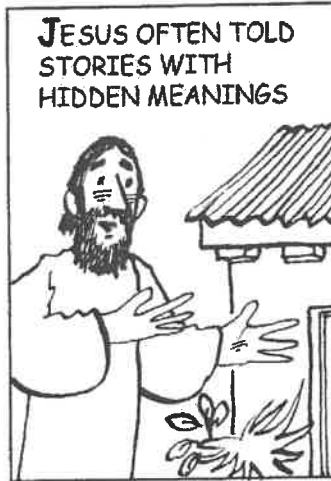
St James' Community Centre
(opposite Church)

6th & 20th of May

3rd & 17th of June

1st & 15th July

(with refreshments)



Remembering VE Day – 80 years on

80 years ago, on 8th May 1945, VE Day took place – marking Victory in Europe at the end of World War 2. It was celebrated as a public holiday, and came exactly a week after German radio announced the death in action of Adolf Hitler.

In reality, Hitler had committed suicide on 30th April. His successor, Grand Admiral Karl Dönitz, quickly negotiated an end to the war with the Allies – at the same time trying with some success to prevent as many Germans as possible from falling into Soviet hands.

Field Marshal Montgomery accepted the unconditional surrender of German forces in the Netherlands, north-west Germany and Denmark at a ceremony near Hamburg on 4th May. All German forces then surrendered to Supreme Allied Commander General Eisenhower on 7th May at Reims, France. Soviet leader Josef Stalin had his own ceremony, in Berlin.

The announcement that the war had ended in Europe was broadcast to the British people by the BBC late on 7th May. It was decreed that there would be a national holiday the next day, and the stage was set for huge celebrations. Prime Minister Churchill had been assured that there was enough beer in the capital, and commemorative items, including VE Day mugs, were quickly produced.

St Paul's Cathedral held ten consecutive services giving thanks for peace, each one attended by thousands of people, and churches throughout the country rang their bells. The Royal Family played a central role, appearing eight times on the balcony of Buckingham Palace while huge numbers of people flocked down The Mall.

In the United States, VE Day coincided with President Harry S Truman's 61st birthday: he dedicated the victory to the memory of his predecessor, Franklin D Roosevelt, who had died of a stroke less than a month earlier. But both Truman and Churchill pointed out that the war against Japan had not yet been won. That final victory was still more than three months away.

Of course, the end of a war could never be neat. In Europe the last known shots on the Eastern Front were actually fired on 11th May, and on 25th May the battle of Odžak ended in a Yugoslav Partisan victory. Tragically, in French Algeria, Muslims celebrating the end of the war (some also peacefully protesting for independence) were “inexcusably” massacred by colonial authorities and militias – leading eventually to the Algerian War nine years later.



Holy Communion
By David Craddack

**We give thanks today and humbly pray
As we break unleavened bread
We drink wine, from the vine
In Holy Communion with God**

**After giving thanks, Jesus broke the bread
“This is my body take it and eat
Do this in remembrance of me”
Until we meet, at Gods mercy seat**

**“This cup is the new covenant, of my blood
Which is shed to forgive your sin”
For all who share this Holy food
A new Covenant will begin**

**With penitence, for our mortal sin,
Our worthiness we prove
To receive the Eucharist within
And Gods, unconditional love**



Confirmations Easter Sunday 2025



The Whitehaven Mission Community Tea Service

The last Tuesday in every month at 2pm
St. Peter's Community Hall, Lakeland Ave, Woodhouse.CA28
9EF

A simple, (but still 'proper church') service of about 30 minutes, with familiar hymns and prayers followed by tea and cakes.

The service is **for all**, but is especially suitable for anyone for whom Sunday morning longer church services are not possible, for whatever reason. All are invited to share the friendly welcome and accepting nature of the gathering. The tea and cakes after the service will bring us together in kind, gentle fellowship and good conversation.

Please do come along; you will be most welcome and we look forward to seeing you.



Dates for your diary all beginning at 2pm

27th May 2025
24th June 2025
29th July 2025
26th August 2025
30th September 2025
28th October 2025
25th November 2025

For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Romans 8:38-39

The Whitehaven Mission Community is a group of churches who are all committed to working together to demonstrate God's love for all in our community. The Salvation Army, Hensingham Methodists, Whitehaven United Reformed Church, St. James' and St. Peter's Church of England Churches will all be involved in leading this service.

Smile-lines

Don't look back

The Sunday School teacher was telling the story of how when Lot's wife looked back at Sodom and Gomorrah, she turned into a pillar of salt. One youngster nodded in a knowing fashion. "My mummy looked back once while she was driving," he confided, "and she turned into a lamp post."

