

St Mary's Church, Bromley

Parish Magazine

October 2023

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Welcome to the October 2023 edition of the Parish Magazine.

The Editorial team hope you all had a good Summer break, and that those of you who have started school, college or University for the first time are well settled in and happy. As I write this I have just finished listening to the "Last Night of the Proms" which always makes me think Summer is over. The Year moves on so in this edition look out for the dates of St Mary's Harvest Festival and All Souls' service at the end of the month.

As always Atlanta, Jill and Jo would welcome items for the magazine whether it be a written article or photographs. We are reliant on certain people each month for articles about what is happening at St Mary's. If you have enjoyed a particular service or had a good time at the Grace cafe share your enjoyment with others in the parish (and hopefully beyond).

Jo Clark
Editor.

If you wish to make payment for the magazine online the bank details are:

Sort Code 09 01 51

Account 27769404 (St Marys Plaistow Parish Magazine)

Monthly cost 75p

Annual cost (10 months) £7.50

Postal service (10 months plus 2nd class postage cost) £14.10

A free pdf copy is available from the website at admin@stmarys-bromley.org.uk.

This month's editor: Jo Clark

Editor for November: Jill Atkinson

Copy date: Monday 9th November 2023.

Please support the editors by giving articles and notices to them by the copy date.



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Memorial Book



St. Mary's Church has a memorial book in which may be inscribed names of people associated with the parish. If you would like to know more details please contact Alan or Jean Read on 020 8402 0886.

Disclaimer

The opinions, beliefs and viewpoints expressed by the various participants in this magazine do not necessarily reflect the opinions, beliefs and viewpoints of the Editors.

Progress in the right direction



I write this as September is drawing to a close. There can still be some pleasant warm days but Summer is really spent now and the evenings are drawing in. As we move into Autumn our thoughts turn to harvest and it is a joy to know the needs we have for food will be met. There is indeed an annual cycle to our lives. But it is deep within our faith that there is more than just an endless repeat going on.

The Bible in both the Old and New Testaments bears witness to progress taking place and the purposes of God coming to fulfilment. Within this understanding there is hope because the wrongs of the world are overcome and the true life that God has made us for will become a reality.

Recent centuries have made a lot of focus on material progress. The natural world is understood in fresh ways and through investigation and study, great advances have been made. So successful has this been even the scientists themselves have not known the power of what has been revealed.

At a very theoretical level the scientist James Clerk Maxwell described electromagnetic radiation. The more practical scientist called Heinrich Hertz used Clark Maxwell 's theories to create radio waves. Hertz did not realize the practical importance of his radio wave experiments. When asked about the applications of his discoveries, Hertz replied 'Nothing, I guess'.

In fact our society has been revolutionised by wireless communication leading to mass media, mobile phones, Radar, satellite navigation, medical scans and much more. My point is that progress takes place and even the people at the cutting edge may not realise just what is going on.

Our modern world has somewhat confined progress to a material realm. A lot of this is good. The advance in understanding materials, medicines, food production and the communication mentioned above have all greatly enriched our world. But there is much more to life than the material.

When Martin Luther King gave his Nobel Peace Prize Lecture on 11 December 1964 he said:

‘There is a sort of poverty of the spirit which stands in glaring contrast to our scientific and technological abundance. The richer we have become materially, the poorer we have become morally and spiritually. We have learned to fly the air like birds and swim the sea like fish, but we have not learned the simple art of living together as humans’.

The world needs progress but some of the increase seems more like an addiction that reduces life rather than enhance it. Economic growth is hugely destructive of the environment and drives the climate crisis. We have understood the beauty and truth of the world but are destroying it too. Science has led to technology producing huge developments in weapons technology. These reap great profits but build precarious situations that tip over into war. This is not the way to facilitate the ‘living together as humans that Martin Luther King spoke of.

In many ways this is not the kind of article that I like to read about let alone write! It sounds too much like a ‘we’re all go into hell in a hand cart’ type of piece. Rather than just complain and express despair I think what I want to ask is ‘what sort of progress do we want?’ Asking this almost has to be done in a new way that aims to improve humanity’s ability to live together well. If not the growth is only expected in terms of material ends, financial growth and accepting that war is a reasonable way to do this.

There are issues about all people being respected and of true value. Martin Luther King was addressing the issues of racial equality and October is Black History Month. The position of women in society is a focus of intense discussion with people of power being called to account and a vibrant #metoo movement. But many people even in our society are left out with a cost of living crisis, depending on food banks and suffering rampant rent increases.

I thank God for the harvest and a world that has seen huge progress including the scientific and technological. But Martin Luther King’s ambition remains to live together as humans better. It is God’s ambition too.

