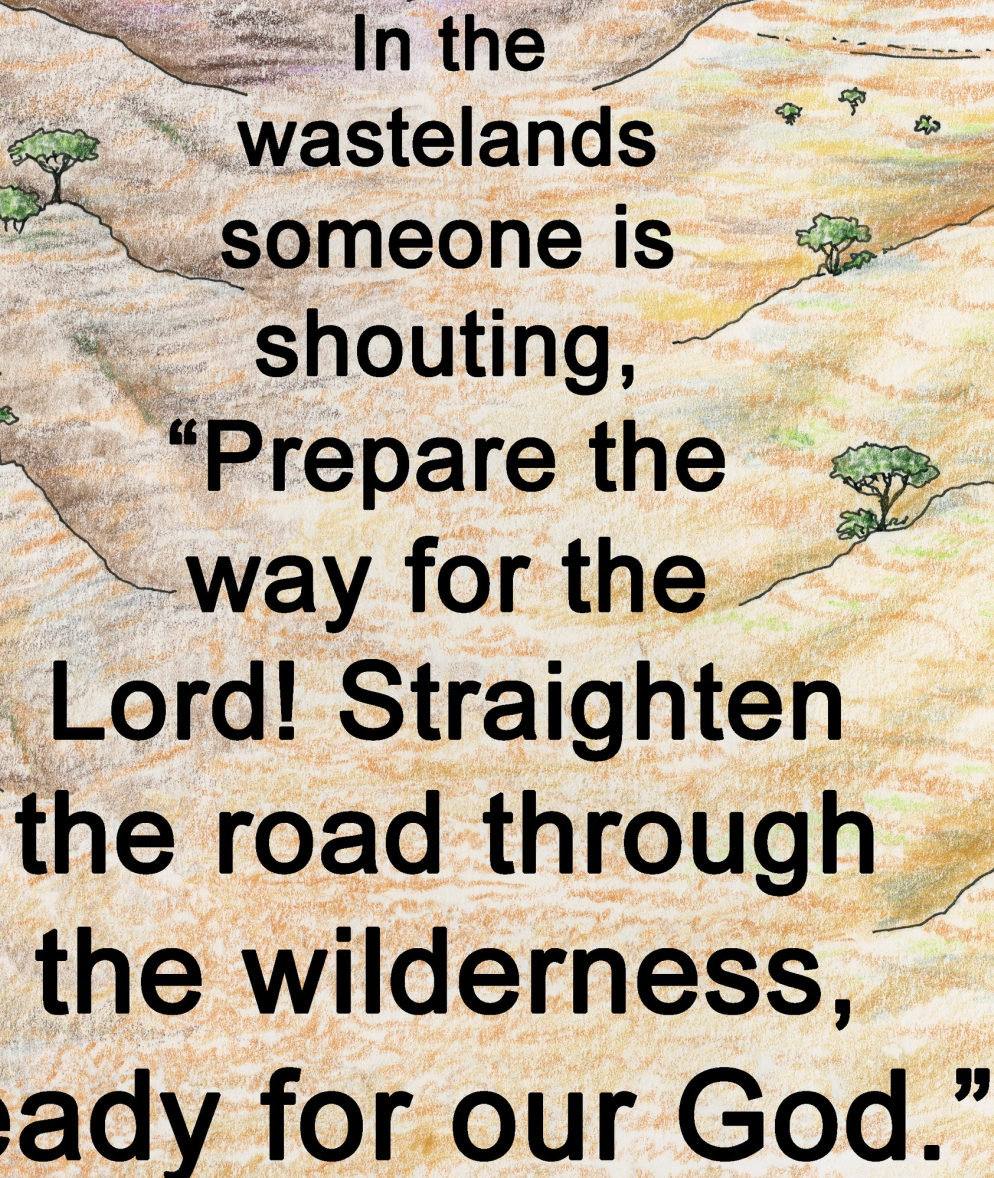


February
2025

Stratton Team Ministry
Seeking, Sharing, and Serving God Together
www.strattonteamministry.co.uk



In the
wastelands
someone is
shouting,
“Prepare the
way for the
Lord! Straighten
the road through
the wilderness,
ready for our God.”

Is 40:2, Mt 3:3, Mk 1:3 Lk 3:4, Jn 1:23

STRATTON TEAM MINISTRY

Rector: Reverend Elveen Mead [Usual Day off Friday]

Curate: Reverend Charlotte Stansfield [Usual Day off Friday]

Lay Minister: Lisa Lodwick
Alison Burston
Dan Read

Church Administrator Georgina Martin 826505
Email: stmchurchoffice020@gmail.com

CHURCHWARDENS

St. Margaret's Church and St Mary Magdalene Church

Mrs June Lewis 822954
Mr Ian Jones 07769703385
Mrs Diane Whitford 824339

Deputy Wardens

Mr David Horne 07717447855
Mr Richard Pflieger 828367

St Leonards Church

Mrs Liz Hillman 762935
Mr Chris Pope

Joint Parish Safeguarding Officers & DBS Lead Recruiters

Dr Mike Boshier 07799835437
Mrs Mary Boshier

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL for St. Margaret's and St Mary Magdalene

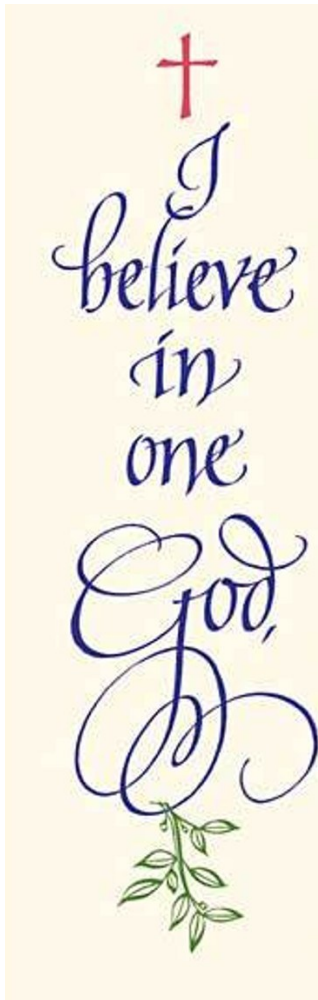
Mrs Rosalind Mitchell (Secretary) 764146
Mrs Diane Whitford
(Deputy Secretary of St Mary Magdalene) 824339

St Leonards

Mr Michael Curtis
(PCC secretary St Leonards)

LOCAL CHURCH CONTACTS

Stratton Methodist Church, 829335
St Mary's R C Church, The Presbytery, Swindon 535089



Dear Friends,

Did you know that 2025 brings a big anniversary for Christians? If you joined us for the service on 19 January at Stratton Methodist Church then you will have heard Stephen speaking on it.

