



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

**£1.00p**

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**For more information go to the web site at**

**[www.stanneschurchleicester.wordpress.com](http://www.stanneschurchleicester.wordpress.com)**

or

**[www.stpaulscommunity.co.uk](http://www.stpaulscommunity.co.uk)**



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## JANUARY 2025 PASTORAL LETTER

In January, my pastoral letter often muses on themes related to New Year or Epiphany, but instead I am going to look to an event later in the month – to our patronal festival marking the Feast of St Paul.

A patronal feast or patronal festival is a celebration to honour the 'heavenly advocate' or 'patron' of a nation, city, town or parish, who is a saint or virgin. For Catholics (and those Anglicans who are of a more 'Catholic' persuasion) saints who have died, intercede or pray for us in heaven. Therefore, part of the patronal festival, is to give thanks for the faithful example of the particular saint and their prayers on our behalf (if you believe that side of things).

In early Christianity churches were named after the martyrs whose graves they were built on. For example, Old St. Peter's Basilica in Vatican City and the Basilica of Saint Paul Outside the Walls in Rome are named after the two Apostles respectively. Later in the medieval period, the choice of saint's name was based upon the day of consecration, when the bishop dedicated the building to the worship of God and makes it a holy place. However, I cannot find any such link for St Paul's church. According to *Fifty Years of Church, Men and Things at St Pauls' Leicester 1871-1921* by Hextall and Brightman, the foundation stone was laid on 18 May 1870 and the building was consecrated on All Saints Day, 1 November 1871. So, I have no idea why St Paul was chosen. Do enlighten me if you know!

St Paul is among those saints who have more than one feast day! The Church of England celebrates the Conversion of St Paul on 25 January. Along with St Peter, Paul is also remembered by the Church of England on 29 June. Thus, we mark the Conversion of Paul on the Sunday closest to 25 January.

Paul is a fine example of a saint to name a church after. For like all Christians today, St Paul did not ever meet Jesus in his earthly ministry. Rather he had an encounter with the heavenly Christ, which marked the first step in his journey as a follower of Jesus. St Paul was instrumental in sharing Jesus with those outside of the Jewish faith of Jesus and the 12 disciples. And of course, he worked tirelessly and travelled extensively founding churches around the Mediterranean. However, he is only the 6<sup>th</sup> most popular dedication in the Church of England. Unsurprisingly that goes to Jesus' Mum, the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Traditionally, (well in the five years I have been Vicar), following our Patronal Festival Eucharist, we would sit down to a three-course lunch, organised by Paul Henry and his team of volunteers. However, last year, Paul wisely chose to retire. Yet, the team at St Paul with St Augustine's are still planning a slap up, so do keep your eye out for the signup sheets in church.

Looking forward to celebrating with you again at the end of the month!

Rev'd Liz Wilson, Vicar





## SERVICES FOR JANUARY

### **Sunday 5 January (Epiphany)**

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#

2.00pm Allotment Service, Boynton Road Allotments

6.00pm Evensong, St Anne's

### **Sunday 12 January (Baptism of Christ )**

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#

2.00pm Allotment Service, Boynton Road Allotments

6.00pm BCP Eucharist, St Anne's

### **Wednesday 15 January**

9.30am Healing Eucharist, St Anne's

### **Thursday 16 January**

9.30am Healing Eucharist, St Paul and St Augustine's

### **Saturday 18 January**

4.00pm Messy Church, St Anne's Hall

### **Sunday 19 January (Second Sunday of Epiphany)**

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#

2.00pm Allotment Service, Boynton Road Allotments

6.00pm Evensong, St Anne's

### **Sunday 26 January (St Paul's Patronal Festival)**

9.30am No service

11.00am Benefice Patronal Festival Eucharist for St Paul, St Paul and St Augustine's

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

2.00pm Allotment Service, Boynton Road Allotments

6.00pm Evensong, St Anne's

**Every Wednesday** 9.30am Eucharist, St Anne's and 4.00pm Advent Meditation, St Paul and St Augustine's. **Every Thursday** 9.30am Eucharist, St Paul and St Augustine's.

