



March
2022

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



The flowers are blooming, the time of birdsong has come!

Song of
Songs 2:12

STRATTON TEAM MINISTRY

Priest in Charge: Reverend Elveen Mead [Usual Day off Friday]

Lay Minister: Lisa Lodwick
Alison Burston
Dan Read

Church Administrator Georgina Martin 826505
Email: stmargaretsoffice2@btconnect.com

CHURCHWARDENS

St. Margaret's Church and St Mary Magdalene Church

Mrs June Lewis 822954
Mr Richard Pflieger 828367
Mrs Diane Whitford 824339

Deputy Wardens

Mr David Horne 724776
Mr Ian Jones 07769703385

St Leonards Church

Mrs Liz Hillman 762935
Mrs Liz Bannister 763657

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

Spring is in the air at last it seems. Over the last few weeks snow drops have started to appear in our Churchyard and on grass verges. Daffodil leaves are poking their way through the grass, have you ever noticed how once you start to spot them you see more and more everywhere? Colour is returning to our gardens and so it seems, our lives.

Spring is a time filled with hope as we move from the darkness of winter into light and colour. In our church year it is a little different, we have a brief time after Christmas but already we begin to look towards Lent and Easter.

Lent is a time where we prepare for Easter. Often that preparation is around fasting or giving something up that is important to us for a period of 40 days. The idea being that the space created is filled with extra time for prayer.

This year after 2 years of disrupted services we will be holding an Ash Wednesday Team service in St Margaret's, which I hope you will attend (or have attended depending on when you read this letter). This service is a perfect start to Lent and serves as a reminder that the circle of life continues. The seasons change, spring flowers replace the brown leaves of winter and soon they too will yield to the flowers of summer.

All life is temporary yet glorious and beautiful as the flowers remind us. Lent gives way to Easter which reminds us that there is a new life to be had in Christ at the end of our earthly lives and that we all have a heavenly home waiting for us.

Blessings

Elveen



Just a Wonder

A row of bottles on my shelf
Caused me to analyze myself.

One yellow pill I have to pop
Goes to my heart so it won't stop.

A little white one that I take
Goes to my hands so they won't shake.

The blue ones that I use a lot
Tell me I'm happy when I'm not.

The purple pill goes to my brain
And tells me that I have no pain.

The capsules tell me not to wheeze
Or cough or choke or even sneeze.

The red ones, smallest of them all
Go to my blood so I won't fall.

The orange ones, very big and bright
Prevent my leg cramps in the night.

Such an array of brilliant pills
Helping to cure all kinds of ills.

But what I'd really like to know . . .
Is what tells each one where to go!

Mirth for March.



I asked my friend what his son wanted to be when he grows up. "He wants to be a garbage man," he replied. "That's an unusual ambition to have at such a young age." "Not really, he thinks that garbage men work only on Thursdays."

A few riddles:

☺ O. Which type of bow can't be tied in March?

A. rainbow.

☺ Q. Why are oak trees so forgiving?

A. Every March they turn over a new leaf.

☺ Q. I weigh nothing, but you can still see me. If you put me in a bucket, I make the bucket lighter, what am I?

A. A Hole.

☺ Q. A man is washing windows on the 25th floor of an apartment building. Suddenly he slips and falls. He has nothing to cushion his fall and no safety equipment but he doesn't get hurt. How is this possible?

A. He's washing windows inside the building.



A French cat named Un Deux Trois challenged a Spanish cat named Uno Dos Tres to a swimming contest but only one finished the race. Who won the race and why? The Spanish cat easily won the race because Un Deux Trois Cinq!



I had visited a café recently with friends. The waiter recommended that we try their special coffee. We agreed and soon the coffee arrived. As we drank the coffee we realised that it tasted like dirt and mud. Disgusted we all complained immediately. The alarmed waiter rushed over and said, "Well Sir, it is freshly ground coffee."



