

♦ Trinity Methodist Church ♦ Kidderminster ♦

# Trinity *Tidings*



...all are welcome in this place!

July & August 2022



**TRINITY METHODIST CHURCH  
CHURCHFIELDS, KIDDERMINSTER**

**Church website: [trinitymethodistkidderminster.org.uk](http://trinitymethodistkidderminster.org.uk)**

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**The closing date for items for the  
SEPTEMBER edition  
Of Trinity Tidings is Sunday, 28<sup>th</sup> August, 2022**

**Please email articles, preferably as a Word Document to:  
[arleystation@aol.com](mailto:arleystation@aol.com)**

Thanks to John Harris for designing the front and back covers,  
and to Jon Skitt for putting the magazine online each month.

## Happy Holidays.

Dear Friends,

As I write these words, as a nation we are coming to the end of mental health awareness month. For the past two years we have been on a rollercoaster of emotions with fears over the pandemic, fears over job security and the rising costs in the economy and fears over the war in Ukraine. All of these things have led many people to be extremely worried and it has affected their own mental health. As a nation we are really struggling and we need to re-learn ways to encourage, support and check in with each other.

I am sure that many of us, with the lifting of all the covid restrictions earlier this year, are thinking about the various holidays we hope to take this year. And I hope that they will be restful experiences for you and that as you travel God will keep you safe. May this holiday period be a joy for us all.

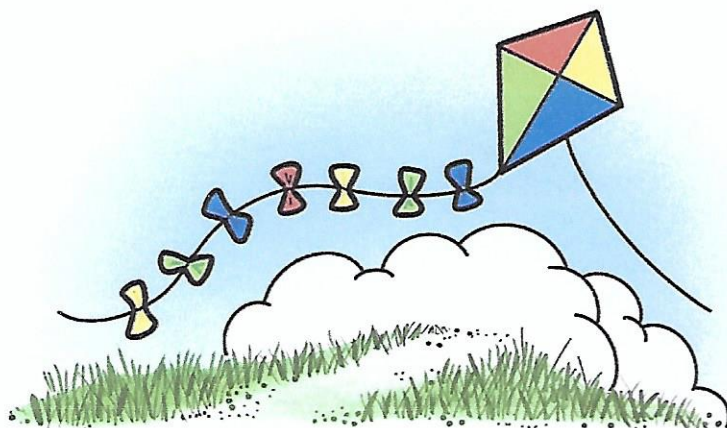
As I was thinking about what I could write this month I was reminded of a beautiful children's book by Nicholas Allan called "Jesus' day off" that I think highlights the importance of rest and self-care.

In this story Jesus gets fed up with God his Father because he seems to be working all the time, healing the sick, preaching that the kingdom of God is hand, and teaching his disciples, without ever having a day off. And so he says to God that he has had enough. He is going off on his own to do what he wants to do for a change. His Father doesn't argue and so Jesus spends the next day doing various things like playing computer games with children he meets, playing football in the park, having a meal out with his family and so on. But as his day off goes on it becomes apparent that he has been doing more good and sharing more of God's love than he was whilst he was working and exhausted, and by the end of his day off more people have been touched by his ministry.

I think in this quiet period of the church's year, when we're all feeling exhausted and wanting time off, that we can do as much good as Jesus' disciples when we're resting as when we're busy, busy, busy. We all need to be caring of ourselves if we're to care for others and I wish you all a very happy holiday.

Yours in Christ,

Andrew





# PRAYER CORNER

We remember in our prayers Liz potter, Les Fuller, Lyn Jones, Margot Stanton, Betty Norman, Ruth Palmer, Anne Perkin, Loree Napier, those on the Prayer Vine and all those we know who need the love, comfort and the knowledge of Christ's presence with them.



During the months of July and August, please join in prayer and remember the people and places, in the areas of Kidderminster, as named below.

## Foley Park

## July

Churches - Foley Park, Holy Innocents

Foley Park and Sutton Park Schools and Nurseries.