Best wishes

Alan Keeler

“Where are you?”



We had this reading from Genesis 3 one morning last week, and it has remained with me since, leading my thinking as I write. It is an account of what happened after Adam and Eve had eaten the apple.

“They heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden. But the Lord God called to the man and said to him, “Where are you?” He said, “I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked, and I hid myself.” He said, “Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?”

My immediate thought was that by now, we in our generation, must have eaten of the fruit of every tree, nothing is hidden from us, as we continually succumb to all kinds of temptations, seek knowledge and develop technology of every kind, as we wreak havoc on our planet and on the lives of our brothers and sisters.

Seemingly we have not really moved forwards in our development, because knowing good and evil does not mean that we are wise, just that we might be clever, nor do we live better, treat each other gently or well, our essential flaws remain. Someone described our world and our society to me as toxic, which is just not true, our world and much of our society are both beautiful and blessed, it is we who are fallen, after all we have all sinned and fallen short of the glory of God, and some of our behaviours might well be called toxic. Sometimes though some of us are brave, loving, faithful, creative and altruistic. There are those among us who love God and neighbour, who live simply and take joy in so doing.

Remember that God loves us unconditionally, and while we were still sinners, sent His Son to us, to God we are His children, infinitely precious and worthy of redemption. . As to Adam. so to us, God still comes looking for us and asking, “where are you?” Calling us, to wriggle out from under the distractions with which we try to hide from God, and to listen to the

wise words of the many, too many to list really, in our own time, as well as all of the great witnesses who have gone before us. They are calling us to generous and inclusive living, to openness to one another, to repentance for our lack of love and to the new spirit filled life of the baptised, in the community of the faithful.

We are called to follow in the footsteps of Jesus, when confronted as he was, by the suffering those who are hungry, homeless, naked, thirsty, sick or in prison, and as he was sitting in judgement on the sheep and the goats in the parable, he was in effect saying to them “where are you” in the face of the obvious sufferings of others.

I remember being very struck by the inaugural speech of President Kennedy in 1961 inspiring children and adults to see the importance of civic action and public service. His words, “Ask not what your country can do for you – ask what you can do for your country,” challenged everyone to contribute in some way to the public good. He then addressed his international audience by saying: “My fellow citizens of the world: ask not what America will do for you, but what together we can do for the freedom of man.” We might say, for the freedom of human beings, but we know what he meant, and he was echoed some 2 years later by Martin Luther King’s speech “I have a dream...” A vision of a united nation of America, and a vision of a non-racialised future for everyone, a vision for everyone of the common good and of mutual care and respect.

Which says near the beginning “No, no, we are not satisfied, and we will not be satisfied until justice rolls down like the waters, and righteousness like a mighty stream” even though we face the difficulties of today and tomorrow, I still have a dream..... when we allow freedom to ring, when we let it ring from every village and every hamlet, from every state and every city, we will be able to speed up that day when all of God's children, Black men and white men, Jews and Gentiles, Protestants and Catholics, will be able to join hands and sing in the words of the old Negro spiritual: Free at last. Free at last. Thank God almighty, we are free at last.”

It is a glorious, joyful and non-parochial approach to humanity recognising that we are all one in Christ, and almost in effect saying that no one is free until we are all free. It is really hard today to understand how far we have moved from visions of joyful inclusivity and service to one another, to a dark culture of divisive disagreements, identity politics, inequalities in

wealth and status, appalling attitudes towards women and girls and contempt for those who are not like us.

God calls to us “where are you” in the dark places of our world. God calls us to be those who unite communities and bring others together, those who love and serve, the peace makers and the seekers after righteousness, those who show in our lives the fruits of the spirit as listed by Paul writing to the Galatians and they are:

“[love](#), [joy](#), [peace](#), [patience](#), [kindness](#), [goodness](#), [faithfulness](#), gentleness, and self-control. Against such things he says there is no law.”

We can become those transformed and transforming people, bringing God’s people together, not all at once but one small step at a time, one act of generosity at a time to change the habits of our communities and point them in a new direction towards our Risen Saviour. We can do this, otherwise we will remain restless and dissatisfied until we do.

Alison Tyler



Intercession List

St. Mary’s Church encourages everyone to pray for each other. No doubt you have particular people that are regularly in your prayers and that is great. We also publish a list of people who are more widely known to us. A new edition is available in the church. Please do take a copy. If you would like new people added, maybe yourself if you are new, please let Alan know

Free Books

There is a small book case in the church building with a wide variety of items of Christian interest. You are welcome to have a look and take what catches your fancy. If you would like some guidance Alan will be only happy to make recommendations. The book case will be there until the end of October.