On a London New York flight was a lively youngster who nearly drove everyone crazy. He was running up and down the aisle when the flight attendant started serving coffee. He ran smack into her, knocking a cup of coffee out of her hand and onto the floor. As he stood by watching her clean up the mess, she glanced up at the boy and said, "Look, why don't you go outside and play."

A few words of wit to end with:

☺ Rush hour is when the traffic is almost at a standstill.

J.B.Morton

☺ I don't understand the police, how ever can they expect me to show them my driving license when they took it away last year.

Gracie Allen.

☺ Jimmy Tarbuck doesn't tell gags, he just refreshes your memory.

Bernard Manning.

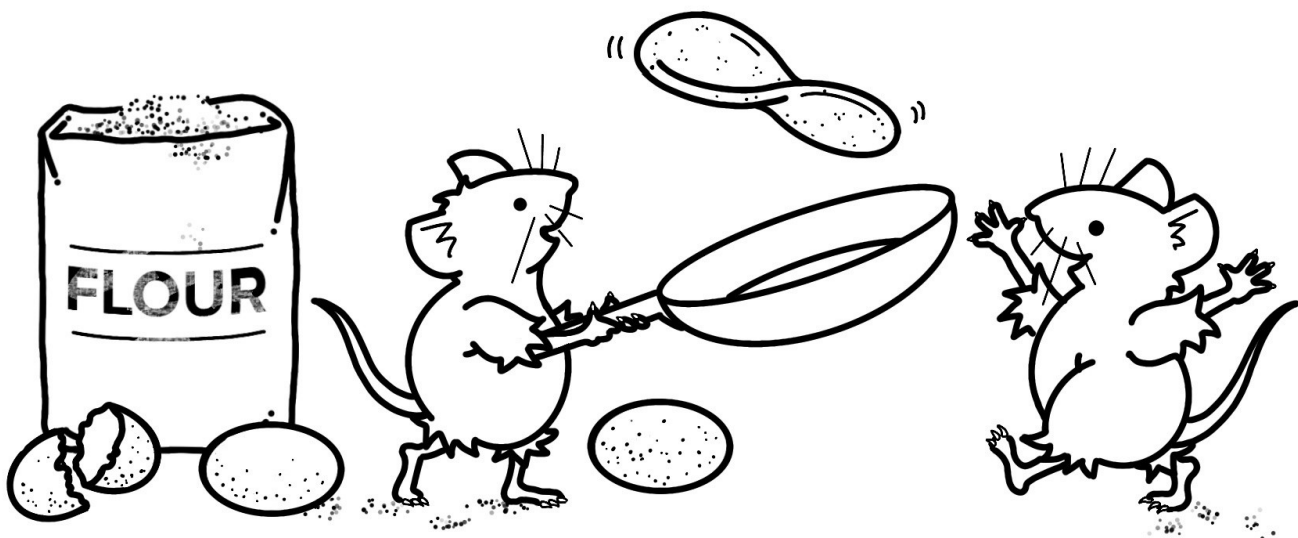
☺ I am strongly in favour of common sense, common honesty and common decency. This makes me for ever ineligible for public office.

H.L. Menchin.

☺ I told my doctor I broke my leg in two places. He told me to stop going to those places.

Henry Youngmen.

Bye



Thankfulness to Jesus

A poem by Dan Read

Thanking Him never is a faithless thing
for deep-down within us as indifference can spring.
Other thoughts and ventures can intoxicate our brains
unless in truth we praise Him to restore a bond again.

For if we thank Him never for all that He has done
the fight He came to conquer can never ever be won.

Every Christian duty that we may in part resent
and time spent in our task may not with Him be spent.

So let our way be thankful for all He has to bear
then in those duties that be-fall us He will surely share.

For if we thank Him never for all that He has done
the fight He came to conquer can never ever be won.

Angela Breakspear has composed some music to accompany the above poem and the choir will be singing it on Ash Wednesday.