It's the 1700th anniversary of the Council of Nicea.

Still none the wiser?! The Council of Nicea, in what is now Turkiye, was called by the Roman Emperor Constantine to unite his fractured empire.

But with Constantine having become a Christian rather than persecuting them as his predecessors had, Christianity became the official religion of the Roman Empire. So, this meant that the Council of Nicea became not simply a political gathering, but a spiritual one too.

And it was at the Council of Nicea that the Nicene Creed was produced, and it's this that makes this year such a special anniversary for Christians.

If you don't know it, the Nicene Creed is the long statement of faith that we (and many, many churches across the world) often say in our services. It talks about God as creator, Jesus as son, the Holy Spirit and the Church as God's family.

Why is it worth celebrating? Because the Nicene Creed is about unity – which, when it was first written, mattered a lot. In the early days of Christianity, when people were still working out what it means to be a follower of Jesus, it gave a foundation to our faith by declaring: 'these are the central beliefs which make Christians who they are.'

In our services today, we say it together to both express our commitment to God and our shared identity as Christians. It's like the Church's DNA, reminding us that we are God's family together.

So the Nicene Creed may be historic, but it is really special. It was the result of prayer, debate and even argument... especially as Christians worked out how Jesus can be both fully human and fully God at the same time.

Even though it is centuries-old, I also believe it's still ok to think and debate the Nicene Creed today. I'd like to challenge you to look at the Creed and discuss or think about some questions.

Firstly: 'what part of the Creed do you love the most?'

Secondly, 'what part I am absolutely certain about?'

But the most significant question of them all is this one: 'which part of the Creed do you have questions, perhaps even doubts, about?'

Whilst the Nicene Creed may be an historic, established, black-and-white statement, it's when we bring our questions, debates and doubts to it that we find it continues to deepen faith and bring unity in new ways today.

So Happy 1700th Birthday to the Nicene Creed!

With blessings

Elveen



believe in one God,

the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,

of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the Only Begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages.

God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father;
through him all things were made.

For us men and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,

all bow

and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary,
and became man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate,
he suffered death and was buried,
and rose again on the third day
in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead
and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.

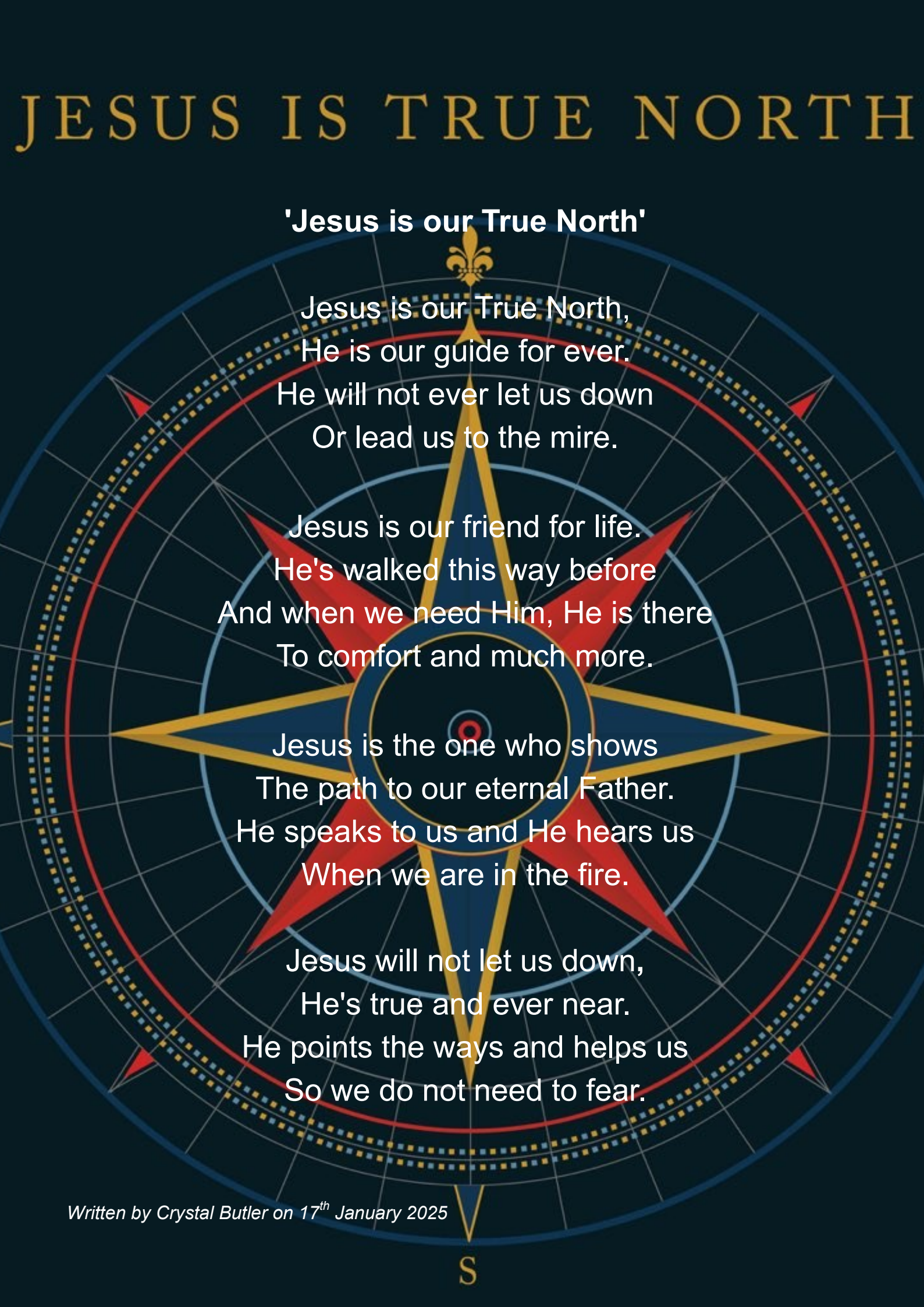
I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins
and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come.



men

JESUS IS TRUE NORTH

'Jesus is our True North'



Jesus is our True North,
He is our guide for ever.
He will not ever let us down
Or lead us to the mire.