Poverty and Hope Appeal

The Diocese of Rochester Poverty and Hope Appeal is our annual fundraising opportunity to express our Christian belief in justice for the poor. St. Mary's Church has fund raising envelopes available during October.

For four decades, The Poverty and Hope Appeal has allowed us to play our part in tackling the causes and effects of poverty in different parts of the world.

This year's projects, we continue to stand together with Christian Aid, USPG and CMS, who in turn link us with trusted and experienced local partners who best understand the needs of the communities in which they work. In 2022, through the generosity of churches and individuals, over £23,000 was raised for the Appeal's chosen projects.

Empowering Minority Communities in Bangladesh (Christian Aid)



Eleven per cent of the population of Bangladesh belongs to a minority community and is under-represented in government. The 'Empowering Left-Behind Minority Communities' project will enable these communities to find opportunities, use their voices, claim their rights and be involved in the development process of Bangladesh.

Hidden voices of the Favelas (CMS)



Inequalities in Brazil are among the worst in the world. Florianopolis, in the south, has many favelas (slums), which are controlled by drugs and gangs and house much of the city's population. Through CMS supported individuals - Andy and Kati - this project is about engaging subcultures on the fringes including impoverished migrant communities and people that get caught in the cycle of crime just to survive.

Fruit, veg and honey from Africa



Small grants of £2,000 each were made in October last year to Rochester's three companion dioceses in Africa: Mpwapwa and Kondoia in Tanzania and Harare in Zimbabwe. Along with other parts of East Africa, parishes and communities had been badly affected by drought.

Amos Trust and its partners in Bethlehem



Amos Trust is a London-based Christian charity which has worked in Palestine/Israel for over 30 years. Among its Palestinian partners is Alrowwad Cultural and Arts Society, based in Aida refugee camp in Bethlehem. Alwrowwad dancers are shown in the photograph performing in London on the steps of St Paul's Cathedral.

More information can be found here: <https://www.rochester.anglican.org/everyday-faith/ourfaithinaction/poverty-and-hope-appeal/>

Introducing our Church Warden Team



We had a very good Special Parochial Church Meeting on Sunday 17th September. The meeting took up the challenge of appointing a Church Warden Team. We now have Clem Sutton and Maria Staines as this year's Church Wardens along with John Beale, Sylvia Chance, Paul Knight and Anthia Page on the team.

Archdeacon Allie Kerr was present and licenced Clem and Maria so all is now official.

We are very grateful to these people for stepping up as part of the leadership of our church. There will be important issues to face as St. Mary's Church prepares for the vacancy following Alan's retirement in January and participating in appointing a new vicar.

Save the Date

Come and join us for Alan's last service as Vicar of St. Mary's before he retires which will be at 10.30am on 21st January 2024

MOTHERS' UNION MATTERS

Our August Coffee Morning in and around the church porch raised £110 for the MU Summer of Hope. This was a lovely fine day with plenty of good conversation and a few slices of cake!

[A group of women sitting at a table Description automatically generated]



The Quiz in September, organised by Christ and John Soper, was well attended, and created a lot of fun and laughter. The pictures given out were all described by words beginning "M M". So, for example, one picture was of Minnie Mouse, and another of a Morris Minor. You may imagine what inappropriate descriptions were given to pictures that were not recognised. However, Marilyn Monroe would have been correct, if applied to the correct picture! I should explain that this was only one of the rounds in the Quiz, which overall was demanding, but not impossible. The questions (and answers) provoked a lot of fun and absurd conjecture for the teams and their members.

Our October meeting (12th October) will see Peter Yolland giving a talk based around the best-selling crime writer, Agatha Christie. Later in the month members will travel to Rochester for the annual Diocesan M.U. Members meeting. Knit and Natter continues to meet on the third Thursday of each month, (19th in October) when members (and others) come to knit articles of clothing for babies, gloves and scarves for Seafarers or blankets for animals. Another trip to Knit for Peace is planned for the purpose of passing on the appropriate knitted items, and a representative from Seafarers collects woollies every so often.

Peter Fall

Jigsaw Sale



10.00am to noon on Saturday 18th November, in the church porch

With refreshments in the back of church and paperback books outside of the porch All proceeds to the mural fund.

Choir Notes

“If thou art merry, praise the Lord with singing, with music, with dancing, and with a prayer of praise and thanksgiving.”

Although I can't promise the dancing, you can be sure that St Mary's Church Choir will be “Praising the Lord with singing” whenever they are in church for a service. Small enough to be non-threatening, yet powerful enough to fill the church with joyful sound, St Mary's Choir is a wonder to behold.

The church choir will continue to sing to the praise and glory of God, and for the encouragement and support of the church congregation. We hope to enhance church worship while helping choir members with their mental and physical health. This is quite a responsibility, so please forgive us when we under-achieve in any area. But be assured of our best-intentions.

