



MAY

2026

Stratton Team Ministry

Seeking, Sharing, and Serving God Together

www.strattonteamministry.co.uk



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
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CHURCHWARDENS

St. Margaret's Church and St Mary Magdalene Church

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

Instead of a letter to you this month, I am giving you a copy of my sermon that I preached on Sunday Team Service 19th April. The reading to which it refers is the Emmaus Road passage from Luke 24. In the sermon I also took the opportunity to thank those of you who contributed time, skill, and resources to Stratton Team Ministry in the past year. I was asked whether I would share this sermon as it resonated with so many people. So here it is unedited since I delivered it.

When I was a curate Joel my son was still at school.

After theological study at a college the next step in training is a curacy post of 3-4 years. This usually involves the whole family moving to a new area.

Moving in the middle of secondary school years has its problems.

Unfortunately, the 2 closest schools that were in walking distance to our new home, had no space so I had to take Joel from Chippenham to a school in Malmsbury each way Monday to Friday.

Thankfully being able to control my own diary and an understanding training incumbent, meant that I could pretty much make these journeys easily with only a few times when Joel might have to wait until a meeting was over or catch a public bus.

It wasn't a long journey so not too inconvenient,

and I could always go on to things straight from

the morning drop off as my 8 churches were between Chippenham and Malmsbury.

What was quite interesting though, was that somehow these little journeys reconnected us.

I'm sure many of you know what having a teenager in the house is like.

I'm always reminded of the Kevin and Perry sketch by Harry Enfield when

he plays a young boy Kevin becoming 13,

Kevin bounds down the stairs is chatty and excited as he spots his parents stood by a birthday cake.

Suddenly before his parents' eyes Kevin turns into a teenager who loses his ability to speak clearly and slouches.

To their horror his parents exclaim, oh no, he's become a teenager!

Funny but also quite accurate.

Somehow the car journey to and from school changed my grunting teenager into quite a chatty companion.

We had wide ranging conversations that I enjoyed.

It's a time that I look back on and treasure.

Journeys of all types, short or long,

walking or using some other type of transport

have a magic about them.

Maybe it's the ease of not having to look at someone in the eye,

instead both of you are looking ahead.

Maybe it's the time spent in each other's company.

Or, maybe it's the shared experience of the journey whether its easy or hard?

We can see in a lot of TV reality shows that people who go on a journey together, remain connected long after the show ends.

The best ones are when filming concentrates on the conversations the participants have.

People share deeply with each other,

they fall out, they make up, and they find strength in the comrade as they take on challenges.

Some even gain an epiphany that changes them forever.

It's this theme of journey that takes us to our Gospel reading.

Luke gives us a journey.

Two disciples are walking away from Jerusalem on that first Easter Day, confused and trying to make sense of it all.

As they walk, they talk.

They go over what has happened,
Their hopes and dreams seemingly shattered,
It seems that their journey with Jesus is over.

Not knowing what else to do,

These two followers decided to go home.

Leaving the other followers who are in hiding,

They embark on another journey.

As they journey together they are talking,

Trying to make sense of all that has happened.

Just then Jesus comes alongside them,

not a glorious appearing,

not with certainty that these two followers can recognise him,

but as a stranger on the road.

He listens.

He asks questions.

He walks with them.

He talks to them.

Jesus opens the scriptures, and slowly they begin to understand more clearly.

As they arrive at their destination. They invite this stranger to stay with them.

They share a meal together and

It is then, as Jesus breaks bread that He is revealed to them.

But then he disappears,

there's no explanation in Luke, Jesus is just gone.

But these two travellers have been changed in a moment.

"Were not our hearts burning within us..."

In the breaking of bread they recognise him.

They don't recognise Jesus at the beginning of the journey. They recognise him in the middle of it.

That moment does not stay on the road.

They turn around, go back, and tell the others.

This trip back is not a different journey.

It is the same journey reaching a different moment.

In Acts we see where that journey leads.

Peter stands and says with clarity,

"This Jesus... God has made him both Lord and Messiah." The response is immediate.

"They were cut to the heart..."

This is that deep, gut response that the two travellers on the Emmaus Road experienced,

It is the gut response Mary felt when Jesus spoke her name.

It is our response when we first believe
And that response when we have our own 'encounter moments'.

The same journey is taking place,
from walking,
to recognising,
to responding.
Faith is not just a moment.
It is a long journey that leads somewhere.

Our journey is an unbroken journey that began with the story of creation.
Continued with the birth of Jesus
And meets us now and continues on into future generations.

This Emmaus Road account has something to say to us.
We are on a journey,
but
Faith is **not** something we are meant to do alone.
The Emmaus story is **not** about one person figuring it out.

