

ST. WILFRID'S & ST. MICHAEL'S

Meeting Needs, Bringing Hope, Sharing Love



Holy Trinity

June 21 Newsletter

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Deputy churchwarden

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Vic Murray

God in the Garden in June:

The extra light and warmth this month means this is the optimal growing time in your garden. All your precious plants are hungrily soaking up those extra hours of sunshine to look their best. But, it's also perfect growing time for weeds, including dandelions. The humble dandelion has a surprisingly rich folklore, I can see the appeal for children to pick a clock dandelion and blow away the parachutes as they count off the hours, they are also known as Shepherd's Clocks as they open around 5am and shut around 8pm. Weeds are essentially any unwanted plant growing in the wrong place. However not every plant which self seeds needs to be plucked up as a weed. My garden is quite shady, I usually end up with a few anemones, bluebells, foxgloves. I love these unexpected visitors as they provide a natural look, and don't require anything from me except to sit back and enjoy. The sunnier side of my garden gets fewer wildflowers self seeding but I usually find a few Californian Poppies, these are gorgeous. The Californian poppies turning up unannounced remind me of how Jesus reacted to the woman who turned up unannounced with an alabaster jar of perfume.

When one of the Pharisees invited Jesus to have dinner with him, he went to the Pharisees house and reclined at the table. A woman in that town lived a sinful life learned that Jesus was eating at the house, so she came there with an alabaster jar of perfume. As she stood behind him at his feet weeping, she began to wet his feet with her tears. Then she wiped them with her hair, kissed them and poured perfume on them. When the Pharisee saw this he said to himself, 'If this man were a prophet, he would know who is touching him, and what kind of woman she is, a sinner'. Jesus answered him, 'Simon I have something to tell you'. 'Tell me Teacher', he said '2 people owed money, one £500 the other £50. Neither had the money to pay back so the moneylender forgave them both. 'Simon, which one would love him most? 'The one with the bigger debt' 'You have judged correctly' Jesus said. He turned to the woman – 'I came into your house, you did not give me any water for my feet, but she wet my feet with her tears and wiped them with her hair. You did not give me a kiss, but this woman from the time I entered has not stopped kissing my feet. You did not put oil on my head, but she poured perfume on my feet. Therefore I tell you her many sins have been forgiven – as her great love as shown. But whoever has been forgiven little loves little. Then Jesus said to her, 'Your sins are forgiven' Your faith has saved you, go in peace'

Lord Jesus, we can see from the Bible passage how much you welcomed the unbounded love this woman showed you. Help us to show our love for you in spontaneous ways. Amen.

Tasks this week: Hoeing. Planting hanging baskets. dead heading delphiniums.

Beware Messages from Hacked Emails

Fraudsters are taking control of Warwickshire residents' email accounts to send bogus emails. The email usually asks the recipient to buy gift cards/vouchers (Amazon, Google or iTunes) for a present for a friend of the email sender. The email usually states that the sender can't buy the vouchers themselves because they are 'travelling'. Because the emails come from hacked accounts, people are more easily tricked into believing they are genuine and some people have lost money this way. When the vouchers or gift cards are purchased, the fraudster asks the buyer to email them the voucher numbers, after which they can be used (the fraudster does not need the physical card).

Similar scams are also perpetrated via hacked social media accounts.

National Insurance Scam Warwickshire residents continue to receive very convincing recorded telephone messages from scammers claiming that fraudulent activity has been detected with regards to their National Insurance number. The message goes on to say that their NI number will be suspended and their assets seized if they don't stay on the line and press a key to speak to someone. Those who do are sometimes convinced to hand over money to 'sort the problem out'!

Bogus Netflix Email If you subscribe to a subscription service like Netflix, beware of bogus emails stating that your account will be cancelled because of an outstanding invoice. The scam emails usually direct recipients (via links) to bogus websites where user names, passwords and other personal and financial information can be stolen. Many of these emails carry the branding of the company they purport to come from. If you are concerned, log in to your account via the secure web browser or app. **Never do so via a link in an email.**

You've Missed a Parcel! With so many of us now ordering goods online due to COVID, fraudsters have been seeking to take advantage. Most recently Warwickshire consumers have reported receiving bogus Hermes text messages stating that they missed a parcel delivery and directing them via a link in the text to a website to reschedule the delivery. These links can take people to malicious websites where personal and financial information can be stolen. You may also be asked to pay a fee for your 'missing parcel' to be delivered! Some businesses have reported receiving bogus letters that claim to come from 'Covid Task Force, part of the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS)'. The letters claim that it is a legal requirement for air purifiers to be installed as part of the Government's roadmap out of lockdown. The letter includes an offer to sell such purifiers to the recipient with a request for company details. The letter requests that an order form be completed and returned in the envelope provided and that a member of the Taskforce will be in contact and pressure to comply is added in stating failure to purchase the device could lead to fines of up to £5,000