Of course, not all choirs are like this. Mark Twain revealed that most are “ill-bred”:

“The choir always tittered and whispered all through the service. There was once a church choir that was not ill-bred, but I have forgotten where it was.”

Ill-bred, or not, it is true that much is learned by being in the choir:

Connie Willis wrote “It is my belief that everything you need to know about the world can be learned in the church choir.” She is an American science fiction and fantasy author, having won eleven Hugo awards and seven Nebula awards, more major SF awards than any other writer.

Martin Luther firmly understood music to be part of God's original creation and that it had been intended for human enjoyment since the beginning of time. He claimed that music is closely tied to theology and contains similar power to the Bible as a way to grow in a relationship with God.

As well as spiritual benefit, there is also other help from singing. The physiological benefits of singing, and music more generally, have long been explored. Music-making exercises the brain as well as the body, but singing is particularly beneficial for improving breathing, posture and muscle tension. Making music together has additional positive impacts: “People who make music together cannot be enemies, at least while the music lasts.” (Paul Hindemith)

Please keep a check on us to ensure that we remain friends – even when the music stops.

Peter Fall

Concert in St Mary's

We are delighted that Bernard Brook will be bringing his **Bromley Symphony Players** to St Mary's for another concert. The chamber orchestra will be performing in St Mary's Church on **Saturday 14th October** at **7.30 p.m.**

The concert opens with a Concerto Grosso by William Boyce and closes with the ever-popular Holberg Suite by Grieg. In between they will play a Concerto Grosso by Geminiani and Mozart's "Divertimento" K138. Bernard will be the soloist in Haydn's Violin Concerto No 1 and Simon McVeigh will direct the Players throughout the evening.

There will be an interval with refreshments, and admission is £8 on the door. All proceeds from the concert will go to the Alzheimer's Society. Refreshments will be available during the interval. You are warmly invited to come and enjoy the high standard of music-making achieved by the BSP, and to sample the friendliness of their regular audience.

Peter Fall



A Harvest Grace

O Holy Sacred God,
for the Risen Seed,
from the grain of the field to the plate,
we give You grateful thanks.

Amen.

Barbara Buckingham

Our 160th Anniversary Lunch

St Mary's Bromley started 160 years ago this September and we wanted to celebrate this milestone with worship and in style, which included a delicious lunch.

We have had several events, one of which was our anniversary service and the lunch on Sunday 10th September. This included a rich fruit cake, tempting desserts, and prosecco, as well as the planting of a crab apple tree.

We saw many old faces at the service as well as some new ones and after the service we all went outside to plant the tree.



A hole had been dug by Mike Eames, so we just needed to put the tree in the hole.

All we have to do now is to water it and watch it grow. Hopefully it will have beautiful flowers in the spring and the birds and other animals will enjoy the apples in the summer. You never know, we may be able to make St Mary's Crab-apple jam or jelly.



Planting the 160 Anniversary Tree

Once the tree was planted, we all went in for the glorious lunch:



With the Anniversary Cake decorated by Patricia as the sparkling highlight



We all enjoyed the lunch and are really looking forward to the next significant anniversary of St Mary's – or the next opportunity for a good celebration lunch!

Trine Hevezi

160 Cream Tea

It was decided to hold another Cream Tea as part of the St Mary's 160 celebrations. As with any of these events, there is a lot of pre-planning taking place behind the scenes. A few days before the event additional floral china needed to be sourced to augment what we already had and Mary Hardcastle came to the rescue with a plentiful supply of decorative cups, saucers and plates, as the everyday white mugs would not give the right vibe, let alone the compostable cups!

The back of church and the porch could not be transformed into a 'pop-up' vintage Tea Room until after the last visitors for the London Open House had left at 12 noon. Then it was all action stations to get everything ready in time. A willing team of helpers swiftly helped with this admirably and soon the tables were positioned to give maximum capacity, but to still allow ease of movement around and to leave the walk ways clear. The tables were dressed in white linen table cloths, over cloths with lace or embroidery and floral arrangements in the centre and flowery napkins to complete the look.

A dedicated team of willing helpers were on hand; Anthia to welcome, Margaret & Sarah on food prep, Sylvia serving hot drinks, Carole & Stephen taking orders, Debi & Patricia delivering orders, Liz helping with a variety of tasks, all were all on top form. On the menu there was a choice of home baked plain, fruit, cherry, cheese and GF cheese scones, served with clotted cream, butter, strawberry jam, strawberries, tomato or onion chutney, cherry tomatoes and tea, coffee or fruit juice. Thanks to Mary for baking fruit scones and to Alison for baking GF cheese and plain scones.

