

The Benefice of St Anne, St Paul and St Augustine
**THE
LINK
February 2025**

£1.00p



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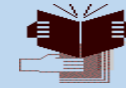
For more information go to the web site at

www.stanneschurchleicester.wordpress.com

or

www.stpaulscommunity.co.uk

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FEBRUARY 2025 PASTORAL LETTER

February 2025 Pastoral Letter



As I write this we are in the middle of Epiphany and I have been musing on what life might have been like for the Holy Family. Particularly as during Advent last year (2024 now, but only a few weeks away) we used the account of Jesus fleeing Herod's anger and becoming a refugee in Egypt, in both the Crib service and during my Christmas Assemblies. We often shy away from sharing the violence that was part of the nativity story with children, but this is a crucial part of the story, for it was to end cruelty and injustice that Jesus was born.

Therefore, I was excited to discover that February is dedicated to the Holy Family. This wonderful tradition began in the 17th century as a means to encourage families to look to the example of the Holy Family as a model in our everyday lives.

However, we need to be careful not to put the Holy Family on a pedestal. A family so perfect and saintly, that they are not a helpful model to aspire to but become a burden that we repeatedly fail to achieve. The Holy Family is anything but the 'perfect nuclear family'. An unmarried Mum, step-Dad, and lots of half brothers and sisters. For Jesus was not an only child. The bible mentions four brothers and at least two sisters, James, Joses (short for Joseph Jr.), Simon, and Judas (also known as Jude). His sisters are sadly unnamed. The Holy Family is a classic 'blended family'.

It is so easy for us to lose sight of the reality that Jesus, Mary, and Joseph were a real-life family that had to do very ordinary things like cook, clean, laugh, work, fix, and learn, just like we do. Not only without electricity, but away from family and friends while they protected Jesus from Herod's evil plans. I wonder how big the family was, when Mary and Joseph eventually returned to Nazareth after Herod's death? It is likely that Jesus had been joined by one or two of his siblings for the journey home.

Families are responsible for the safety and upbringing of their children, and for the love and care of all members. However old or young. However sadly this is not always the case. That is why the Mothers Union prioritises work with families, without ever defining what a family looks like.

Whether we consider the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph to be a 'traditional' or 'blended', they are a family that 'put on love'. This is the model we are called to follow. To create families where there is a place for everyone, with all their problems, with a place for God our Heavenly Father at the centre.

Thus, this month, as we move from Epiphany into Ordinary Time, you might want to reflect on how your church family, blood family or family that you have created 'puts on love' together.

Rev'd Liz Wilson, Vicar

SERVICES FOR FEBRUARY

Sunday 2 February (Presentation of Christ)

9.30am Eucharist, St Anne's

11.00am Eucharist, St Paul and St Augustine's

11.00am Benefice Telephone Church, Tel. 033 3113 3356, Room no. 72775483#, Pin no. 1459#

6.00pm Evensong, St Anne's

Sunday 9 February (Fourth Sunday before Lent)

9.30am All Age Worship, St Anne's

11.00am Eucharist, St Paul and St Augustine's

11.00am Benefice Telephone Church, Tel. 033 3113 3356, Room no. 72775483#, Pin no. 1459#

3.00pm BCP Eucharist, St Anne's

Saturday 15 February

4.00pm Messy Church, St Anne's Hall

Sunday 16 February (Third Sunday before Lent)

9.30am Eucharist, St Anne's

9.30am Wonderful Walk, Western Park

11.00am Eucharist, St Paul and St Augustine's

11.00am Benefice Telephone Church, Tel. 033 3113 3356, Room no. 72775483#, Pin no. 1459#

6.00pm Evensong, St Anne's

Sunday 23 February (Second Sunday before Lent)

9.30am All Age Eucharist and Baptism, St Anne's

11.00am Eucharist, St Paul and St Augustine's

11.00am Benefice Telephone Church, Tel. 033 3113 3356, Room no. 72775483#, Pin no. 1459#

6.00pm Evensong, St Anne's

Every Wednesday 9.30am Eucharist, St Anne's and 4.00pm Jesus with us Meditation St Paul and St Augustine's.

Every Thursday 9.30am Eucharist, St Paul and St Augustine's and 1.00pm Allotment Drop In at 65 Ainsdale Road

Healing Eucharist is on Wednesday 19 February and Thursday 20 February at the 9.30am service.





READINGS FOR FEBRUARY 2025

The reference underlined are the readings for St Anne's and Benefice Telephone Church

Date	Old Testament	Psalm	New Testament	Gospel
2 February				
Eucharist/TC	<u>Mal 3:1-5</u>	24: 7-end	Heb 2: 14-end	<u>Luke 2:22-40</u>
Evensong	Hag 2:1-9	Ps132		John 2:18-22
9 February				
All Age Worship Eucharist/ TC	<u>Isa 6:1-8</u>	138	1 Cor 15: 1-11	<u>Luke 5:1-11</u>
BCP Eucharist				
16 February				
Eucharist/TC	<u>Jer 17:5-10</u>	1	1 Cor 15:1 2-20	<u>Luke 6:17-26</u>
Evensong	Hos 10:1-8, 12	6	Gal 4:8-20	
23 February				
All Age Eucharist Eucharist/ TC	<u>Gen 2:4b-9, 15-end</u>	65	Rev 4	<u>Luke 8:22-25</u>
Evensong	Gen 1: 1 – 2:3	147:13- end	James 1: 19-end	

OUR CHRISTIAN HEALING MINISTRY.