Retail and Businesses

Brinton Park

Residential Homes

## Birchen Coppice

## August

Birchen Coppice School and Nursery

Retail Units and manufacturing

Industrial Trading estates

Wyre Forest Leisure Centre

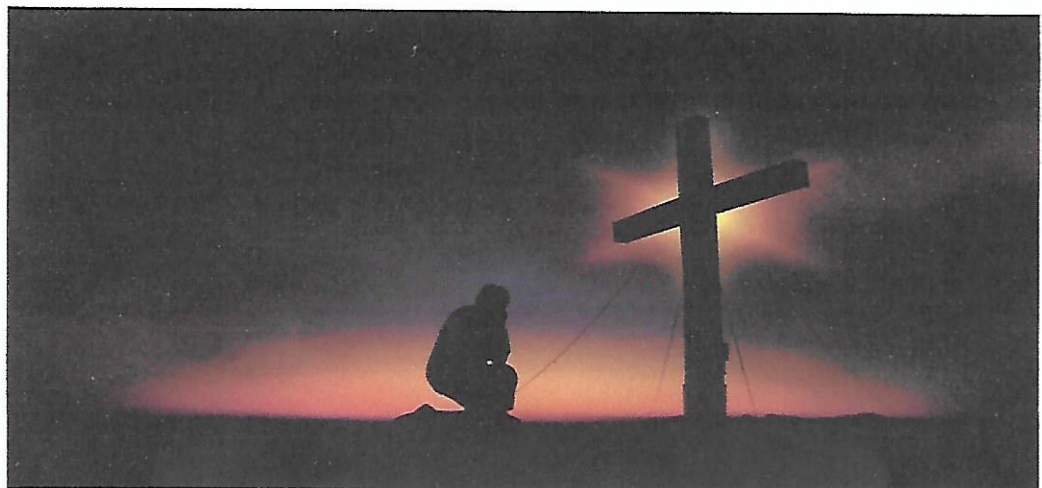
St Peter's RC Church

W.F. District Council Head Office

Residential Homes

Wyre Forest Crematorium

Fire and Rescue Headquarters





## From the Editor...

Dear Friends,

June has gone and we are now into summer, but what has happened to the long lazy summer days that I remember when I was much younger? I remember as a child breaking up for the long summer holiday when it seemed that the days would stretch on for ever. It was always sunny and warm and the group of friends in my street would have bottle of pop and some jam sandwiches and spend all day in the local park. We climbed the trees, until the park keeper spotted us, then we ran for it. We paddled in a small stream, and we tried to catch tiddlers to take home in a jam jar. Summers then were long, warm and sunny -or were they? Is this one of the tricks that memory plays on us as we get older, but then we were only children. We played out in the street until it was nearly dark, playing hopscotch, hide and seek, and cowboys and Indians. We always looked to see if the street gas lights had come on, and if not we would give them a good kick, and it sometimes worked! There was very little traffic, only the milkman with his horse and cart in the morning and the binmen once a week. Most of what was in the bin was ashes from the coal fires. The postman always walked his round and the delivery was early in the morning. There were often two deliveries a day so it was a long day for the postman.

People didn't move house as often, so we got to know everybody at 'our end' of the road. It seems to me, looking back to have been a very happy childhood. We always had two treats in the summer holiday: a trip to Dudley Zoo, and a day in Birmingham. We could then go up in the lift on to Lewis's roof, from where there was a good view over Birmingham. We thought we had gone to the top of a skyscraper! And a special Christmas treat to go again to Lewis's department store to visit Father Christmas in his fantastic grotto.

Dad had one week's holiday in the summer, although it soon changed to two weeks and we used to go and stay with Dad's cousins in Shropshire. To me, it was a wonderful paradise with new places to explore. Incidentally those years were the first times I travelled on the train from Smethwick Junction to Ironbridge and Broseley. Train ran up the line which is now the Severn Valley Railway. Who would have thought that now I would be working on the same railway and living in one of the Station Master's houses? So not only does our memory have a golden glow, but life also has its unexpected twists and turns. Happy days, and happy memories.

With that, I will go and put the kettle on, it will be electric, and I will use a mug, but at least it will be made in a teapot, and poured when properly brewed!

David







Luncheon Club  
Platinum Jubilee  
Lunch.



Jonathan at his  
Care Home  
was delighted to  
receive flowers  
from Trinity.



### Offertories for the past five weeks are as follows

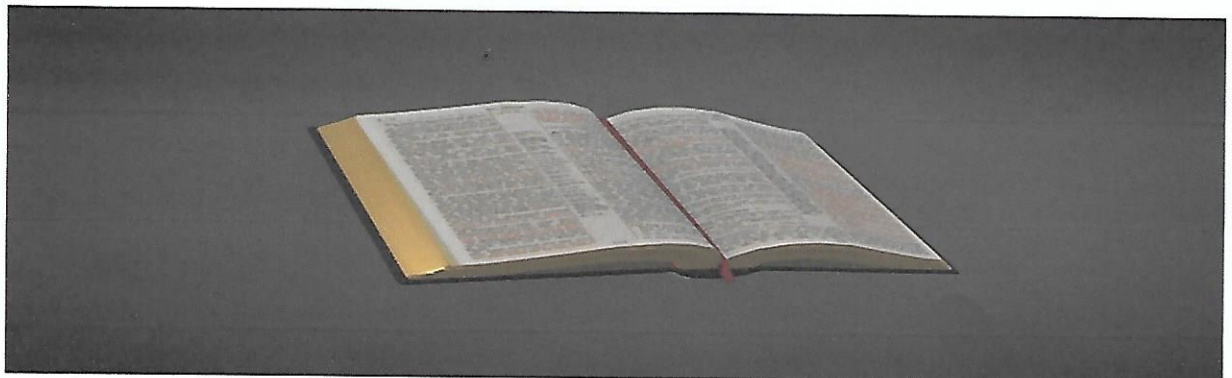
	Envelopes	Loose Cash	Standing Orders	Total
	£	£	£	£
29.05.22	246.00	50.00	628.20	924.20
05.06.22	195.00	60.00	735.25	990.25
12 & 19.06.22	326.50	122.50	1470.50	1919.50
26.06.22	135.00	31.20	735.25	901.45

In this current church year it is estimated that offertories of £1200 per week will be required to break even.

\* \* \* \* \*

### SERVICES IN JULY & AUGUST

July 3 <sup>rd</sup>	10.30am	Rev Sue Levitt – Holy Communion
	6.30pm	Mr Phill Bridgewater
July 10 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Mrs Sue Green – Together with Baxter
	6.30pm	Rev Andrew Mann-Ray – Praise Service
July 17 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Mr Ray Simpson
	6.30pm	Mr Albert Wilkinson – Café Worship
July 24 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Mr Phill Bridgewater
	6.30pm	Rev Sue Levitt
July 31 <sup>st</sup>	10.30am	Rev Nick Collison – Holy Communion
	6.30pm	Rev Nick Collison – Healing Service
Aug 7 <sup>th</sup>	10.10am	Rev Peter Levitt
	6.30pm	Mrs Sue Stinton
Aug 14 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Rev Mann-Ray – Together with Baxter
	6.30pm	Rev Nick Collison – Café Worship
Aug 21 <sup>st</sup>	10.30am	Mr David Skitt
	6.30pm	Rev Peter Levitt
Aug 28 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Mr Albert Wilkinson
	6.30pm	Mr David Skitt





**Churches Together in Kidderminster  
Invites you to...**

# **A Praise Service**



**On Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> July 2022  
At 6.30pm at Trinity Methodist Church**

**Speaker: Revd Shaun Armstrong  
(from Kidderminster Ismere Team Ministry)**

***Hosted by Trinity Methodist Church & Baxter  
United Reformed Church***





These are some events which the Social Committee is arranging for the next few months.