<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/tradingstandards.01926.738987>

WORDSEARCH

The Man Who Refused to Forgive

J	E	S	U	S	E	V	E	N	T	Y	H	H	S
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TRESPASSES
KINGDOM
LIKENEED
BROTHER
SEVENTY
SORRY
ACCOUNT
HEARTS
AGAINST
PATIENCE
TORMENTORS
THOUSAND
FORGIVE
PRISON
HUNDRED
HEAVEN
THROAT
JESUS
PAYMENT
PETER

(A LAUGH IS A SMILE THAT BURSTS.)

Finding Peace In The Storms Of Life

During a terrible storm on the ocean, a small passenger ship rolled precariously in the roaring tempest. The furniture and anything else that could move was tied down, and the passengers were confined to their bunks for their own safety. Many on board thought the vessel was doomed.

Finally, a passenger who was determined to find out if there was any hope for survival, set out to see the one who was in command. Clinging to the walls and handrails, he made his way to the wave-lashed deck, up a ladder, and into the wheelhouse. He noticed that the ship was nearing land and was between some jagged rocks. It became apparent that the captain was trying to reach the safety of a calm bay up ahead. Knowing he could not make himself heard above the roar of the wind and waves, the captain just turned wordlessly to the worried passenger and smiled. Reassured, the man returned to the others and said, “Don’t be afraid. All is well. I’ve seen the captain’s face, and he smiled!”

When we are battered by the storms of life, we may be tempted to give in to feelings of hopelessness. But if we will look to our sovereign Captain (Hebrews 2:10 KJV) and commit our way to Him ([Psalm 37:5](#)), we will find peace even in the midst of great turmoil. We can trust Him to bring us through the storm (Mark 4:36-41).

Memories of Arley Villages by Owen Stain:

These days I don't suppose it means much to the younger generation to be ask a pal if they would like to come with us to a match at Aston Villa, they would be over the moon. Over the years I visited many of the teams grounds and met many of the top players and personalities who were either connected or supported them. This as you can well imagine was simply wonderful to me and I could tell all my mates about this in the days that followed. I guess this was why for many years my nickname was 'Pongo' after the Villa's centre forward, Pongo Waring. My Father was never interested in having a car – he was a lover of motorbikes. Over the years he did improve on his models from one you occasionally had to hit with a hammer in a certain spot to keep it going to a Brough Superior 1150cc. Before he had the money to afford a motor bike he used a push bike to Villa Park. He told me many times his Mother used to push the bike to the main road as he ate his sandwiches, then set off on his mission to cheer on his team. His brothers I'm told, said he must be mad, it was his love and he continued to support them all his life until he was too poorly to go anymore: that was when he was 81 years old. Just one story I could relate of many, he had Bacon & Eggs for his tea when they won, but a couple of Aspro's when they lost – well that's the tale told by his fellow workers. Before Arley Colliery closed, a shaft was being sunk at Daw Mill. This was in the first place supposed to be an air shaft for the Dexter pit at Hurley, but as most people looking into the future it would become a main producing pit, this proved so. Daw Mill is one of the few mines open throughout the country. It has seams 6ft thick and I believe these seams spread as far as Oxfordshire. After a few years of turning coal up the shafts it was decided to drive a drift. This was completed and now all the coal produced comes to surface via a series of conveyor belts. Like most industries machinery and methods are so much more advanced. Long gone are the days when Compressed Air was the source of power to drive belts and machines. Working conditions are now much improved I'm pleased to say, but they still have their hazards and it's not everyone's cup of tea to work in the bowels of the earth. The Miners themselves are a great gang of men always willing to give their fellow mates a helping hand. Going back to the sinking of the first shaft at Daw Mill I was then working as an Electrician at Arley and many a time I was fetched out of my bed to repair faults on electrical equipment. This of course meant going down in the bucket to the working position, not at times the most desired job especially when being fetched out of bed. Still, one seemed to accept upsets as part of one's job. Coal of course a few years ago was a major industry – Power Stations were coal fired, householders used it for cooking and heating. It was