St Anne and St Paul with St Augustine

2025 Lent Course



Jesus Christ is our healer. He tells us to heal in His name. What does this mean - for us, our community and creation?

The 2025 Lent course is shaped over six sessions plus the Benefice Day on Saturday 5th April. We will explore the bible, our tradition, our personal and shared experience to discover more about Christian healing.

Lent Groups will be meeting at:

24 Clarefield Road on Sunday evenings, 7-30- 9pm on the 9th, 16th, 23rd, 30th March, 6th and 13th April 2025.

Monday Afternoons 2-3.30pm at St Anne's Community Hall 10th, 17th, 24th and 31st March, 7th and 14th April.

OUR CHRISTIAN HEALING MINISTRY.

St Anne and St Paul with St Augustine

2025 Benefice Day



Saturday 5th April 2025 9.30 am – 2.30 pm
Venue: to be confirmed

A day to study and discuss together the subject of Christian Healing Ministry.

In the Lent course, we will be looking at God the healing Father, Son and Holy Spirit. We move on to questions about a loving God and human suffering. We finish by learning how the church has healed during the past, and in the present.

On the Benefice Day we will look at how Christians understand health and healing in our bodies, minds, relationships with one another and with the earth. We will also look at how the local church can bring healing. Along the way, we will think about the gifts and skills we need to receive and offer healing, faithfully and respectfully.

Further details will come in the March edition of Link.



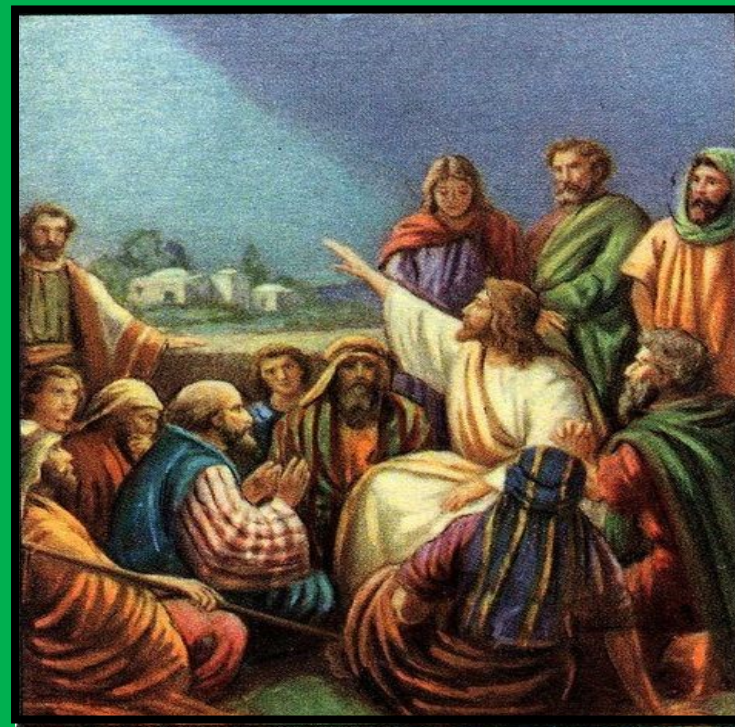


2025 MESSY CHURCH DATES

- 15th FEBRUARY
- 15th MARCH
- 19th APRIL
- 17th MAY
- 21st JUNE
- 19th JULY
- 16th AUGUST
- 20th SEPTEMBER
- 18th OCTOBER
- 15th NOVEMBER
- 20th DECEMBER



Jesus is With Us



**A Service of Meditation
St Paul's with St Augustine's**

HOLY DAYS FOR FEBRUARY

- 1 Brigid of Ireland - Abbess of Kildare, c 525
- 2 The Presentation of Christ in the Temple/ Candlemas
- 3 Anskar – Archbishop of Hamburg, missionary in Denmark/Sweden
- 4 Phileas – Christian bishop/martyr of Egypt
- 6 The Martyrs of Japan - courage amidst persecution
- 13 Modomnoc and the bees
- 14 St Valentine's Day
- 14 Cyril and Methodius
- 15 Thomas Bray, founder of SPCK
- 18 Fra Angelico, patron of artists
- 17 Janani Luwum, Archbishop of Uganda, martyr, 1977
- 22 Margaret of Cortona - sad search for acceptance and love
- 23 Polycarp - the faithful servant who would not deny his Lord
- 24 Matthias the Apostle
- 27 George Herbert, priest and poet

3rd February - Anskar, the busy evangelist

Anskar (801-865) should be the patron saint of any Christian who loves doing mission... and who discovers that evangelists meet the most amazing people, and that their lives are full of surprises....

It was the 9th century, and Anskar had grown up in a noble family in Amiens. He decided to forsake it all in order to become a monk. It may have sounded dull to his non-Christian acquaintances, but it opened a life of international adventure and a lasting achievement that has affected millions down the centuries.