Jesus is our friend for life.
He's walked this way before
And when we need Him, He is there
To comfort and much more.

Jesus is the one who shows
The path to our eternal Father.
He speaks to us and He hears us
When we are in the fire.

Jesus will not let us down,
He's true and ever near.
He points the ways and helps us
So we do not need to fear.



Woman and a Fork

There was a young woman who had been diagnosed with a terminal illness and had been given three months to live. So as she was getting her things 'in order,' she contacted her Pastor and had him come to her house to discuss certain aspects of her final wishes.

She told him which songs she wanted sung at the service, what scriptures she would like read, and what outfit she wanted to be buried in.

Everything was in order and the Pastor was preparing to leave when the young woman suddenly remembered something very important to her.

There's one more thing,' she said excitedly..

'What's that?' came the Pastor's reply.

This is very important,' the young woman continued. 'I want to be buried with a fork in my right hand.'

The Pastor stood looking at the young woman, not knowing quite what to say.

“That surprises you, doesn't it?” the young woman asked.

“Well, to be honest, I'm puzzled by the request,” said the Pastor.

The young woman explained. 'My grandmother once told me this story, and from that time on I have always tried to pass along its message to those I love and those who are in need of encouragement. In all my years of attending socials and dinners, I always remember that when the dishes of the main course were being cleared, someone would inevitably lean over and say, 'Keep your fork.' It was my favourite part because I knew that something better was coming...like velvety chocolate cake or deep-dish apple pie. Something wonderful, and with substance!!

So, I just want people to see me there in that casket with a fork in my hand and I want them to wonder 'What's with the fork?' Then I want you to tell them: 'Keep your fork as the best is yet to come.'

The Pastor's eyes welled up with tears of joy as he hugged the young woman good-bye. He knew this would be one of the last times he would see her before her death. But he also knew that the young woman had a better grasp of heaven than he did.

SHE HAD A BETTER GRASP OF WHAT HEAVEN WOULD BE LIKE THAN MANY PEOPLE TWICE HER AGE, WITH TWICE AS MUCH EXPERIENCE AND KNOWLEDGE.

She **KNEW** that something better was coming.

At the funeral people were walking by the young woman's casket and



they saw the cloak she was wearing and the fork placed in her right hand. Over and over, the Pastor heard the question, "What's with the fork?" And over and over he smiled.

During his message, the Pastor told the people of the conversation he had with the young woman shortly before she died. He also told them about the fork and about what it symbolized to her. He told the people how he could not stop thinking about the fork and told them that they probably would not be able to stop thinking about it either.

He was right. So the next time you reach down for your fork let it remind you, ever so gently, that the best is yet to come. Friends are a very rare jewel indeed. They make you smile and encourage you to succeed. They lend an ear, they share a word of praise, and they always want to open their hearts to us.

Show your friends how much you care. Remember to always be there for them, even when you need them more. For you never know when it might be their time to "keep their fork"

Being friends with someone is not an opportunity, but a sweet responsibility.



Facts

A famous statesman said “We know some things and some we do not: there are some things we know we don’t know, and there are some things we don’t know that we don’t know!!! Beat that!

Some facts though become hidden over time. Recently I have been reading a small book of facts entitled “Plato’s Alarm Clock and other amazing ancient inventions”. It is totally enthralling. Did you know that the Chinese invented silk circa 3000BC? Or that algebra was a Persian invention of AD 830?

The Catapult, or Ballista or Trebuchet was used by the Romans to hurl vast stones at fortified towns. But a disputed line in II Chronicles 26:15 states “King Uzziah made in Jerusalem engines to hurl great stones” (this was the 8th Century BC). Could this have been an earlier Ballista?

Some of the Bible may be apocryphal, but so much of it is factual. How great it is to see and believe without seeing.

Let our Faith in the Holy Trinity guide and support us.

Colin Howell

Mothers' UNION

Christian care for families

Diocese of Bristol

Mothers' Union Swindon Deanery Branch
Our next meeting will be on Friday February 14th
It will be in St Margaret's Centre at 2.30pm

and it will be our AGM
Do come and join us.

For more info, visit the Bristol MU website
www.mubristol.co.uk



- raising awareness of modern slavery

Anne Pope - MU Swindon Deanery Branch Contact

Weekly Prayers for February – *Membership*

Monday: Membership is like a Melody

Our membership in Christ is like a melody in its sweetness, a melody that is soothing to the heart, inspiring to the soul and uplifting to the mind. *Beulah McClanahan, adapted*

My heart is confident in you, O God; no wonder I can sing your praises with all my heart!

Psalm 108:1

Prayer:

Heavenly Father, we thank you for all the good things you do for us and for building our union. We ask you to keep guiding us and increasing our numbers in all the countries where we are not yet represented. We ask you to strengthen existing members so that they should not tire of serving you and that they will have the strength to do more in their communities so that our presence will be felt and will help our church communities. We pray for our church leadership in all countries and we ask all his strength through your son Jesus Christ. Amen

Priscilla Mphande, Malawi

May we continue to be inspired and uplifted by your light and love, by each other as members of the church, and by those we meet whose light shines through in the darkness. Amen

Tuesday: Membership is like a Flower

Real membership in Christ is like a flower in its beauty, and what could be more beautiful than a rose in full bloom.

Beulah McClanahan, adapted

I am the spring crocus blooming on the Sharon Plain, the lily of the valley.

Song of

Solomon 2:1

A Wondering:

The Lord is my star, I am enfolded in his love. As I open my door each day to a version of heaven – trees, birdsong, flowers, sky, loving people – as the incomparable beauty of the Dales – the hills, the rocks, the streams and woods – unfolds before me as I wander with a surge of joy, I am complete.

He is a constant presence, As the pole star at night amid the endless galaxies, as the sun star by day lighting up every corner of the world, leading me onward and surrounding me with wonders and marvels. In times of anxiety I hear his voice, Trust in me. Don't be afraid. So I go on, acutely aware of the blessings life brings me, grounding me in love and compassion, with the knowledge of his presence at its heart.