## CHRISTIAN AID MORNING

September 10<sup>th</sup>.

Come and support Christian Aid

Enjoy BRUNCH.....

Freshly cooked bacon or sausage sandwich, tea or coffee on sale.

## CHRISTMAS FAYRE

November 19<sup>th</sup> from 10.00 am

Stalls available at £5

Father Christmas will be in his Grotto with presents for the children.

## HIGHLEY BRASS BAND CONCERT

Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> December

7.00 pm

Admission by ticket, for which you are asked to make a donation.

## REINDEER DRIVE (A Festive Beetle Drive!)

Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> January

11.00 am

Fish and Chips, or Sausage and Chips at 12.00 pm

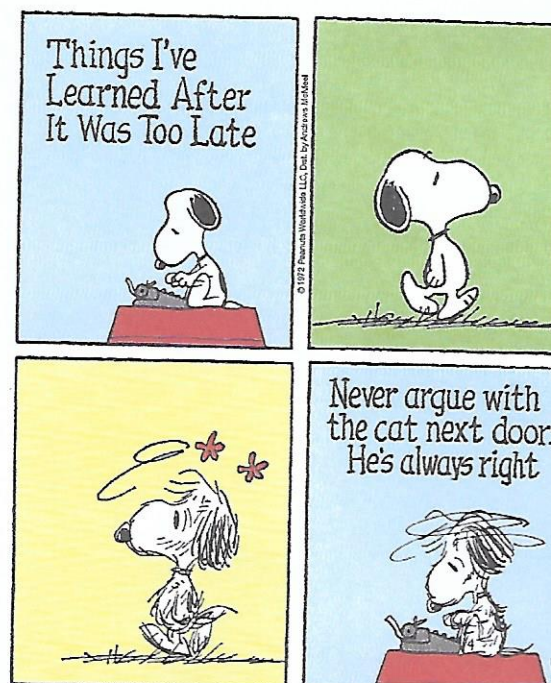
There are two other things to be arranged, one is a visit to Arley Arboretum in October, and the other is to compile a TRINITY RECIPE BOOK. Details of these will be published later



## A word Quiz

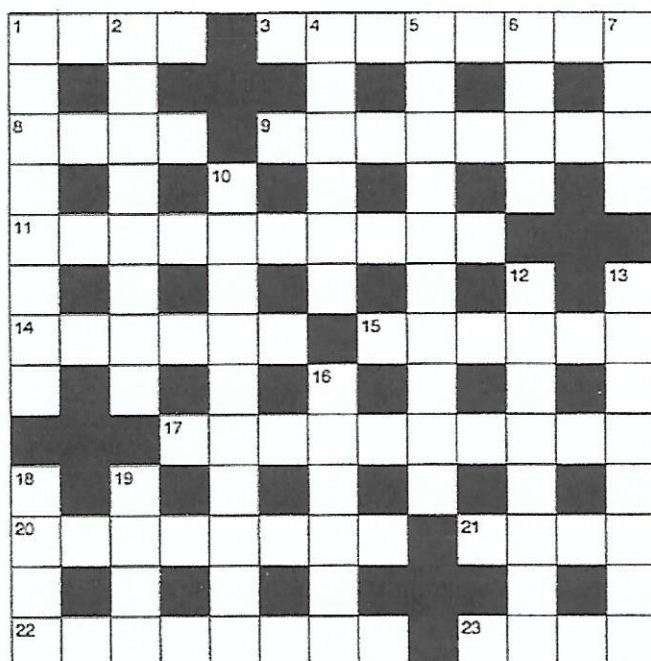
How good is your spelling? Here is a list of commonly mis-spelled words. Twenty of them are correct, but 12 are wrong. Do you know which they are?

1. accomadate
2. harmful
3. deceitfull
4. calendar
5. aquire
6. apparent
7. colleague
8. conscientous
9. consensus
10. entrepreneur
11. ocurrence
12. fulfil
13. indispensible
14. liasion
15. maintenance
16. necessary
17. occasion
18. pastime
19. priviledge
20. receive
21. recommend
22. referred
23. relevant
24. seperate
25. successful
26. underate
27. withhold
28. address
29. arguement
30. basically
31. cemetery
32. experience





## Parish Pump Crossword



## Sudoku puzzle

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

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### Across

- 1 Proverbs describes her as being 'of noble character' (Proverbs 31:10) (4)
- 3 'Shall we go up again — — against the Benjamites, our brothers?' (Judges 20:23) (2,6)
- 8 A descendant of Shem (Genesis 10:28) (4)
- 9 'Anyone who does not carry his cross and follow me cannot be my — ' (Luke 14:27) (8)
- 11 Resentment(Ephesians 4:31)(10)
- 14 In Cain(anag.)(6)
- 15 'Such knowledge is too wonderful for me, too lofty for me to—' (Psalm 139:6) (6)
- 17 Intense (1 Thessalonians 4:5)(10)
- 20 Third Order of the Roman Catholic Church(8)
- 21 'At midnight the cry rang out, "Here's the bridegroom!Come out to — him"' (Matthew 25:6) (4)
- 22 'My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in — ' (2 Corinthians 12:9) (8)
- 23 'As the — pants for streams of water,so my soul pants for you, O God' (Psalm 42:1) (4)