**NB There will be no midweek service on 1 January.**



## READINGS FOR JANUARY 2025

	Old Testament	Psalm	New Testament	Gospel
<b>5 January</b>				
Eucharist/TC	Isa 60: 1-6	72:10-25	Eph 3: 1-12	<u>Matt 2: 1-12</u>
Evensong	Isa 60: 1-9	98		John 2: 1-11
<b>12 January</b>				
All Age Worship Eucharist/ TC	Isa 43: 1-7	29	<u>Acts 8:14-17</u>	<u>Luke 3:15-17, 21-22</u>
BCP Eucharist				
<b>19 January</b>				
Eucharist/TC	Isa 62:1-5	36:5-10	<u>1 Cor 12: 1-11</u>	<u>John 2:1-11</u>
Evensong	1 Sam 3:1-20	96	Eph 4:1-16	
<b>26 January</b>				
Patronal Festival Eucharist/	Jer 1:4-10	67	<u>Acts 9:1-22</u>	<u>Matt 19: 27-end</u>
Evensong	Num 9:15-end	33:1-12	1 Cor 7:17-24	



## **Saint Paul and Saint Augustine's Worship Centre**

**Sunday 26th January at 11.00am**

**Sung Eucharist**

**To Celebrate**

Afterwards there will be a lunch. The numbers will be limited to 50 and there will be a notice in both churches inviting you to come

### **The Menu**

Soup

Chicken

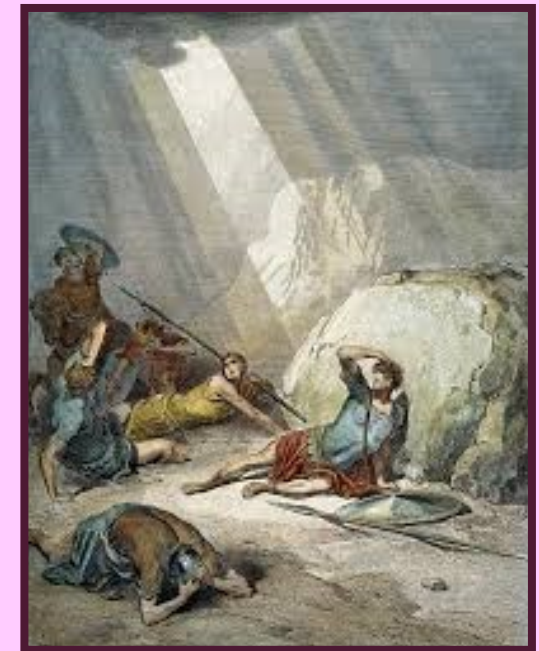
Roast Potatoes.