Anskar began by going to Picardie and becoming a monk. Soon he felt called to Corvey (Westphalia) where he began apostolic work - or in modern parlance, evangelism and church planting. But that was just the start. For here Anskar met the king of Denmark (as one does). King Harold was in temporary exile, and during his stay in Westphalia, had become a Christian. When the time came, he persuaded Anskar to return to Denmark with him, and under his royal patronage to evangelise Denmark. The trip was a success, and then in 832 Anskar was made Bishop of Hamburg.

When the Vikings sacked Hamburg in 845, another unexpected opportunity came Anskar's way. The Pope made him archbishop of both Hamburg and Bremen, with some responsibility over Denmark, Norway and Sweden. It was an enormous job, but Anskar was up to it. He seems to have worked around the clock, establishing schools, giving great sums to the poor, and preaching the Gospel at every opportunity. Somehow, he even found time to tackle the Viking slave-trade, and somewhat diminish this cruel practice.

But Anskar's most lasting success was as a Christian missionary to Denmark, whose patron he became. It is said that he dressed austere, ate only simple food, and added short personal prayers to each psalm in his psalter, thus contributing to a form of devotion that soon became widespread. He died and was buried at Bremen.





ST PAUL'S WITH ST AUGUSTINE'S FUNDRAISING PAGE

The Table Top Sale held in 11 January raised £725 (including pre-sales of homemade and sales from the Community Hub) for Church funds with £110 sent to USPG and £110 to the diocese

The next Table Top Sale will be held on Saturday 11th January

Any donations for the forthcoming Table Top Sale will be gratefully received – contact Dave 07800746121

The September 100 Fund draw took place after the service on 29th September.

Winning Numbers November

£50 80

Congratulations to the winner

WOULD YOU LIKE TO JOIN?

The following numbers are available:-

1, 12, 14, 18, 23, 27, 34, 38, 40, 41, 45, 48, 49, 51, 52, 73, 76, 79, 84, 85, 89, 91, 96, 97, 98 and 99.

*If you are interested in joining the 100 Fund then please contact Dave on 07800746121 or email dave1960king@hotmail.com

The winner of the January Fund draw due to be held on Sunday 26th January will be announced in March's magazine.

ST JAMES THE LEAST OF ALL



On the Peculiarities of Ordination Candidates

The Rectory
St. James the Least

My dear Nephew Darren

I was quite happy to see the young person from your church whom you are encouraging to get ordained – even though we did not entirely see eye to eye.

When I answered the door to someone dressed in T-shirt, jeans and trainers, I naturally assumed he was the gardener; it was only after I had given him the wheelbarrow and shown him where the spades were, that I found out who he really was. His assurance that this is how Jesus would dress, were He to visit in person again, jarred somewhat. I think that a three-piece suit and stout pair of brogues would be far more likely. We agreed to differ.

I was interested to hear that he was a church musician. Wanting to know if he sang tenor or bass, or even played the organ, he told me that he was the drummer in the worship band and provided backing vocals. I felt obliged to comment that I was not sure how that would fit in with Mattins, but he told me that he had never heard of that Service, and only attended Mega Rock Praise. Since I suspected it would not have been written by Cranmer, we moved on.

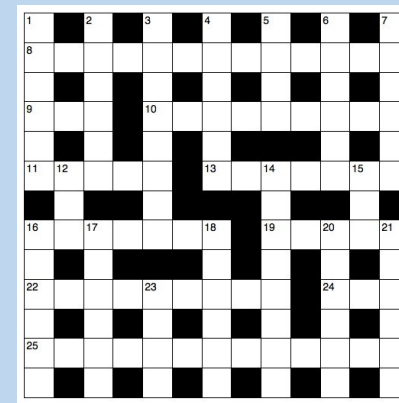
I had hoped we may have been on safer ground when I asked him whether he preferred early perpendicular or Victorian gothic, but as he had apparently only ever worshipped in your converted cinema, he was unable to offer any opinion. His reaction to my offer to show him round our late Norman church, prompted him to tell me that he believed all churches should be closed and people should gather in each other's homes, like the early Christians.

In a last despairing attempt to find common ground I asked him if he had ever preached. He was slightly apologetic to admit that he had done so very rarely, as he found it took such a long time to write an hour-long sermon. When I mentioned that I did not think I had ever exceeded eight minutes in my entire life, he gave me such a look of withering astonishment that with heroic Christian charity, I did not beat him over the head with the Bible he was carrying.