At 2.30 pm the guests started to arrive and there is a time of anticipation wondering how many will turn up, will we have enough scones and seating to accommodate everyone? Before very long the tables in the church were all filled up and the porch was being used, being a sunny afternoon, this was quite a pleasant area to sit in. There were 2 tables outside which were also occupied. Over the course of the afternoon, we served around 45+ people with a cream or savoury tea and some tried both! It was a very pleasant afternoon, the sun shone, there were delicious scones to eat, plentiful pots of tea to drink and there was a real buzz with lively conversations.

It was good to welcome folk from the wider community coming along to join in on this occasion. One lady was very complimentary and commented that the cream tea was better than at a top hotel...praise indeed!

The afternoon proceedings soon passed and before long the guests went home happy and contented from their cream tea. The team then embarked on the clearing up operation and with many helping hands the church was soon put back to normal. Thanks also to John Soper for helping to ferry boxes of cream tea paraphernalia back to base, as there were too many to fit into my Mini in one journey! It was a really good team effort, and the Murals Renovation Fund will benefit from £315 plus Gift Aid, thanks to the generous donations. As soon as I got home, the first thing I did was put the kettle on, sat down with a cup of tea, enjoyed a cream scone and reflected on a lovely afternoon... blissful!





Anne Yolland



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professionally cleaned**

We clean your oven...so you don't have to

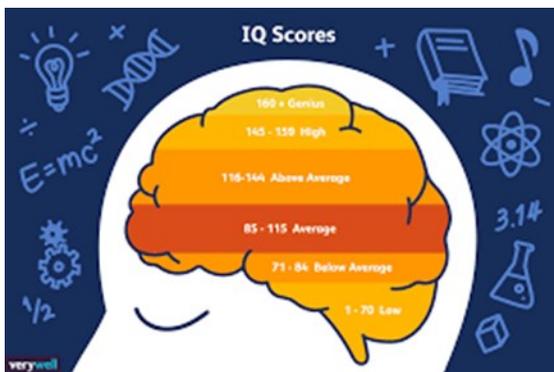
A view from the pew



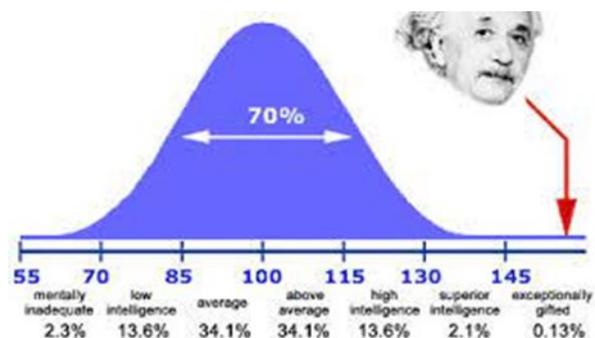
I have often wondered whether humans are brighter now than they were thousands – or even hundreds – of years ago. Can we argue more clearly, or think more abstractly, or learn more quickly? Indications are that the answers will be “Yes!” Does this stem from gradual evolution of our genes, or the survival of the most intelligent, or early education?

From various tests that have been done over the past century, it does appear that people generally have a greater ability for analytical and hypothetical thinking than previous generations. There are explanations for this. One of the things that makes our children smarter than before is that they learn much more early in life. Modern parents read earlier to children, play games with them to develop their thinking, send them to good nursery schools, give them iPads, so that they can have the ability of analytical and hypothetical thinking.

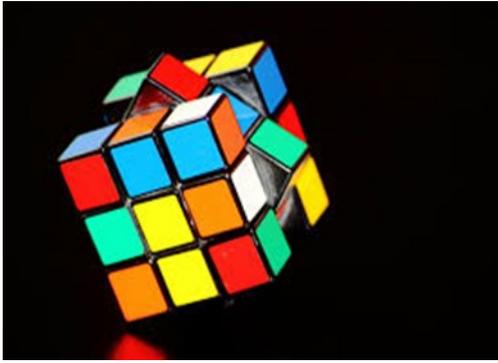
Intelligence Quotient (IQ) tests have shown a steady rise in scores over past generations that cannot be explained genetically. In fact, IQ tests indicate a person’s developed “intelligence” by the time of the evaluation, after being exposed to the influences of his first years of life. It had been thought that IQ measured inborn, immutable and innate ability, but the average score today of 100 would have been only 70 a century ago. It is no surprise then, to find that IQ measures not intelligence as such, but inborn potential, adapted by our early environment; it is nature as much as nurture.



With peaceful civilisation, families are generally smaller so that children get more individual attention a lot earlier, when their brains find learning easier. There is now more exposure to various types of media. Education at an early age gives children the edge they need nowadays to be highly competent, reach a higher IQ, and learn at school more easily.



