# Roundabout

The Parish Magazine for St. Anne's Church November 2020







St Anne's is seeking to be a home to invite everyone into.

#### **WEST**

Welcoming
Encountering Jesus
Serving others
Telling His Story

#### **HEATH**

Hospitality...
Everyone...
Acceptance...
Teamwork...
Helpful...

Contact details Father Paul Cho

Telephone mobile 07595191363

email Revdpaulcho@gmail.com

Parish office 0121 604 5050

stanne05@tiscali.co.uk

#### The Editor Writes

As I write this we are one day away from another lockdown. During the last lockdown the weekly services on line and other resources published on the website were very helpful and helped us feel we were still in touch with each other. However, some people are unable to access the internet. So Janet and Ian have been very busy producing a Home Service Booklet which will be distributed to those who cannot access the website. The Pastoral Team did a marvelous job during the last lockdown keeping in touch with members of the congregation by telephone. Back in May Janet Bradley who leads the Pastoral Team wrote an article for the magazine to tell everyone what the team would be doing during lockdown so I have included that article in this edition. The publication of the magazine stopped during the last lockdown however we thought this would be a good time for the Parish Magazine to restart. Paper copies will be printed and sent to those members of the congregation who have no access to the website.

#### Pastoral Role in Lockdown.

Before we entered lockdown in March, Gill Kimber made an excellent suggestion that we should gather into small groups to keep in touch.

I looked at the church congregation and tried to assess which of our congregation were over 70, or had underlying medical issues, or lived alone. That was 35 of our regular congregation. (hopefully I haven't missed anyone). Father Paul and the pastoral team told me to create groups and organise people to lead these groups.

I decided on five groups each one having six more vulnerable people and two people to act as leaders for each group. Each leader regularly contacts the members of their group by phone to enquire how they are, to have a chat or to try to answer any

questions they may have. Also it helps everyone to feel in touch and still be part of church.

The group leaders communicate with me and I pass on any concerns or matters for prayer to Father Paul and the pastoral team.

Most of the people at church have kept remarkably well and are obeying the government guidelines. Consequently there have been relatively few cases of Covid 19 among our congregation. However, most people know someone, either friend or family members, who have become ill with Covid 19. Much harder to deal with is depression from the worry about the severity of the pandemic. The leaders have been trying to suggest calming activities to fill in the unexpected hours which are now spent at home. Knitting and crocheting have been useful. I know that certain choir members enjoy the adult colouring books either to paint or colour. Ian enjoys building things for his model railway and we both love doing jigsaws as a shared activity. We are averaging one 1000 piece puzzle per week!

We find that we can pray for the people who are brought to our notice as needing prayer. There have been other health issues that people have had to deal with and we can always be a listening ear even if we can't see you face to face.

I would like to thank those people who stepped up to the mark to be leaders and co-leaders. Without them the system would not have worked at all. Going forward we have got to know some people much better when before we didn't really know them. I feel that I have one further role pastorally. That is to care for the carers. This involves me phoning the group leaders occasionally to find out how they are getting on and praying for Father Paul and the team.

Charitas also has a special role to play as well as being a mother and teacher for the children. She contacts the congregation members who are not on the group lists and keeps them updated about services as well as checking that they are well.

Janet Bradley

# People Walking With God

# THE WISDOM BOOKS OF THE OLD TESTAMENT

Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Songs

#### The Bible isn't just God talking at us!

Much of it is people sharing their experience of Walking with God. Nowhere is this more true than in the Wisdom Books of the Old Testament. The writers of these remarkable books invite us to share their experiences, think their thoughts, feel their feelings and pray their prayers after them, as they live real lives - and Walk with God.

Undeserved suffering, bereavement, illness, joy, anger and despair; living wisely, searching for meaning and having the best possible sex; national as well as personal joys and sorrows; celebrating friendship, family and marriage; praying to God, pleading with God and shouting at God. It's all here! And in these books you'll meet Job, Eliphaz, Bildad, Zophar, Elihu, David, Asaph, members of the musical guild of Korah, Moses, Solomon, Heman, Ethan, various unnamed song writers, a father and mother and their sons, anonymous wise men, Agur, King Lemuel's mother, a young girl in love and a man besotted with his wife!

There are kings, politicians, criminals, farmers, landowners, tradesmen, the poor, the wise, the foolish, the lazy, amateur theologians, professional fraudsters, husbands, wives, parents, friends, enemies and lovers. You and I are certainly in here!

By reading all this we learn what the writer of Ecclesiastes knew...

"There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens...

but...there is nothing new under the sun." (Ecclesiastes 3.1 and 1.9)

The Wisdom Books of the Old Testament blend both God's truths and human wisdom, both spiritual insights and plain common sense! In other words, they show us how God *speaks* into our lives, but also what He has already *built* into His creation - further demonstrations of how He is 'hidden in plain sight.'