Your loving uncle,

Eustace





Across

- 8 Interrogated (Acts 12:19) (5-8)
 9 'Burn it in a wood fire on the — heap' (Leviticus 4:12) (3)
 10 Tobit, Judith, Baruch and the books of Esdras and the Maccabees are part of it (9)
 11 Science fiction (abbrev.) (3-2)
 13 Clay pit (anag.) (7)
 16 Went to (John 4:46) (7)
 19 'Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to — your bodies as living sacrifices' (Romans 12:1) (5)
 22 David's plea to God concerning those referred to in 14 Down: 'On — — let them escape' (Psalm 56:7) (2,7)
 24 Royal Automobile Club (1,1,1) 25 How the book of Ezekiel refers to God more than 200 times (Ezekiel 2:4) (9,4)

Down

- 1 Seas (Proverbs 8:24) (6)
 2 One of the sons of Eli the priest, killed in battle by the Philistines (1 Samuel 4:11) (6)
 3 Specialist in the study of the Muslim religion (8)
 4 'Do not rebuke an older man harshly, but — him as if he were your father' (1 Timothy 5:1) (6)
 5 One of Esau's grandsons (Genesis 36:11) (4)
 6 Taking a chance (colloq.) (2,4)
 7 God's instructions to the Israelites concerning grain offerings: ' — salt to — your offerings' (Leviticus 2:13) (3,3)
 12 Confederation of British Industry (1,1,1)
 14 'All day long they twist my words; they are always — to harm me' (Psalm 56:5) (8)
 15 The crowd's reaction to Jesus bringing back to life a widow's son in Nain (Luke 7:16) (3)
 16 Disappear (Psalm 104:35) (6)
 17 How Jeremiah was likely to die if he wasn't rescued from the cistern where he was imprisoned (Jeremiah 38:9) (6)
 18 What the prophets do to a wall, with whitewash (Ezekiel 13:10, RSV) (4,2)
 20 Made by a plough (Job 39:10) (6)
 21 Noah was relieved when the flood waters continued to — (Genesis 8:5) (6)
 23 Jesus gave the Twelve the power and authority to do this to diseases (Luke 9:1) (4)



WHAT'S THE BIG IDEA?

What's the Big Idea? - an introduction to the Books of the Old Testament: Job

'Why does God allow suffering?' This is a frequently asked question of Christians, because we believe in a God who is both good and powerful and it is explored in the book of Job. This book is part of the wisdom literature, along with Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, and Song of Solomon.

Job was both wealthy and righteous, yet he experienced catastrophic suffering, losing all his wealth, children and health. This is portrayed as a result of Satan's challenge to God, testing whether Job's devotion to God was dependent on his circumstances or not.

The main body of the book (3:1-42:6) consists of dialogues between Job, his friends (Eliphaz, Bildad, and Zophar) and God. Job and his friends assume that God is almighty and just, and that no human being is wholly innocent. In the three cycles of speeches they wrestle with the reasons for Job's suffering, remembering his morally upright character.

Finally, all are silenced by God, as He speaks Himself (chs 38-42). He points out that Job knows very little about the universe when he reflects on God's power. Job confesses his lack of understanding and weakness, but then goes on to confess his confidence and trust in God. This puts suffering in a right perspective. Job is not condemned, and the book ends with the restoration of his family and possessions.

The importance of this book is that it realistically addresses the painful questions of life, without offering simplistic answers. It focuses on *how* we should respond to suffering, rather than on *why* God allows suffering: *'Naked I came from my mother's womb, and naked I shall depart. The LORD gave and the LORD has taken away; may the name of the LORD be praised.'* (1:21)





Creation Matters

February: You might be pleased to hear that February is the last month of winter! The earth is beginning to awaken; snowdrops and crocuses appear to reassure us that spring-time is beginning. If it is mild, daffodils and catkins arrive as March approaches and the beginning of the mating season can be spotted by the appearance of frogspawn in ponds. Although in February there is still only a little colour appearing outside, in the Church calendar there are festivals to help keep our spirits up, such as: Saint Brigid's Day (1st) Candlemas (2nd) and St. Valentine's Day (14th).

The Community Allotment: Is currently very quiet, but the bulbs are beginning to push through, reminding us that the busyness of spring will soon be upon us. Thursday afternoon meetings continue 1-2.30pm, though depending on the weather we may be at the allotment, going for a walk, or spending time indoors sowing seeds or making other preparations. All are welcome to come along, but please do get in touch with me beforehand to check where we will be.

(Please note that the allotment will be closed on Sunday's until re-starting on March 9th).

Some exciting news it that students from Leicester College are currently working on designing a logo for the allotment, free of charge. When it is finalised, it will be used on signage at the plot, on the website, and for social media.

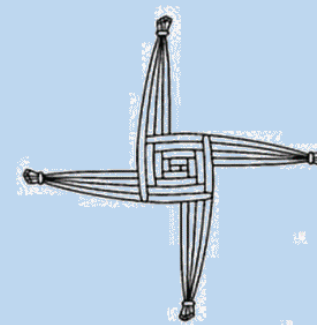
The Celtic saint, Brigid (453-530AD) is the saint that I most associate with the Community Allotment. There are so many stories of her life that have been woven together over the centuries that it's no longer possible to separate them out. But the story that really resonates with me recalls how at the age of 14 Brigid became a nun, and soon after felt called by God to form her own community. Of course, she needed some land for this, so she appealed to the local chief for a plot. He refused, but Brigid persevered, and eventually he agreed to give her a piece of land no bigger than the size of her cloak. The chief was astonished to find that when Brigid laid her cloak on the grass, it grew until it covered the whole of Curragh, the grassy plain to the east of Kildare! Here was founded one of the most famous communities in Ireland, and Brigid became the abbess. Though the area contained 'magical oak trees' which were special to the druids, Brigid's community turned it in to a centre where Christ was exalted, and the light of the Gospel shone out from the community to the world around it. Brigid lit a fire at the centre of the community as a sign of this light. Only women were allowed to tend it, and it remained alight for a thousand years, until the dissolution of the monasteries. - I hope (and pray) that our small community plot will be equally fertile – growing fruits, vegetables, people, and faith in Jesus Christ, the Light of the World!