A Selection of Vegetables

Fruit Crumble

**PRICE**

**£15.00p**



**Afterwards the 100 Fund draw will take place**





**Western Park**

## **2025 MESSY CHURCH DATES**

**18<sup>th</sup> JANUARY**

**15<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY**

**15<sup>th</sup> MARCH**

**19<sup>th</sup> APRIL**

**17<sup>th</sup> MAY**

**21<sup>st</sup> JUNE**

**19<sup>th</sup> JULY**

**16<sup>th</sup> AUGUST**

**20<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER**

**18<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER**

**15<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER**

**20<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER**





# Following the Magi



**A Service of Meditation  
St Paul's with St Augustine's  
Every Wednesday at 4pm**



## HOLY DAYS FOR JANUARY

- 1 The naming of Jesus
- 2 Basil the Great - champion of the Church
- 5 Simeon Stylites - one of the weirder saints!
- 6 Epiphany
- 8 Nathalan - an early farmer in Scotland
- 11 Mary Slessor – missionary
- 12 Antony Pucci - poor, plain and tongue-tied
- 13 Hilary, Bishop of Poitiers
- 14 Felix of Nola - saved by a spider's web
- 17 Anthony of Egypt - hermit who defied an emperor
- 18 Amy Carmichael, founder of the Dohnavur Fellowship
- 19 Wulfstan, Bishop of Worcester
- 21 Meinrad (d 861) - victim of grievous bodily harm
- 21 St Agnes - child martyr of Rome, 304AD
- 22 Vincent of Saragossa - first martyr of Spain
- 23 John the Almsgiver
- 25 The Conversion of St Paul
- 26 Timothy and Titus
- 31 Maedoc of Ferns
- 31 John Bosco, founder of the Salesian Teaching Order

### **31<sup>st</sup> John Bosco, founder of the Salesian Teaching Order**

John Bosco is the saint for anybody concerned for deprived young people.

Bosco never trained as a youth worker, as he was born into a peasant family near Castelnuovo in Piedmont, northern Italy, in 1815. He never belonged to a youth group - he was out in the fields shepherding his family's sheep. But he longed to work with young people, and so in 1835 he was accepted at the seminary in Chieri, where he was ordained a priest in 1841.

Bosco had had a vision, in which he saw a young child, and heard the words: "Not with blows, but with charity and gentleness must you draw these friends to the path of virtue." He knew then that God had given him a specific vocation: his life's work was to be serving deprived youngsters.

And so Bosco headed for the dreary slums of Turin, where he began his ministry in the poor Valdocco quarter of the city. He was haunted by the wretched lives of the many youngsters there, and reached out to them, showing a kindness which they had never encountered before. Soon, as well as his church services, Bosco launched evening classes and training workshops in various trades for the boys in his neighbourhood. For those boys who were homeless, he opened a boarding house, installing his own mother as housekeeper.

Bosco had uncovered a great social need, because his 'Oratory' grew from 20 boys in early 1842 to 400 boys, only four years later, in 1846. By 1859 the 'Pious Society of St Francis de Sales,' commonly known as the Salesians, had been born. The municipal authorities, at first suspicious, soon greatly valued the work that Bosco and his Salesians were doing.

By the time he died in Turin in 1888, the Salesians had 250 houses throughout the world, housing and educating 130,000 poor children. 6,000 of the boys went on to become priests.



## ST PAUL'S WITH ST AUGUSTINE'S FUNDRAISING PAGE

The Table Top Sale held in 14 December raised £1167 (including pre-sales of homemade and sales from the Community Hub) for Church funds with £110 sent to Sound Cafe 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      78

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](mailto:dave1960king@hotmail.com)

**The winner of the December Fund draw due to be held on Sunday 29th December will be announced in February's magazine.**



## ST JAMES THE LEAST OF ALL

### The Importance of Not Keeping Accurate Minutes

The Rectory  
St James the Least  
My dear Nephew Darren



Since you were the one to ask this parishioner of yours to act as PCC secretary, you have no reason to complain about the minutes of meetings she produces. You should never let anyone act as a secretary unless they cannot speak English or are hard of hearing, and preferably, both. The more significant the committee and the more contentious the issues being debated, the more you should nobly put yourself forward both to chair the meeting and take the minutes. In the majority of cases, that will spare the other members that awkward moment when you ask for a volunteer, and they all feel the sudden need to stare at their feet.

If you act as secretary, then you can be certain that accounts of what took place will only be what you had wanted to happen and that the decisions taken will be what you had already decided before discussions started. Any inconvenient observations from other committee members can be omitted entirely.

Admittedly, the more observant may notice that your accounts of the meeting may not wholly agree with their recollections, but the skill of being a secretary is not to produce the minutes of the previous meeting until the day before the next one. This will mean that the great majority will have long forgotten what actually *did* happen two months previously, and that many will not have had the time to read them anyway and will avoid having to admit that fact by passing them.