It is about people walking together,
talking together,
discovering together.
That is how faith grows.

It does not grow through having all the answers or having everything worked out.
It grows through a willingness to share the journey.
Church is a place where we journey together in our faith,
in our discipleship, worship and fellowship.
We don't have to go it alone,

There were two that started out on the Emmaus road,
2 that soon became 3 when Jesus joined them.
3 became many more when they rejoined the followers.

Part of being a Christian is being together,
It is being part of a community
Being part of a church,

the mixed life of our churches,
with all its good points and bad
is what helps shape us.
If everything was easy, and we all agreed,
and we all looked the same,
thought the same
did the same
then we would never grow.

No expertise is required to join.
Everything does not need to be worked out.
A willingness to walk with two or three others is enough.
Most of the time we recognise Jesus not when everything makes sense,
but when it does not
All we need is a willingness to walk and talk together.

Part of being a Christian is about supporting this church community,
its about praying for each other,
it's about spending time together,
it's about singing a hymn when our brother or sister just can't,
it's about shouldering each others' burdens.
It's about working together through our times of doubt.
It's about support,

It should feel like **home**, until we reach our heavenly home.
It should be a place where we are accepted and loved just as we are.
None of us are perfect we are all on a journey
A journey that is far less lonely when we do it together.

There is a practical side.
In our house we have a chores chart.
We are a household of 4 adults and we all need to contribute.
No one, well at least we don't, likes cleaning!

The only time our house gets a really good clean is when we were expecting guests!
Amazing how an important guest can cause a cleaning frenzy!

For a time, all jobs fell to me and Alex and our adult kids got away with doing nothing.
That left us feeling a bit overwhelmed and unappreciated.

It wasn't fair, we all deserved to live in clean house
But the jobs of running the house shouldn't be left to the few.
Everyone should play their part.
So we sat down and worked out who was going to do what.
I have to say there was a change in both our children,
Hard to say exactly but
They seemed to inflate, like there was new sense of self respect and responsibility.

We all should be able to take pride in the work we do to make our home a nice place to be.
We are all responsible for our home.

If church is our Christian home on earth,
then there is a practical side here too.
It's about helping keep the church home running,
It's about volunteering for roles and jobs that keep this church open.
Just like chores, they might not be our favourite thing,
We do it because we love our church home and we want to look after it.

Being part of a church family is about setting aside money to help support the church.
Giving financially, what we call tithing is part of our responsibility.

Just as our adult children share in the chores for the family home they also share some of their income.

It means we can all keep the home going.

The money goes to pay the bills,

It goes towards repairs

It goes towards making our home a comfortable and nice place to be.

Giving to our church home is the same,

Some goes to pay our bills,

Some goes to meet our commitments to the wider church family.

Some goes to repairs

And some goes towards making our church home a nice place to be.

Giving towards our church home is vital so that it can continue to be a place where people can meet and support each other now and in the future.

Without these things, without volunteers,

without financial support this church home would close.

This time of year we hold our APCMs

and it is an opportunity for me to thank everyone for all their support.

So here goes,.....

I want to thank each and every one of you

for all you do for our church home that Stratton Team Ministry made up of.

St Leonard's, St Mary Magdalene, St Margaret's, and Coleview

What ever you do, everything you do,

Thank you.

We are on the long walk of faith together.

It is not a single moment but a shared journey.

Our church home is a place of safety and love.

Our earthly home needs us all to take responsibility in its care.

Every time we open our Church home to be together,

we are expecting the most honoured guest of all to visit.

We invite Jesus into our church home.

What an honour it is to be able to say that we have played our part in making our home ready for him.

We walk this journey together as a family

In love and in faith.

As we do this we can be sure that Jesus will meet us.





APCM Reports Summary 2025

Across St Margaret's, St Leonard and St Mary Magdalene, South Marston

Across the Stratton Team in 2025, our churches continued to show a strong worshipping life and a steady commitment to community mission.

Special services across the year, a thriving Community Choir and valued organists enriched worship, while major fabric repairs at St Margaret's (south chapel/porch roof and bell tower roof) safeguarded the building for the future.

Fundraising and outreach were a notable strength, with events made possible by improved facilities, a successful inaugural Beer Festival, and ongoing support for the Swindon Food Collective and other charities.

The year included significant moments of celebration and shared ministry, including VE Day commemoration with civic guests and the team's participation in Rev Charlotte's priesting at Bristol Cathedral and her first communion at St Margaret's.

St Margaret's sustained excellent attendance at regular Sunday services (averaging around 60, rising to around 75 at communion) and welcomed large congregations at Advent and Christmas services.

At St Leonard, faithful monthly worship, family services, and generous behind-the-scenes service continued, alongside practical partnerships in the local community and charitable giving.