### Down

- 1 Nickname of popular First World War chaplain, the Revd G.A. Studdert Kennedy, — Willie (8)
- 2 Occasion of religious joy (Lamentations 2:22) (5,3)
- 4 'We three kings of — are' (6)
- 5 Allegation or charge (Jude 9) (10)
- 6 Kind (1 Chronicles 12:33) (4)
- 7 'Open your — and look at the fields!' (John 4:35) (4)
- 10 Also known as the Feast of Lights (John10:22)(10)
- 12 Area that saw the healing of two demon - possessed men and a herd of pigs stampeding to their deaths (Matthew 8:28) (8)
- 13 Forebear(James2:21)(8)
- 16 Name given to the first two books of the Apocrypha(6)
- 18 Esau sold his birthright for this (Genesis25:34)(4)
- 19 Rear(anag.)(4)



## What is life?

“When you walk through a storm hold your head up high”. And this is true of all the followers of God. Paul found his on the way to Damascus, Brother Lawrence found his living Christ in his kitchen and of course John Wesley found his in a room in Aldersgate Street in London. We have come to know the way to live in Christ in many different ways. What you have to remember is to believe in Christ at your own level. Don’t expect a vision on your own road to Damascus, enjoy your own special experience. It’s a long, long road from which you don’t have to return, find your way. The joy of Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever and this is the anchor you need in today’s ever-changing world. The fulness of life comes only through Jesus.

Never close your eyes to fresh ideas pertaining to God. You may deny Him but when you turn again to Him, He pours out His love. Love so pure you can’t reject it. God is not far from us all, for in Him we live and move and have our being. Should we be getting lax in our ways, we can be reborn. To quote a song from ‘Les Mis’ “when I lose my way, I close my eyes and he has found me”. Let the thought that “God loves me” dominate your mind, God really does care for you. Find strength and comfort in this fact, as the hymn says “Love divine, all loves excelling”.

In order for you to live a life of peace and contentment it is vital that you have a pathway to God in your life. Let Jesus guide you through your day and night. That of course started with our baptism, but it will continue through prayer, the taking of the communion wine and listening to our preachers. OK, in the Old Testament God authorised the killing of many people, but The New Testament was to give us hope. The New Testament changed it, lives touched by Jesus followed Him and we can flourish from it. St. Irenaeus wrote “The Glory of God is a human being fully alive”. You have just one life, please live it.

*Mike*

(Mike Knott, Stourport Wesley)

## In Reflection

Of all the people in the Bible many of them are just mentioned once and then forgotten about, one of these is Joseph of Arimathea. There are over a dozen Josephs in scripture. Most famous of course is the one with a coat of many colours, then comes the carpenter father of Jesus, but don’t forget Joseph of Arimathea.

When people were crucified they would normally remain upon the cross for ever, they were just left to die and their bodies were left to rot, being attached by birds and other animals, they were never taken down. On the evening that Christ was crucified, Joseph of Arimathea was to cause a unique event. He went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Pilate could see nothing wrong in this, although it was unusual. He didn’t believe Christ was dead so quick, so he sent a soldier to investigate. Christ was certified dead and Joseph was allowed to take His body off the cross. We wrapped it in a cloth and placed it in a cave. If He had been left on that cross would Jesus have risen from the dead? Would He have got a ladder and climbed down? Or would He have taken a stairway to Heaven? Thanks to Joseph of Arimathea we got Jesus Christ and the start of Christianity. So when you hear the Easter story, just have a quick prayer for Joseph of Arimathea. Yes, he had God on his side but he gave us Jesus.

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It's a small village in Bavaria with the beautiful name of Oberammergau. The population is under 5000 but it's one of the most famous names in the world, simply because every 10 years it holds a Passion Play.