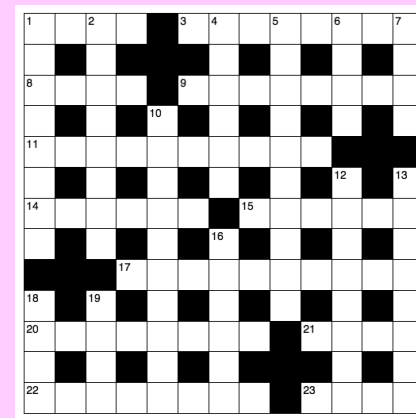
Only the deeply committed will want to pursue apparent discrepancies. In that case, confess to the meeting that your hand-written notes were accidentally left on a bus and so you can no longer check the accuracy of what you have written. As a way of appearing helpful, you could even give the person challenging you the bus route number and time of day you travelled. Further challenges will rally the rest of the committee to your side, and soon someone will suggest you proceed to the next item on the agenda. Since you are also the chairman, you naturally bow to their request.

Just in the way that church rotas bear no resemblance to the people who actually turn up to do the jobs, minutes of meetings need not bear too much resemblance to what actually happened, especially if what did happen is inconvenient for you.

After all, democracy is all very well - provided a benign dictator is in overall control.

Your loving uncle,  
Eustace





### Across

- 1 'Again Peter denied it, and at that moment a — began to crow' (John 18:27) (4)
- 3 Fetters (Job 33:11) (8)
- 8 Perform on a musical instrument (1 Samuel 16:23) (4)
- 9 Paul describes it as 'the third heaven' (2 Corinthians 12:2–4) (8)
- 11 Loyally (Deuteronomy 11:13) (10)
- 14 Hens? Me? (anag.) (6)
- 15 Not visible (Matthew 6:6) (6)
- 17 Predicted site of the final great battle (Revelation 16:16) (10)
- 20 Jacob's youngest son (Genesis 35:18) (8)
- 21 One of Zophar's eleven sons (1 Chronicles 7:36) (4)
- 22 For example, London, Paris, Rome (8)
- 23 United Society for the Propagation of the Gospel (1,1,1,1)

### Down

- 1 Favourite church activity: Fellowship round a — — — (3,2,3)
- 2 Divinely bestowed powers or talents (8)
- 4 Pile together (1 Thessalonians 2:16) (4,2)
- 5 Commanded to justify (John 8:13) (10)
- 6 Timothy's grandmother (2 Timothy 1:5) (4)
- 7 Killed (Psalm 78:34) (4)
- 10 One of Graham Kendrick's best-known songs, — — King (3,7)
- 12 Indecency (Mark 7:22) (8)
- 13 Unceasing (Jeremiah 15:18) (8)
- 16 He prophesied 'the abomination that causes desolation' (Matthew 24:15) (6)
- 18 British Board of Film Classification (1,1,1,1)
- 19 Pans (anag.) (4)



## WHAT'S THE BIG IDEA?

### What's the Big Idea? - an introduction to the Books of the New Testament: Acts

The Acts of the Apostles was written by Luke, a physician-friend and fellow-traveller of Paul. It complements his gospel, both being written for Theophilus (Luke 1:3; Acts 1:1), in around AD 63, during Paul's first Roman imprisonment.

While Luke's gospel records what Jesus *began* to do and teach, Acts tells us about what Jesus *continued* to do and teach through the disciples, empowered by the Holy Spirit (1:1-3).

Luke's aim is:

*To present a history.* Christianity has a firm historical foundation. The life and teaching of Jesus Christ are recorded in the Gospels; Acts provides an account of the spread of the Church, as the result of the work of the risen Lord and the Holy Spirit through the apostles.

*To give a defense.* We read speeches to both Jews (eg 4:8–12) and Gentiles (eg 25:8–11), showing us how the Early Church challenged pagan and Jewish thought, the Roman government and Hellenistic culture.

*To provide a guide.* We see basic gospel principles being applied to specific situations in the context of problems and persecution. These same principles are applicable for us today.

*To depict the triumph of Christianity in the face of bitter persecution.* The success of the Church carrying the gospel from Jerusalem to Rome and planting local churches demonstrates that it operates under the rule of the exalted Christ and through the power of the Holy Spirit.