Wonderful Walks: The February gathering is on Sunday 16th. Meeting at the main Hinckley Road gates to Western Park, in time for a 9.30am start. Followed by refreshments at St. Anne's Hall with our friends after the Eucharistic service. The walks are suitable for all ages (including 4 legged ones) and there will be activities for children as we walk along too.

A Poem for Candlemas by Malcolm Guite

They came, as called, according to the Law.
Though they were poor and had to keep things simple,
They moved in grace, in quietness, in awe,
For God was coming with them to his temple.
Amidst the outer courts commercial bustle
They'd waited hours, enduring shouts and shoves,
Buyers and sellers, sensing one more hustle,
Had made a killing on the two young turtle doves.
They came at last with us to Candlemas
And keep the day the prophecies came true;
We share with them, amidst our busyness,
The peace that Simeon and Anna knew.
For Candlemas still keeps this kindled light:
Against the dark our Saviours face is bright.



St. Brigid's Cross (woven from straw, reeds or rushes)



KNIT AND NATTER

The knit and natter meetings is on the Tuesday at 1.30pm in
The Hall at St Anne's

25 February

25 March

22 April (to be confirmed)

27 May

24 June

22 July

26 August

23 September

28 October

25 November

December no meeting.



If you know of anyone who you think would enjoy an afternoon of friendship, to just come along for a chat, please do invite them along.

They will be made very welcome.

Ann 2858581

SHOULD THE CHURCHES AGREE ON A COMMON DATE FOR EASTER?

That is the question for the leaders of the Roman Catholic and the Eastern Orthodox Churches, as this year (2025) marks the 1700th anniversary of the First Ecumenical Council of Nicaea.

Patriarch Bartholomew of Constantinople believes that 2025 is a 'golden opportunity' for Catholic and Orthodox believers to finally agree on a joint date for Easter, because this year also brings a 'fortunate alignment' of the Easter dates of both churches.

"It is indeed regrettable that 1700 years later, we are still debating this issue," he says.

Any agreement would only pertain to the date of Easter's celebration. It would not involve any joint liturgical practices. Those would require ecclesial communion between the churches, something which does not yet exist.

In 2016 the Archbishop of Canterbury held talks with Coptic Pope Tawadros II in Cairo, when he hoped that a unified date for Easter might be achieved within ten years. He commented that, for the C of E, either the second or third Sunday in April would be acceptable.

GOD IN THE ARTS

'My First Sermon' by John Everett Millais



There is a story of two men talking about their new vicar. One says to the other, "This new one's not a patch on the old vicar. With the old one preaching I was asleep in five minutes. With the new one it takes all of ten." Some churches in times past employed 'sluggard-walkers' who had long rods and walked down the aisles, ready to wake up the faithful if they had nodded off during the sermon.

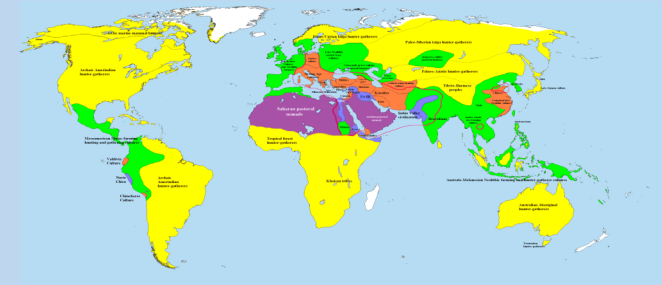
Sluggard-walkers are not needed for this month's painting, *My First Sermon* by John Everett Millais. It hangs in the Guildhall Art Gallery in London, which houses the art collection of our capital city. The Gallery is built on the site of an amphitheatre and was only completed in 1999, having replaced a building that was destroyed in the blitz of 1941. It has over 4000 works, many of them from the Victorian and Pre-Raphaelite period. Among them is this painting by Millais which depicts Effie, his 5-year-old daughter sitting in Kingston Church. She is dressed properly and sensibly for the occasion with feathered hat, muff and a cloak of vivid red. Her mother's prayer book and gloves are by her side. Effie is listening with great concentration.

When the painting was exhibited in 1863, it was a great success. In the following year Millais produced *My Second Sermon* – a very different occasion, for Effie has now fallen asleep with her hat by her side. Millais was often criticised for his sentimental portraits of children as in *Cherry Ripe* and *Bubbles*. But in 1864 the Archbishop of Canterbury, Charles Longley, praised this second painting for reminding us of 'the evil of lengthy sermons and drowsy discourses.'

As we look at Effie alert one Sunday, asleep the next, we can smile. But we might also ask how we respond to the Word that comes to us through the medium of words in the weekly sermon. The preacher has the daunting task of using this everyday coinage of words to draw us into that mysterious, life-giving realm of the Word, Jesus. The words spoken must make a straight path for the Lord to reach each human heart.