a much wanted commodity and the workforce of the industry was geared up to produce – keep the wheels turning and the belts running. Breakdowns had to be righted as quick as possible and it sometimes meant long shifts for maintenance men. If it was a motor fault at the coal face it was a major job, as you can well imagine transporting equipment to and fro the farthest point in the district wasn't always an easy task. The roads were not quite as good as the M1, it was hard work to say the least. While the equipment was being transported the maintenance men would be getting the faulty motor disconnected and preparing for a straight swap, all this took time, and you never knew what time you would get home; get the face producing again was the important thing. When one did get home there would be several skins on your dinner and on occasions your allowance coal had been delivered, and you had 12cwt of coal to throw into the coalhouse. What a life, but I'm sure they were happy days, one took the rough with the smooth.

Many changes have taken place in the village, mostly people buying their houses and as the case of Rectory Cottages being knocked down and new Council homes being built, these now known as Bourne Brook View and Rowland Court, the latter being an O.A.P Complex. I have some pictures of the knocking down of these houses and of the new development, this I believe was 1981/82. The original plan was to develop phase three as well but this seems to have been put in wraps, this was the land where the front house of Rectory Cottages stood, No's 11 – 32. In 19 – the old Co-op – was taken over by the Jackson family, the houses either side were living quarters and stock. This became Jacksons of Old Arley Camping and Caravan business. Most in the village thought what a position to set up a business – how wrong we were, it really took off especially at weekends, it was a job to park in close area of the shop. The business success was such that it moved to the Industrial Park on the Colliery Yard, and I believe business is still booming. Besides family they employ several local people so that's good. In the Industrial Park there are several different types of business – D & R Motors, service and repairs and M.O.T centre. D & R Meat Business (no relation) Silver Knights Exhibition Ltd, all good for local employment. Also in the Old Pit Yard a small housing estate known as Spinney Close. I lived in this vicinity before these were built and the surroundings are much more pleasant may I add. The old pit offices remain and I believe are used as a training centre. Thinking back to the War days the office staff manned them 24 hours a day, mainly as fire watch squad or any emergency that may occur.

TO BE CONTINUED IN NEXT ISSUE OF NEWSLETTER.

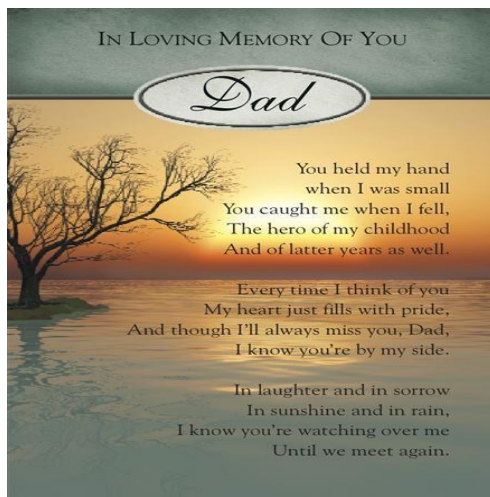
FATHERS DAY:

Dear God,

Thank you for all the fathers and father-figures in this world and for the many ways you use them to lovingly guide others to Your heart. I ask that you would bless them and give them great joy and peace. May they see You and know You in new ways. Show them how much you love them and care about them. Guide their steps, use their hands, and make them a blessing to others as you continue to fulfil your special purpose for their lives. Amen.



Dad plays a role in the invention of the water fountain.



God's Mighty Hand:

Let there be...' With these three words history began. Time began. 'Let there be...'light. And 'let there be...'day and night, sky and earth. And then on this earth the mighty hand of God went to work.

He carved out the canyons and dug the deepest oceans. He made mountains burst out of the flatlands. He flung the stars into the sky and made the universe sparkle with His light.

Do you want to see God's might? Look at the mountains. Want to see His gentleness? Touch His wildflowers. Want to hear His power? Listen to the thunder.

Today you will come face to face with God's creation. When you see the beauty of nature all around you, let it remind you to give thanks to God for the world He made.

Growing in Grace: *June can be a beautiful time of year, a time when we can really enjoy nature. Go outside. Take a walk. Pick a flower. Feel the breeze. Praise God for the creative work of His mighty hand.*

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Give a little Grace:

Seems to me that God gives us a lot more grace than we could imagine. Seems to me that we could do the same for others. You know you're not perfect. And, thankfully, God doesn't ask us to be. That's what His grace is for – it washes away all those times that you're not perfect. When God gives you His grace, He then asks you to do something for Him ; *remember that no-one else is perfect either.*

Give a little grace to those around you. Because it's going to happen. Your brother or sister will say something mean. Your best friend will hurt your feelings. Once in a while even your Mum and Dad might snap at you. When those things happen, don't hold a grudge. Forgive them, and give a little grace – because God has given you a whole lot.