At St Mary Magdalene, South Marston, the parish hosted team and ecumenical services, celebrated two weddings, and marked loss through funerals with care and dignity; coffee mornings and village events strengthened community links, and bell ringing was successfully revived. Work with South Marston CofE Academy remained a key part of church life through seasonal services, assemblies and visits, helping to sustain a warm and visible Christian presence.

Throughout the benefice, we remain grateful for clergy, lay ministers, PCC members, volunteers and supporters whose time, prayer and practical service enable our churches to be welcoming, worshipping and outward-looking communities.

The full reports are available on the website just click link below

<https://www.strattonteamministry.co.uk/about-us/>

Thoughts

From time to time we all sit and cogitate drifting from one random thought to another. Recently, I found myself doing just that. I remembered some 70 cows driven each day from Artis farm down through North Wroughton to the Black Horse fields, apart from Military traffic and “Old Firm” buses little traffic was bothered, in the evening the reverse took place. A fence separated our garden from Belmont Farm and as a toddler I was captivated watching the dozen cows being milked in the little Shippon.

I was confirmed aged eleven and Christmas day was marked by Communion at seven am as Canon Rees came from St John’s and St Helen's before a service back there at 8am, he had of course a petrol ration.

I found myself remembering sheep and pigs mentioned in the New Testament and thinking that Cows receive less mention therein and that Jesus spoke of His Flock and how He is our shepherd.

No matter what, He is always with us safeguarding us as His Holy flock and from this we can take great comfort.

Colin Howell.



MAY

3rd May

**St Margaret's
Church**

9:30am

Holy Communion
Service

**St Leonard's
Church**

9:30am

Sunday Morning
Worship

**St Mary Magdalene
Church**

10am

All Age Worship

10th May

**St Margaret's
Church**

9:30am

Sunday Morning
Worship

**St Mary Magdalene
Church**

9:30am

Holy Communion
Service

**St Leonard's
Church**

11am

Family Service

Thursday 14th May

St Margaret's Church

7pm

Holy Communion

17th May

St Margaret's Church

10am

Team Worship

24th May

**St Margaret's
Church**

9:30am

Sunday Morning
Worship

**St Leonard's
Church**

9:30am

Holy Communion
Service

**Coleview Community
Centre**

11am

Holy Communion
Service

31st May

St Leonard's Church

10am

Team Worship

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.

Imaginative Contemplation

St Margaret's Church, Stratton - Sunday, 3rd May at 8pm



What is imaginative contemplation?

It is a way of getting to know Jesus better, through a method of prayer developed by St Ignatius of Loyola, used by Christians over several centuries. You imagine yourself as present in a Gospel scene, stepping into the story and encountering Jesus there.

Our imagination is God's gift to us, just as our mind and memory are gifts from God. Just as God can speak to us through the scriptures and sacraments, through daily experiences and our emotions, he can also speak through our imagination.

This session will last no more than 30 minutes. There is no need to speak, simply listen to a guided meditation through a passage from John's gospel.

What is Certain?

Nothing it would seem is certain and insecurity abounds. Transport schedules are disrupted by events over which we appear to have no control. Costs rise as a result, shortages are threatened so where can we turn? Do we need so many things that we take for granted? In my day sprouts were for winter, tomatoes for the summer months but by freezing and imports these and many commodities are available all year round.

As I grew up, virtually all our vegetables were home grown as indeed were ours when I married until age stopped this. So would it hurt us to go back to gardening each evening as we come home from work, after a busy start to the gardening year it becomes less onerous and indeed pleasurable. Do we need outdoor hot tubs and patio heaters?

I am sure that we can adopt a less materialistic lifestyle again being less driven by adverts that tell us what we deserve. What is the alternative? Can I suggest that there is no competition? Trust in our Lord God is the answer, only He can give us certainty ; trust and faith in our Lord God through His son our Risen Lord Jesus should suffice. God Bless us all.

Colin Howell.



Upcoming Events



 Summer Garden Party

5th
July

 Beer Festival

11th-12th
September

 1920's Murder Mystery

30th
October

 Thamesdown Choir

12th
December

For More Information keep a watch on our Website, Facebook or sign up for our weekly notice sheet.



01793 826505



stmchurchoffice020@gmail.com



Websites: www.strattonteamministry.co.uk



Facebook: @StrattonTeamMinistry



ST MARGARET'S CHURCH



BEER FESTIVAL



Save the Dates

11th, 12th & 13th September

Ticket (includes free drink)

ST MARGARET'S CHURCH, SN3 4NB

///ducks.lung.furniture

*Proceeds in aid of St Margaret's Church Tower Roof Fund.
With 10% to church backed charities*

LOOK OUT for Further details or visit

strattonteamministry.co.uk



[strattonteamministry](https://www.facebook.com/strattonteamministry)





“Join us, Join in!”