*'But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be My witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.'* (1:8). Just as the Holy Spirit empowered the first Christians in their witness, so He will do the same for us today!





## Creation Matters



### January:

January begins with celebrations for the New Year, but outside, the natural world is bleak and can feel hard on the spirit. Days are short and cold and the land appears to be dead. Snow (if we have it) is greeted with excitement as the landscape is suddenly transformed into a radiant magical place. It invites playfulness from children and adults. The wintering birds remain – tits, finches, sparrows, blackbirds, thrushes, wrens and the much-loved robin. Wildfowl can be seen feeding, flocking, and roosting. It is also possible to spot owls, squirrels and foxes. The name of the game for creatures in January is survival. They tend to stay in groups more to find food and avoid predators, and make it through the lean months until breeding season in Spring. Survival seems to be how many people see January too. The Christmas holiday is over; Spring seems a long way off, spirits are low and winter germs abound. (Taken from The Celtic Wheel of the Year. T. Ward)

So, here are a few suggestions of things to do at this time of year:

1. Birds- Feed the birds with high energy food. Remember to put out water for them and to thaw it when frozen. Sit-back and enjoy watching the birds that visit.
2. Hedgehogs – Should be hibernating until April, but they may wake-up looking for food. You can put out some cat or dog meat or biscuits for them and fresh water. (NO bread or milk). Make a simple hide for them with off-cuts of wood and fill it with straw – sometimes they move nest in winter.
3. Put up an inexpensive wildlife camera in your garden. You can look back to see what visitors you've had overnight!
4. Go for a walk. It breaks up the day, boosts your mood, helps fight infection, and promotes sleep. If possible, find a green space to walk and 'really look' at what's around you. Use your senses of touch, hearing and smell too! Go with a friend and it becomes a social event. If you can't get outside – try opening a window slightly and breathing in the fresh air and listening what's outside for a few minutes each day.





5. Phone a friend.

6. Get creative – write a poem, draw, paint, sew, knit.... It doesn't have to be a masterpiece- but it might be!!

7. More birds- Sign up for the RSPB Big Garden Bird watch [Big Garden Birdwatch](#) for more information or if you'd like to join forces at one or both of the churches, or the Community Allotment, please contact Rev. Sharon P.

#### The Community Allotment:

In January we have a walk and tea stop planned for Sunday 5th. 2-4pm. (Please contact Rev. Sharon if you would like to join). After this the allotment will be closed for a winter break until March 9<sup>th</sup>.

#### Wonderful Walks:

The January gathering is on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup>. 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 Prayer for Wintertime.

Creator of the seasons, as the cold and dark of winter begin to surround us, we ask that you set in us the firmness of the roots of the trees. As they draw goodness from the earth to sustain them, may we draw on your goodness – the Ground of Being. Set in us the trust of hibernating creatures. As they sleep deeply and soundly, trusting that the sustenance they have within them will see them through the winter, may we trust that the sustenance you place in us is sufficient for us. Amen. (Taken from The Celtic Year – David Cole).





## KNIT AND NATTER

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

**28 January 2025**  
**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.**



We look forward to seeing everyone that used to come before the pandemic took hold.

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

They will be made very welcome.

### **Bobbies on the Beat are Vanishing**

When did you last see a Bobbie on your beat?

More than half of us have never seen any police foot patrol in our area. That's according to recent data from the Office for National Statistics Crime Survey for England and Wales.

So, it is no wonder that "shop theft is at a record high, street theft is up 40 per cent in a year. Town centres are too often blighted with persistent antisocial behaviour, leaving residents feeling unsafe. Criminals – often organised gangs – are just getting away with it."

So says the Home Secretary, Yvette Cooper. "The impact good neighbourhood policing has on local community confidence and business confidence should never be underestimated." She has recently pledged that neighbourhood policing would be centre of the Government's crime plans.