Margaret Barker, UK

Heavenly Father, may we remember the beauty of your love and the beauty of your creation as we walk through this day. Amen

Wednesday: Membership is like an Evergreen

Real membership in Christ is like an evergreen, in that it never changes. The snows will fall and the rains will come. The winds will blow and the sun will shine down in all its intensity...but real membership remains the same...evergreen. *Beulah McClanahan, adapted*
Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever. Hebrews 13:8

Prayer:

Lord God, you are perfectly faithful in everything you do. You show your faithfulness to us in caring for us, protecting us, and providing for our needs. Forgive us for the times we question you, grumble about our circumstances, or turn our backs on you. We want to be like Moses and trust you even when we're feeling unsure and our confidence is shaky. Show us one small way we can trust you today. We want to declare your faithfulness with certainty to those around us so they will put their faith and trust in you. Show us who we can encourage today. In Jesus' name. Amen.
Rachel Britton

Heavenly Father, we thank you that you are a constant in our lives. May we continue to be blessed in our devotion and membership in the church and transform our communities. Amen

Thursday: Membership is like a Gem

Real membership in Christ is like a gem in that it is precious. *Beulah McClanahan, adapted*
Wisdom is more precious than rubies; nothing you desire can compare with her.
Proverbs 3:15

Prayer:

Heavenly Father, we praise and thank you for your unfailing love and the infinite mercy you constantly bestow on us, even when we least deserve it. We pray Lord that you grant us, the **humility** to realize that everything is possible, only as a result of your enduring grace and mercy, the **wisdom** to discern you hold the future, even when we don't know what it holds, the **confidence** to remember that you are always in full control in our lowest lows and highest highs, the **faith and understanding** that you will never leave your children and that we shall RECEIVE as long as we BELIEVE. All of this we ask in the Mighty Name of Jesus. Amen.
Gemina Archer-Davies, USA

Heavenly Father, we praise and thank you for your unfailing love. May we continue to have hearts of gratitude and share your love with others through our work and service in the church. In Jesus' Name we pray. Amen

Friday: Membership is like a Star

Real membership in Christ is like a star in that it is light-giving, illuminating and constant. It is something to which we can aspire. It is high and lifted up... *Beulah McClanahan, adapted*

But if we are living in the light, as God is in the light, then we have fellowship with each other, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, cleanses us from all sin. 1 John 1:7

Prayer:

Father in Heaven, you made us your children and called us to walk in the light of Christ. Free us from darkness and keep us in the light of your truth. The light of Jesus has scattered the darkness of hatred and sin. Called to that light, we ask for your guidance. Form our lives in your truth, our hearts in your love. Through the Holy Eucharist, give us the power of your grace that we may walk in the Light of Jesus and serve him faithfully. Amen. *Missionary Society of St. Columban, adapted*

O Lord, as members of the church may we continue to live in the light, to walk in your way, and to see you high and lifted up. In Jesus' Name we pray. Amen

Saturday: Membership in Christ is such a Beautiful Word

We don't look at the troubles we can see now; rather, we fix our gaze on things that cannot be seen. For the things we see now will soon be gone, but the things we cannot see will last forever. 2 Corinthians 4:18

Our membership in Christ is something to be cherished, something to be cultivated, something to be nurtured, something to be protected, something to be appreciated. We give generously, unselfishly and sacrificially.

We receive graciously and appreciatively.

Life is much more meaningful because of our faith and our love for one another. Let us thank God for it and rejoice in it!

Beulah McClanahan, adapted

Holy Lord, we pray for all Christians around the world. We give thanks for our membership and how, for many, our faith has grown through the work and service in the church.

For many it is a way of life.

We thank you for this gift of membership.