Mothers' Union Swindon Deanery Branch

Our May meeting will be on Friday 8th

It will be in St Margaret's Centre at 2.30pm

And our speaker will be our Curate,

Rev Charlotte Stansfield

Everyone is welcome

Do come and join us.

For more info, visit the Bristol MU website

www.mubristol.co.uk



480 million women around the world can't read or write

Anne Pope - MU Swindon Deanery Area Coordinator



Theme – Thy Kingdom Come

Reflection for Thy Kingdom Come

As we wait for God's kingdom to come, we have time to think about how we can make His kingdom known here and now. Let us spread God's message to as many people as we can through our faith in action, working to end poverty, violence and injustice for all Your people at home and around the world.

Monday – Sharing God's love

*In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven. **Matthew 5:16***
Loving Lord, as we join with Thy Kingdom Come to pray for others to know Your transforming love, strengthen us to share Your compassion through word and action. Empower our outreach to families and communities, that through kindness, hospitality, and faithful presence many may come to recognise the hope found in Jesus Christ. Amen

Tuesday – Praying for 5 *

I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people. 1 Timothy 2:1

God of grace, today we lift before You the five people on our hearts. May Your Spirit gently draw them into the fullness of life that Christ offers.

As Christian members of your church, help us to be faithful companions - listening, encouraging, and offering Your love in practical ways. Help us to share an invitation to one person to join us and join in. May our prayers sow seeds of hope in their lives. Amen.

Wednesday – United in Diversity

*Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace. **Ephesians 4:3***

Holy God, we thank You for the beautiful diversity of Your worldwide Church, and for the church family spread across nations, cultures, and languages. As Thy Kingdom Come unites believers in prayer across 85+ denominations, may we too be united in purpose - working together for justice, dignity, and the strengthening of families everywhere. Make us instruments of Your peace. Amen.

Thursday – Being Renewed

*But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth. **Acts 1:8***

Come, Holy Spirit, Fill our hearts with Your renewing love. Where families struggle, bring healing; where communities are divided, bring reconciliation; where daily life is burdened, bring strength. Renew Christians everywhere that we may be bold in faith, steadfast in service, and joyful in building Your kingdom of love. Amen.

Friday – Rooted in The Lord's Prayer

*Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. **Matthew 6:10***

Our Father in heaven, may Your kingdom come in places of injustice, Your will be done in homes facing hardship, and Your peace be known in communities longing for safety. Give us courage to speak up for the vulnerable, to support those in need, and to embody the forgiveness and grace Jesus teaches. Strengthen us as we live out the values of Your kingdom. Amen

Saturday – Faithful and Creative Prayer

And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people. Ephesians 6:18

Gracious God, thank You for meeting us in prayer - spoken or silent, creative or simple. As Thy Kingdom Come encourages believers to pray in many ways, inspire Christians everywhere to deepen their spiritual lives and stay attentive to Your presence. May our daily walk reflect Your love and Your call. Amen.

Blessing Prayer for the month

Lord Christ, true light of the world, shine, we pray,
in the hearts of your people,
that we might see the Way that leads to eternal life,
and follow without stumbling;
for you are the Way, O Christ,
as you are the Truth and the Life. Amen.

Thy Kingdom Come (TKC) is a global ecumenical prayer movement that invites Christians around the world to pray from Ascension to Pentecost for more people to come to know Jesus.

*Since it began in May 2016, God has grown TKC from a dream of possibility into a movement which unites more than a million Christians in prayer, in nearly 90% of countries worldwide, across 85 different denominations and traditions- so that **5** friends or family, neighbours or colleagues might come to faith in Jesus Christ



DID YOU KNOW?



Did you know that references to Parakeets living in London go back to 1795?
And now you know.



Did you know that Reindeers' ankles click as they walk and that in blizzards they can keep in touch with the herd by listening to these sounds?
And now you know.



Did you know how Vinegar got its name? Like many English words it comes from another language, in this case French, from vin egre meaning sour wine
And now you know.