Growing In Grace:

God asks you to give others the same grace He gives you, but He also wants you to give grace to yourself. You're not perfect, and you will mess up. Someday you will do that thing you said you wouldn't do. And when you do, ask God to forgive you. Just don't forget to forgive yourself too.

Rev. John and Frances

It doesn't seem 5 minutes since Reverend John came to minister to us in Arley and Ansley. The three years that he has been with us have passed so quickly and through no choice on his part and definitely not on our part he has to leave us.

I first met John at Coventry Cathedral and we went for a "get to know you chat" in the refectory we spoke about many subjects, including his journey through life and his call to ministry, my first impression was of a man devoted to the service of God a man who was willing to serve where ever he was needed, and after being in an interregnum he was a gift from heaven to our Benefice.

I am pleased to say that my first impression was correct Rev John rolled up his sleeves and immersed himself in the life of the community with the able support and encouragement of his wife Frances.

The position he was fulfilling was deemed by the diocese as what they classed as a .5 post which in layman's terms meant he would only be expected to minister 3.5 days a week between Ansley and Arley

John however, as many of us was aware, he went above and beyond what was expected of him by those in charge.

I don't think that they realised or recognised the work he was doing. John was a peoples person he took a genuine interest in peoples welfare whether a regular church goer or not before we experienced the horrific pandemic he never missed a community dining club meal circulating around the tables interested to hear what people had to say (Frances was a stalwart in the kitchen)

When he heard that someone was unwell or down in spirit there would often be a little card pushed through their letterbox to let them know somebody cared, there are many examples of kindness shown to others.

John is a good spiritual example to us all, he is a man of prayer a true shepherd leading his flock from the front.

A good example of his impact is his involvement with the Arley Branch of the British Legion, they did not have a padre and they asked John to take on this role.

Whilst we were in lockdown without fail every week he sent out a midweek update and a Sunday Service both electronically or by post or personal delivery.

We as a Benefice are losing a dedicated and hardworking Minister and an equally hardworking wife and it is with a reluctant and heavy heart that we wish them. Both well in whatever God has planned for them in the future, and thank them for the work they did in our Benefice.

John C.

True stories about Whitacre by our friend Anne:

Whilst at Grandad's I would love to go down to the cellar. The steps were stone as were the stair steps but these were worn at the edges and were really quite dangerous. All the bread jams and pickles were kept down there. At the bottom Grandad kept the pansions he used for making his wine, on the shelves the bottles of wine stood – elderberry, rhubarb, parsnip, potato and gooseberry ranging in colour from pale yellow to deepest red and glowing against the whitewashed walls. Of course, we children were not supposed to drink the wine but we did get a taste now and then from our parents glasses. It was heady stuff certainly not for consumption by the under eighteens. Grandad wasn't a bad cook either which was unusual for men of that generation. He made cherry cakes which Janet wouldn't eat because he had lost half his thumb in a mining accident and it put her off. I don't know whether she thought she might find the bit of thumb in the cake but it was her loss for it was a grand cake. The kitchen although very simply furnished was a homely room and spotlessly clean (you could eat off Grandma's floors) there was always a good fire, Grandad being an ex-miner and they say either side. Grandma with her knitting and Grandad reading and puffing away his pipe – Darby and Joan. Over the mantle shelf was a portrait of Grandad's father George McNair. He was a twin, but since Uncle Jacks twins were born there has only been one other set of twins in the family, my daughter in law Jayne was expecting twins but unfortunately miscarried one of them, but went on to give birth to the other, a fine boy, my first grandson Tobias. I've no doubt there will be more twins in the fullness of time. Either side of Great Grandad's portrait were two tall brass candlesticks and in the centre of the shelf was a brass oil lamp. The oil lamp is now in my home and is of great sentimental value to me. It was given to my grandmother by her own mother when she left Scotland to come to England. After many years it was given to me. When I clean it I think of the generations of women in my family who have lovingly cleaned it and tended it down the years. One day I hope one of my daughters will clean it and value it too.