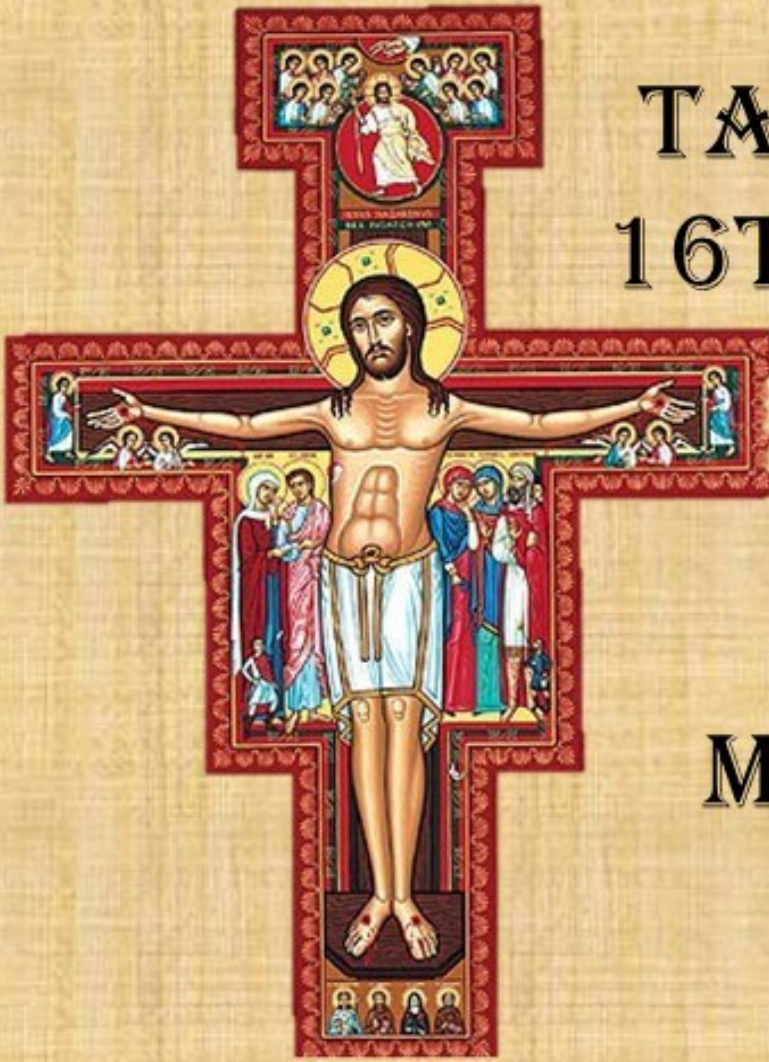
We praise your Holy Name. Amen

FEBRUARY

2nd February		Presentation of Christ in the Temple	
St Margaret's Church	St Leonard's Church	St Mary Magdalene Church	
9:30am	9:30am	10am	
Holy Communion Service	Sunday Morning Worship	All Age Worship	
9th February		Fourth Sunday before Lent	
St Margaret's Church	St Mary Magdalene Church	St Leonard's Church	
9:30am	9:30am	11am	
Sunday Morning Worship	Holy Communion Service	Family Service	
16th February		Third Sunday before Lent	
St Leonard's Church	St Mary Magdalene Church		
9:30am	6pm		
Team Worship	Taize Service		
23rd February		Second Sunday before Lent	
St Margaret's Church	St Leonard's Church	Coleview Community Centre	
9:30am	9:30am	11am	
Sunday Morning Worship	Holy Communion Service	Holy Communion Service	

Please see our website for the most up to date information www.strattonteamministry.co.uk

We will endeavor to give as much notice as possible to any changes but that may not always be possible.



TAIZÉ SERVICE
16TH FEBRUARY
2025
AT
ST MARY
MAGDALENE
CHURCH

Join us for singing and practice – All
Welcome at 4:45PM for a 5:00PM start.
The Taizé service will commence at 6:00PM.



St Margaret's Church Stratton



at

St Margaret's Centre
Every Thursday

9:30am - 11:30am

Sundays after Church Services

Tea also available





St Leonard's Church Stanton

Hosts Coffee Morning now at

Stanton House Hotel

10:15am - noon

On Wednesday

12th of February 2025

Everyone Welcome



Rev Charlotte Stansfield is
our Speaker

ST MARY MAGDALENE CHURCH SOUTH MARSTON

Welcomes you to a Community Coffee Morning



Just drop in

**Come and Join Us for Refreshments
(including bacon butties and delicious cakes)**

In the Village Hall

10 - 12

Every third Saturday in the month

Next dates

15th February, 15th March & 19th April

Enquiries or for table reservations please call

01793 824339

Bumps & Babes

ARE YOU A NEW
OR EXPECTANT PARENT?

Register Now

forms.gle/fM4NesmSPYWTNuiC7

Come and join Stratton Team Ministry for our Bumps and Babes group on Tuesdays.

Bumps & Babes is a place for expectant parents and parents with babies (up to one year old*) to meet and chat over a coffee – sharing in the experiences of pregnancy and the joys and challenges of the early months of parenthood.

Mats and toys are available for you to play with your babies, as well as time for a few songs!

We are joined by guests each a month to share with us about subjects from weaning to breastfeeding; faith to reusable nappies!

Register for your place now via the link or complete a form on arrival – we look forward to welcoming you!

When: Tuesdays 11.15-12.15
(term time only)

Where: St Margaret's Centre,
Kenwin Close, SN3 4NY

Cost: Free

Contact Us & Useful Links



Bumpsandbabes9@gmail.com



www.strattonteamministry.co.uk/explore/kids-and-youth/bumps-babes/



Register for your place now
<https://forms.gle/fM4NesmSPYWTNuiC7>



Bumps and Babes St Margaret's Swindon

JOKES

After dinner stories from both Houses of Parliament.



At every meeting which the by-election candidate had held, his speech was ruined by a little old lady, who followed him around. She always sat in the front row and just as he was making his final remarks would invariably shout out "If you were the Archangel Gabriel I wouldn't vote for you!" "If I were the Archangel Gabriel," he replied, "it is most unlikely that you would be living in my constituency!!"

Lord Barber, PC, TD



A man who thought he was a dog was sent to a psychiatrist who said, "This is very serious- we had better have a talk about this. Please go over there, lie down on the sofa and relax." To which the man replied "Sorry, but I am not allowed on sofas."

Toby Jessel, MP.

From a platform in Hyde Park at Speaker's Corner, a left wing agitator was haranguing the crowd on the benefits to be derived from full-blooded Socialism.

"When the dawn of freedom comes," he said turning to a little man in a cloth cap on the edge of the crowd

"you will be riding down Park Lane in a Rolls-Royce car, with a top hat on your head."

"Beg pardon Guv", said the little man.

"I couldn't see myself in a top hat. I'd rather stick to my old tifter!"

"Very well then," said the orator.

"When the dawn of freedom comes, my friend, you will be riding down Park Lane in a Rolls-Royce car, wearing your old tifter."

"Beg pardon Guv," said the little man.

"Couldn't really see myself in a Rolls-Royce. Think I'd be far better on me old bike."

"Look here," said the orator, "When the dawn of freedom comes, you'll do what you're ***** well told."



Percy Griese, QC, MP



The Chairman of a meeting, as Chairmen sometimes do, introduced the guest speaker at inordinate length, reciting all major and most minor details of his career. At last he finished and said, "I will now ask Lord Birkenhead to give his Address." Lord Birkenhead replied, "32 Grosvenor Gardens S.W.I." and walked out of the hall.

Lord Blake, FIBA, JP

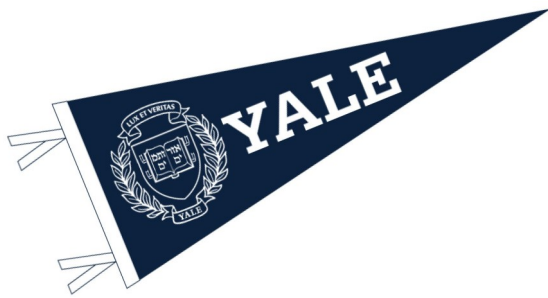
I am told that the Dean of Windsor once asked King George V what he would like him to preach about on Sunday, to which the King replied, "About ten minutes.

Lord Duncan-Sandys, PC, Ch

At a meeting the speaker started by saying, "I'm going to talk to you about Yale University Y-A-L-E.:

Y for Youth ,
A for Ambition,
L for Loyalty and
E for Endeavour,"

and spoke for half an hour on each. He later said to a friend "Did you like my speech?" "Yes," came the reply, "but it's a good job it wasn't on the Massachusetts Institute of



Technology."