JOKES



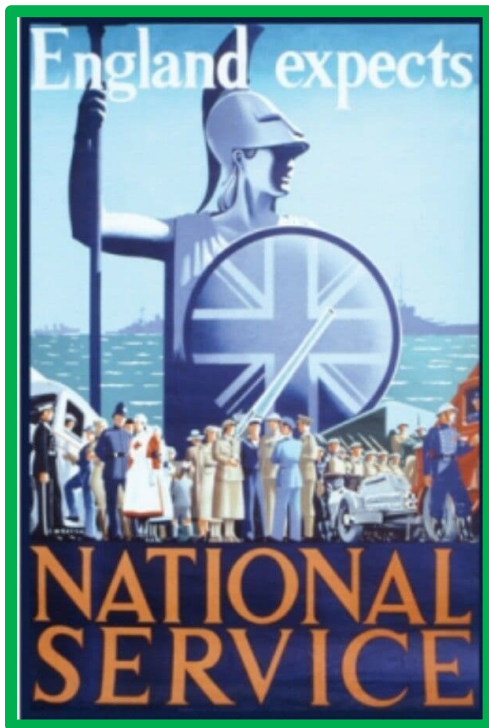
🐱 Two students shared a flat and a cat. Neither of the students was a particularly good cook. One day one of the students returned to find his flatmate wringing his hands in despair. 'What happened?' asked the student. 'The cat ate your dinner.' 'Don't worry,' replied the first student. 'We'll buy another cat tomorrow.'

🐱 The vet had just supervised the delivery of a litter of kittens to the old spinster's cat. 'I just don't know how it could have happened,' said the spinster. 'Tibbles is never allowed out and no other cats are ever allowed into the house.' 'But what about him?' asked the vet, pointing to a large tom cat sitting in an armchair. 'Oh, don't be silly,' replied the spinster. 'That's her brother.'

Definitions



- 📖 **Cloak** - mating call of a Chinese frog.
- 📖 **Countdown** - something they do in an eiderdown factory.
- 📖 **Dogma** - the mother of puppies.
- 📖 **Gentleman** - one who gives up his seat to a lady in a public convenience.
- 📖 **Ghoulash** - a cremated ghost.
- 📖 **Mushroom** - place where Eskimos train their dogs.
- 📖 **Myth** - unmarried female with a lisp.
- 📖 **Octopus** - an eight-sided cat.
- 📖 **Polysyllables** - the language of parrots.
- 📖 **Sadist** - someone who would put a drawing-pin on an electric chair.
- 📖 **Signature tune** - song of a young swan.
- 📖 **Statistician** - a person who, if you've got your feet in the oven and your head in the refrigerator, will tell you that, on average, you're very comfortable.
- 📖 **Ultimate** - the last person to marry.



When National Service was in force in England a young man who was called up pleaded very bad eye-sight and so it appeared. He failed all the usual tests and then in desperation the examiner held up a dustbin lid and said: 'Tell me, what is this?' The fellow blinked and then said: 'Well, it's either a two-bob bit or half a crown. 'Well, he was not accepted and in great glee the chap went off to celebrate with a visit to a cinema. He had not been sitting there very long when, to his horror, who should come and sit down next to him, but the examiner. They recognized each other, but, quick as a flash, the rejected conscript said: 'Am I on the right bus for Bromley?'

Questions

- ❓ 'Why did you push him under a steam roller?' 'Because I wanted a flat mate.'
- ❓ Did the coroner who lost his pub go on an inn quest?
- ❓ If you sat in a bucket of glue would you have a sticky end?
- ❓ 'Why are you jumping up and down?' 'Because I've just taken some medicine and I forgot to shake the bottle.'
- ❓ Who was Joan of Arc? Noah's wife!
- ❓ Where was Ann Boleyn beheaded? Just below the chin.
- ❓ What happens when you immerse the human body in water? The telephone rings.
- ❓ Does fishing result in net profits?
- ❓ 'Why are you drinking red and white paint?' 'Because I'm an interior decorator.'
- ❓ Is playing tennis courting disaster - or is it a racket?
- ❓ Is a budget a baby budgerigar?
- ❓ 'What is fire?' 'That is a burning question.'



Stratton
Team Ministry

Everyone
welcome

**St Margaret's Church Stratton
Hosts Coffee Morning**

at

St Margaret's Centre

Every Thursday

9:30am - 11:30am

Tea also available

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 Date 16th May

Enquiries or for tabletop sales please call

01793 824339



St Leonard's Church Stanton

Hosts Coffee Morning now at
Stanton House Hotel

10:15am - noon

On the 3rd Wednesday

Of the month

Everyone Welcome



20th May

Jules Nolan

Inside the Family Court

**St Mary Magdalene
Church
South Marston**

**Invite you for
All Age Worship**

**10am Every First Sunday
of the month**





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/>

-

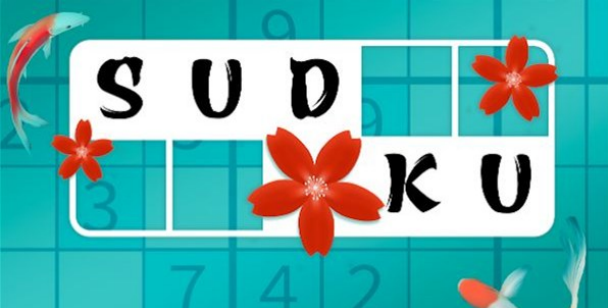
If you haven't considered the PGS before, we would ask you to prayerfully consider doing so. It's very easy to sign up and it works in a similar way to a Direct Debit (that it is intended to replace), in that a regular payment authorised by you goes out either weekly, monthly or yearly straight to the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



Scan me & choose the Church for your kind donation

PARISH
GIVING
SCHEME








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

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.

