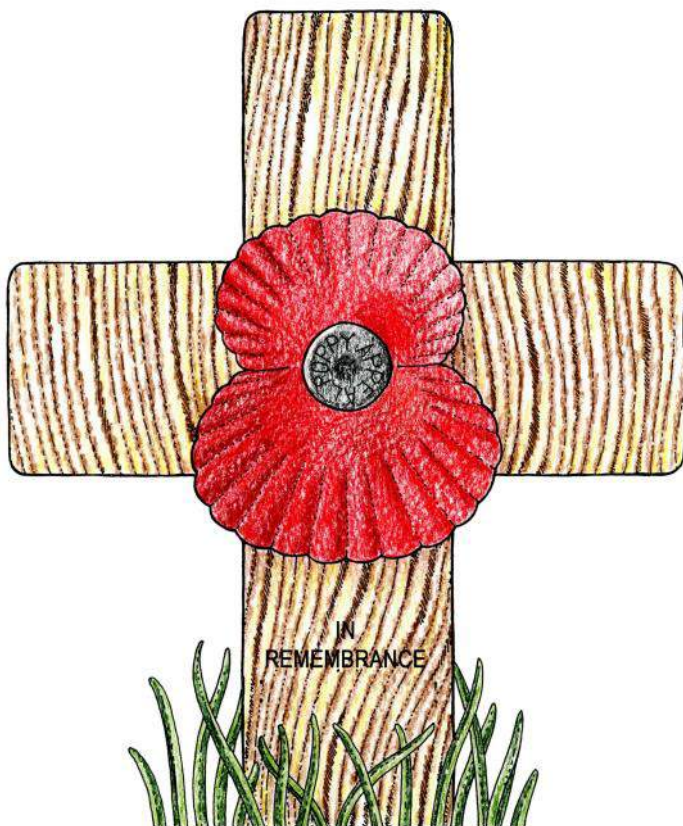


St Thomas' and St Luke's Ashton - in - Makerfield Magazine



November 2020

50p

www.stthomasstluke.org.uk

Church Services in St Thomas' and St Luke's

Sundays

St Thomas'

1st Sunday

9am Communion
10.45 All Age
Worship

2nd Sunday

9am Morning

St Luke's at 11am

Worship

Communion

Family Worship

Family Worship

Weekdays

Thursday 9.45am
Holy Communion (BCP)
in St Thomas'

Please see weekly notice sheet or visit
website for additional services details or
exceptions.

Usual services are suspended. Please ring Jan (721626) to book for St Thomas' 9.30am Sunday service and Carole (517318) for St Luke's 11am Sunday service. Please note that places are limited.

Deadlines: Handwritten material should be given to Malcolm Taylor and email material to magazine@stthomasstluke.org.uk

Deadline	December	January
Hand Written	13th November	18th December
Emailed	20th November	25th December
Magazine Release	29th November	3rd January

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Booking Baptisms and Weddings

If you would like to book a wedding or a baptism, please email office@stthomasstluke.org.uk or ring 01942 727275.

Important Information

Baptisms

Baptisms normally held at St Thomas' Church at 12.45pm on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month.

Baptisms at St Luke's are at 11am on the 3rd Sunday.

To qualify for baptism parents should live within the parish boundaries or be a regular worshipper at St Thomas's or St Luke's. Parents and godparents should have been baptised and be prepared to attend a baptism preparation session.

Funerals

Every parishioner has the right to a service in church (if church is open), followed by a committal.

Marriage

You can marry in a CofE Church of your choice if certain criteria are shown to be met. For details please contact the church office on: 01942 727275 or office@stthomasstluke.org.uk

Letter from Jeremy



With the imminent start of the reorder works in St Thomas church many will have different feelings and emotions as we embark on this next significant period of change in our church building.

Some will look forward to the new thing that God will be able to do in the new flexible and accessible worship space. Others we know will miss what was. For all of us during the period of the reorder we will be displaced from a place where God has been at work amongst us since 1893 in the current building, and for 500 years in the previous buildings on the site. For this is not the first time and will not be the last that St Thomas church community has experienced change in this way.

Most of us find change in our lives to be uncomfortable. When our routines and expectations are challenged our discomfort increases. Though we like the familiar and to know what to expect, the reality is that life is constantly changing.

In all of life's experiences we can be sure and confident that the word of God in the Bible will speak clearly into our situation.

When we fear or are trying to find strength, the word of God in

Isaiah 41:10 comforts us *"Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."*

Ecclesiastes 3.1 declares “*For everything there is a season*” or as the Message translation puts it “*There’s an opportune time to do things, a right time for everything*”.

A season of hurt or disappointment could be a time to pray and prepare for what God has planned next.