The homeliness of the kitchen was not carried on into the parlour. The parlour was not for comfort but for show. On the floor was linoleum pretending to be turkey carpet. The suite consisted of seven pieces if chaise longue, two armchairs, two upright chairs with arms and two dining chairs, these were all upholstered in a grey mottled plush fabric which prickled my legs. There was a big rosewood sideboard on the far wall with a mirrored back on which stood dozens of photographs of the grandchildren, all eighteen of us. The biggest photograph was a baby portrait of Uncle Jack's Margaret which stood in the

middle. Everything Uncle Jack did seemed to be bigger than life and he was so proud of his children, that they had to have the biggest and the best. The fireplace in the parlour was blocked off with a piece of plywood and an aspidistra plant stood in the hearth. The hideous winged vases beloved of the Victorians, stood either side of the mantelpiece containing half a dozen dried bulrushes and in the alcove either side of the chimney breast were huge prints 'For King and Country' was one and this depicted a soldier going off to war. In the other side 'for heart and home' showed the soldier coming back on crutches. The only other picture was an enlarged photograph of Great Uncle Donald McNair in his first world war uniform. We were told we should be proud of Great Uncle Donald McNair Sgt. Major who had been mentioned in despatches. My mother remembered the same Uncle Donald visiting them when she was a child and he was so finicky that before he would eat even in Grandma's spotless kitchen he would wash his plate and cutlery. When he came out of the army he married a woman with two children and by all accounts led them a dog's life. When the boy was learning to play the bagpipes he sent him off into the hills to practice, I must say I have some sympathy with him on that score. When my younger daughter was learning the clarinet I would have gladly sent her into the hills to practise if we had any near by. I must admit though, Uncle Donald looking very stern, glowered from his photograph. I certainly wouldn't have liked to cross him. In my childhood visits I only remember once spending any length of time in the parlour and that was when nearly all the family turned up and they sent us kids into this room out of the way. One feature that was unusual was that the window had shutters that pulled out from the sides of the window and I have never seen these in any other house. When we were staying in Barnsley to attend Auntie Netty's these shutters were closed and I pulled them back because it was so dark. I was shouted at for opening them but I hadn't realised they had been closed to indicate a house in mourning. The stairs leading to the bedrooms were uncarpeted and stone cold to the feet even in Summer. The front bedroom where we slept contained only a brass bed with a feather mattress on it for a bed chair. There was a text above the bed which read, 'The Lord seeth all' and on the mantle shelf was a row of Goss china 'fairings' they were nearly all a present from Blackpool' On one occasion I did get the chance to sleep comfortably in that bed. The cousins had all been sent home and for once Janet was put in the bed chair, so there was only Mum, Dave and me. The feather mattress was so soft unlike the flock mattress we had at home – which my mother never really shook up properly and the lumps stuck in your back. Grandma & Grandads bedroom had a suite with a high wardrobe with a full length mirror in the door.

Thank -You Anne for your trip down memory Lane. Love Maureen xx

In Focus:

Author Mark Twain suggested that whatever we look at in life – and how we see it – can influence our next steps, even our destiny. As Twain said, ‘You can’t depend on your eyes when your imagination is out of focus.’ Peter too spoke of vision when he replied to a lame beggar, a man who he and John encountered at a busy temple gate called Beautiful.(Acts3:2) As the man asked them for money, Peter and John looked directly at the man. Then Peter said,‘Look at us’.(v4)

Why did he say that? As Christ’s ambassador, Peter likely wanted the beggar to stop looking at his own limitations – yes even to stop looking at his need for money. As he looked at the apostles, he would see the reality of having faith in God. As Peter told him, ‘Silver or Gold I do not have, but what I do have I give you. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth walk.’(v6) Then Peter, helped him up, and instantly the man’s feet and ankles became strong. He jumped to his feet and began to walk’, and give praise.(vv7-8)

What happened? The man had faith in God(v16) As Evangelist Charles Spurgeon urged, ‘Keep your eye simply on Him’ When we do, we don’t see obstacles. We see God, the One who makes our way clear.

Heavenly Father, when our eyes wander from You, focus our gaze on Your unlimited power.

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Instruments of Peace:

When World War I erupted in 1914, British Statesman Sir.Edward Grey declared, ‘The lamps are going out all over Europe; we shall not see them again in our lifetime’.Grey was right. When the ‘war to end all wars’ finally ended, around 20million had been killed(10 million of them civilians) and another 21 million injured.