March 6th - 1st Sunday of the Month - First Sunday of Lent

9:30am St Margaret's Church	Holy Communion Service
9:30am St Leonards Church	Sunday Morning Worship
10am St Mary Magdalene Church	Family Service

March 13th - 2nd Sunday of the Month - Second Sunday of Lent

9:30am St Margaret's Church	Sunday Morning Worship
9:30am St Mary Magdalene Church	Holy Communion Service
11am St Leonards Church	Family Service

March 20th - 3rd Sunday of the Month - Third Sunday of Lent

10am St Mary Magdalene Church	Sunday Morning Team Worship
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March 27th - 4th Sunday of the Month - Mothering Sunday

9:30am St Margaret's Church	Sunday Morning Worship
9:30am St Leonards Church	Holy Communion Service
11am Coleview	Holy Communion Service

PLEASE NOTE

Under current pandemic circumstances all services are subject to change.

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

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

We are online at 9am Monday to Wednesday for Morning Prayer via

[@Strattonteamministry.co.uk](https://twitter.com/Strattonteamministry)

Come and
join us for:

Activities

Songs

Refreshments

Messy
CHURCH

Crafts

Games

Stories

FREE!

SATURDAY SCENE

At St Margaret's Centre

(Kenwin Close, off Ermin street, Stratton St. Margaret)

Saturday 12th March

@ 4pm



**Join us to discover
more about the season
of Lent**

St Margaret's Church, St Leonard's Church, St Mary Magdalene's
Church and Coleview Community Center

for more information Please contact us at

✉ saturdayscene@strattonteamministry.co.uk

☎ 01793 826505



www.facebook.com/stmsaturdayscene





**St Mary Magdalene Church
South Marston**

MEETING POINT

**The 'drop in' is for all members of our
community**

Is on the 3rd Saturday of the month

Come and Join Us for Coffee

In the Village Hall

10:00 - 12:00 on

Saturday 19th March

**Enquiries or for table reservations
please call 01793 831473**

stm

Calling all singers ...

Young-singers, Old-singers, Been-singing-for-ever-singers, Never-sung-before-singers, Singers in the shower, Singers in the car, Always-wanted-to-be-in-a-musical-singers ...

Jerusalem JOY!

A musical of the story from Palm Sunday to Easter

*Weekly rehearsals, 7-8pm on Sunday Evenings
starting Sunday 20th February 2022 at St Margaret's Church
Suitable for everybody over the age of 7 - Children particularly welcome*

*Performance on Sunday 3rd April 2022 at the Morning Service
For further information contact Angela and Robert at breakspears@sky.com*

Stratton Team Ministry

Coffee Morning

Everyone Welcome



At Stanton House Hotel

10:15am - noon

On Wednesday

16th of March 2022



Down country lanes and tracks

A few years ago I came across the church of St Enodoc's on a walk from Rock in Cornwall, setting off from Padstow across the Camel Estuary in a yellow passenger ferry to Daymar beach. You can find the church by walking through St Enodoc's golf course to the tenth hole - but watch out for golf balls and golfers.

St Enodoc's church has a strange history. It is said to be built on the site of a cave where St Enodoc lived. He could have come from Wales and settled there. The church was started to be built in the 12th century with additions over the next 3 centuries. During 1822 several large storms buried the church with sand and the local vicar at the time had to be lowered down through a roof light to bless the church so it remained consecrated. The sand was dug out and the church cleaned during 1863-64 and restoration was carried out by J.P. St Aubyn.

The golf course was added surrounding the church in 1890.

The most famous family that worshiped there was the Betjeman family who lived at Trebetherick including Sir John Betjeman who wrote a poem about the church and helped to add to the fame of St Enodoc's. He also bought a house in Treen in Daymar Lane in 1959 opposite the 12th Hole of the golf course and following his death in 1984 was buried in the churchyard.

As you reach the church across the golf course and see the church in a hollow with low walls below the surrounding ground level, you can imagine how it could have been buried by sand.