In the 17<sup>th</sup> century, a great plague hit the world, it was known as the Black Death. In 1634 the people of Oberammergau prayed to the Lord "spare us from death" they said "and every 10 years we will put on a play in your honour". Nobody died and every 10 years (it was rounded to '00') they put on a passion play, except during the war. At least 1500 of the population take part and it includes sheep, donkeys, chickens etc. Although they missed the plague they couldn't avoid Covid and the 2020 play was postponed. However, it's back, currently running for 110 shows, although 2 years late. Now, they don't use make up or wigs. Men grow their hair and beards a year in advance. Those playing Jesus and the disciples have been in limbo, walking around with hair to their waists and beards to their toes, what a Pandemic. (I joke!) They're back and Jesus is once again on the cross. As they say, "you can't keep a good man or Passion Play down".

~~~~~

It's the Platinum Jubilee but where does the National Anthem come from. Although it's God Save the Queen it was originally God Save the King; it comes from 1 Samuel 10 v24 and it refers to Saul. Usually it comes as "Long Live the King" and it is mentioned several times in the Bible. (See 2 Samuel 16, 2 Kings 11 and 2 Chronicles 23). The tune is actually a bit obscure, but let's face it it's not bad. The first performance was in 1745 at Drury Lane when God Save the King was loudly sung. I'm surprised Charles Wesley didn't have a hand in it. Great to see our Queen as Head of The Church of England, wonder if she knows where her anthem originated. (Perhaps she likes The Sex Pistols version!).

*Mike*

### **Mike's Smile Lines – Definitions**

Mushroom - A place where Eskimos train their dogs.

Dogma - Mother of puppies

Signature tune – Song of a young swan

Vice Versa - Obscene poems.

Catacomb - Comb for a cat

Bacteria - Backdoor of a cafeteria

Old times - What Historians talk about when they meet.

Archive - Where Noah kept his bees.

Fly paper -- used for making kites.

Woe - Command to stop a horse.

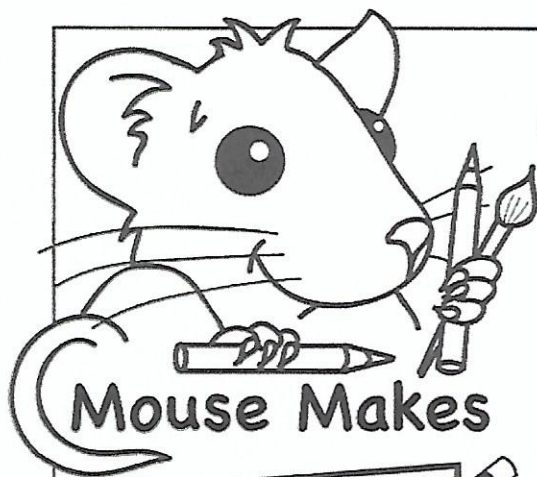
Parasite - sightseeing in Paris

Minimum - Mother under 4 ft. tall

Important - Foreign insect

Net - Holes joined together with string





Cross out all the X  
to find the bible verse:

NXOXWXTXHXERXEXA  
XRXEXMXAXNXYOXT  
XHXEXRXTXHXIXNXGX  
SXTXHXAXTXJXEXSXU  
XSXDIXDX.WXEXRXEXE  
XVXEXRXYXONXEXOXFX  
TXHXEXMXTXOXBEXW  
XRXIXTXEXNX,IXSXU  
XPXPXOXSXETHXAXTX  
TXHXEXWXOXRXLXDXI  
TXSXEXLXFCXOXUXLD  
XNXOXTXCXOXNXTXAI  
XNXTXHXEXBOXOXKXS  
XTXHXAXTXWXOXULX  
DBXEXWXRIXTXTXEXN  
X.JXOXHXNX2X1X:2X5X

What did Jesus turn  
water into?



John 2:1-11

Who's mother-in-law  
did Jesus heal?

Matthew 8:14-15

How did Jesus get out  
to the disciples  
in the boat?



Matthew 14:22-27

Who did Jesus raise  
from the dead?

John 11:38-44



How long had the  
woman at the synagogue  
been disabled?

— — years

What did she do after  
she was healed?

Luke 13:10-13

Who did Jesus  
heal when his ear  
was cut off?

Luke 22:47-51

DID YOU KNOW?

Jesus fed thousands  
of people from a  
few loaves and fish,  
... not once but twice!

READ  
Matthew 14:13-21  
AND  
Matthew 15:32-39



In each story...  
How many loaves  
and how many fish  
did Jesus have?

How many people  
were fed?

How many baskets of  
broken pieces were  
left over?



DID YOU KNOW?

There  
are over

37

miracles of Jesus  
recorded in the Gospels.

How many of them  
do you know?

Find these words  
in the word search

JESUS • MIRACLE

DEAF • HEAR • BLIND • SEE

PARALYSED • WALK • SICK

HEALED • DEAD • RAISED

MUTE • SPEAK • DEMONS

CAST OUT • STORM

CALMED • WATER • WINE

FISH • MULTIPLIED

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



# Bible Bite

## A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in  
Luke chapter 2 verses 41 to 51

Every year Joseph and Mary went to Jerusalem  
for the Passover festival with their family  
and friends. This year Jesus was twelve.

The women and children went  
in front to set the pace



Next year, Jesus, you'll be walking  
at the back with the men.

The Passover feasting  
lasted eight days...



..and then they set  
off for home again



but without Jesus.

Mary and Joseph didn't find  
out until the evening



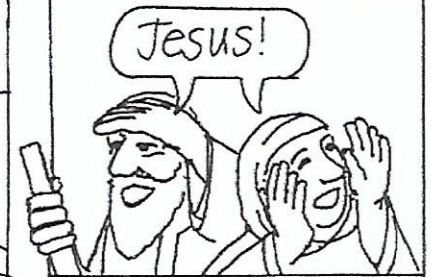
I thought he was with you!

So they walked back to  
Jerusalem and started  
searching for Jesus....



Sorry, I haven't seen him.

..and the next day,



then on the third day

they went to the temple



He was talking with the  
teachers.



You must be very proud  
of your clever son



But Mary was not happy.

How could you treat your  
father and I like this?



Didn't you know I'd be here?



I needed to be where my  
birth father, God, is working.

Mary thought about  
this all the way home



...and all her life.



### **What do we really know about Mary Magdalen?**

Fake news is not new. Perhaps one old example is the assertion that Mary Magdalene was a prostitute. Back in the 6th Century, Pope Gregory is said to have confused her with two other women in the Bible. Medieval Bible scholars also attempted to name an unidentified sinful woman who had washed and anointed the feet of Jesus. As Mary Magdalene is mentioned in the next chapter, they regarded her as the same person! After this, many classical artists painted Mary in various states of undress, perpetuating a falsehood.