While not on the same scale or magnitude, devastation can also occur in our personal lives. Out home, our workplace, church or neighbourhood can also be shrouded by the dark spectre of conflict. This is one of the reasons God calls us to be difference makers in the world.But to do so we must rely on His wisdom. The apostle James wrote,‘the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure;then peace loving, considerate,submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere. Peacemakers who sow in peace reap a harvest of righteousness’.(James3.17-18) The role of peacemaker is significant because of its harvest.Righteousness means ‘right standing’.Peacemakers restore relationships. No wonder Jesus said,‘Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called the children of God.(Matthew5:9)His children relying on His wisdom, become instruments of His peace where it’s needed most.

GRATITUDE;

It is gratitude that prompted an old man to visit an old broken pier on the eastern seacoast of Florida. Every Friday night until his death in 1973, he would return, walking slowly and slightly stooped, with large bucket of shrimps. The seagulls would flock to this old man, and he would feed them from his bucket. Many years before in October 1942, Captain Eddie Richen backer was on a mission on a B17 to deliver an important message to General Douglas MacArthur in New guinea. But there was an unexpected detour which would hurl Captain Eddie into the most harrowing adventure of his life. Somewhere over the South Pacific the flying Fortress became lost beyond the reach of radio. Fuel ran dangerously low, so the men ditched their plane in the ocean...For nearly a month Captain Eddie and his companions fought the water and the weather, and the scorching sun. They spent recoiling as giant sharks rammed their rafts. the largest raft was 9ft x 5ft. The biggest shark ..10 feet long.

But of all the enemies at sea, one proved most formidable; starvation. Eight days out, their rations were long gone or destroyed by salt water. It would take a miracle to sustain them. And then a miracle occurred.

In Captain Eddies own words, 'Cherry (the B17 pilot, Captain William Cherry)read the service that afternoon, and we finished with a prayer for deliverance and a hymn of praise. There was some talk , but it tapered off in the oppressive heat. With my hat pulled down over my eyes to keep out some glare, I dozed off....

'Something landed on my head, I knew it was a seagull. I don't know how I knew, I just knew. Everyone else knew too. No-one said a word , but peering out from under my hat brim without moving my head, I could see the expression of their faces. They were staring at that gull. The gull meant food...if I could catch it'.

And the rest as they say is history, Captain Eddie caught the gull. Its flesh was eaten. Its intestines were used for bait to catch fish. The survivors were sustained and their hopes renewed because a lone seagull, uncharacteristically hundreds of miles from land, offered itself as a sacrifice. You know that Captain Eddie made it, and now you know he never forgot. Because every Friday evening, about sunset, on a lonely stretch along the eastern Florida coast , you could see an old man walking...white haired, bushy eye browed, slightly bent. His bucket filled with shrimp was to feed the gulls...to remember that one which, on a day long past, gave itself without a struggle...like manna in the wilderness.

June Recipe: Blueberry Slump: Preheat oven to 220deg C.

400 -500gms blueberries, bilberries, blackberries or why not use a mixture of summer berries.

100gms granulated sugar.

Juice of ½ lemon.

Topping:

250gms plain flour

1 teaspn baking powder

20gms granulated sugar

Finely grated zest of one lemon – optional

120gms butter cut into cubes

1 egg.

About 150ml milk.

Berries, sugar, lemon and juice in baking dish. Stir. Cover with foil, place on an oven tray for 15mins until fruit is soft.

Topping- mix flour, baking powder, sugar and lemon zest if using.

Rub in the butter – until breadcrumbs. Break egg into measuring jug and make

Up to 200ml with milk. Whisk together. stir into the flour mixture to make sticky dough.

Use two spoons to drop 12 ovals of dough on top of the berries. Cover and return to bake for 15 min's or until crumble topping is fully cooked underneath. Remove from oven and leave to rest for 10mins. Serve with ice-cream, cream or custard.

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FORTHCOMING SERVICES:

JOINT BENEFICE:

St. Laurence. Ansley May 30th 10.30am

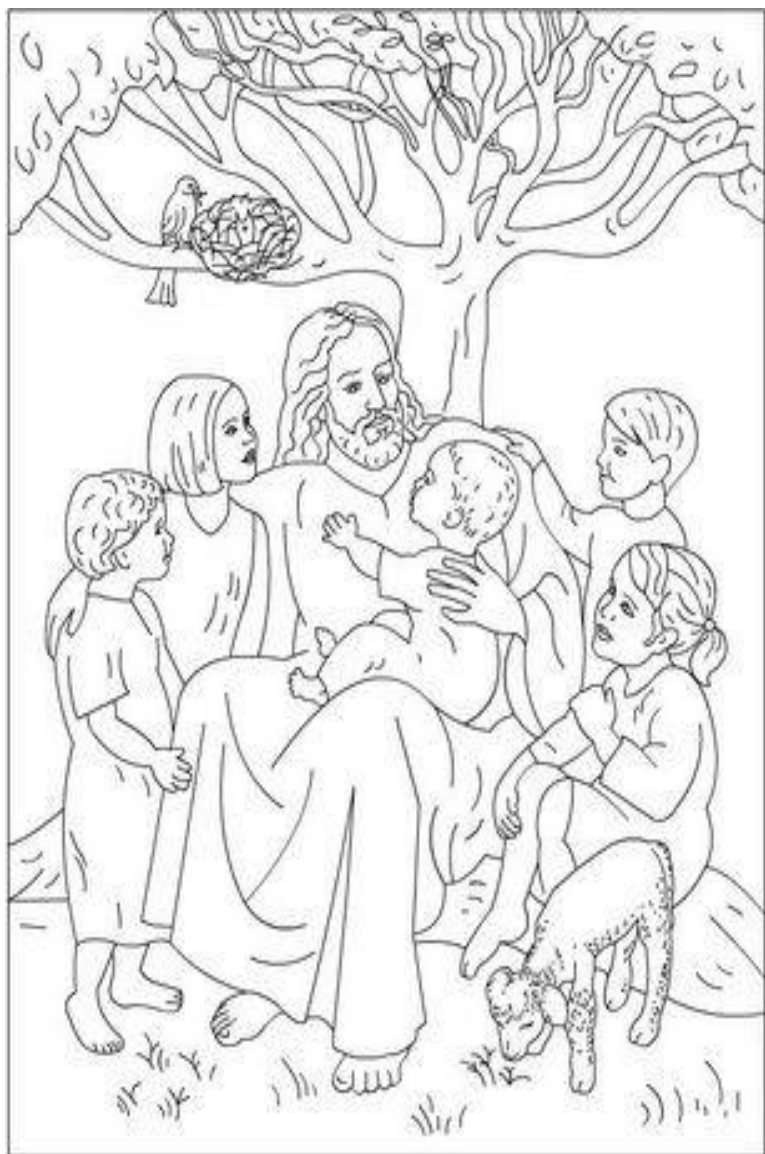
St. John's. Ansley Common. 6th June 10.30am

St. Michaels New Arley. 13th June 10.30am(Damp issues resolved in short term)

St. Wilfrid's. Old Arley. 20th June 10.30am

St. Laurence. Ansley. 10.30am Final Service with Rev.John and Frances.

Children's colouring page:



REV. JOHN. We are fast approaching the end of June when sadly Rev John will be leaving us and it is at this time we again enter into an interregnum. This the time between clergy leaving and a new one being appointed this tends to be a somewhat drawn out process as many are aware from the past.

To keep you updated, the position at present is we will be holding a series of meetings with the Arch Deacons the first being on the 10th June when we will be informed what as a Benefice we will need to do during the interregnum. What we can do or can't do to ensure services are carried out in both parishes.

It has initially been agreed that our services in July follow the same pattern as in June that is one 10:30 am service at each church in turn. They will be conducted by retired clergy taken from an authorised list provided by the diocese.

Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals will be arranged via the Assistant Rural Dean.

On the 10th July there will be a follow up meeting with Arch Deacon Dugmore who will assist in drawing up a Benefice Profile which gives a pen picture of the Benefice size, population, finances and history, its needs and aspirations for the future, when this is completed the vacancy will be advertised and applicants will be invited to apply based on this information (the post will be not be a full time but what is known a .5 post)!

After this,

interviews will be arranged and it is predicted that if all goes well and we are able to appoint a candidate they will take up post in early 2022.

It is a long drawn out process even more complicated by the current situation,

I will endeavour to keep you updated as things progress.

An important and integral part of the process will be the involvement of the P.C.C. Unfortunately we are currently short of a full complement of members due to the current climate of restrictions we have not been able to fill vacancies on the P.C.C. If you feel able to help out by stepping forward to join or to help in any way during the coming months please don't hesitate to contact me.

I'm sure with God's help we will come through the situation we find ourselves in at this time.