The two paintings of Millais depict the reality and fragility of this endeavour. Sometimes our attention is engaged; at others, drowsiness closes our eyes and even our hearts to the good news of salvation. On occasions the sermon sows seeds, which can bear fruit. At other times, all kinds of factors mitigate against the sermon's success. Let us pray that as listener or as preacher, we may be aware of the dynamic power of the Word, which, as Karl Rahner wrote, calls us 'out of the little house of our homely, close-hugged truths into the strangeness of the mystery of God that is our real home.'

GOD IN THE SCIENCES



The Love of Wisdom of Natural Things

Some time ago a scientist was invited to speak at the Dewsbury Women's Institute. He spoke about his research on polymers, hoping that the women of this Yorkshire mill town would connect with his desire to develop new fibres.

One person in particular, a woman called Betty who had worked in a mill since the age of 15, listened as if her life depended on it, and peppered him with questions afterwards. She had always been interested in how things work, but until that day had not found anyone to answer her questions. Whenever she had asked about the processes that they were using in the mill, she was just told to get on with her job.

From the outside, science can seem a closed specialty, hemmed in by intimidating jargon. When McLeish described science as 'the love of wisdom of natural things', however, he realised he was opening a door. He was moved to see that Betty was not the only person who shed a tear when her questions were finally taken seriously, confirming that her enquiring mind was indeed probing in the right direction – only 50 years too late.

Hearing about people like Betty reminds me that science is a very natural activity for anyone to be involved in. McLeish is convinced that there is a future in 'science therapy'. In his book *Faith and Wisdom in Science*, where this story appears, he asks the question "If a reintroduction to the activity of representing both inner and outer worlds in paint, music and drama can help to heal minds, what hope might there be for a participation in a gentle and contemplative science in restoring a broken or misunderstood relationship with the physical world?"

This story inspired me to run a number of hands-on science activities with adult audiences in churches. I have extracted DNA from strawberries with a midweek group for older people, organised hands-on exhibits to liven up lecture or discussion events, and even had groups extracting DNA from their own cheek cells.

Every time I lead activities like these, I find that grown-ups are grateful for the opportunity to have a go at science themselves. I love helping church-based groups, in particular, to reconnect with science and celebrate what they find. Science is not just for children and professionals – it is for everyone to enjoy and explore the world God made.



PUZZLE ANSWERS

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COMMUNITY LITTER PICKING TEAM



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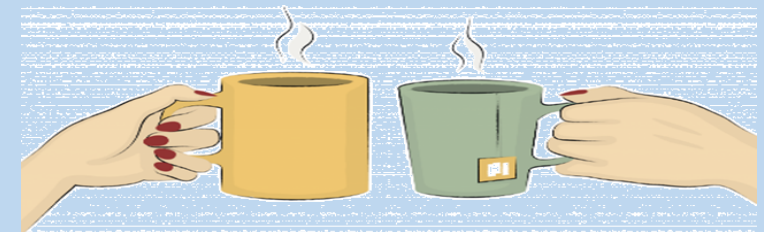


Leicester
City Council

MEET: 11.00 AM TUESDAY 4th & 18th FEBRUARY

ST PAUL'S & ST AUGUSTINE'S WORSHIP CENTRE

2 KIRBY ROAD LE3 6BA



FREE REFRESHMENTS

SMILE LINES



Wedding dress

When my sister Andrea got married, she asked to wear my mother's wedding dress. The day she tried it on, Mother's eyes welled with tears. "You're not losing a daughter," I reminded her in time-honoured fashion. "You're gaining a son." "Oh, forget about that!" she said with a sob. "I used to fit into that dress!"



Lion

A Sunday school teacher was telling her youngsters about Daniel and the Lion's Den. To illustrate the lesson, she drew a picture of Daniel standing, brave and confident, with a group of lions around him. Suddenly, one little girl started to cry. The teacher said, "Don't cry. The lions are not going to eat Daniel."



Snuffling back the tears the girl replied: "That's not what I'm crying about. That little lion, over in the corner, isn't going to get anything to eat."

Car-ride

A teenager who had just received her provisional licence offered to drive her parents to church. After a hair-raising ride, they finally reached their destination. The mother got out of the car and said in a quiet but fervent voice: "Thank you!"

"Anytime," her daughter replied.

As the woman slammed the car door she said, "I wasn't talking to you. I was talking to God."





ST. ANNE'S MOTHERS' UNION



ST. ANNE'S MOTHERS' UNION

DIARY NOTES FOR FEBRUARY

And so we start another year! At a well attended AGM, we learned that our current co-Chairmen, Sheila Skertchly and Margaret Gillespie, having been asked by Revd. Liz if they were willing to carry on for a further year, had agreed to so. Great relief all round! - and even more good news, we have a new Committee member in Xani Arnachellum! Outgoing member, Sally Morris was thanked for her work over the past few years, and Sheila presented her with a plant. After the formal part of the Meeting, tea and cake were served, and a Bring and Buy boosted funds by £41-50.

This month (February) will see us welcome Paulette Mills and her daughter, Tiffany, who are going to come and talk to us about the Away From It All Holiday Scheme which is run by the Diocesan Mothers' Union. It will be the first time that someone within our Parish has benefited from this facility, so it will be good to hear all about it.