So what do we really know about Mary? The Gospels tell us that she came from Magdala, a town in Galilee, and Jesus healed her by casting out seven evil spirits. After this she followed Jesus, with other women, on His ministry providing resources. Later, Mary watched Jesus die on the cross, and having cared for His needs while He was alive, wanted to care for Him after His death.

It was when Mary went to anoint the body of Jesus at the tomb that the risen Jesus appeared to her. He told Mary to go to His disciples and tell them about His return to Heaven. She was obedient and became the first emissary of the resurrection. In those days, the witness of a woman was worthless. Despite ridicule, Mary had the courage to speak about Jesus in a place of great disbelief. We have to ask ourselves do we have the same courage as Mary? How prepared are we to stand our ground to share Jesus with others in the face of those who mock and scoff at us?

Although we usually associate Mary with the Easter story, this month on 22<sup>nd</sup> July, the Church celebrates her Feast Day. In this snapshot of Mary's life we know she had experienced great distress and suffering. After Jesus healed her, Mary expressed her gratitude by being utterly committed and devoted to Him.

Jesus can give everyone a new start; a new purpose and direction in life. Like Mary we can thank Him for blessing us, loving us and forgiving us and moving into practical forms of service. Only Jesus can transform our lives so that we can glorify God in all that we do.

*Parish Pump 2022*

### **Showers of blessing, by Lester Amann**

According to British folklore, if it rains on 15<sup>th</sup> July, then we can expect 40 days of showery and stormy weather. This myth arose after the buried remains of St Swithun (Swithin) was removed from its original site in a church garden and taken into a Saxon cathedral.

Swithun was an Anglo-Saxon Bishop of Winchester. During his decade in office, he was known for his devotion and passion to build new churches and to restore old ones.

Before he died on 2<sup>nd</sup> July 863 AD, he didn't want any veneration of his tomb and requested that his body be simply interred in the church grounds. He wanted people to pass by his grave and for it to be touched by the weather.

So far so good. But – a century later, it was decided to move Swithun *inside*, into the refurbished basilica. From that day it rained every day for nearly six weeks – as if this was his displeasure at being moved!

The Bible mentions rain (and water) many times. These include the great flood and Noah's Ark (Genesis 7); Ezra's open-air public assembly in Jerusalem in the pouring rain (Ezra 10:9) and the parable by Jesus about two houses in a rainstorm (Matthew 7:24-27).

Over the centuries, hymn writers have also used water and rain to describe our need for God. They've used such phrases as *I need You ....like refreshing summer rain* and *Father, like rain from the skies send Your word into our lives*. Some hymns include rain as a metaphor for the Holy Spirit to come and refresh, restore and revitalise us; to cleanse us of our sins or to wash away our sorrows.

Here are two verses and the chorus from an old hymn written by Daniel W. Whittle (1840-1901) that reminds us that when overwhelmed with gloom and despair, God can and will pour new hope into our lives.

*There shall be showers of blessing, this is the promise of love;  
There shall be seasons refreshing, sent from the Saviour above.  
There shall be showers of blessing, O that today they might fall,  
Now as to God we're confessing, now as on Jesus we call!*

*Showers of blessing, showers of blessing we need;  
Mercy-drops round us are falling, but for the showers we plead.*

*Parish Pump 2022*

*The Revd Richard Higginbottom looks at the seashore.*

#### **A sermon in sand**

If you are fortunate enough to get to the seaside this summer, then you might like to wriggle your toes in the warm sand, and consider the following:

It has been said that there are more stars in the universe than there are grains of sand on all the beaches in the world. More recently, as the estimated number of stars has increased, then even the grains of sand in all the world's deserts have been added to the comparison!

The Sun, vast though it is, is a fairly ordinary star, 93 million miles away. It is not easy to grasp that sort of a distance, but here's a measuring stick: if you were to fly in a fast passenger jet at 600 miles per hour, then it would take you about 17 hours to fly from London to Sydney; about 17 days to reach the Moon, and about 17 years to reach the Sun!

As for how long it would take to fly on to the next nearest star to us – Proxima Centauri – it would take about 4.2 light years, as the distance is more than 24 trillion miles! And that is just to the next nearest star after the Sun.

How many stars are there in the Universe? Astronomers recently estimated that there are about 70,000 million, million, million stars.

As you sit there you might care to pick up a couple of grains of sand. Let the first grain represent our Sun, the second grain the next nearest star to us. Then look at the whole beach and after that consider all the beaches on Earth, with every grain of sand representing a star .... then it gives some meaning to the phrase "God the Father *Almighty*, Maker of heaven and earth."

*Parish Pump 2022*



*David Pickup, a solicitor, considers dangerous things to say.*

### **Those careless words**

*With the tongue we praise our Lord and Father, and with it we curse human beings, who have been made in God's likeness. ...My brothers and sisters, this should not be. (James 3:9-10)*

