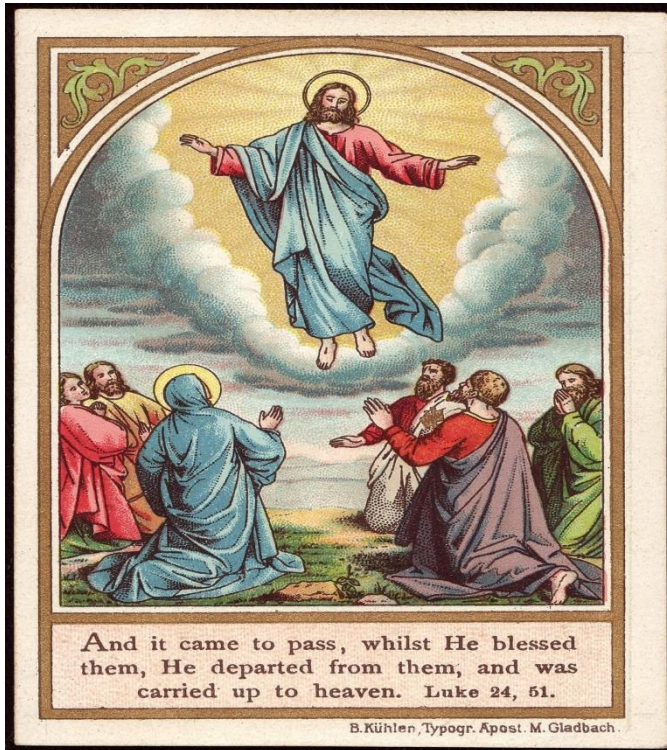


**ST. WILFRID'S & ST. MICHAEL'S,  
CHURCHES, ARLEY.**

Meeting Need's. Bringing Hope. Sharing Love



**Ascension Day**

MAY & JUNE 2023

Churchwarden - John Cox - 02476.394802

Churchwarden - Vic Murray - X Directory

**MEMORIES:**

**DANCING AROUND THE VILLAGE MAYPOLE**



Originally, the maypole was a living tree. Over time it usually became a tree trunk of the correct height, age, and type (usually pine or birch). Some say that the tree represented masculine energy, and the ribbons and floral garlands that adorned it represented feminine energy.

XX

**ASCENSION SERVICE:**

**PLEASE NOTE: - OUR ASCENSION DAY SERVICE AT ST. WILFRIDS IS ON THURSDAY 18<sup>th</sup> MAY 2023. THE SERVICE WILL BE CONDUCTED BY REV. STEVE AT 7.30pm. DO COME ALONG AND JOIN US, WE WILL BE HAVING OUR LOCAL BAND TO PLAY OUR SPECIAL HYMNS. REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED IN THE OLD BARN AFTERWARDS. WE WOULD LOVE TO SEE YOU!**

Dear Friends

Ruth, Penny and Dave have been invited to Albania to help with a ten day mission. There will be a small Albanian team with us during the day and the church will be meeting in the evenings. Please pray for doors to be opened in schools, colleges and anywhere else that we can find.

God is certainly moving in Albania and we are looking forward to being part of what the Lord is doing there. Please pray for men, women, boys and girls to be drawn to Jesus out of the kingdom of darkness into His wonderful Kingdom and that the Lord would save, heal and deliver people.

We go on the 19th and come home on the 29th May. We are hoping that while we are there we may have opportunities to work with other missionaries and churches that we come in contact with.

Please pray also for pastor Eris, a wonderful young man of God, that he would be strengthened and blessed. Over the years we have come to realise that without the saints praying nothing of any consequence happens, we need your prayers.

Please pray for Penny who has been asked to do some English cooking with the ladies that will be invited. Penny is conscious that this week is quite a different situation for her and she doesn't usually do the things that she will probably end up being asked to do so would really appreciate your prayers.

some requests from Ruth too;

For the church there to be encouraged and blessed.

For there to be open doors and opportunities in the day time for us to meet people, talk about Jesus and invite them to hear more in the evenings.

To speak in the Holy Spirit into people (youth and adults) so they come to Jesus there and then .

To see the young girls realise that it's Jesus's love that will change their lives not their 'boyfriend's' (I've spoken to so many girls in my job that have been trafficked and abused by their boyfriend's).

To meet my friend's (a girl I supported through my job when I first started 7 years ago) mum and sister and introduced them to Jesus.