Genesis and politicians

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

"But you forget," interrupted the politician, "somebody had created the chaos first!"

Measuring success

After the local Churches Together meetings had concluded, the four ministers were discussing the results with one another.

The Methodist minister said, "What a success! We gained two new families."

The Baptist pastor said, "We did better - we gained three new families."

The URC minister said: "That's nothing - we gained five new families!"

And the Anglican vicar smiled gently. "We did best of all. We just said goodbye to our 10 biggest troublemakers."

Children's parties

The main benefit of holding children's parties is to remind yourself that there are children out there who are more awful than your own.

Garden produce

A toddler was found in the garden, chewing on a slug. After the initial surge of disgust his mother asked, "Well . . . what does it taste like?" "The worms over there," was the reply.

Aspirin

Had a slight headache this morning but felt much better after following the instructions on the aspirin bottle: 'Take two and keep away from children.'

Open your mouth...

My dentist is also our choir leader at church. He likes the hymn: "Crown Him With Many Crowns."

The story behind the hymn: 'Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks to the Risen Lord'

Not many university students are able to write Christian songs which become worldwide hits, but Don Emry Fishel managed it with his Alleluia No. 1. Nearly 50 years on, it is loved and sung by millions of Christians worldwide.

Fishel wrote it in 1971, while he was a student at the University of Michigan and also music leader of a Roman Catholic charismatic community based in Ann Arbor, Michigan. These were the days of folk songs and guitars, and Alleluia No. 1 fitted the prevailing mood perfectly. Written in E Major, it is ideal for guitar accompaniment.

Mr Fishel became a freelance flutist, flute instructor and composer. He was publications editor for the Word of God and Servant Music for a number of years and then worked in computers for 25 years. In 2008 he moved to Nashville and returned to music, teaching the flute.

Alleluia No 1 was Fishel's first song, written "rather quickly, in about an hour." It had four verses to begin with, but a fifth verse (which became the third verse) was added later, as he prepared for baptism. As Fishel explained, he wanted the line 'We have been crucified with Christ; now we shall live forever' "to be the centre of the song."

Alleluia No. 1 was first published in the UK in Sound of Living Waters, in 1974.

~~~~~  
~~~~~

Barnabas – a very likeable disciple

This month we remember St Barnabas, whose real name was Joseph, a wealthy Levite from Cyprus. However, he was better known by his nickname which means '*Son of Encouragement*' (Acts 4:36). Throughout Acts we see him encouraging others in different ways.

Barnabas was an example of *generous giving* (Acts 4:36-7), when he sold property and offered the money to the church for those in need. In the midst of a caring and sharing community, he was singled out as a symbol of generosity. Are we known as somebody who is generous to those in need around us?

Barnabas later *encouraged a new Christian* in the person of Paul (Acts 9:27). After Paul's conversion and knowing his reputation, Barnabas came alongside him and brought him into the fellowship of the church. Are we ready to help those who are new in the faith to find a place in our church?