Wise words from St James. He knew that it is easy to say the wrong thing and do a lot of damage. This happens in the home, at school or work or in church. Perhaps we sometimes think that people are too easily offended. 'Sticks and stones can break my bones, but words can never harm me.' Oh yes, they can!

Often a joke or what seems a light-hearted comment can do the most damage. Some places seem to attract a type of banter. I remember, with shame, some of the words that were used when I was at school to make fun of others. Comments about a person's private life, appearance, ethnicity, age or disability are most likely to cause offence.

In some circumstances, what is said can amount to bullying or harassment. The Equality Act gives rights to protect people from discrimination and harassment. An employer could be legally responsible for banter that amounts to this, so if jokes or teasing goes on at work the victim could get compensation. Examples of comments which could be harassment or discrimination have included calling a person, 'gay', 'a cheeky monkey' or an 'oldie'. That is not to say every use of words like this is wrong. It is usually the context which is important.

What should the Christian do? We should be fair and not pre-judge people because of their appearance or make assumptions about them. We should gently challenge inappropriate language. We should not be abusive or offensive and be ready to apologise and forgive. As always this is a very brief piece on a complex subject. Get professional advice.

*Parish Pump 2022*

*A Parish Pump contributor shares his recent experience...*

### **Day surgery**

Wearing my own dressing gown over the hospital regulation smock and with my belongings in a bag by my side, I was waiting my turn for a four-hour operation, to be preceded by a general anaesthetic. If all went well, I would be discharged and allowed home that day.

Time went by. Gazing round the anteroom I spotted a shelf with half a dozen baskets holding files: one file per patient awaiting surgery. On the front of each basket, in large letters, was a label with the name of their surgeon. Every one of those names would have been unfamiliar to me when I was a boy in England, for they were all of Indian, African or mid-European origin. My surgeon was born in Romania, and having found as much as I could about her via Google, I was encouraged to know she was world class in her specialism.

Were these medics British citizens, or highly skilled migrants allowed to settle in the UK temporarily because of their worth to our community? They were expert and caring to a fault. Now I'm home. It's too early to say if the operation was an unqualified success, but I feel fine and have discarded the pre-signed form which acknowledged the risks involved.

Waking up in my own bed the next day, I was overtaken by a sense of gratitude to God, into whose hands I had committed myself, and to friends who were praying for me. I had also committed myself into the hands of a myriad of other people, my fellow human beings. Many were immigrants or descendants of immigrants, who are now crucial to the National Health Service. Nearly half of the new nurses and midwives registered to work in the UK in the past year



have come from abroad. My GP was born in Germany and the consultant who fitted a stent in my heart some years ago came from Pakistan. I'm thankful they are here.

I wonder if any of the youngsters crossing the Channel in flimsy dinghies right now will become NHS consultants one day.

*Parish pump 2022*

### **All in the month of JULY**

It was:

175 years ago, on 24<sup>th</sup> July 1847 that Salt Lake City in Utah was founded by Mormon pioneers, led by Brigham Young.

150 years ago, on 1<sup>st</sup> July 1872 that Louis Bleriot, French inventor, and aviation pioneer was born. He developed the first practical headlamp for cars and became the first person to fly across the English Channel.

125 years ago, on 21<sup>st</sup> July 1897 that the Tate Britain art museum opened in London.

90 years ago, on 19<sup>th</sup> July 1932 that Lambeth Bridge in London was officially opened. 80 years ago on 31<sup>st</sup> July 1942 that the British charity Oxfam was founded. (Oxford Committee for Famine Relief)

75 years ago, on 9<sup>th</sup> July 1947 that Buckingham Palace announced the engagement of Princess Elizabeth (later Queen Elizabeth II) to Lieutenant Philip Mountbatten.

65 years ago, on 6<sup>th</sup> July 1957 that John Lennon and Paul McCartney met for the first time at a church hall in Liverpool, where 16-year-old Lennon was performing with his skiffle group the Quarrymen. 15-year-old McCartney joined as a rhythm guitarist shortly afterwards, and the pair went on to form the Beatles.

60 years ago, on 10<sup>th</sup> July 1962 that Swedish engineer Nils Bohlin was granted a US patent for the three-point safety belt for vehicles. It is now used in practically all road vehicles.

40 years ago, on 9<sup>th</sup> July 1982 that Michael Fagan broke into Buckingham Palace and spent 10 minutes talking to the Queen in her bedroom.

30 years ago, on 31<sup>st</sup> July 1992 that Leonard Cheshire, British RAF pilot, humanitarian and philanthropist, died. Founder of Leonard Cheshire Disability.

25 years ago, on 1<sup>st</sup> July 1997 that the UK returned Hong Kong to China after more than 150 years.

15 years ago, on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2007 that smoking was banned in all enclosed workspaces in England. Similar bans had already been introduced in Scotland (May 2006) and Wales (April 2007) and Northern Ireland (April 2007).