John Cox. Churchwarden

This has relocated from Atherstone to the ‘Old Barn’ in the grounds of St. Wilfrid’s at Old Arley. This new group will include a range of crafts which will appeal to most people. The group will meet on Wednesday and Saturday mornings from 10.00am until 12noon. Edith is the lady who is running this, and at the moment we have the six indoor rule as per government announcements, perhaps after the 21st of June. If anyone is interested to see what’s happening in the Old Barn, then I am sure Edith would be happy to add you to her waiting list as things evolve.

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Hope in Grief:

As the taxi driver drove us to London’s Heathrow Airport, he told us his story. He had come alone to the United Kingdom at fifteen, seeking to escape war and deprivation;. Now, eleven years later, he has a family of his own and is able to provide for them in ways unavailable in his native land. But he laments that he is still separated from his parents and siblings. He told us that he has had a hard journey that won’t be complete until he is reunited with his family.

Being separated from loved ones in this life is hard, but losing a loved one in death is much harder and creates a sense of loss that won’t be made right until we are united with them. When the new believers at Thessalonica wondered about such issues Peter wrote, ‘Brother and Sisters we do not want to be uninformed about those who sleep in death, so that you do not grieve like the rest of mankind, who have no hope.(1Thessalonians 4:13) He explained that as believers in Jesus, we can live in expectation of a wonderful re-union – together forever in the presence of Christ(v17)

Few experiences mark us as deeply as the separations we endure, but in Jesus we have hope of being reunited. And in the midst of grief and loss we can find the comfort we need in that enduring promise.(v18).

Father, there is nothing on earth that can fill the places in my heart made empty through loss. Draw me to you and comfort me with Your love and grace.

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Have you not known? Have you not heard? The everlasting God, the Lord, the Creator of the earth, neither faints nor is weary. His understanding is unsearchable. He gives power to the weak, and to those who have no might He increases strength. (Isaiah 40: 28 – 29)

Praying each day during June

1	Let us pray for Rev.John and Frances who have been constant in their mission throughout our Parishes. Always at hand with love and support and reaching out to so many people. We pray our Lord will pour His many blessings upon them and heal them. They are a special part of our Church Family who we will all miss greatly
2	Lord watch over our churches and congregations at this difficult time
3	We pray for strength in our faith and joy for each other
4	Lord God make us more like You. Re-focus and guide us each day
5	Pray for all who live alone and the lonely- safeguard them Lord
6	Let us extend our empty hands to God to receive His gift of grace
7	Praise our Lord God from whom all blessings flow
8	Don't try to hold God's hand, let Him hold yours and trust in Him
9	Cast all your anxieties on Him; His care will never die
10	Teach us Your way Lord that we may walk in Your truth
11	Lord, guide our steps by Your word, so we'll not be overcome by evil
12	Always try to forgive - and you will be forgiven too
13	When we call upon our Lord for help – he hears us and directs us
14	Give thanks always for everything to God our Father in Jesus name
15	Christ is not only a remedy for your weariness ,but will bring you joy
16	Lord we pray for the homeless that they will be found a safe place
17	Pray for all living in sheltered dwellings in and around our villages
18	Jesus thank You for setting me free from my sins. Help me to be ready to tell others of your good news
19	Father, thank you for reminding us every person you create is a priceless life worth saving.
20	On this special Fathers Day help us Lord to stay close to you.
21	Creator God, Your goodness helps us through life's challenges
22	Loving God, help us to be diligent to live for You, in all we say and do
23	We trust you God! Help us always to rely on You. You're always faithful
24	We give thanks for our dear families ,friends and neighbours
25	Loving God, please help us to love others in practical ways
26	Those are really blessed who hear and obey God's message
27	Praying for all who are ill in body mind and soul
28	Abba Father – continue to guide us in all good works in your name
29	Praying for all families during the half term break from school & college
30	Let us look forward to a beautiful and peaceful summer



Look on the Sunny Side:

There are always two sides – the good and the bad,
The dark and the light, the sad and the glad –
But in looking back over the good and the bad,
We're aware of the number of good things we've had,
And in counting our blessings, we find when we're through,
We've no reason at all to complain or be blue.

So thank God for the good things, He has already done
And be grateful to Him for the battles you've won
And know that the same God also helped you before
Is ready and willing to help you once more.

Then with faith in your heart; reach out for God's hand
And accept what He sends, though you can't understand.
For our Father in heaven always knows what is best,
And if you trust His wisdom, your life will be blessed.

So always remember that whatever betide you,
You are never alone, for God is beside you.

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If you wish to contact us for any reason, or to contribute a story or poem, then Please contact us on 02476.394802. OR e-mail us at strowgerhouse@btinternet.com we would love to hear from you.