While considering all this, we should also be aware that folk we considered less intelligent than us, often succeed in various aspects of life more than we do. This is an indication that high IQ can help, but does not guarantee



success across all facets of life – not even financial! But generally speaking, the manual tasks of past centuries have largely disappeared, leaving a world where the knowledge worker needs the ability to work with numbers, to read quickly and to understand technology. In short, to use their brain rather than their brawn.

In answer to the question whether our ancestors were denser than we are, we need to acknowledge that our great grandparents learned to manipulate the world *practically*. We are learning earlier and better how to classify and manipulate it *intellectually*. Surely this cannot be the end of the process? There is a lot more potential humans are born with, if we can discover how to unlock it. Then our children in turn will have the potential to know how to do even better with our grandchildren.

Peter Fall

Table Top Sale

at

St Mary's Church Hall

61, College Rd, BR1 3QG

November 4th, 2-4pm

Booking fee in aid of mural fund

Enquiries to book a £10 table space to

carole.beale@yahoo.com or 0208 460 9330

(free entry to buyers)

The Rectory
St James the Least



My dear Nephew Darren

In the unlikely event of ever being put in charge of designing the course for those being trained for ordination, I would make a few significant changes. Modules on doctrine, Church history and Greek would all be dropped as unnecessary. In their place, I would add courses on how to run a tight jumble sale, ways to keep your church council in order – and especially close to my heart at present, how to negotiate Harvest.

The first skirmish starts in early Summer when it becomes clear that the flower arrangers' plans mean that the choir would disappear behind a huge array of chrysanthemums. The choir then retaliate by announcing that their Harvest anthem must take place just when the Sunday School intended to re-enact the parable of the Good Samaritan. They, in turn, raise the stakes by insisting that a stage will be needed for their performance, thus ensuring that I will be separated from the congregation by an impenetrable barricade.

In September, therefore, there is the traditional meeting to iron out all these little difficulties. This inevitably results with the annual act of the verger handing in his resignation, of the bell ringers threatening a mass walk-out, and those who organise coffee afterwards demanding that my sermon lasts no more than three minutes, so there will be plenty of time for socialising after the Service.

I greet all suggestions with a spontaneous burst of indifference, smile, agree with it all – and do nothing (this, incidentally, is a good policy for all decision-making). Inevitably, everything goes ahead exactly as it has always done for the last century.

Come the day, there will be the usual arrangement of eggs round the font, with the strategically placed card saying 'Given anonymously by Elsie Jones' and the pyramid of apples temptingly near the choirboys, so designed that when someone tries to pinch one during the sermon, the whole pile disintegrates as they roll all over the chancel.

On the following Friday, all will leave after the Harvest Supper saying that the entertainment was worse than the previous year and that the absence of red cabbage had quite ruined the hot pot. Everyone therefore has had an enjoyable evening.

My Harvest training course would be compulsory and a pass mark of 90% would be needed before ordination could be considered.