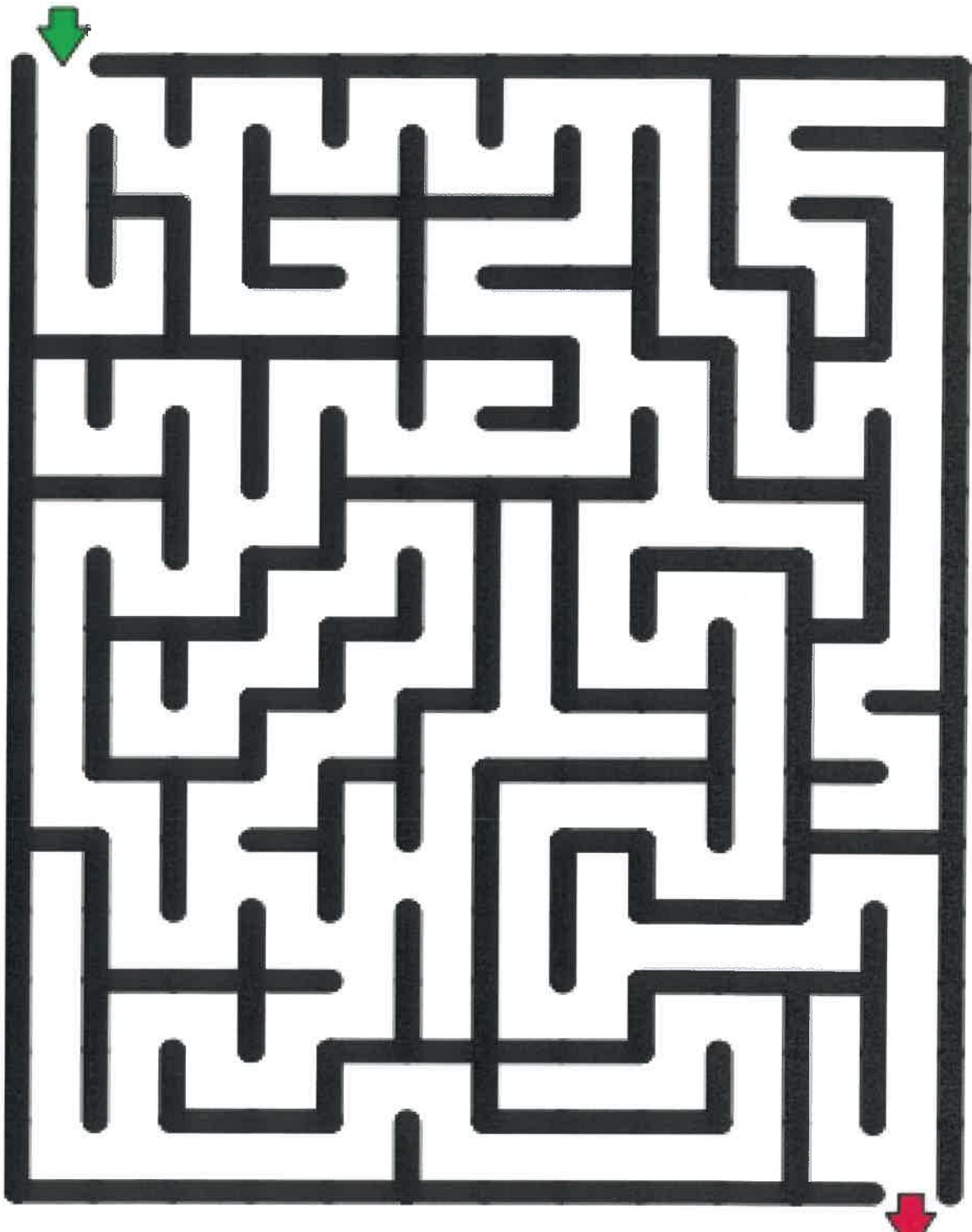
Finally, Barnabas was sent to the church in Antioch where he '*saw the evidence of the grace of God*' (Acts 11:23). It was a church which brought Jewish and Gentile believers together for the first time. Like Barnabas, do we rejoice when we see God doing new things in people's lives? Are we also willing to embrace these things and facilitate change?

Encouragement is one of the spiritual gifts in the New Testament (Romans 12:8). It can be greatly undervalued, but it is crucial in growing the church. Like Barnabas, will we nurture gifting; strengthen the doubters and those tempted to give up; show generosity to God's people and beyond the church; alongside strengthening people to move beyond their own comfort zones to help those in need?

**Answers to the May Crossword
& a maze puzzle to fill a gap...**

ACROSS: 1, Baby. 3, Stimulus. 8, Liar. 9, Forsaken. 11, Episcopacy. 14, Eagles. 15, Clergy. 17, Strengthen. 20, Holiness. 21, Obed. 22, Bethesda. 23, Stay.

DOWN: 1, Believer. 2, Beatings. 4, Troops. 5, Musicology. 6, Like. 7, Sent. 10, Acceptance. 12, Prohibit. 13, Dying day. 16, Sensed. 18, Ahab. 19, Blot.



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Sheila Kelly, Branch Secretary on 65154



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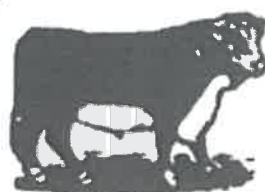
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The Senhouse Centre provides a range of holistic therapies such as yoga, reflexology, homeopathy, counselling and support groups. Room Hire is also available at the Senhouse Centre for more information about the services we provide please call 01946 590122



**For Information please find us at
www.wct-whitehaven.co.uk**



THIS WEEK

TODAY

10am Parish Communion

12 noon Baptisms of Thomas Wilkson & Daisy Mayson

MONDAY

10.30am—12.30pm Cuppa & Crack at St. Nicholas

TUESDAY

2pm Mother's Union Meeting at St. Nicholas

THURSDAY

9.30am Holy Communion at St. Nicholas

SATURDAY

9.30am—12noon Coffee Morning at St. Nicholas

NEXT SUNDAY

10am Parish Communion at St. James

11.30am Family Service at St. James

Christian Aid week starts today. Donation envelopes are available.

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Parish Office: 01946 599485 Email: whitehavenparish@btinternet.com

Alison's regular day off is Wednesday

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