What doesn’t change – is God. His love for us is constant through all of life’s changes, and because of this truth we can say with the psalmist “*He alone is my rock and my salvation, my fortress where I will never be shaken.*” ***Psalm 62:2.***

If uncertainty comes, if change seems difficult, when we lean on God for help and reassurance, we will find him. The Father knows that his people are in constant need, and in Jesus, we find strength, peace and joy.

Change in our personal lives is inevitable as it is in the world around us. Some of those changes may be small, others may feel overwhelming. But no matter what changes we face, we heed the promise of ***Hebrews 13.8*** that “*Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.*”

As Christians, we don’t face change alone. Spending time with God, taking hold of the reassurances in the Bible and applying them to our life builds faith and deepens relationship with God. Then, on the other side of change we may experience the opportunity for the new and the bold.

Jeremy



Mothers' Union

Diary

You may think it strange to head this part of article with the word Diary. The simple truth is that at the time of writing and the new restriction which have been imposed on us I am unable to arrange a meeting for November and December, this follows the disappointment of the late cancellation of our October Communion Service. The better news is that it may well be possible to transfer our entire programme for this year to the next. We do live in hope that our MU and friends annual meal in January can go ahead. Please watch this space.

We do hope to continue our supported of the young people living at Coops Foyer with Christmas gifts. Can I ask you to have this in mind as we begin our Christmas preparations.

On a sad note as many of you will know that Margaret Herd died on the 28th September. Margaret had suffered poor health for a number of years and had to undergo a number of operations. As her health deteriorated even more she spent the last four months living with her son Tony and his partner Lydia in their London home. Her funeral took place here at St Thomas on the 9th October. A long time member of our branch she will be sadly missed by her relation and many friends and we pass on our sympathy to Tony and Tanya at this difficult time.





Mothers' Union

Creation

The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it. *Psalm 24:1*

God of life, we pray for all those who are struggling with the effects of climate change and the exploitation of our earth's resources. Fill us with a spirit of concern for the future, that we may learn from our state of environmental irresponsibility and become responsible custodians of your creation. May those in authority recognise its negative effects on our planet and make decisions that will be life-giving for all.

Inspire us to refocus our lives and centre on all you have created, so we may redress the injustice of climate change and look forward to a future full of hope in a caring, sharing, respectful world. In Jesus' name. Amen

Jacqui Armstrong, Province of All-Ireland

***Love and God bless
Barbara***



News from our churches

Fit for the Future

Well then the time that we have been working towards for what seem an age is almost upon us. I am of course talking about the implementation of the plans for the latest stage of the refurbishment of our church building in accordance with our Fit for the Future programme.

Out are to come the slowly rotting and decaying wooden floors to be replaced with an entirely new concrete floor which will incorporate the new under floor heating system. This will replace the very elderly boilers and radiators which are well past their best. Indeed the latest gas inspection carried out in September for insurance purposes has led to the boilers being condemned as unsafe and therefore beyond use.

The work to the floor is necessary and brings with it the necessity to remove the pews and choir stalls. The proposals also include the replacement of the sound system with an up to date audio and visual system incorporating all the very latest technology.

To facilitate the carrying out of the work in accordance with the faculty granted by the Diocesan Chancellor it is of course necessary to have the funds available to pay for the work. In addition to the money raised by generous donations given over the recent years it has been necessary to arrange a sale of 79 Greenfields Crescent and once contracts are signed for the sale we will have the money required.

It has been an all too slow approach to the present stage after the St Thomas PCC approved the scheme way back in 2014 as we have not only had to raise the money but also obtain firstly the Diocesan Advisory Committee approval to the plans after which we were enabled to make an application for a faculty.

This was not plain sailing as the Chancellor of the Liverpool Diocese was called upon to consider the objections raised by a number of the members of the congregation who, understandably, were concerned at the proposed changes. After considering these objections and visiting the church for a site visit the Chancellor, who is in effect an ecclesiastical judge, granted the faculty. Then in steps Covid 19 and we are again delayed. The changes brought about by the Transforming Wigan scheme necessitated that the new hub PCC gave approval to both the sale of Greenfields and the contract terms for the work. This was done at the beginning of October. After the PCC approval it was necessary to gain approval from Church Wigan Joint Council.

The work will take some 20 weeks to complete during which time we will be meeting for our services in the church hall. There is much to be done before work commences and we need to start with the removal of the pews. These will be offered for sale but we want to give the members of the congregation the first opportunity to make a purchase of a favourite pew. Any funds raised in this way will assist towards paying for the work.

I should add that before any work is commenced there is a great deal of clearing up and items going into storage. We do need a lot of help with this work. If you are able to assist please contact me on 205136 or the wardens with you availability.