Recycling at St Margaret's Centre

Please bring clean and dry:

-  Bread Bags
-  Milk Bottle Tops
-  Blister Packets
-  Ink Cartridges
-  Stamps

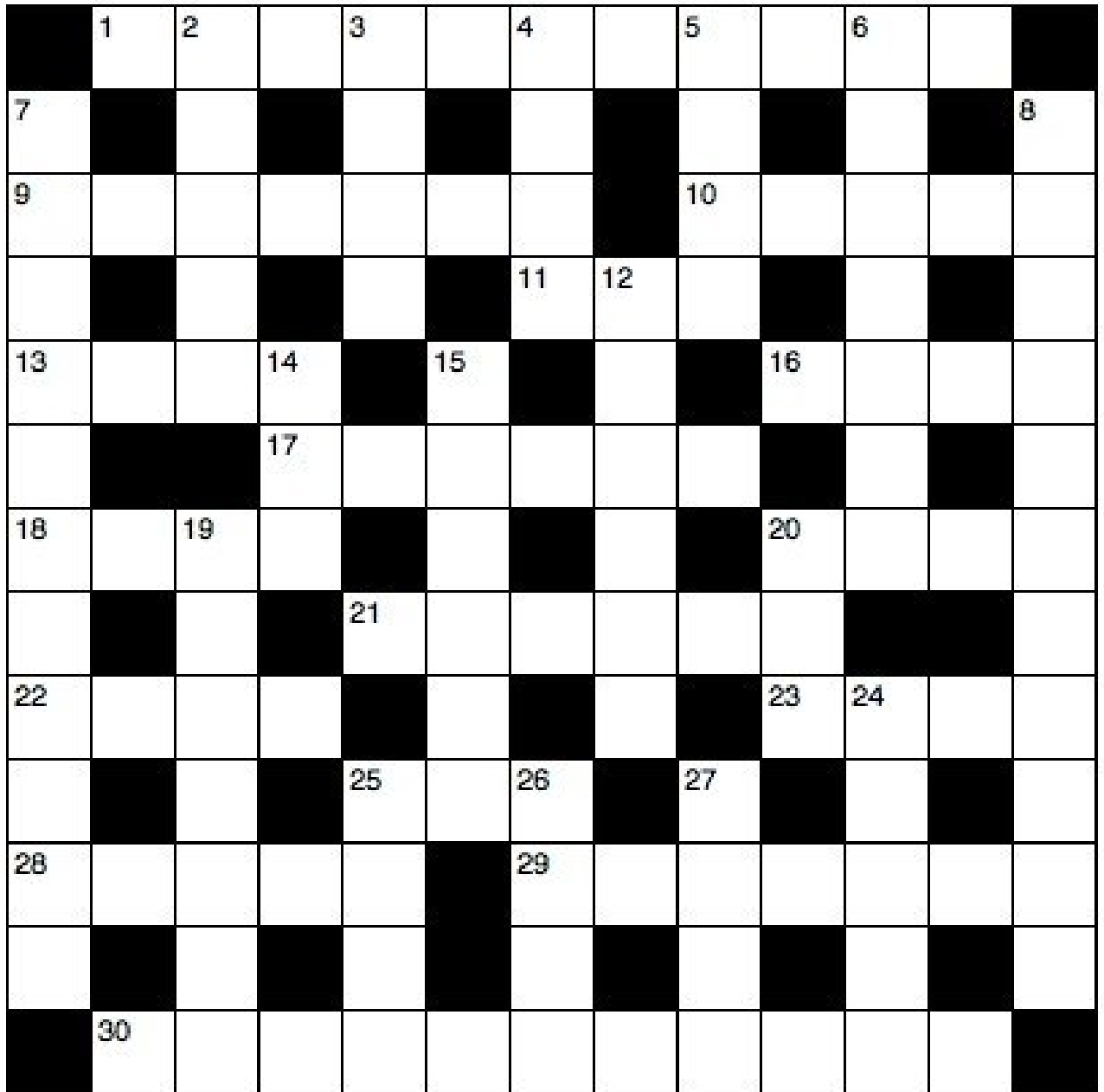
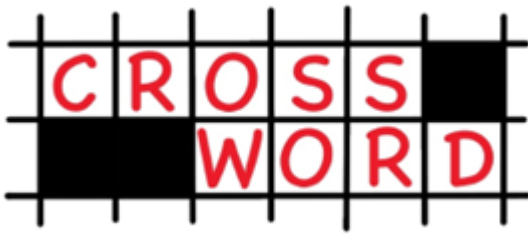
These help support Charities such:



IMPORTANT

Please ensure these are all sorted into correct bins.