Lord Maybray-King PC, DEL, PHD, FKC

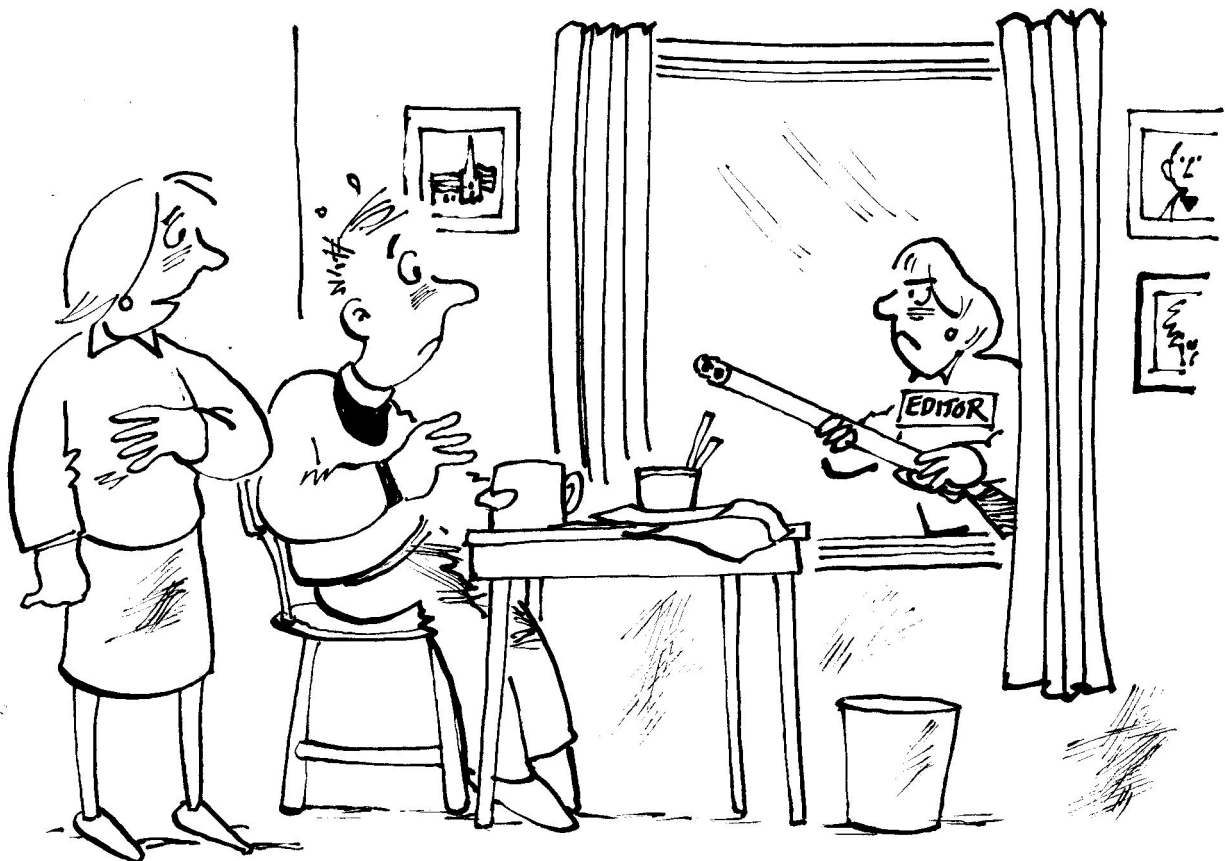


The dinner was a somewhat dry affair, and a somewhat dry guest, although not on the official list of speakers, suddenly got up and proposed, "absent friends," coupled with the name of the wine waiter.

Sir Russell Fairgrieve, CBE, TD, JP MP

A politician is someone who approaches every subject with an open mouth.

Oscar Wilde



...are you late with your 'Vicar's Letter' again, dear?



GIVING

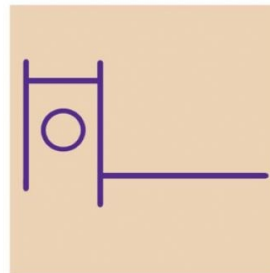
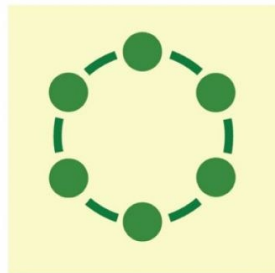
You may be aware that many charities and organisations are struggling at this time, this includes churches.

Great News! You can now sign up to join the Parish Giving Scheme (PGS) online. There is a link for this on the Giving page of our website:

<https://www.strattonteamministry.co.uk/giving/>

If you haven't considered the PGS before, we would ask you to prayerfully consider doing so. It's very easy to sign up and it works in a similar way to a Direct Debit (that it is intended to replace), in that a regular payment authorised by you goes out either weekly, monthly or yearly straight to the church. It is perfectly safe and can be stopped or changed at any time.

PGS is a great way to give to the work and mission of St Margaret's Church. Donations given through PGS come straight to the Church, there are no admin fees or bank charges for us to pay. 41 people have now signed up to do this - Thank you