Your loving uncle,

Eustace

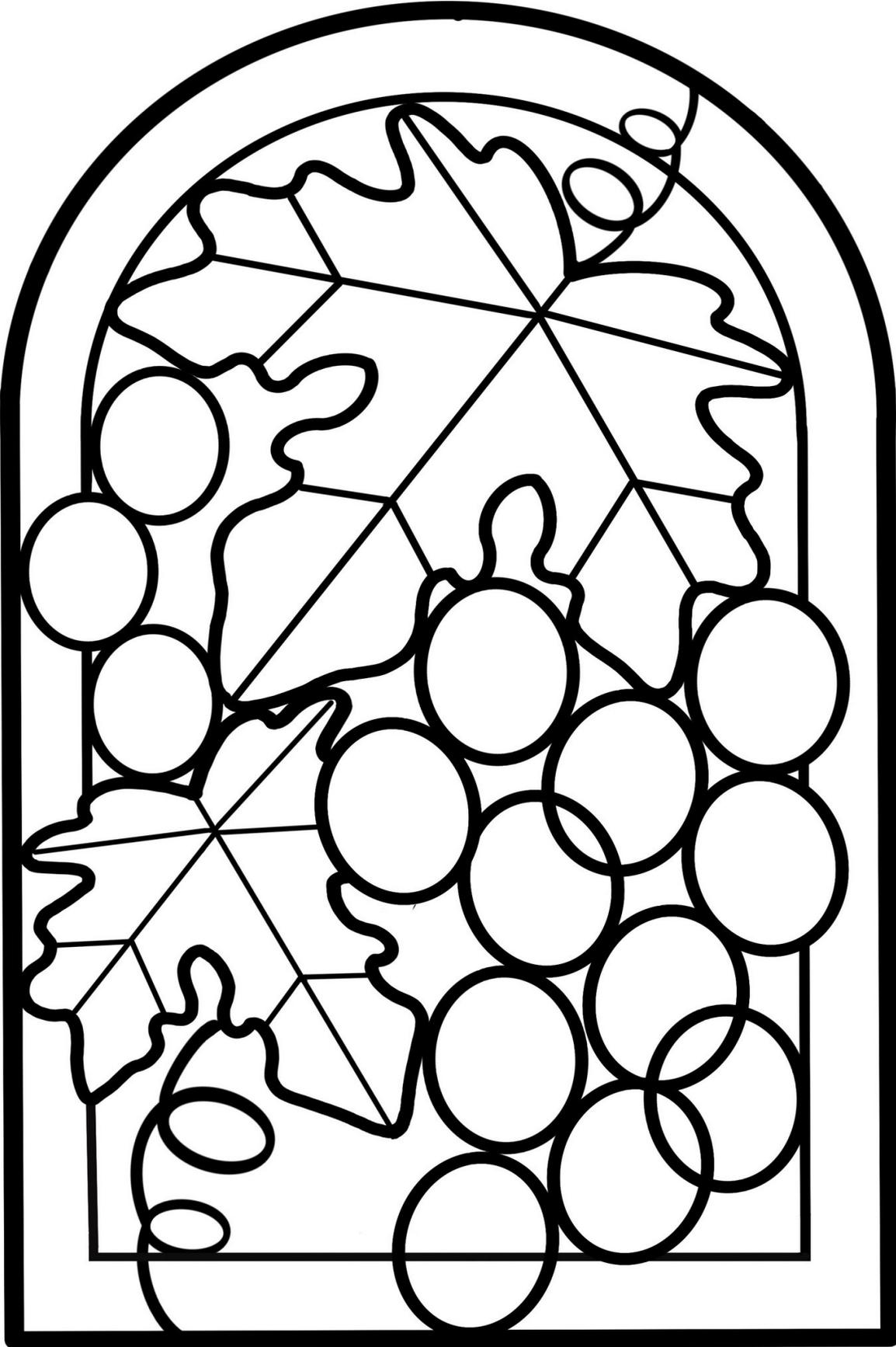
A (mostly) Seasonal Quiz



1. 'Wir pflügen' are the opening words (in German, written by Matthias Claudius 1740-1815) of a well-known hymn— what is it? (In English!)
2. The narrative in St. John's Gospel, of the feeding of the Five Thousand states what kind of bread?
3. Botanically speaking, is a tomato a fruit or a vegetable?
4. The full moon nearest to the autumn equinox is called the Harvest or Corn Moon. What is the full moon, after that, called?
5. Name the Feast Day of St. Luke the Evangelist.
6. The idea of a combine harvester was thought of by the Rev'd Patrick Bell (from Scotland) in 1826, but patented by American Hiram Moore— in what year?
7. The Gospel reading on 8th October this year, is from Matthew 21.33-end. What parable is it about?
8. Which 2 Apostles' Feast Day is on 28th October?
9. Name the longest river in Scotland.
10. Where is the UK's largest freshwater lake?

Devised by Barbara Buckingham

(Answers on page 27)



Wordsearch

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

Wordsearch - St Luke

To St Luke, whose feast-day is 18th October, we owe a beautifully written gospel as well as the Book of Acts. He was a Greek physician and faithful travelling companion to St Paul. Under house arrest near the end of his life Paul noted, 'only Luke is with me'. Luke's gospel focuses on the compassion of Christ, and offers us moving parables, such as the Good Samaritan and Prodigal Son. Women figure more prominently in Luke's gospel than in any other: look out for the extended story of the Virgin Birth, and stories of Mary, Elizabeth, and the woman who was a sinner. His gospel also features more poor people, more lepers, more 'sinners', who are all shown to be 'inside' the love of Christ. In Acts, Luke skilfully links sacred and profane history, as subsequent archaeology has shown. He tells of how the early Christians moved away from Jerusalem into the pagan world, and especially on to Rome.