Apart from the Psalms, they are badly neglected by Christians.

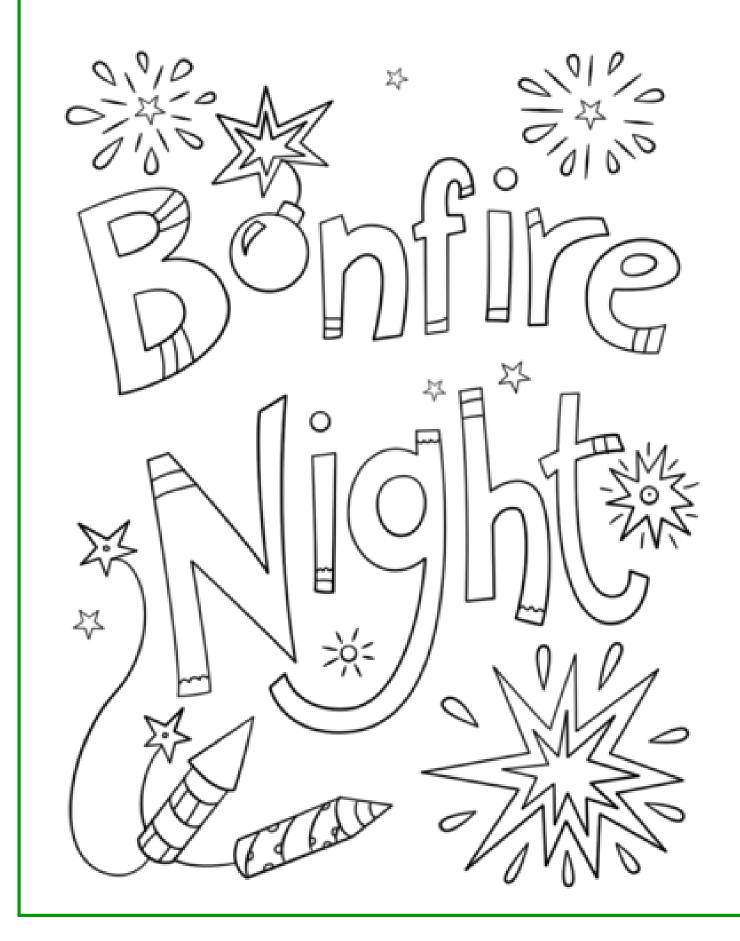
"It is important to know that it is right to obey father and mother, boss, judge, prince and king and all the ordinances of the world, bodily and spiritual, by which God rules us and ministers freely his benefits to us all; and that we love them (father, mother, boss etc.) for the benefits we receive by them... Yet the worldly powers and rulers are to be obeyed only so far as their commandments do not contend against the commandment of God... And by the higher law we must interpret the inferior."

A Pathway Into the Holy Scripture William Tyndale (c1530)



Stuart Kimber

# Children's Page A Picture to Colour



### Children's Page



Janet and Ian Bradley

#### Puzzle Page

#### All J's

The answer to each clue below begins with the letter 'J'. How many can you identify?

- 1. He stole his brother's birthright.
- The walls of this city fell down after the besieging Israelites had 'compassed it about seven days'.
- 3. This man was sold into slavery but rose to be the king's righthand man whose organising ability staved off the threat of famine.
- His father was the first king of Israel and his great friendship with the one who was to succeed his father became proverbial.
- 5. The biggest river in Palestine.
- The writer of a book of the Old Testament whose prophecy was quoted by Peter in his speech on the day of Pentecost.
- He was eight years old when he began to reign, and he effected a great reformation in Judah during the thirty one years before he was killed at Megiddo.
- He came from Bethlehem and his most famous son was first a shepherd and later a king.
- He was an unwilling messenger to Nineveh, but eventually, after being thrown into the sea and swallowed by a great fish, he converted the city by his preaching.
- 10. This prophet was put in the stocks and later into a dungeon because of his prophecies concerning the misfortunes which would befall Israel and Judah.

Answers on Page 12

### Completion of the Building Project

The last few months the builders, Ryders Construction, were very busy altering the storerooms and relocating the toilets. Chrissie Price was on call every day to let them into the building and deal with any questions they had. The team were very friendly and worked very hard. Fiona, our architect, and Alex, our Quantity Surveyor, checked up on the progress being made throughout the build. The work is now complete and the end result looks wonderful thanks to the talents of all those involved. We have begun to clean all the tables, chairs and equipment in the hall. The Little Stars Team have been busy sorting and cleaning all their equipment and have started to move it into their new store room. The cupboards on the stage have been re-arranged to make access to them much easier. When all the cleaning and tidying up has been completed our facilities will look much more organised.