TM

PARISH
GIVING
SCHEME



Recycling @ St Margaret's Centre

**RECYCLE YOUR
CRISP PACKETS HERE!**



RECYCLE FOR



**WILTSHIRE
AIR AMBULANCE**



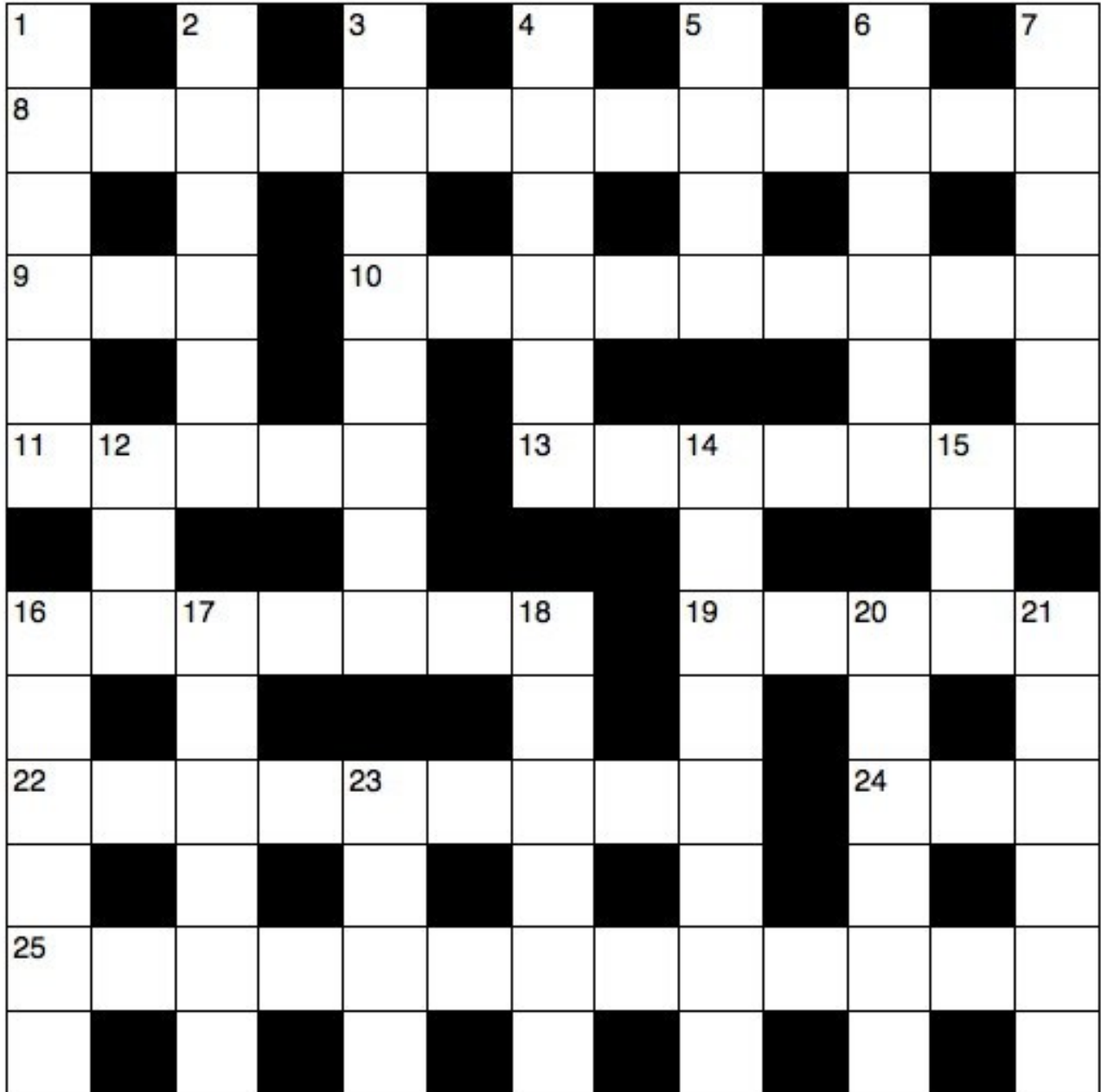
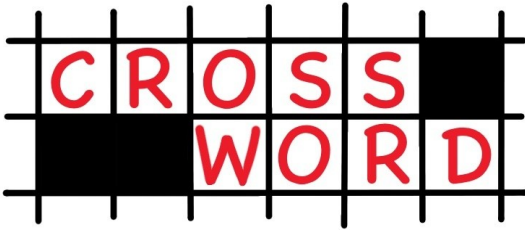
In support of

**WE ARE
MACMILLAN.
CANCER SUPPORT**

ACCEPTED WASTE



Any brand of EMPTY medicine blister packets



Across

- 8 Interrogated (Acts 12:19) (5-8)
- 9 'Burn it in a wood fire on the — heap' (Leviticus 4:12) (3)
- 10 Tobit, Judith, Baruch and the books of Esdras and the Maccabees are part of it (9)
- 11 Science fiction (abbrev.) (3-2)
- 13 Clay pit (anag.) (7)

Across

16 Went to (John 4:46) (7)

19 'Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to — your bodies as living sacrifices' (Romans 12:1) (5)

22 David's plea to God concerning those referred to in 14 Down: 'On — — let them escape' (Psalm 56:7) (2,7)

24 Royal Automobile Club (1,1,1) 25 How the book of Ezekiel refers to God more than 200 times (Ezekiel 2:4) (9,4)

Down

1 Seas (Proverbs 8:24) (6)

2 One of the sons of Eli the priest, killed in battle by the Philistines (1 Samuel 4:11) (6)

3 Specialist in the study of the Muslim religion (8)

4 'Do not rebuke an older man harshly, but — him as if he were your father' (1 Timothy 5:1) (6)

5 One of Esau's grandsons (Genesis 36:11) (4)

6 Taking a chance (colloq.) (2,4)

7 God's instructions to the Israelites concerning grain offerings: ' — salt to — your offerings' (Leviticus 2:13) (3,3)

12 Confederation of British Industry (1,1,1)

14 'All day long they twist my words; they are always — to harm me' (Psalm 56:5) (8)

15 The crowd's reaction to Jesus bringing back to life a widow's son in Nain (Luke 7:16) (3)

16 Disappear (Psalm 104:35) (6)

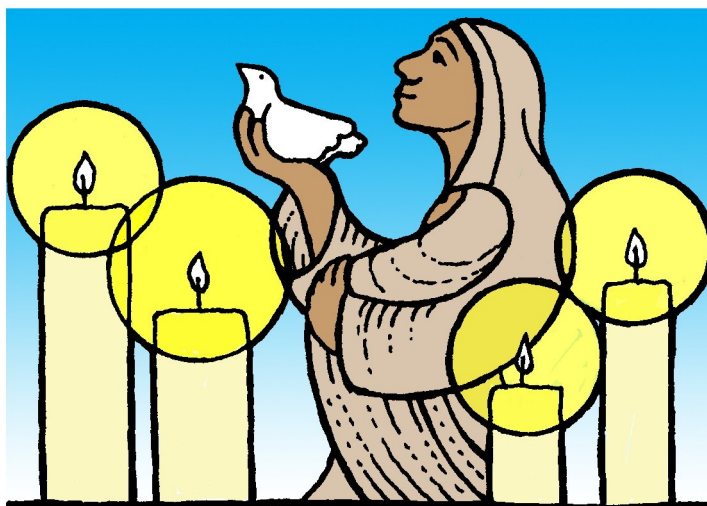
17 How Jeremiah was likely to die if he wasn't rescued from the cistern where he was imprisoned (Jeremiah 38:9) (6)

18 What the prophets do to a wall, with whitewash (Ezekiel 13:10, RSV) (4,2)

20 Made by a plough (Job 39:10) (6)

21 Noah was relieved when the flood waters continued to — (Genesis 8:5) (6)

23 Jesus gave the Twelve the power and authority to do this to diseases (Luke 9:1) (4)



Hello everyone,

Swindon Food Collective is your local independent food bank that collects and redistributes donated non-perishable food and non-food items to those in need. We help individuals and families that are finding it hard to feed themselves for a variety of reasons such as low wages, low income, family crisis, delayed benefit payments, redundancy, bereavement or sickness.