Much love

Dave, Penny and Ruth

**THANK YOU ALL SO MUCH FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTION TO OUR  
CHURCH MAGAZINE. WE WILL CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR YOU  
ALL.**

Maureen x

# The Ascension of Jesus

While he was blessing them, he left them and was taken up to heaven. Luke 24:51 (NIV)

Based on Luke 24:44-53



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

RISE

SUFFER

HEAVEN

WORSHIPED

REPENT

PSALMS

SCRIPTURE

BLESSING

PROPHETS

OPENED

FULFILLED

UNDERSTAND

TAKEN

FORGIVE

MOSES

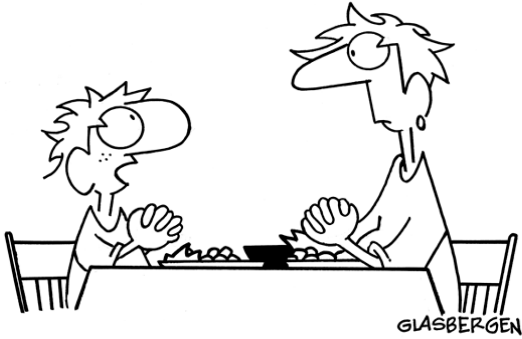
MINDS

## WHEN PRAYER SHAKES THE EARTH:

Dr. Gary Greenberg has magnified and photographed sand from beaches around the world, often revealing surprising vibrant splashes of colour from the minerals, shell and coral fragments contained within. He discovered there's more to sand than meets the eye. In arenology (the study of sand) the microscopic analysis of sand's mineral content can reveal much about erosion, shore currents and their potential effects on coastlines. Even a little sand can yield information of great worth!

A single prayer, like a grain of sand, can be a weighty thing. Scripture indicates prayer's powerful role in the coming of God's kingdom. In Revelation 8, John sees an angel standing at the altar before His throne holding a golden censor containing 'the prayers of all God's people' Then the angel took the censor, filled it with fire from the altar, and hauled it on the earth, and there came peels of thunder, rumbling, flashes of lightning and an earthquake'(v3:5) Immediately after the angel hurled the censor filled with fire and prayer, seven angels with seven trumpets 'prepared to sound them'(v6) heralding this old earth's last days and Christ's return. Sometimes we may not feel like our prayers add up to much, but God doesn't miss one. He so values them that they somehow even play a role in the consummation of His kingdom. What may seem like the smallest prayer to us can be earth shaking for Him.

*Heavenly Father. thank You that our prayers matter so much to You!*



**“If God wants me to be thankful for vegetables,  
why did He make them taste like vegetables?”**

© Randy Glasbergen  
glasbergen.com



**“This week’s sermon is about how we all need  
to simplify our lives. Unfortunately, I lost the  
whole thing when my computer crashed.”**

The Lord is my shepherd, I lack nothing, He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside quiet waters, he refreshes my soul. He guides me along the right paths for his name's sake. Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, For you are with me; your rod and staff, they comfort me. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies, You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. Surely your goodness and love will follow me, all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever. The shepherd calls to us and listens for the slightest sounds of life, he hears the faintest cry or groan. When we turn to Him, He is there to greet us. For he has been there all along.'The Lord is near to all who call on Him'

There is no deeper motivation in God than love. It is His nature to love; He can do no other, for 'God is love' (1John 4:8)

Do you have some nameless grief? Some sorrowful pain? Some inexplicable ache in your heart? Come to Him who made your heart. Jesus said, 'Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give to rest. Take my yolk upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yolk is easy and my burden is light'. As we come to our shepherd, Psalm 23 promises we will find rest in our aches and hopes in our pain. For 'The Lord is my shepherd, I lack nothing'. We don't have to look very hard or very long for God. He's only as far away as our hearts, but he will not intrude. He calls us but then waits for our answer. Our progress towards Him is determined by our desire to engage Him in a personal way – to know Him. He is with us, even in, 'the darkest valley', to be known, trusted and journeyed with. No shepherd expects his sheep to work out the best paths to travel on or live by their own instincts. We don't have to navigate our dark and difficult seasons alone either. Just pray to your Father, who is unseen.

## **Continuing the true stories from Anne about Whitacre Village:**

I know if Mr. Stych was still alive he kept his old cine films, and I was on one of them because he took a film of me at one of the village shows long ago. Somewhere towards the end of the war or just after Mrs. De Margery who was the headmistress of Lea Marston School was in a motor accident and I don't know whether it was the result of that or whether the accident occurred later, but it was decided that the village school at Lea Marston was to close and the pupils transferred to Whitacre School, It was then that Helen Dryden came into my life. I might have got this all wrong and her parents transferred her because they were not satisfied with the standard of education at Lea Marston, but the two events seemed to be linked together in my mind, the accident and the closure.