Our Wonderful Team of Builders

# Service to Celebrate the Completion of the Building Work and Bless the New Facilities.

On Sunday 1st November we had a special service to celebrate the completion of the building work. Bishop Anne preached at the service and blessed the building work. During her sermon she told



the congregation about St. Hilda and her work with the community. She said she hoped that St. Anne's would use the new facilities to fulfil our vision of welcoming and working with the community. Bishop Anne showed the children her Bishop's mitre and explained that it was the shape of the flame of the Holy Spirit. The children had their own hats to decorate which they showed everyone at the end of the service. The children had worked really hard to produce magnificent hats. After the service everyone had an opportunity to see the new toilets and storeroom. Bishop Anne was given a photograph of the congregation as a thank you for visiting St. Anne's. She was

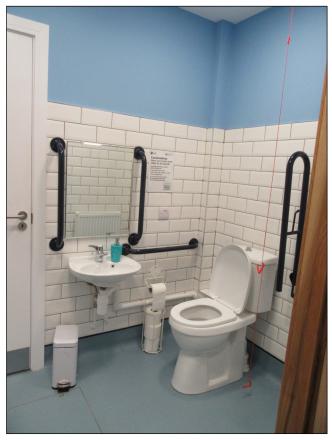
thrilled with the gift and said she would put it on the wall of her study.



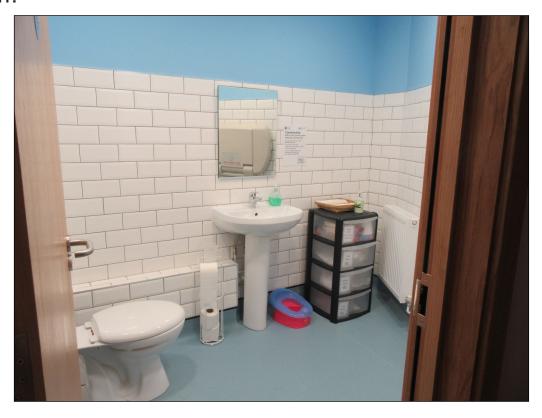


### The New Toilets





Two of the toilets have small storage cupboards at the back of them.



# The Bishop Tours the New Facilities



The accessible toilet.



The Little Stars' Storeroom

## Puzzle Page Answers

1. Jacob

3. Joseph

5. Jordan

7. Josiah

9. Jonah

2. Jericho

4. Jonathan

6. Joel

8. Jesse

10. Jeremiah

# November 1920 The Burial of the Unknown Warrior

At the west end of the Nave of Westminster Abbey is the grave of the Unknown Warrior, whose body was brought from France to be buried there on 11th November 1920. The grave, which contains soil from France, is covered by a slab of black Belgian marble from a quarry near Namur. The inscription on it was composed by Herbert Ryle, Dean of Westminster.



Around the main inscription are four texts: (top) THE LORD KNOWETH THEM THAT ARE HIS, (sides) GREATER LOVE HATH NO MAN THAN THIS UNKNOWN AND YET WELL KNOWN, DYING AND BEHOLD WE LIVE,

(base) IN CHRIST SHALL ALL BE MADE ALIVE.

The idea of such a burial seems first to have come to a chaplain at the Front, the Reverend David Railton (1884-1955), when he noticed in 1916 in a back garden at Armentières, a grave with a rough cross on which were pencilled the words "An Unknown British Soldier". In August 1920 he wrote to the Dean of Westminster, Herbert Ryle, through whose energies this memorial was carried into effect.

The body was chosen from unknown British servicemen exhumed from four battle areas, the Aisne, the Somme, Arras and Ypres. (some sources say six bodies but confirmed accounts say four). The remains were brought to the chapel at St. Pol on the night of 7th November 1920. The General Officer in charge of troops in France and Flanders, Brigadier General L.J. Wyatt, with Colonel Gell, went into the chapel alone, where the bodies on stretchers were covered by Union Flags. They had no idea from which area the bodies had come. General Wyatt selected one and the two officers placed it in a plain coffin and sealed it. The other three bodies were reburied. General Wyatt said they were re-buried at the St Pol cemetery but Lt. (later Major General Sir) Cecil Smith says they were buried beside the Albert-Baupaume road to be discovered there by parties searching for bodies in the area.

In the morning Chaplains of the Church of England, the Roman Catholic Church and Non-Conformist churches held a service in the chapel before the body was escorted to Boulogne to rest overnight. The next day the coffin was placed inside another which had been sent over specially from England made of two-inch thick oak from a tree which had grown in Hampton Court Palace garden, lined with zinc. It was covered with the flag that David Railton had used as an altar cloth during the War (known as the Ypres or Padre's Flag, which now hangs in St George's Chapel). Within the wrought iron bands of this coffin had been placed a 16th century crusader's sword from the Tower of London collection.