We must apologise to you all in advance for the inconvenience which will no doubt be caused whilst the work is being undertaken. However when this has been completed we will be handing down to our successors a building of which we can be as proud as our Victorian predecessors were proud of the new church consecrated in 1893 and which is loved by us all. We have an obligation not only to ourselves but also to those Christians who follow Jesus in our footsteps.

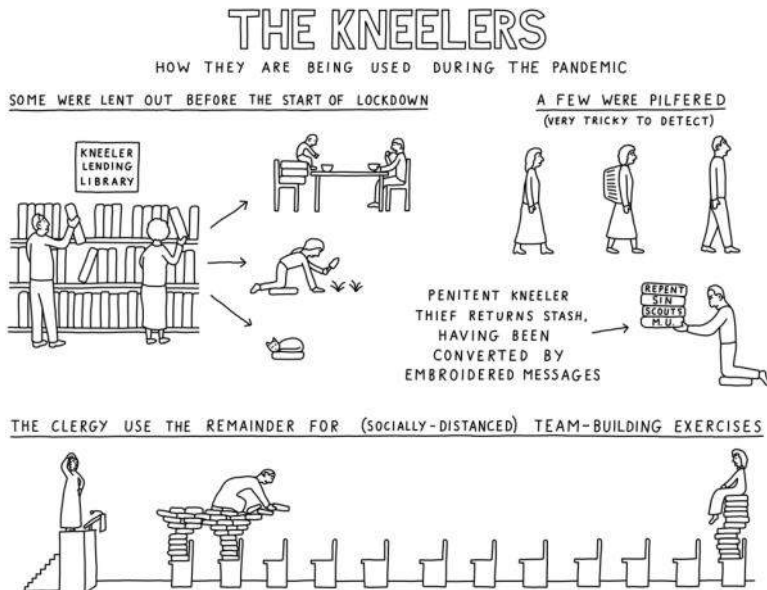
Magazine Material

Our Church magazine has, thanks to Jess Bradley, had a new lease of life. We can't leave everything to Jess, this is an essential means of communicating information and providing articles of interest. I make no apology for repeating yet again that the magazine very much depends entirely on the readers to provide contents which will make it truly a magazine of quality and interest to all. Please let us hear from you with items of news or other interest to really make it a worthwhile read.

Harvest Festival

Our usual annual Harvest Festival was of necessity cancelled I am sure to everyone's disappointment however we are still able to welcome gifts as detailed in the weekly notice sheet. I would like to thank all those who kindly donated. I particularly want to thank our day school. They were unable to attend church for the annual Harvest Service but have been able to celebrate the harvest in school and have blessed the ACT food Bank with donations of food items. We do thank the parents for their generosity.

Malcolm



Autumn reflection

Families grieve.
In autumnal showers of fallen gold
Drifting in October's breeze.
Kids kick their paths through skeletal leaves
with veins, like season's spiders weave.
The greenhouse harvest stalls in the lessening light.
Hoods are up on heads and prams.
In tiered times I look for some insight
into an earth that stumbles
without order or direction.

Through this season's notes of death
I hear the new-born gasp of breath.

This is my reflection.

It's God's rhythm of life.

On the study wall the poster reads
The pruner can complain because rose bushes have thorns
Or rejoice that the thornbush bears a rose.
It's all up to me.

Maurice Smith



ACT Foodbank

Thank you to everyone who has been donating food to the foodbank in these difficult times and to Andrew and his team for all their work putting hampers together and delivering them as well as distributing food on a Friday morning.

If you would like to donate any non perishable items, the please bring them to the

- red wheelie bin outside the foodbank cabin ; or
- The food cabin on a Friday morning between 9.30am & 11.00am (food will be distributed from the church hall doorway)

Larger items can be left at the vicarage by arrangement.

If you want to leave food items for our asylum seeker friends, these can also be left at the vicarage but please make sure your bags or boxes are clearly labelled so we know who they are meant for.

Thank you very much for your support



Many organisations and schools have been unable to participate in their usual Harvest activities. However, we have still seen many organising collections to be donated to the ACT foodbank.

Many thanks to All Saints Catholic Primary School, St Thomas' CofE Primary School, The Byrchall High School and many others.



Litter Pick



Our brilliant team of church and community litter pickers were hard at work on the 17th October tidying beside St Oswald's school and around Hilton Street.



If you can spare a couple of hours a month then why not come along and help us to clean up our town?



The next litter pick will be on 21st November, meeting at 10am on St Thomas' church hall car park.