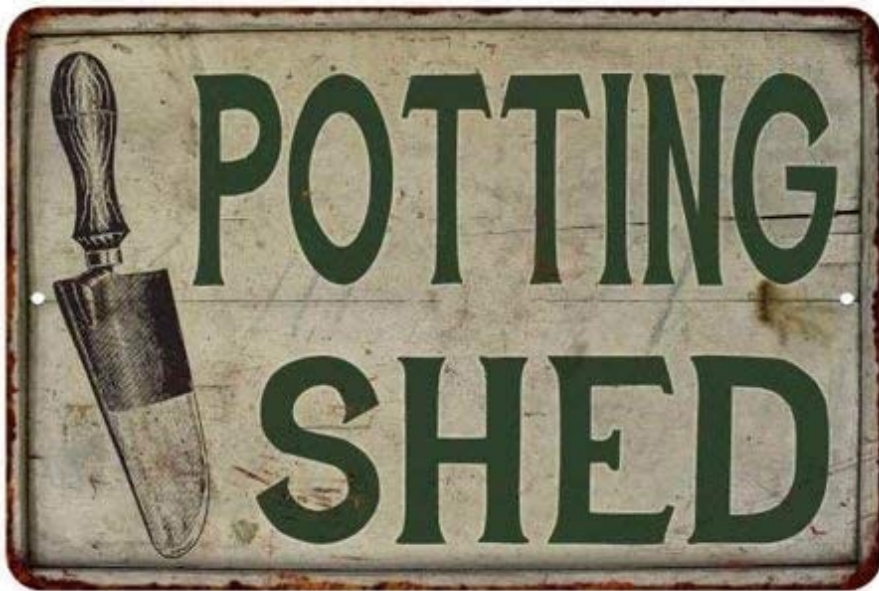
The poem Sir John Betjemen wrote immortalised the church

'Sunday Afternoon Service in St Enodoc Church Cornwall'

So if you're down that way in Padstow, Port Issac or Wadebridge take a walk down from Rock before there is another great storm.

Richard Pflieger..





With a heated Potting shed sheltered from the storms in February, seeds have started to appear and starter plants have been added to make ready for the hanging baskets. More seeds will be sown this month as it gets warmer so by April it should be full of potted on plants.

Don't forget to order your hanging basket I can refill your old one if it helps.

It is strange weather we are having I left geraniums out in the front garden over winter and they have survived and look ready to flower.

Hopefully I can start to list the plants available next month.

Richard Pflieger





WE NEED YOUR HELP TO RAISE MONEY FOR OUR CHURCH
WE ARE HOSTING A:
Clothing Collection

with Rags 2 Riches 4 Schools

Do you have clothes in your wardrobe that you no longer wear, maybe last year's fashions, or that buy that was too good to leave but it's not really you after all?

Please help us fundraise by donating your good quality unwanted, re-useable (clean, dry and wearable) clothes and accessories

(please pair and tie shoes together)

Your donations become affordable clothing in other countries

so please do not send poor quality, dirty or wet items, and no duvets, pillows, curtains, books, CDs or bric-a-brac.

STOP and THINK - is it something you'd wear out and about yourself or pass to a friend? If not, no-one else will want to buy and wear it either, so unfortunately it's not reusable and can't go in the bag.

Even if it's only one t-shirt please bring it in, as it will all help our church.

If you can involve family, friends and neighbours please do.

We truly appreciate your support in helping raise funds for our church for the benefit of all.

There's no better feeling than knowing you raised funds, helped the economy, the environment, and somebody on the other side of the world – and all by donating some clothes.

If we can fill 100 bags we'll have half a tonne!

Please bring bags to St Margaret's Centre On Sunday 20th March

Not before as there is no storage

To Be Collected on 21st March

Volunteers needed to either knit or crochet squares or blankets for the GWH

Or have you got any spare balls of wool to offer?

The GWH End of Life team and Brighter Futures are providing End of Life patient's with blankets.

Blankets are provided to make the hospital setting more homely and less medical in the patients last days of life. The family can then keep the blanket as a loving memory.

Obviously with the COVID 19 pandemic, all blankets and squares must adhere to the Trust's Infection Control Policy so if you can help out at all please contact June Lewis for the simple guidelines.