Sadly, lawlessness is an age-old problem. Even the Psalmist observes:

"Destructive forces are at work in the city; threats and lies never leave its streets." (Ps 55:11)

**GOD IN THE ARTS**  
**'The Annunciation' - by Domenico Veneziano**



During this year, we shall be 'visiting' different art galleries and museums in England to explore their treasures. Our first visit is to the Fitzwilliam Museum in Cambridge. Founded in 1816, it is a wonderful building in Trumpington Street that houses a wealth of art and antiquities.

Our painting this month is *The Annunciation* by Domenico Veneziano, who died in Florence in 1461. It is part of the Magnoli altarpiece, and other panels are on display in Washington and Berlin. The scene has been much loved of artists throughout the ages. We can read the account of Gabriel announcing the good news of motherhood to Mary in chapter two of St Luke's Gospel. In the simplicity and beauty of Veneziano's work, we see Gabriel kneeling with lilies, the traditional symbol of our Lady, who is standing on the far side of the canvas. It is early morning, but the two squares on the wall show the blackness of night. They stand either side of a garden where the door is closed.

An enclosed garden, like the lilies, is a medieval symbol of Mary. 'A garden locked is my sister, my bride, a garden locked, a fountain sealed' we read in the Song of Songs. We might think of the Garden of the Hesperides or the apple orchard of Avalon, or perhaps a monastic herbal garden. They are all images of fruitfulness and new life enclosed by walls. Mary receives the good news of Gabriel and responds with the words, 'Here am I, the servant of the Lord.' Her words will open the garden door and lead her out into the new world of redemption, just as Genesis tells us how turning against God closed the garden door of Eden to Adam and Eve.

The pathway from the portico and garden in Veneziano's painting will take Mary into a world where she will give birth to a son, Emmanuel. But that joy of motherhood will be coloured by a flight to Egypt and eventually the death of her Son. Then another garden will announce new and eternal life in the joy of the Resurrection. Here Mary's words will open that door in the garden. She will walk through, trusting in God and letting love guide her steps.

We begin this New Year with an invitation to open the door of our lives to God's guidance and love. That invitation begins with the good news of Emmanuel, God with us. Trusting in that gospel, we can open our lives, like the door of the garden, and travel in trust and love through all that the year will bring.



## GOD IN THE SCIENCES

### Just breathe

*You show your majesty  
In every star that shines,  
And every time we breathe.  
Your glory, God revealed  
From distant galaxies  
To here, beneath our skin.*

These words from the song *Magnificent* by Matt Redman and Jonas Myrin speak volumes to me as a scientist. Redman is an astronomy geek who has 'an appreciation for the universe that surrounds us, particularly its unique ability to lift our hearts to see how massive and mysterious God truly is'.\*

The microscopic level on the other hand – what goes on 'beneath our skin' – is less available to ordinary people. I have had the privilege of exploring this world to my heart's content, and what I've seen has given me such a sense of awe that I want to share with others.

Every time you breathe, a series of air pockets with a combined surface area the size of a tennis court is bathed with oxygen. These minute air pockets are covered with blood vessels. The boundary between air and blood is so thin that oxygen and carbon dioxide can diffuse freely from one to the other.

When your heart beats at a normal rate, a single red blood cell takes about three quarters of a second to travel through the small blood vessels in your lungs. But in just one third of that time, a quarter of a second, that cell has already received all the oxygen it needs from the air. So, when you exercise, causing your heart rate to increase and the blood to flow faster, you're still getting plenty of oxygen, as long as you keep breathing!

Redman and Myrin wrote in their song, "*You are higher than we ever could imagine, And closer than our eyes could ever see.*" The universe demonstrates God's awesome power. This is a place made by a Being whose imagination is not limited by time and space.

Biology, on the other hand, helps to remind me of God's creativity and closeness. I am a product of a long and painstaking process of continued development over aeons of time. Beneath my skin are incredibly detailed, beautifully regulated processes that give me life. Jesus said that 'even the very hairs of your head are all numbered.' The knowledge that God intentionally made me and knows every detail of my physiology is both amazing and humbling.