They are taken by various volunteers



Across

- 1 Overpowered (Deuteronomy 11:4) (11)
- 9 'The — are mantled with corn' (Psalm 65:13) (7)
- 10 'Each man—a sword to his side' (Exodus 32:27) (5)

Across

- 11 On the death of Jesus the curtain in the temple was torn from— to bottom (Matthew 27:51) (3)
- 13 Stagger (Isaiah 28:7) (4)
- 16 'Anyone, then, who knows the good he ought— —and doesn't do it, sins' (James 4:17) (2,2)
- 17 Stir up or provoke (Acts13:50) (6)
- 18 Burden (Luke11:46) (4)
- 20 'As far as the east is from the—, so far has he removed our transgressions from us' (Psalm 103:12) (4)
- 21 Sign (Luke23:38) (6)
- 22 'After that, Jesus poured water into a basin and began to—his disciples' feet' (John 13:5) (4)
- 23 The nature of the seven ears of corn which swallowed up the good ears in Pharaoh's dream (Genesis 41:23) (4)
- 25 Has (anag.) (3)
- 28 'This is the account of Shem, Ham and Japheth, —sons' (Genesis 10:1) (5)
- 29 'I will...make them drunk, so that they...sleep for— and— awake' (Jeremiah 51:39) (4,3)
- 30 Paul said of him, 'he often refreshes me and is not ashamed of my chains' (2 Timothy 1:16) (11)

Down

- 2 Worth (Matthew 13:46) (5)
- 3 'A bruised — He will not break' (Matthew 12:20) (4)
- 4 'Suddenly a great company of the heavenly — appeared with the angel' (Luke 2:13) (4)
- 5 Slip (anag.) (4)
- 6 'Take an awl and push it through his — — into the door, and he will become your servant for life' (Deuteronomy 15:17) (3,4)
- 7 Bountiful (2 Corinthians 8:2) (11)

Down

8 'Therefore, as we have —, let us do good to all people'
(Galatians 6:10) (11)

12 Acquire (2 Timothy 2:10) (6)

14 Container cover (Numbers 19:15) (3)

15 'He...became obedient to death, even death on— —!'
(Philippians 2:8) (1,5)

19 Refrain (1 Peter 2:11) (7)

20 'She began to—his feet with her tears' (Luke 7:38) (3)

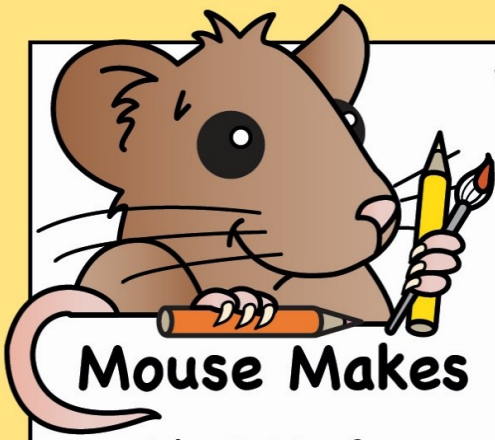
24 One who worships Brahma, Vishnu or Shiva (5)

25 'Give to everyone who—you' (Luke 6:30) (4)

26 'I lift up my eyes to the hills; where does my—come
from?' (Psalm 121:1) (4)

27 One of those whom the Lord said would be taken from
Jerusalem and Judah as judgment on them (Isaiah 3:2) (4)





Mouse Makes

WHO IS THE HOLY SPIRIT?

The Spirit of

_____ *Genesis 1:2*

The

_____ of the Father.

Acts 1:4

The Spirit of

A _____

Romans 8:15

H _____

John 14:26

The Spirit of

_____ *John 16:13*

The Spirit of

_____ *Acts 16:7*

The Fruit of the Spirit

Galatians 5:22-23

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What happened when the Holy Spirit came at Pentecost?