**SOMETIMES IT FALLS
UPON A GENERATION
TO BE GREAT,
YOU CAN BE
THAT GENERATION.**

NELSON MANDELA



Africa Fund Walk

The Africa fund supports two amazing Christian-run projects in south west Uganda: a children's home at Rukungiri and the Kigezi Diocese Water and Sanitation Project which provides outlying communities with access to clean water and proper sanitation. Both projects play a massive part in saving and changing lives.



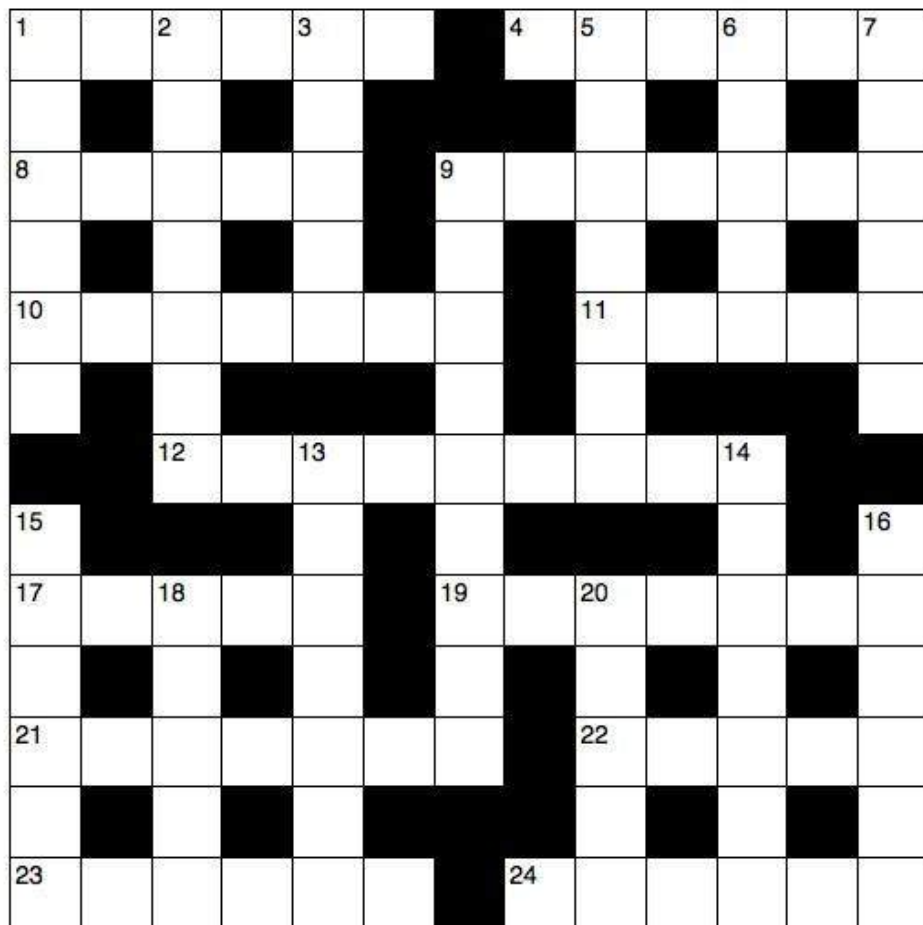
Each month generous donors support the Africa fund with standing orders. However, the monthly income does not match our donations from the fund to the projects we support. Events like our sponsored walk therefore play an invaluable part in helping us to meet our commitments.

On Saturday 3rd October, we held a sponsored walk to raise money for the Africa Fund. The walk was a circular one starting from the Three Sisters and covered a distance of approximately 7 miles. The walk generated £1,410. This is a great effort because there were only 5 of us who walked on the day. We are indebted to the generosity of the many sponsors. The weather on the day was very wet as you can see from the above picture.

You can find out more about the Africa fund on our web site: <http://www.stthomasstluke.org.uk/ourworld/africafund/>

We would especially welcome new donors and if you are interested then please contact Chris Wooff (01942 724207).

Crossword



Answers on page 19

Across

- 1 'The Lord Jesus... took bread, and when He had given — , he broke it' (1 Corinthians 11:24) (6)
- 4 'He has taken me to the banquet hall, and His — over me is love' (Song of Songs 2:4) (6)
- 8 Surrey town that hosts the National Christian Resources Exhibition (5)
- 9 Also known as Abednego (Daniel 1:7) (7)
- 10 Liken (Isaiah 40:18) (7)
- 11 A son of Etam, descendant of Judah (1 Chronicles 4:3) (5)
- 12 A part of the temple where the blood of a young bull was to be smeared (Ezekiel 45:19) (9)
- 17 'They make many promises, take false — and make agreements' (Hosea 10:4) (5)
- 19 Roman province to which Paul returned after evangelizing it on his first missionary journey (Acts 16:6) (7)
- 21 Material used to make baby Moses' basket (Exodus 2:3) (7)
- 22 'And feeble as — , in thee do we trust, nor find thee to fail' (5)
- 23 'The watchman opens the gate for him, and the sheep — to his voice' (John 10:3) (6)
- 24 Stalk carrying the sponge of wine vinegar given to Christ on the cross (John 19:29) (6)