I should have been jealous of Ellen, for the first time I came up against someone who was cleverer than I was, but we just became firm friends from the day she started and were to remain so until she passed her scholarship and went to King Edward high School the year before I took my eleven plus. The fact that she was a year older than me probably helped because we didn't exactly come up against each other in exams so we didn't have to compete academically. We were soul mates. We spent hours writing and illustrating detective stories and nearly every night during the Summer she would come to our house to play. We made up plays and gave concerts to Janet and David on a makeshift stage in the shed and a good time was had by all. Sometimes I was invited to tea at her house down the village. It was a fairly modern semi and I so much admired her bedroom. Her Father who was a clerk at the drainage board had a shelf built all around her bedroom, child high where she kept her books and I wished I had a bedroom like that. She had a little sister Susan who was very sweet. Her father was a lay preacher at the chapel in the village and I so much wanted to go to their Sunday School, but my mother said we weren't chapel, and I had to go to Sunday School at Church. One summer Ellen asked my mother if I could go on a Sunday School outing to Rhyl. I longed to go, I had never seen the sea, but she wouldn't let me because it fell on the same day as Ann Thomsons birthday party. One day Ellen asked me to go to her house straight from school, when we got there Mrs. Dryden called her daughter into the house and Ellen came back out and I could see she had been crying. She had been smacked for taking me there



without permission. It was soon 1947 and I had to think seriously about my elven plus. The previous year 5 children had sat their exam and they had all passed. Most of them went to Tamworth High School but Ellen had been entered for King Edwards which was the best school in the county of Warwickshire and had a reputation second to none for academic excellence. My mother asked if I wanted to sit the exam for the same school. My mother decided I should take the exam for Tamworth or Nuneaton because if I had taken the exam for King Edwards and failed then I would have had to stay at Whitacre School and she didn't want to risk that. Ellen said it was just as well because you had to be pretty as well as clever to get into King Edwards so I would have fallen at the first hurdle. When I said goodbye to Ellen at the end of summer term that was the last I saw of her; she was onto pastures new and when I later came in contact with her as I waited at the station for my train to Tamworth she barely acknowledged me. In later years Ellen did very well for herself, Mrs. Hicken took her under her wing and she was given every chance that could be given. To her credit in later years she was an accomplished actress and appeared in television plays twenty years later. It was odd to see the girl who had started her acting career in the shed in our yard on the small screen. In recent years I met her mother and sister and Mrs. Dryden told me that Ellen was married to a TV producer and lived in London, her sister Susan however had married a local boy and still lived in the next village. Ellen had more advantages than I did, her Father was a white collar worker, and they would be reasonably comfortably off for the time and she was given a lot of encouragement at home but she was vastly not cleverer than I was just very much more confident. I wonder what my life would have been like if I'd taken the opportunity to go to King Edwards like she did. During that year at school I had to take time off – this was a first for me. I hated to be off school. My mother had a severe attack of Quincies and I was kept home to look after her as she had to stay in bed. It was then I discovered that I liked housework and cooking. I heard my mother say to my father that she was surprised how well I was coping.

*Thankyou Anne for sharing your memories with us.*

*Maureen x*

## **Ascension:**

What happened to Jesus on Ascension Day?

Christians believe that after Jesus rose from the dead, he did not die a second time. Instead, 40 days after his resurrection , Jesus left the Earth by being taken up, body and soul, to Heaven to re-join God the Father. This event is called the ascension , and it was witnessed by Jesus' eleven remaining apostles .

XX

## **Empowered for the Everyday:**

*Every Moment Holy* is a beautiful book of prayers for a variety of activities, including ordinary ones like preparing a meal or doing the laundry. Necessary tasks that can feel repetitive or mundane. The book reminded me of the words of author G.K Chesterton, who wrote, 'You say grace before meals. All right,. but I say grace before sketching, painting, swimming, fencing, boxing, walking, playing, dancing and grace before I dip my pen into the ink' Such encouragement lifts my perspective on the activities of my day.

Sometimes I'm inclined to divide my activities into ones that appear to have spiritual value, such as doing the dishes after the meal. Paul erased that divide in a letter to the people of Colossae who had chosen to live for Jesus. He encouraged them with these words: 'Whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus' (3:17) Doing things in Jesus' name means both honouring Him as we do them and having the assurance that His Spirit helps strengthen us to accomplish them. 'Whatever you do' All the ordinary activities of our lives, every moment, can be empowered by God's Spirit and done in a way that honours Jesus.

*Dear Jesus, empower us by Your Spirit to honour You today in all we do.*

## **Hiring the Old Barn**



The Old Barn is a traditional building, refurbished to a high standard and is available to hire at competitive rates. It is ideal for corporate events including conferences, meetings and team-building days or as a party venue for up to 40 guests.

### **FACILITIES**

Parking area, Fully-fitted Kitchen, Lounge with tables and seating for 40, Toilet with baby changing.

There are 5 steps to the lounge and kitchen.

We are always happy to arrange visits to the Barn to view the facilities and to discuss your requirements.

For further details please contact Mrs Denise Whittle on  
01676.541916.

Picture for children to colour: Ascension:



## **FAITH CONVERSATIONS AT HOME.**

“There’s no place like home”. “There’s no place like home”.