We currently operate 11 Food Distribution Centres in and around Swindon.

Should you wish to support our collection then please read below for further information.

WHAT WE DO NEED:

Regular sized Tins, Jars, Bottles, Cartons or Packets of the following:

"Potatoes; Meat; Fish; Tomatoes; Soup; Vegetables; Fruit; Puddings; Pasta Sauce; Cereals; Small Jars of Coffee; Tea (40 bags); Small Bags of Sugar (500g); Biscuits; 1L Bottles of Squash; Washing Up Liquid; Toothpaste; Laundry Pods; 2 in 1 Shampoo & Conditioner; Male and Female Deodorants"

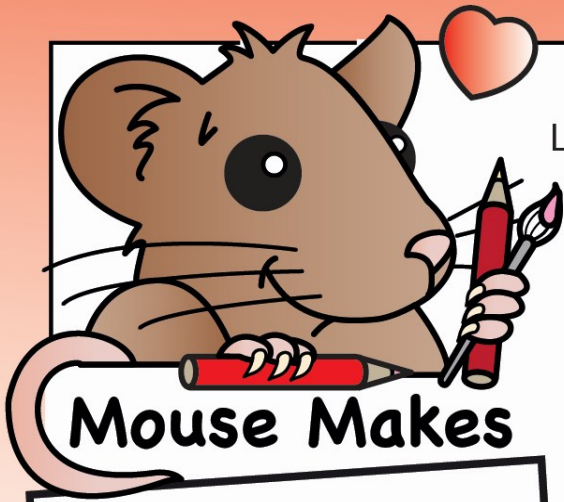
WHAT WE DON'T NEED:

We do not need pasta, cereals and shower gel.

We hope you will be able to support us once again

On behalf of everyone who will benefit from your support this Christmas

THANK YOU.



Mouse Makes

The steadfast **love** of the Lord never _____;
 His _____
 never come to an end;
 they are new every _____.

Lamentations 3:20-23



*I pray... you will understand...
 the greatness of Christ's **love**,
 how _____
 and how _____
 and how _____
 that **love** is.*

Ephesians 3:18-19



God is **love**.
 whoever _____
 in **love** _____
 in God, and God _____
 in them.

1 John 4:16



Give _____
 to the Lord, for He is _____
 his steadfast **love**
 endures _____

Psalms 136:1

HOW DOES GOD LOVE ME?
God sent me a saviour:
 He sent His one and only Son into the world so that we might have eternal life through Him.
1 John 4:9

God gave me His spirit:
 He has given you the Holy Spirit to fill our hearts with His **love**.
Romans 5:5

God called me His child:
 See what great **love** the Father has for us that He would call us His children.
1 John 1:3

"Love is
 _____,
love is _____.
 It does not, _____
 it does not _____
 it is not _____.
 it does not _____

 others, it is not self - _____

 it is not easily _____

 it keeps no record of _____.
Love delights in _____

 it always _____
 _____,
 _____,
 _____,

from 1 Corinthians 13:4-7

DID YOU KNOW?
 Jesus told us to:
LOVE the Lord your God with all your **heart**, all your **soul** and with all your **mind**.
Matthew 22:37

LOVE your neighbour the same as you **love** yourself.
Matthew 22:39



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

GOD • **LOVE**
 PATIENT • KIND
 GRACIOUS • PEACE
 JUST • TRUTHFUL
 TRUSTING • LOYAL
 HOPEFUL
 PERSEVERES
 ENDURES
 HUMBLE
 SELFLESS
 PROTECTS • DEFENDS



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

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The rules for Sudoku are to fill a 9x9 grid with the numbers 1–9, without repeating any numbers in a row, column, or 3x3 box.

Crossword Solutions

ACROSS:

8, Cross-examined. 9, Ash. 10, Apocrypha. 11, Sci-fi. 13, Typical. 16, Visited. 19, Offer. 22, No account. 24, RAC. 25, Sovereign Lord.

DOWN:

1, Oceans. 2, Hophni. 3, Islamist. 4, Exhort. 5, Omar. 6, On spec. 7, Add all. 12, CBI. 14, Plotting. 15, Awe. 16, Vanish. 17, Starve. 18, Daub it. 20, Furrow. 21, Recede. 23, Cure.

STRATTON TEAM MINISTRY NEWS - NEXT EDITION DEADLINE

for Articles and Information anytime before 15th February 2025

Georgina Martin: Church Office,
 Tel: 826505 St Margaret's Centre
 Email: stmchurchoffice020@gmail.com

Also, by hand or call Georgina Martin on 07768 243675

Errors and omissions — while we do try to ensure that all details are correct, some things may slip through and we apologise for that.

PARISH DIRECTORY & CENTRE USERS

ORGANISATIONS

Babies & Toddlers	Georgina Martin	07768 243675
Bell Ringers	Wendy Sears	07769 788821
Boys' Brigade	Teresa Daghish	07796 925621
Brownies - Mon	Yvette Webster-May	825398
Bumps and Babes	Bekki	bumpsandbabes9@gmail.com
Cadley Dance	Maria Howse	824446
Centre Bookings	Richard Pflieger	828367
Choir	Geoff Walters	822006
Church Cleaning Rota	Pat England	822786
Coleview	Church Office	826505
Church Flowers	Richard Pflieger	828367
Mothers' Union Deanery Branch	Anne Pope	07790 730 685 email eannepope@gmail .com
FWO Envelopes	Ray England	822786
Gift Aid Sec.	David Horne	07717447855
Guide-Brownie Commissioner	Zoe Smith	831190
Music Group	Rob South	822811
Organists	Rob South	822811
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