Looking ahead, into March, continuing the theme of "My Path to the Ministry" John Andrews will be with us and telling how he found himself drawn to this way of life. More details next month.

Wednesday, 5th February at 9-30 am. Corporate Communion

Tuesday, 11th February at 2-30 pm. Away From It All Holidays

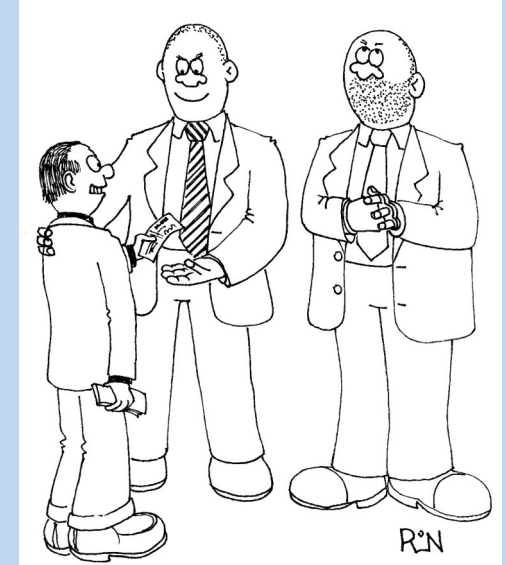
Mavis Walker

mavis55walker@gmail.com

Cartoons



"It may well attract more young folk to join the congregation but I still prefer the old church notice board"



Technically, the Parish Share is a voluntary contribution

Friday Coffee Morning

At the Hall at St Anne's

Every Friday coffee from 10am to 12noon.

All welcome for friendly get together of coffee and chat. Catch up with friends.

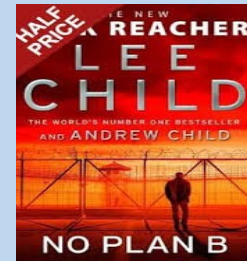


ST PAUL'S & ST AUGUSTINE'S WORSHIP CENTRE

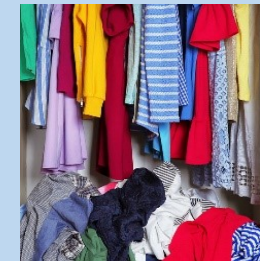
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"APPEAL"

WE NEED



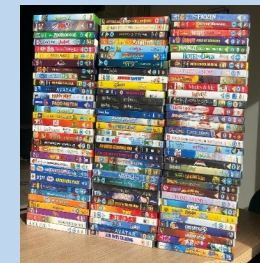
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WEDNESDAY CLUB PROGRAMME 2024

**1ST WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH
ST. ANNE'S HALL, LETCHWORTH ROAD
AT 2.30pm**



February 5th Paul Ward, Tai Chi

March 5th John & his Ukulele Band

April 2nd Pets As Therapy

May 7th 12.30pm Lunch

June 4th Strawberry Tea

July NO MEETING (SUMMER BREAK)

**August 6th Richard Warren, Leicester Streets
and how they got their names**

**September 3rd Sally Morgan, Community Po-
licing**

October 1st Cheese and Wine with Quiz

November 5th Bring and Buy

December 3rd 12.30pm Christmas Lunch

Just come along on the day, or contact

PRAYER FOR FEBRUARY

Dear Lord,

February can be a trying month, but there are special associations too and we thank you for the hope they bring.

In February we remember how Jesus was taken, as a baby, to the Temple. Simeon took Him in his arms and by the power of the Holy Spirit, recognised Him as the Saviour you had sent as a light, to bring revelation to the whole world. And how this world needs your light and revelation in this new year, 2025.

Lord - as we notice more light in the lengthening days of this month, as we see the promise of the Spring in the bobbing heads of the beautiful snowdrops – help us most of all to recognise Jesus as our Light and to trust in Him as our Lord and Saviour.

Thank you, Lord, for the gift of each new day. In Jesus' name. **Amen.**



DEADLINES

The deadlines for the next three issues are:

March Issue	Wednesday 12th February 2025
April Issue	Wednesday 12th March 2025
May Issue	Wednesday 16th April 2025

Contributions accepted in person, by post or by email.

Contact details	Paul Henry
Address	24 Clarefield Road
E-mail	pen2link@btinternet.com

All contributions are welcome. Contributions can be submitted at ANY time before the deadline, so please do not feel you have to wait until then if you have something to contribute.

If you have something that is for a particular issue and the previous deadline(s) have not passed please make sure you mark it with the issue in which you would like it to appear. If you would like something to be in several issues please also mark it accordingly.

For items sent by email please try to use the following:

Send all items regardless of size, as an attachment, not in the body of the email. (This saves a lot of time!!!!)

Set the page to A4 with margins of 2cm all round.

Set the font to 12pt and Arial.

Where possible send files in the word format .doc (open office can save to this format just as Word can)

Thank you

FINDING THE MAGAZINE ON THE WEBSITE:

In your browser go to <https://stpaulscommunity.co.uk>
Click on Publications and down load the magazine

In your browser go to <https://stanneschurchleicester.wordpress.com/>

Click on Resources and Items of Interest

Go down and Click on the Link

Scroll down until you get to: Please click on the link below to see a pdf of copies of The LINK magazine.