Down

- 1 Elijah dug one round the altar he built on Mount Carmel and filled it with water (1 Kings 18:32) (6)
- 2 'I am not — of the gospel, because it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes' (Romans 1:16) (7)
- 3 Buddhist term relating to belief in reincarnation (5)
- 5 Damascus disciple who, at God's command, restored the sight of the blinded Saul of Tarsus (Acts 9:12) (7)
- 6 and 16 Horses: their sound (Jeremiah 50:11) (5) and their gait (Joel 2:4) (6)
- 7 A three (anag.) (6)
- 9 Athenian council addressed memorably by Paul (Acts 17:22) (9)
- 13 Abide by (Galatians 3:5) (7)
- 14 Persian princes (Daniel 3:2) (7)
- 15 Force (Galatians 6:12) (6)
- 16 See 6 Down (6)
- 18 Paste (anag.) (5)
- 20 How the cedars of Lebanon are described (Isaiah 2:13) (5)



St Thomas' School

Reporters

Keep up to date with what the children have been up to in school over the last month.

Harvest

Harvest is a time of sharing your food with other people who may not have enough money to buy enough food. At St Thomas's we bring tinned / dried food into our school and donate it to the food bank. Examples of food you brought in is, pasta, peas, soup, vegetables and cereal. This year we had a lovely Harvest celebration in school led by Nic the church/school worker. We thanked God for all his gifts and used sign language to sing a song of blessing - all the children and staff had a lovely time!



gg91979647 www.gograph.com

We brought food in for the food bank because we feel it is our job to help other families to have enough food throughout the year.

Donations to the care home

This year we have donated face creams, boxes of chocolates, nail polish and much more for the Ashton View Care Home in Ashton. They have decided to do an Advent Calendar for the residents which means each day in December someone out of the care home will get a



Reflection Time

In worship we have been talking about what or who God is. The Father ,The Son and The Holy Spirit. Sometimes when we are feeling down we can speak to God in our head and pray to him. We will trust and have faith in him always.

On Thursday we met Sue Fulford. She came to say hello to all the children and staff and enjoyed our Harvest celebration too!

By Joshua Prescott and Abbie White

Crossword answers

Answers

ACROSS: 1, Thanks. 4, Banner. 8, Esher. 9, Azariah. 10, Compare. 11, Ishma. 12, Doorposts. 17, Oaths. 19, Galatia. 21, Papyrus. 22, Frail. 23, Listen. 24, Hyssop.

DOWN: 1, Trench. 2, Ashamed. 3, Karma. 5, Ananias. 6, Neigh. 7, Reheat. 9, Areopagus. 13, Observe. 14, Satraps. 15, Compel. 16, Gallop. 18, Tapes. 20, Lofty.

The Destruction of Coventry

Tim Lenton

German Luftwaffe bombers virtually destroyed the city of Coventry – including its medieval cathedral – 80 years ago this month, on 14th November 1940.

Coventry was targeted by ‘Operation Moonlight Sonata’ as an industrial city, but more than 4300 homes were destroyed and about two-thirds of the city’s buildings were damaged. There were many direct hits on the cathedral, and flames spread quickly. More than 550 people were killed and over 850 badly injured, with nearly 400 sustaining lesser injuries.

There would have been more casualties, but many citizens left at night to sleep in nearby towns or villages after earlier air raids. Rumours that Churchill knew of the raid in advance but declined to take precautions to prevent the Germans knowing their code had been broken were later shown to be misguided.

Joseph Goebbels later used the term *coventriert* (‘coventried’) to describe high levels of destruction in other towns.

The cathedral was left as a ruin, still standing today as a reminder of the bombing. A new cathedral was built close alongside in the 1950s, designed by the architect Basil Spence. The Queen laid its foundation stone in 1956. It was consecrated in 1962, and Benjamin Britten’s *War Requiem* was composed to mark the occasion.



Florence Nightingale, nurse and social reformer, 1910

Church Wigan have been exploring the lives of Saints and Sinners, here is a contribution from Peter Walker

Philippians 2.1-13 (New Revised Standard Version)

If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God,

did not regard equality with God

as something to be exploited,

but emptied himself,

taking the form of a slave,

being born in human likeness.