Luke	Paul	prodigal	poor	early
physician	compassion	Son	lepers	Christians
companion	parables	women	sacred	Jerusalem
house	good	Virgin	profane	Rome
arrest	Samaritan	birth	pagan	

Answers to the Seasonal Quiz

1. We plough the fields and scatter
2. Barley
3. Fruit
4. The Hunter's Moon
5. 18th October
6. 1835
7. The wicked tenants (in the vineyard)
8. St. Simon and St. Jude
9. River Tay
10. Northern Ireland (Lough Neagh)

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

WHAT'S ON IN OUR HALLS

Monday

4.15pm—6.30pm	Ballet Belles	Warwick Hall
6.15pm—7.00pm	Ballet Belles	Buchan Hall
6.45pm—8.45pm	Guides	Warwick Hall
7.00pm—8.00pm	Meditation	Front Room

Tuesday

2.00pm—3.00pm	Adult Ballet	Warwick Hall
4.15pm—6.30pm	Ballet Belles	Warwick Hall

Wednesday

2.00pm—4.30pm	Wednesday Club	Warwick Hall
5.15pm—6.45pm	Harlequins Theatre School	Warwick Hall
6.00pm—7.30pm	Bromley Boy Singers	Buchan Hall
7.00pm—9.00pm	Group Therapy	Front Room
7.30pm—8.30pm	Bromley Shotokan	Warwick Hall

Thursday

4.30pm—6.00pm	Harlequins Theatre School	Warwick Hall
6.15pm—7.45pm	13th Bromley Brownies	Warwick Hall

Friday

6.45pm—8.15pm	18th Bromley Cub Group	Warwick Hall
6.45pm—8.45pm	1st Plaistow Rangers	Buchan Hall
8.15pm—9.45pm	18th Bromley Scout Group	Warwick Hall
7..30pm—9.30pm	Group Therapy	Front Room

Saturday

8.30am—12.00pm	Little Kickers	Warwick Hall
7.00pm—9.30pm	Group Therapy	Front Room

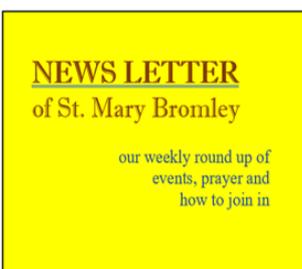
All Souls' Service

This will be held on Sunday 29th October at 3.30 p.m. It is a service where we remember those whom we have loved but are now sadly separated from by death. It can be a very helpful thing to gather and know the presence of God specifically in our grief. St. Mary's send invitations to those whom through its ministry we know are bereaved. This service is open to anyone to attend. If you would like to make a specific act of remembrance please bring a card with the name of the person to remember. This will be received from you as you enter the church and the name will be read as part of the Roll of Remembrance. You might also like to bring a flower to hand to us which will be offered during the service. To find out more please speak with Alan Keeler or Anthia Page.

Grace Café



Do come and get to know some of us a bit better. We have a weekly café in the church on a Wednesday between 10am and noon. The refreshments are delightful, and we will be pleased to see



The life of St. Mary's has much going on. Our weekly Newsletter is full of useful information. There are copies in the church, we are happy to email a copy to you or alternatively post you one. Ask our administrator Atlanta if you are interested. Or it can be obtained though the home page of our website.

Please let Alan know about notices you would like to be included by noon on a Wednesday.



Harvest Festival – 10.30am 8 October

You are warmly invited to our Harvest Festival where we will receive gifts which will be given to Bromley Borough Foodbank. There are particular requests for the following: UHT

Milk, Coffee, Squash, Fruit Juice, Jam, Desserts, Sweets, Savoury Extras , Jam, Rice Pudding, Custard, Tinned Fruit, Tinned Veg, Tinned Soup, Tinned Tomatoes, Hot Meat/ Cold Meat, Tinned Potatoes, Rice Packet, Cooking Sauces, Toilet rolls, Multi-Surface Wipes, Multi-Surface Sprays, Shampoo, Conditioner, Shower Gel, Shaving Gel, Razors

Worship Diary

We offer a variety of services through the year. They are mostly on a Sunday at 10.30am and are mostly Family Communion. Most months we also have a Family Service which does not include Holy Communion. We hope you will find us a warm and friendly congregation. If you have questions about what we do, why we do it or how you might like to be more involved please do speak with the Vicar Alan Keeler, a sidesman... or anyone really!

Our Sunday Clubs are a valued provision for your youngest members. They do not meet when we have a Family Service or during school holidays.

Our services will continued to be live streamed and can be viewed on our Facebook page unless otherwise stated:

<https://www.facebook.com/stmarysbromley/>

The words of the service can be found on our website:

<https://www.stmarys-bromley.org.uk/lockdown/st-marys-worship/>

Services October

Sunday 1st – 17 Sunday after Trinity

10.30am Family Communion, with Sunday Club

Sunday 8th – 18 Sunday after Trinity

10.30am Family Service

Sunday 15th – 19 Sunday after Trinity

10.30am Family Communion, with Sunday Club

Sunday 22nd – Bible Sunday

10.30am Family Communion

Sunday 29th – All Saints Day

10.30am Family Communion, with Sunday Club

3.30pm All Souls Service

St Mary's (Plaistow) College Road Bromley

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