Then click on the month you want to read.



SIDESPERSION'S ROTA

Date	Name	Name
February 2	Ann Bing	Sheila Skerchley
February 9	Judith Knox	
February 16	Winifred Gibson	Rosamund Knighton
February 23	Jean Dean	
March 2	Paul Ward	Sally Morris
March 9	Rachel Spiers	
March 16	Gail Inskip	Ellen Bateman
March 23	Jan Gough	Richard Davey
March 30	Ann Bing	Sheila Skerchley

Any problems, please contact

Eunice Lowe Tel: 0116 2852317 or eunicelowe@icloud.com

SUDOKU

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	9	5					1	3



TABLE TOP SALE



10 AM - 1 PM

REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE!

SATURDAY 8 FEBRUARY

ST PAUL'S & ST AUGUSTINE'S WORSHIP CENTRE

2 KIRBY ROAD,

OFF FOSSE ROAD CENTRAL/GLENFIELD ROAD

LEICESTER LE3 6BA

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In 2019, I applied for 5 jobs, I was shortlisted for 5 interviews and offered 4 jobs. I can help you do the same" Bibi

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Coffee Morning 10am-12noon
Every First Saturday of the Month
Come for a cuppa, a chat and a few stalls to
see





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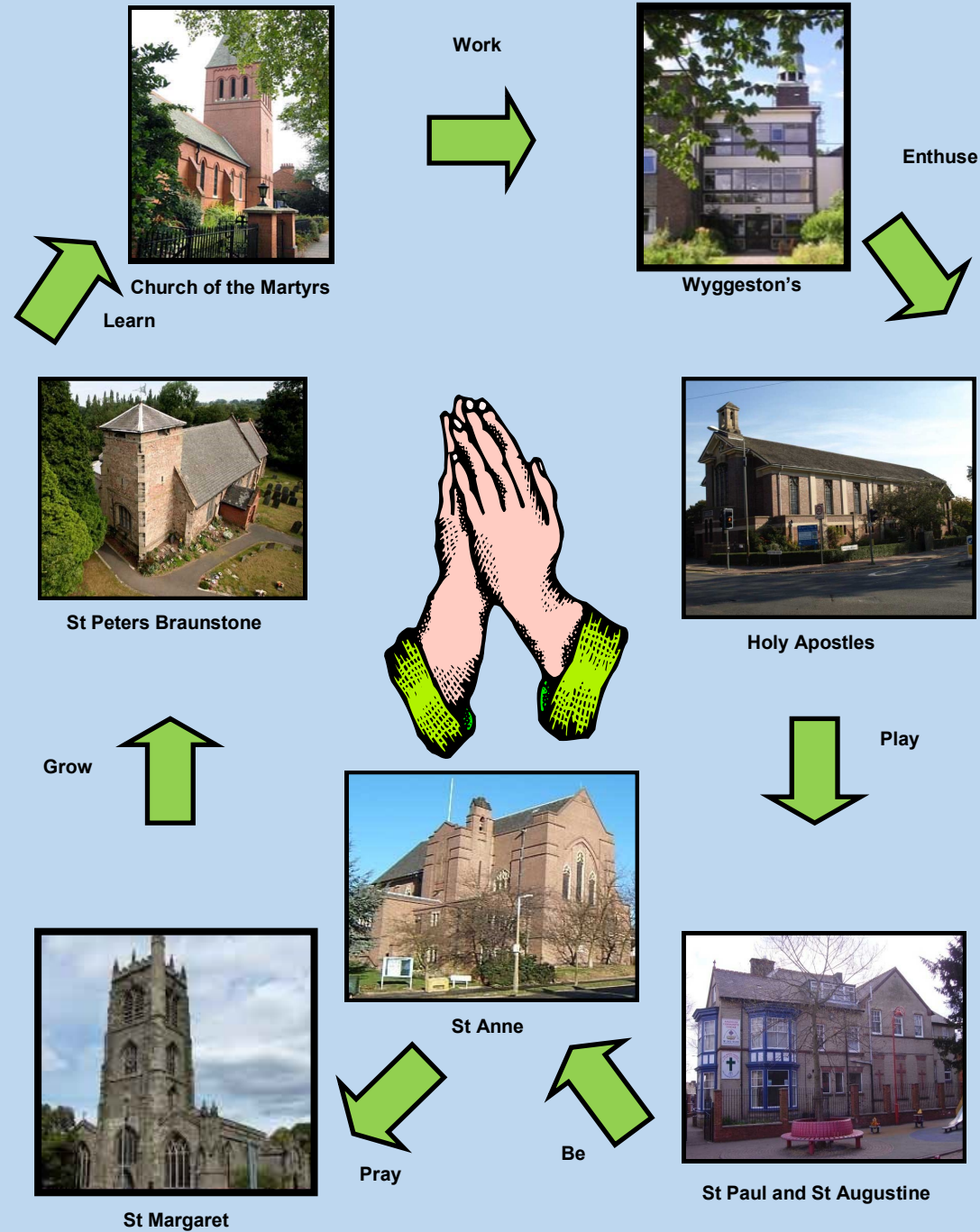


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