And being found in human form,

he humbled himself

and became obedient to the point of death—

even death on a cross.

Therefore God also highly exalted him

and gave him the name

that is above every name,

so that at the name of Jesus

every knee should bend,

in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

and every tongue should confess

that Jesus Christ is Lord,

to the glory of God the Father.

Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

Reflection: Florence Nightingale was born in 1820 in Florence, whilst her parents were travelling in Italy. Her early years were spent on her family estates in Hampshire and Derbyshire where, from an early age, she would care for the sick and poor.

Women of wealthy upper-class families were expected to marry men of equal or better status, and have children, but Florence had other ideas, inspired by her awareness of God's presence in her life from an early age. Her father gave her a classical education including German, French and Italian and she was

especially gifted at mathematics and data analysis – a skill that she would use to good effect in later life, being one of the first to use graphs, such as pie charts, to present complex data in “user friendly” form. Through several experiences Florence believed that God was calling her to stay unmarried, and to devote her life to serving the needs of others through nursing. This prompted fierce opposition from her family, especially her mother and sister.

Nursing was looked down on as a menial occupation, and nurses as people of ill repute. This was typified by Charles Dickens’ portrayal of nurse Sarah Gamp, in *Martin Chuzzlewit*. As Donald Hawes says:

“Mrs. Gamp is dissolute, sloppy and generally drunk. She became a notorious stereotype of untrained and incompetent nurses of the early Victorian era.”¹

Florence Nightingale trained in hospitals in Europe and Egypt before travelling to the Crimea with a group of nurses to tend soldiers wounded and injured in the Crimean war. Conditions in the field hospitals were insanitary, the military authorities had scant regard for the welfare of injured men, and some of the hospitals were built on swamps.

Soldiers lay in pools of stagnant water and faeces, and the stench was appalling. There were no medical staff on duty at night time, and Florence would patrol the wards during the night to care for the men – earning herself the nickname of the Lady with the lamp.

More men died from disease than battle wounds. Using her mathematical skills she would go on to prove that poor sanitation was the greater threat to the poor, being the source of typhoid, cholera and other killer diseases in the Crimea, and more generally in Victorian England, India and elsewhere.

She began the first professional training course for nurses at St Thomas’s Hospital in London and through her work nursing gained professional status. At that time many hospitals were founded within religious settings but she believed that secular hospitals usually provided better care than their religious counterparts.

While she held that the ideal health professional should be inspired by a religious as well as professional motive, she thought that in practice many religiously motivated health workers were concerned chiefly in securing their own salvation, and that this motivation was inferior to the professional desire to deliver the best possible care².

Two passages from today's reading stood out for me as examples of Florence Nightingale's devotion to Jesus Christ. The first is verses 3-5: "*Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus.*"

Although Florence had all the wealth and privilege of her upper-class family and a first class education she did not use these for her own "selfish ambition or conceit" but for the improvement of the lives of others, even though this choice hurt her mother deeply.

The second is verse 13:

"...for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure."

Florence had a real sense of God's presence in her life, and compassion for the poor in her own village and neighbourhood, leading to a revolutionary change in nursing practise and improved living conditions for people across the world.

Questions: Are we aware of God's presence in our lives, what might God be calling us to do?
Are we prepared to challenge the accepted attitudes, the norms of our society, our culture, when they go against the teachings of our Lord Jesus Christ?

I will finish with a prayer from *Prayers for People in Hospital* (Neville Smith, OUP 1994)

*Heavenly Father,
We give thanks for all who teach and for all who learn in our hospitals.
May those who teach do so with skill and imagination,
imparting knowledge and encouraging discovery.
May those who learn do so with commitment, application,
and openness to all that is new.
Together may they learn from each other and from you,
source of all knowledge and truth,
to the glory of your name,
and the good of your people in their need.
Amen.*

Wordsearch

e	s	w	k	c	t	b	s	g	c	l	i	i
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come