Those unforgettable lines spoken by Dorothy in the *Wizard of Oz*, reveal a story telling device found in an overwhelming number of our most enduring stories from the likes of ‘*Star Wars*’ to ‘*The Lion King*’ It’s known as the ‘hero’s journey’. In brief; an ordinary person is living an ordinary life when an extraordinary adventure is presented. The character leaves home and travels to a different world where tests and trials await, as well as mentors and villains. If he or she passes the test and proves heroic, then the final stage is returning home with stories to tell and wisdom gained. The last piece is crucial.

The story of the demon possessed man closely parallels the hero’s journey. It’s interesting that in the last scene the man begged Jesus to let him ‘go with him’(Mark 5:18) Yet Jesus told him, ‘Go home to your ‘own people’ (v19) It was important in this man’s journey to return home to the people who knew him best and to tell them his amazing story.

God calls each one of us in different ways and to different scenarios. But for some of us, it can be crucial for our faith journey to go home and tell our story to those who know us best. For some of us, the call is, ‘there’s no place like home’.

*Jesus gave me the courage to tell of your wonderful works. Not just to strangers, but also to those who know me best – those at home.*

## **WALKING WITH OTHERS;**

Billy, a loving and loyal dog, became an internet star in 2020. His owner, Russell, had broken his ankle and was using crutches to walk. Soon the dog also began to hobble when walking with his owner. Concerned, Russell took Billy to the Vets, who said there was nothing wrong with him! He ran freely when he was by himself. It turned out the dog faked a limp when he went out and walked with his owner. That's what you call trying to truly identify with someone's pain!

Coming alongside others is forefront in the apostle Paul's instructions to the church in Rome. He summed up the last five of the Ten Commandments in this way: 'Love your neighbour as yourself', (Romans 13:9) We can see the importance of walking with others in verse 8 as well: 'Let no debt remain outstanding, except the continuing debt to love one another'.

I recently read one author's advice: 'When someone is broken, don't try to fix them.(You can't) When someone is hurting, don't attempt to take away their pain.(You can't) Instead, love them by walking beside them in their hurt.(You can) Because sometimes what people need is simply to know they are not alone'.

Because Jesus our Saviour, walks a long-side us through all the hurt and pain, we know what it means to walk with others.

*Open my eyes Lord to the needs of people around me. Help me to be a loving friend.*

## **What's happening in and around our area?**

The Big Picture show will be on at Fillongley Social Club CV7 8EU. On Friday 02nd June 2023 at 7.30pm. 'Don't Worry Darling'. Tickets (£6) will be available at the door or reserve with Lynne McKeown on 01676-542988.

Come along and experience a cinematic evening with family and friends. A licensed bar is also available serving hot/cold drinks and homemade cakes to enjoy!

Doors will be open at 7.00pm - - see you there!!

xx

## **Harlow Carr Gardens near Harrogate.**

Date of trip is Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> of July 2023.

Collection and drop off point: - Fillongley Village Hall. Coach will leave 8.30am prompt. Returning approximately 6 – 7 pm.

Free entry. Bring money or/ and packed lunch as café/shop on site.

Contact Lynne 07800-740619 for any questions.

Please let me know your name and contact number for group or person attending.

Cost is for transport only: Members £20.....

Non members £25.....

Total number attending. To secure booking a deposit of £5 per person is needed which is non-refundable. Thank You!

## SERVICE INFORMATION:

St Wilfrids 18th May - Ascension Day 19:30 Communion. St Wilfrid's

21st May Sunday after Ascension Day 10:30 Common worship St Michael's

28th May Whit Sunday 10:30am Common worship St Wilfrid's

Hello everyone.

I have been asked a few times about services for June. Below is a provisional rota showing when the services will be at which church. The vicars are also preparing a rota of when they will attend services at the seven churches. Until I receive that I cannot say when it will be a Common worship service and when it will be a communion. However you will be able to see what church it is for each Sunday. The services for the third and fourth Sunday have been swapped over as both Kim and Jan are unable to attend the for the third week at St Michaels. Once I have the vicars rota I will update our rota and send out the final version.

Be in touch soon

Vic

4th June	Trinity Sunday	10:30	Common worship	St Michael's
11th June	1st Sunday after Trinity	10:30	Common worship	St Wilfrid's
18th June	2nd Sunday after Trinity	10:30	Common worship	St Wilfrid's
25th June	3rd Sunday after Trinity	10:30	Common worship	St Michael's

For Web Site info contact: David Lloyd on – [dave.lloyd-cv11~@ntlworld.com](mailto:dave.lloyd-cv11~@ntlworld.com)

If you wish to send us any articles through for the newsletter  
Or any stories – please send to John or Maureen at  
[strowgerhouse@btinternet.com](mailto:strowgerhouse@btinternet.com) or [Tel: 02476 394802](tel:02476394802).