10 years ago, on 4<sup>th</sup> July 2012 that researchers at CERN in Switzerland announced the discovery of particles consistent with the Higgs boson. The discovery was confirmed in March 2013 and the researchers were awarded the 2013 Nobel Prize for Physics.

*Parish Pump 2022*



## **National ‘Don’t Step on a Bee Day’ – 10<sup>th</sup> July**

Bees need your help. And we need their help.

Not only do bees help provide the honey, propolis and beeswax, but they also help to keep us all fed and watered. Without bees, more than a third of everything we eat would disappear from our tables.

The majority of our honey here in the UK is imported (85%), but there are also many beekeepers on our doorstep. So why not visit a near-by farm shop or deli and enjoy the precious produce of local beekeepers for breakfast?

You can also help bees by planting wildflower seeds that will provide a food supply. Download the Great British Bee Count app created by Friends of the Earth which allows you to log the bees you spot out and about. This builds a picture of bee health and activity in the UK.

Finally, build a bee hotel! Bees need somewhere to rest when they venture out on their pollen mission. You can find a step-by-step guide here:

<https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/blog/2020/04/how-to-build-a-bee-hotel/>

*Parish pump 2022*

## **Parish Pump Smile Lines**

Somebody finally invented a solar-powered laundry dryer. It’s called a ‘clothes-line’.

\*\*

An honest seven-year-old calmly announced to her parents that Billy Brown had kissed her after church. “How did that happen?” gasped her mother.

“Well, it wasn’t easy,” admitted the young lady, “but three girls helped me catch him.”

\*\*

A man and his ten-year-old son were on a fishing trip, miles from home. At the boy’s insistence, they decided to attend the Sunday worship service at a small rural church. The father forgot to bring any cash, so he reached in his pocket and gave his son 10p to drop in the offering plate as it was passed.

As they walked back to their car after the service, the father complained. “The service was too long,” he lamented. “The sermon was boring, and the singing was off key.”

Finally the boy said, “Daddy, I thought it was pretty good for 10p.”

\*\*

Whoever said “Out of sight, out of mind” never had a large spider disappear in the bedroom.

# TRINITY LUNCHEON CLUB

Trinity Methodist Church, Kidderminster

Every Wednesday at 12.15

Would you like a mid-week meal cooked for you with pleasant friendly company round the table?

Then why not come to our **Luncheon Club** – you don't have to be a church member or on your own, couples are welcome.

Enjoy a delicious main course and pudding with tea or coffee.

**Only £3.00**

## Our main courses include:

**Meat Loaf    Salmon Flan    Chicken Casserole**

**Corned Beef Flan    Sausages**

**Ham and Pineapple    Cheese and Bacon Flan**

## and our puddings (naughty but very nice):

**Cheesecake    Bakewell Tart    Sponge Pudding**

**Fruit Crumble    Sticky Toffee**

**Passion Pudding    Bread & Butter Pudding**

For more information or to book a place please contact  
Mrs. Jill Green via 07580009755 (between 9am and 5pm)

**THURSDAY**

*Slimming*  
WORLD

**SLIMMING WORLD GROUPS**

**FOLEY PARK METHODIST CHURCH**

**OFF BRINTONS CLOSE**

**KIDDERMINSTER**

**9.30AM OR 11AM**

**CALL SANDRA**

**0777 2522 129**





Foley Park Methodist Church have various rooms available to hire. Depending upon your requirements we have small and larger rooms available and can offer kitchen facilities also.

The building has a large car park for hirers use and is disabled friendly with ramp and separate toilet.

(Please note that the building is both smoking and alcohol free)

If you / your group is looking for somewhere to hold daily, weekly, or monthly meetings please contact our lettings secretary – Mr David Warrington on 01562 742373 for rates and availability.

7<sup>th</sup> July 2022  
Holy Innocent's Church  
Stourport Road, Kidderminster, DY11 6LA

# Gardeners' Questions

with

## Reg Moule

Award winning gardening broadcaster  
Doors open at 6.30pm for 7pm start  
includes refreshments  
Tickets £8 each  
Available from  
Beard's Tools and Ironmongery,  
Bridge St., Kidderminster



**The words spelled incorrectly are:**

1. accommodate
3. deceitful
5. acquire
8. conscientious
11. occurrence
12. fulfill
13. indispensable
14. liaison
19. privilege
24. separate
26. underrate
29. argument

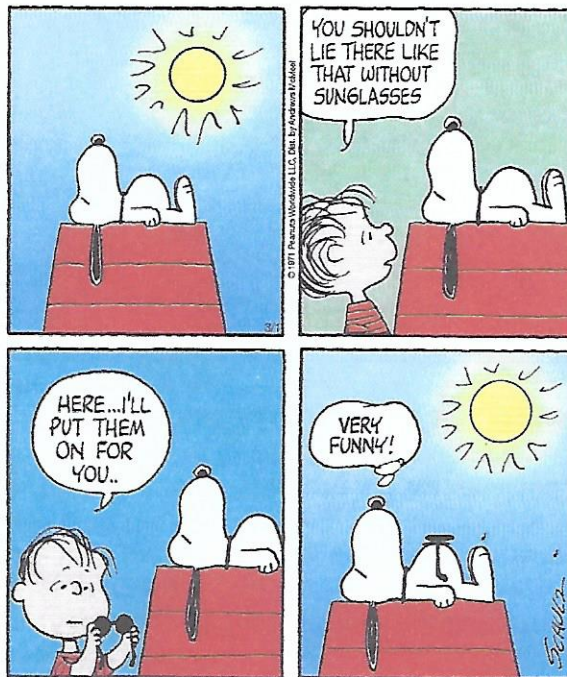
Sudoku solution:

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

**Crossword answers:**

**ACROSS:** 1, Wife. 3, To battle. 8, Obal. 9, Disciple. 11, Bitterness. 14, Niacin. 15, Attain. 17, Passionate. 20, Tertiary. 21, Meet. 22, Weakness. 23, Deer.

**DOWN:** 1, Woodbine. 2, Feast day. 4, Orient. 5, Accusation. 6, Type. 7, Eyes. 10, Dedication. 12, Gadarene. 13, Ancestor. 16, Esdras. 18, Stew. 19, Area.







♦ Trinity Methodist Church ♦



### **Sunday Services**

- **Morning Worship at 10.30am**
- **Evening Worship at 6.30pm**

**Mid-Week Lunchtime Service at Trinity**  
**Every Thursday 12.30pm – 1.00pm**

**Trinity Toddlers**  
**Every Tuesday**  
**9.45am – 11.15am**

Contact:  
Mrs Stella Batson - 01562 863503

Rev'd. Nick Collison - 01562 823300

**Trinity**  
**Luncheon Club**  
**Every Wednesday**  
**at 12.15pm**

Co-ordinator:  
Mrs. Jill Green

Trinity Methodist Church, Churchfields, Kidderminster, DY10 2 JL  
Telephone: 07580 009755 (Mon-Fri 9am -5pm)  
[www.trinitymethodistkidderminster.org.uk](http://www.trinitymethodistkidderminster.org.uk)

2022...2022...2022