feet

cloak

Jairus

power

something

mourning

daughter

girl

knelt

twelve

leader

faith

waited

believe

laughed

woman

stood

afraid

house

healed

Jesus

touched

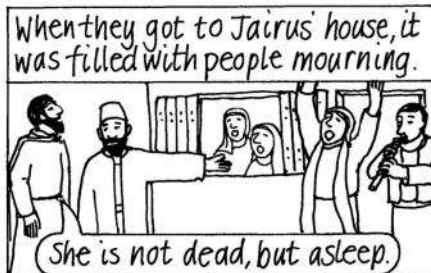
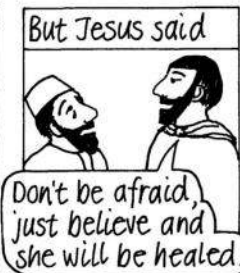
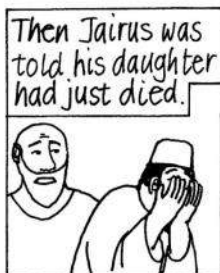
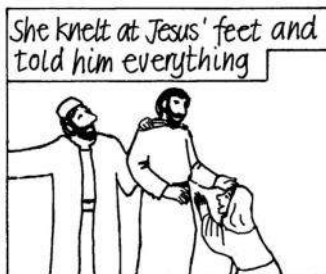
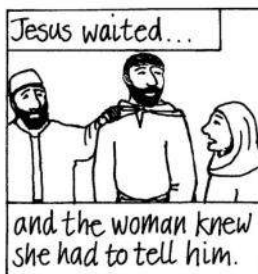
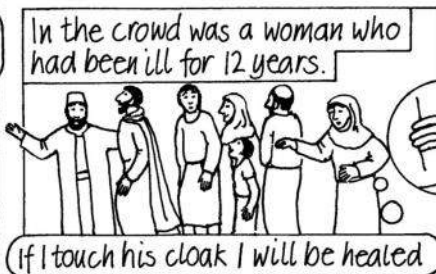
parents

Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in
Lk 8:40-56, Mt 9:18-26, Mk 5:21-43

Jairus, a town leader, had a 12 year old daughter who was ill and about to die. He came to Jesus and knelt at his feet...



Robert Carson's Film Report

The Trial of the Chicago 7 (15)

Directed by Aaron Sorkin

Stars: Eddie Redmayne, Sacha Baron Cohen, Mark Rylance, Joseph Gordon Levitt, Frank Langella, Jeremy Strong, Yahya Abdul-Mateen II, Alex Sharp, John Carroll Lynch, Michael Keaton, and Noah Robbins



In a Nutshell: In this new age of different ways to consume media, it's not always at the cinema where we grab the latest terrific pieces of cinema. Netflix for one, continues to both churn out and grab hold of some of the absolute best cinema out there at the moment whether it be Alfonso Cuarons' *Roma* or Scorsese's *The Irishman*... and again that proves true with the new true-life court drama from the master of the screenplay Mr. Aaron Sorkin, which I managed to catch in the cinema before it made its big debut on Netflix in mid-October. Assembling one of the finest casts in an absolute age to tell a really important tale of justice and inequality, this is essential viewing and is riveting from the first second right down to the very last. Featuring incredible and bravura turns from the likes of Eddie Redmayne, Mark Rylance, and Frank Langella as well as a utterly terrific turn from Sacha Baron Cohen in a bit of a departure for the usual prankster (his *Borat* sequel is out very soon on Prime and is making headlines of its own) and backed up by a lot of other excellent performances too from dependable players like Levitt and Keaton. Redmayne in particular could be at his absolute peak here turning in a really passionate and devastating performance. Like all the best courtroom dramas, this is full of twists and turns and different perspectives... jumping backwards and forwards to fill in all the information you need to fill out the backstory of what is happening and from the various different perspectives on what happened. Mixing this riveting drama with plenty of dry wit makes for a thoroughly engaging and gripping courtroom drama that is up there with some of the finest I've seen.... And it's all simply available at the touch of a button, there really isn't much of an excuse to miss this absolutely devastatingly essential piece of history. The world is watching...

Rating: 10/10

Classic Review: The Walk (PG)

Directed by Robert Zemeckis

Stars: Joseph Gordon Levitt, Charlotte le Bon, James Badge Dale, Sir Ben Kingsley, Clement Sibony, Cesar Domboy, Mark Camacho, Steve Valentine, Benedict Samuel, and Ben Schwartz

In a Nutshell: Robert Zemeckis has always been a dab hand at innovation and re-inventing what cinema can do... whether its own favorite film ever Back to the Future or the animation hybrid of Roger Rabbit, the wonder of Forrest Gump, the visual tricks of Death Becomes Her or the very prescient Back to the Future sequel which is now doing wonders at predicting what happened this year. Now, two years after the fine if not stellar Flight... he reinvents what it means to really experience an experience as he takes us up really high onto the high wire of one of the most audacious feats every attempted... Phillipe Petits high wire dance between the two towers of the World Trade Center. Consider it re-invented once more.... because before any other aspects of the movie, the sequence itself where Petit does his thing... is one of the most audacious, jaw dropping and beautiful sequences put on cinema for at least a good few years, and is the best argument you'll ever see for seeing a film at the cinema, or more ideally on a IMAX screen (it's no surprise this film has a special early IMAX release) with its depth, vision and wonder all combining for something that will make you speechless and breathless and leave you exhausted in the best way you can. It's helped by a lively fun cast, led by Joseph Gordon Levitt who while sporting a strong French accent that won't be for everyone, so completely becomes the character of Petit, that you can't help but be charmed by this crazy and lovely individual. The plot itself and the events that unfold prior to the big event are maybe less by comparison, but it's still thoroughly enjoyable and engaging throughout and really makes you root for the team leading up to the event while also really building up the suspense to the event itself. All in all, making for a fantastically enjoyable romp that culminates in something so completely unmissable that you'd need to be examined if you let this pass you by... it is a compulsory piece of cinematic history, and something to be cherished and awed at, on the biggest screen you can. Just hold your breath and hold on!