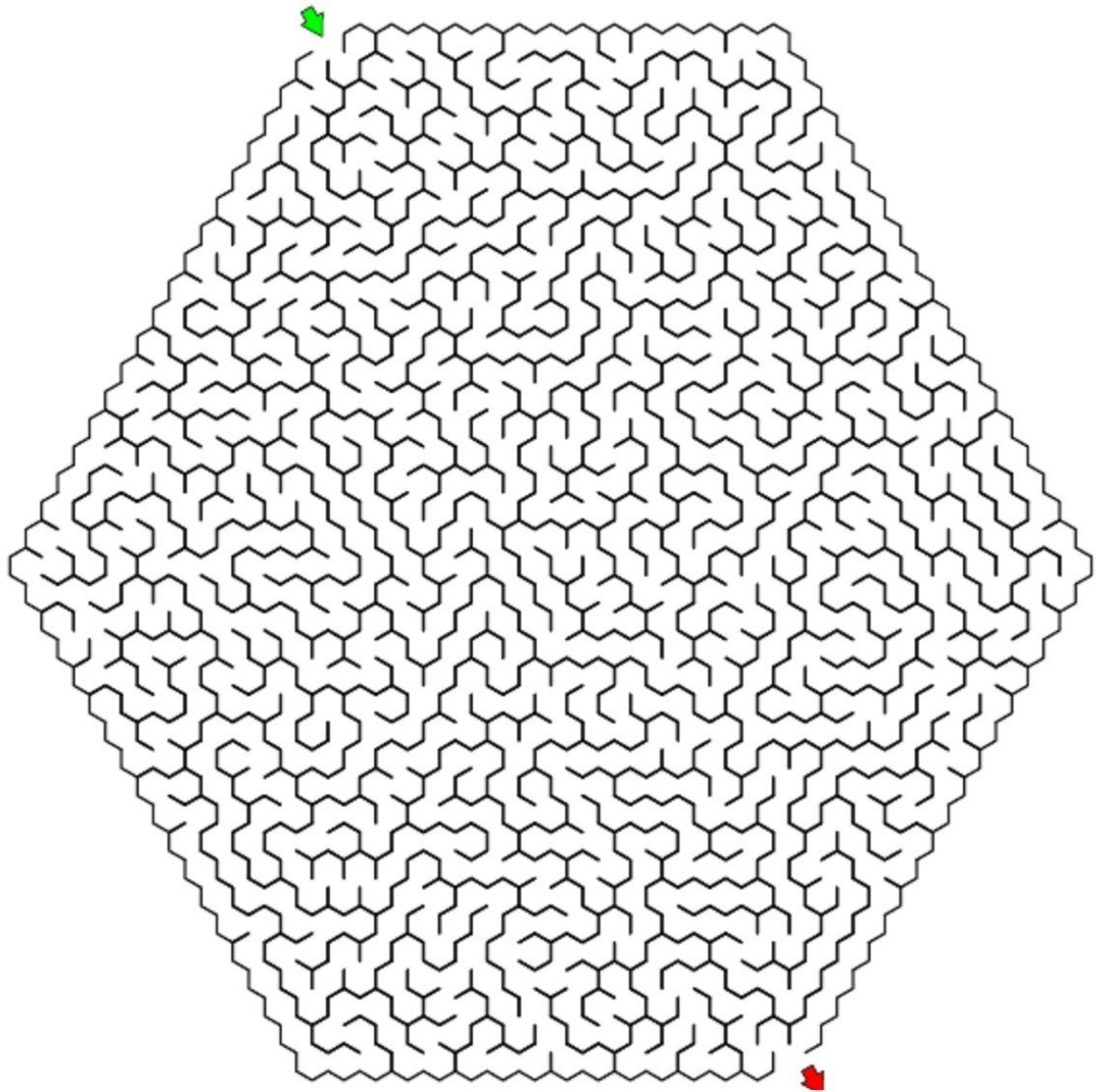
read **Acts 2:1-41**

How many believers were baptised that day?

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

Look up the Bible verses and fill in the missing words. Look for them in the word search then look for these words below.

HOLY • SPIRIT • COUNSELLOR • COMFORTER
 ADVOCATE • TEACHER • LORD • PROMISE
 GLORY • GRACE • FAITH • DOVE • FIRE • WIND



Crossword Solutions

ACROSS: 1, Overwhelmed. 9, Valleys. 10, Strap. 11, Top. 13, Reel. 16, To do. 17, Incite. 18, Load. 20, West. 21, Notice. 22, Wash. 23, Thin. 25, Ash. 28, Noah's. 29, Ever not. 30, Onesiphorus.

DOWN: 2, Value. 3, Reed. 4, Host. 5, Lisp. 6, Ear lobe. 7, Overflowing. 8, Opportunity. 12, Obtain. 14, Lid. 15, A cross. 19, Abstain. 20, Wet. 24, Hindu. 25, Asks. 26, Help. 27, Hero.

STRATTON TEAM MINISTRY NEWS - NEXT EDITION DEADLINE

for Articles and Information anytime before 15th May 2026

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

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