The coffin plate bore the inscription:

A British Warrior who fell in the Great War 1914-1918 for King and Country.

The destroyer HMS Verdun, whose ship's bell was presented to Westminster Abbey and now hangs near the grave, transported the coffin to Dover and it was then taken by train to Victoria station in London where it rested overnight.

On the morning of 11th November the coffin was placed, by the bearer party from the 3rd Battalion Coldstream Guards, on a gun carriage drawn by six black horses of the Royal Horse Artillery. It then began its journey through the crowd-lined streets, making its first stop in Whitehall where the Cenotaph was unveiled by King George V. The King placed his wreath of red roses and bay leaves

on the coffin. His card read "In proud memory of those Warriors who died unknown in the Great War. Unknown, and yet well-known; as dying, and behold they live. George R.I. November 11th 1920". Then the carriage, with the escorting pall bearers followed by the King, members of the Royal Family and ministers of State, made its way to the north door of Westminster Abbey.

While the Cenotaph unveiling was taking place the Choir inside the Abbey sang, unaccompanied, "O Valiant Hearts" (to the tune Ellers). The hymn "O God our help in ages past" was sung by the congregation and after prayers there was the two minutes silence at 11am. The Contakion of the Faithful Departed was then sung and the choir processed to the north porch to meet the coffin, with the hymn "Brief life is here our portion" being sung.

The shortened form of the Burial Service began with the singing of the verses "I am the resurrection and the life" (set by William Croft) and "Thou knowest Lord" (by Henry Purcell) during the procession to the grave. The coffin was borne to the west end of the nave through the congregation of around 1,000 mourners and a guard of honour of 100 holders of the Victoria Cross (from all three services). They were under the command of Colonel Freyburg VC. The choir sang the 23rd Psalm.

After the hymn "Lead kindly light", the King stepped forward and dropped a handful of French earth onto the coffin from a silver shell as it was lowered into the grave. At the close of the service, after the hymn "Abide with me" (tune Eventide) and prayers, the congregation sang Rudyard Kipling's solemn Recessional "God of our fathers" (to the tune Melita), after which the Reveille was sounded by trumpeters (the Last Post had already been sounded at the Cenotaph unveiling). Other eminent members of the congregation were Queen Alexandra, the queens of Spain and Norway, the Duke of Connaught, politicians Lloyd George and Asquith, and Sir Douglas Dawson.

The grave was then covered by an embroidered silk funeral pall, which had been presented to the Abbey by the Actors' Church Union in memory of their fallen comrades, with the Padre's flag lying over this. Servicemen kept watch at each corner of the grave while thousands of mourners filed past. Wreaths brought over on HMS Verdun were added to others around the grave. The Abyssinian cross, presented to the Abbey at the time of the 1902 coronation,

stood at the west end. The Abbey organ was played while the church remained open to the public. After the Abbey had closed for the night some of the choristers went back into the nave and one later wrote "The Abbey was empty save for the guard of honour stiffly to attention, arms (rifles) reversed, heads bowed and quite still - the whole scene illuminated by just four candles".

Special permission had been given to make a recording of the service but only the two hymns were of good enough quality to be included on the record, the first electrical recording ever to be sold to the public (with profits going to the Abbey's restoration fund).

The grave was filled in, using 100 sandbags of earth from the battle-fields, on 18th November and then covered by a temporary stone with a gilded inscription on it:

A BRITISH WARRIOR WHO FELL IN THE GREAT WAR 1914-1918 FOR KING AND COUNTRY. GREATER LOVE HATH NO MAN THAN THIS.

On 11th November 1921 the present black marble stone was unveiled at a special service. The Padre's Flag was also formerly dedicated at this service.

The body of the Unknown Warrior may be from any of the three services, Army, Navy or Air Force, and from any part of the British Isles, Dominions or Colonies and represents all those who died who have no other memorial or known grave.

When the Duke of York (later King George VI) married Lady Elizabeth Bowes Lyon in the Abbey in 1923 as she left she laid her wedding bouquet on the grave as a mark of respect (she had lost a brother during the war). All royal brides married in the Abbey since then have sent back their bouquets to be laid on the grave (as also have some royal brides who were married elsewhere).

#### **Articles for Publication**

Please submit articles either by email to:

arnold112@btinternet.com

Or leave a printed copy in the Parish Office clearly marked for the attention of the Editor.

#### **Submission Deadlines**

Items for inclusion in the December 2020 edition must reach the Editor, Georgina Arnold by 4pm on Friday 27th November 2020.