Rating: 10/10

Also Seen

Just Mercy (12A) 9/10

The Dead Don't Die (15) 6/10

The Personal History of David Copperfield (PG) 8/10

1917 (15) 9/10

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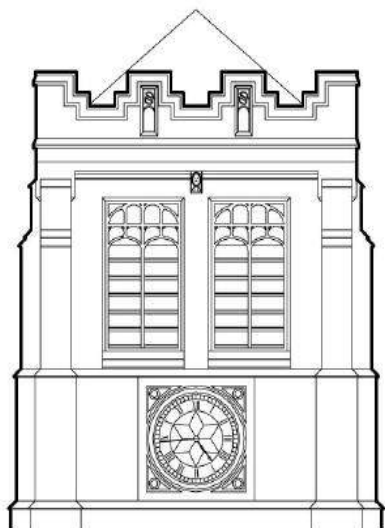
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(November 23rd)
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In loving memory of Piers Unsworth, Mary Alice Unsworth and
Clifford Harold Unsworth



*Almighty and eternal God,
from whose love in Christ we cannot be parted,
either by death or life:
hear our prayers and thanksgivings
for all whom we remember this day;
fulfill in them the purpose of your love;
and bring us all, with them,
to your eternal joy;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.*

The Registers



Funerals - "May they rest in peace"

9 October	Margaret Herd	Princess Road	86
16 October	Thomas Green	Preston Road, Standish	99
28 October	Rita Simm	Bolton Road	77
30 October	Rose Sylvester	Princess Road	84

Holy Baptism - "We welcome them into the Lord's family"

25 October	Emily Kilshaw	Old Hall Drive
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Heavenly Father,

*In your love you have called us to know you,
led us to trust you,
and bound our life with yours.*

*Surround this child with your love,
protect it from evil.*

*Fill it with the holy spirit and
receive it into the family of your church,
that it may walk with us in the way of Christ,
and grow in the knowledge of your love.*

Amen.

Church Organisations in St Thomas' and St Luke's

<u>Coffee Mornings at St Thomas'</u> Tues 10am-12pm Barbara Taylor 205136	<u>Flower Guild</u> Meta Laites 723679
<u>Children, Young People and Families</u> Sue Thomas 07877 704645	<u>Asylum Seeker Support</u> Anne & Chris Wooff 724207
<u>Church Architect</u> Bill Schafer 717300	<u>F.W.O. Secretary</u> Jackie Wilson 712368
<u>Wednesday Weenies</u> Wed 1pm-2:30pm - Church Hall Jan Cornthwaite 721626	<u>Messy Tots</u> Wed 1pm-2:30pm - Church Hall Sue Thomas 07877 704645
<u>Duke of Edinburgh's Award (14-18+)</u> Sun evenings Church Hall Ceri Mansell 727417	<u>St Thomas' Mothers' Union</u> 3 rd Wed: 7:30pm Barbara Taylor 205136
<u>Fairtrade Stall</u> 3 rd Sun 11.45am Anne Wooff 724207	<u>Fur Clemt Stubshaw</u> Mon 12-1pm at St Luke's Jennifer Harrison 718618
<u>Litter Pick 3rd Sat 10am - noon</u> Chris Wooff 724207	<u>Bowling Club</u> Henry Hunter 712709
<u>Girl Guides</u> Rainbows (Tues 5:30pm) Danielle Wood 07841 649475 3 rd & 4th Ashton Brownies (Thu) 3 rd Ashton Guides/Rangers (Tues 7:15pm) Rachel Starkie 718350	<u>Children's Sunday Clubs St Thomas'</u> Bubbles (Pre-School) Splash (R-Y2) Xstream (Y3-Y6) Bell Tower (Y7-Y11) Karen Cunliffe

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<p><u>Ordained Local Minister</u> Rev Izzy Schafer 717300</p>	<p><u>Saturday FM</u> 4pm-5pm - St Thomas' School LML Nicola Burgess 706841</p>
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