June Lewis: 07788713729 or email june.lewis13@btinternet.com



Stratton Team Ministry

Invites you to a

MURDER MYSTERY

**SATURDAY 23RD OF APRIL
AT 7PM DOORS OPEN
AT ST MARGARET'S CENTRE**



To Book visit our website

www.stratonteamministry.co.uk

☎ 01793 826505

stmargaretsoffice2@btconnect.com

Tickets £15

With a

Fish & Chip

Supper

from



The Fish Co.

Traditional Fish & Chips

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/murder-mystery-tickets-264422413557>



GIVING

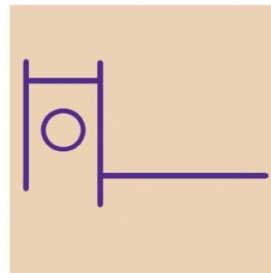
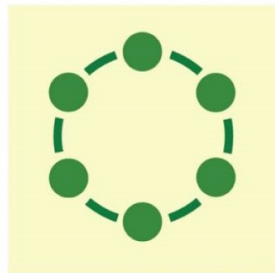
You may be aware that many charities and organisations are struggling at this time, this includes churches.

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

NEW GROUP
Starting Tuesday 8 March

Bumps & Babes

Register Now

forms.gle/fM4NesmSPYWTNuiC7

Stratton Team Ministry are delighted to be starting a new Bumps and Babes group on Tuesday 8 March.

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.

There will be mats and toys available for you to play with your babies, as well as time for a few songs!

We will be joined by guests, once 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 11.15-12.30
Starting Tuesday 8 March

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

Cost: Free

Contact Us & Useful Links



Bumpsandbabes9@gmail.com



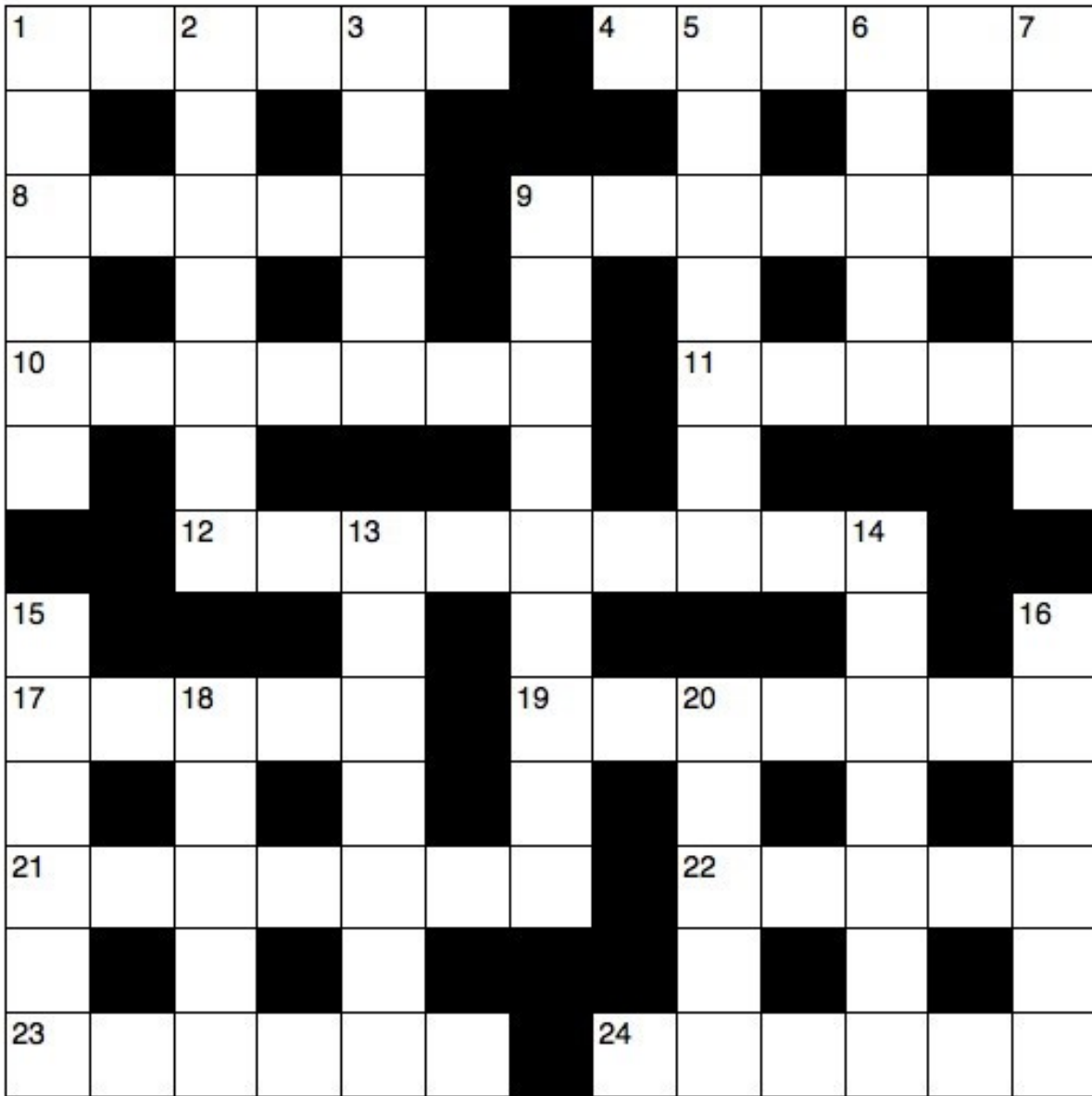
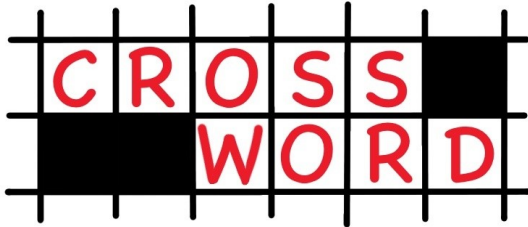
www.strattonteamministry.co.uk/explore/kids-and-youth/bumps-babes/



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



Bumps and Babes | St Margaret's Swindon



Across

- 1 Arouse (Song of Songs 2:7) (6)
- 4 Extinguish (Isaiah 1:31) (6)
- 8 “They — — ,” you will say, “but I’m not hurt!” (Proverbs 23:35) (3,2)
- 9 Unhappiness (Nehemiah 2:2) (7)
- 10 Jewish (7)
- 11 Dirge (anag.) (5)

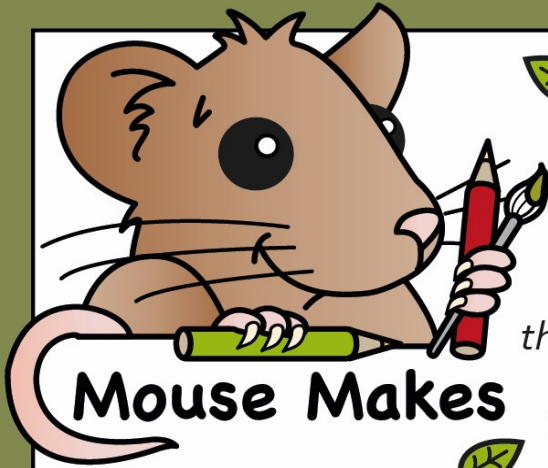
Across

- 12 'A truthful witness gives honest — , but a false witness tells lies' (Proverbs 12:17) (9)
17 Paul quoted from the second one in his address in the synagogue at Pisidian Antioch (Acts 13:33) (5)
19 'Do not use your freedom to — the sinful nature' (Galatians 5:13) (7)
21 'As you can see, he has done nothing to — death' (Luke 23:15) (7)
22 Name applied by Isaiah to Jerusalem (Isaiah 29:1) (5)
23 'All the people — — one man, saying, "None of us will go home"' (Judges 20:8) (4,2)
24 Lazarus, who was carried by angels to Abraham's side when he died, was one (Luke 16:20) (6)

Down

- 1 Appalled (Job 26:11) (6)
2 'In an — to escape from the ship, the sailors let the lifeboat down into the sea' (Acts 27:30) (7)
3 Expel (Acts 18:16) (5)
5 'But I have a baptism to — , and how distressed I am until it is completed!' (Luke 12:50) (7)
6 'Of the increase of his government and peace there will be — — ' (Isaiah 9:7) (2,3)
7 Hurry (Psalm 119:60) (6)
9 'For I desire mercy, not — , and acknowledgement of God rather than burnt offerings' (Hosea 6:6) (9)
13 One of its towns was Sychar, where Jesus met a woman at Jacob's well (John 4:5) (7)
14 Shouting (Acts 7:57) (7)
15 Arachnid (Isaiah 59:5) (6)
16 One of Paul's first converts in Philippi was Lydia, a — in purple cloth (Acts 16:14) (6)
18 Donkeys (5)
20 Raked (anag.) (5)





Mouse Makes

GOOD FRUIT OR BAD FRUIT?

Jesus said:

"No good tree does not produce bad fruit, nor does a bad tree produce good fruit. Each tree is known by its own fruit..."

...Good people bring good things out of the good things stored in their hearts. But evil people bring evil things out of the evil they stored in their hearts. People speak the things that are in their hearts."

- Luke 6: 43-45

During LENT ask God to help you through His Holy Spirit to turn your hate to **love**, your impatience to **patience** and your unkindness to **kindness**, so we can be like a good tree that grows good fruit.



READ
Luke
6: 27-45

How did Jesus
say we should
treat others?

Look up
Luke 6:31



_____ to everyone
who asks you
Luke 6:30

Do _____
to those that
hate you
Luke 6:27

_____ for those who
are cruel to you
Luke 6:28

_____ and you will be
forgiven
Luke 6:37

_____ those who
curse you
Luke 6:28

Find these words from **Luke 6** in the word search above.
GOOD • BAD • FRUIT • TREE • HEART • EVIL • EACH • OWN • STORED

PRODUCE • BRING • SPEAK • REPENT • FORGIVE • LOVE • BLESS • PRAY • GIVE

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Crossword Solutions

ACROSS: 1, Awaken. 4, Quench. 8, Hit me. 9, Sadness. 10, Semitic. 11, Ridge. 12, Testimony. 17, Psalm. 19, Indulge. 21, Deserve. 22, Ariel. 23, Rose as. 24, Beggar.

DOWN: 1, Aghast. 2, Attempt. 3, Eject. 5, Undergo. 6, No end. 7, Hasten. 9, Sacrifice. 13, Samaria. 14, Yelling. 15, Spider. 16, Dealer. 18, Asses. 20, Drake.

STRATTON TEAM MINISTRY NEWS - NEXT EDITION DEADLINE

for Articles and Information anytime before 15th March 2022

Georgina Martin: Church Office,
Tel: 826505 St Margaret's Centre
Email: stmargaretsoffice2@btconnect.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	bumbsandbabes9@gmail.com
Cadley Dance	Maria Howse	824446
Centre Bookings	c/o Church Office	826505
Choir	Geoff Walters	822006
Church Cleaning Rota	Pat England,	822786
Coleview	Church Office	826505
Church Flowers	Richard Pflieger	828367
Evening Fellowship Group	Anne Pope	722187
	email eannepope@gmail .com	
FWO Envelopes	Ray England	822786
Gift Aid Sec.	David Horne	724776
Guide-Brownie Commissioner	Zoe Smith	831190
Kentwood Choir	Mrs S Harrod	725863
Music Group	Rob South	822811
Organists	Rob South	822811
	Geoff Walters	822006
Preschool	Hayley Woods, Supervisor	07816 547752
Wl. Ermin St.	Sue Mould,	670634
Wl. Stratton St Margaret	Mrs Covell	829900

Golden Charter

Funeral Plans



INDEPENDENT FUNERAL DIRECTORS

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PERSONAL SERVICE

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