*\*Indescribable: Encountering the Glory of God in the Beauty of the Universe, Matt Redman & Louis Giglio (David C. Cook, 2011)*





## PUZZLE ANSWERS

C	O	C	K		S	H	A	C	K	L	E	S
U		H			E		H		O		L	
P	L	A	Y		P	A	R	A	D	I	S	E
O		R		T		P		L		S		W
F	A	I	T	H	F	U	L	L	Y			
T		S		E		P		E		L		U
E	N	M	E	S	H		U	N	S	E	E	N
A		A		E		D		G		W		E
				A	R	M	A	G	E	D	D	O
B		S		V		N		D		N		D
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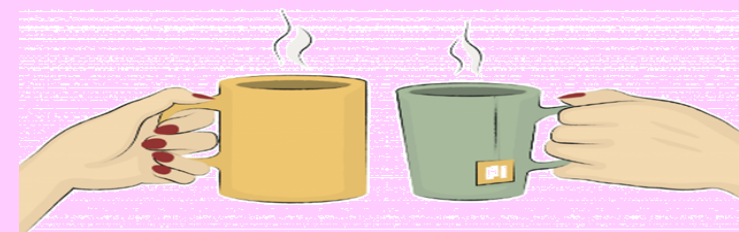
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## COMMUNITY LITTER PICKING TEAM



**MEET:** 11.00 AM TUESDAY 14th & 28th JANUARY

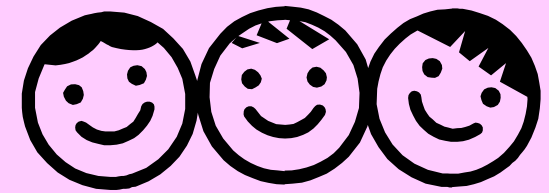
**ST PAUL'S & ST AUGUSTINE'S WORSHIP CENTRE**  
**2 KIRBY ROAD LE3 6BA**



**FREE REFRESHMENTS**



## SMILE LINES



### Old Love

During a wedding the mother of the bride managed to keep from crying until she glanced at the grandparents. As the bride and groom took their vows, the grandmother had reached over to the grandfather's wheelchair and was gently touching his hand. That was all it took to start the mother's tears flowing. After the wedding, she went over to the grandmother and told her how that tender gesture triggered her outburst.



"Well, I'm sorry to ruin your moment," the grandmother replied, "but I was just checking to see if he was still awake."

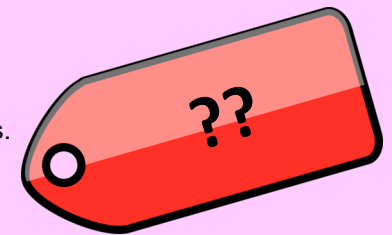
### Bible

A father was approached by his small son, who told him proudly, "I now know what the Bible means!" His father smiled and asked him to explain. "It's easy. It stands for Basic Information Before Leaving Earth."



### Labels

I have my own system for labelling homemade freezer meals. I no longer bother with labels like 'chicken casserole' or 'lasagne' or 'steak and ale pie'. Instead, I use 'Whatever', 'Anything', or 'I Don't Know.' That way when I ask my family what they want for dinner, I always have it to hand.



# Cartoons



"That's two t's in Matthew", said Osric



"It's worth getting to church an hour early to grab a pew by the electric socket."

## 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. ANNE'S MOTHERS' UNION

## DIARY NOTES FOR JANUARY

Well, before we get to January, let's remember December, and our wonderful Christmas Meeting. We started off with a quiz compiled by Sheila, and all Christmas related. You may not be surprised to know that it was won by Jonathan whose knowledge of Christmas facts surpassed us all! Then, Liz retold the Christmas Story, as she had been doing to countless local school children over the past couple of weeks, with we Members singing the appropriate carols, ably accompanied (as always) on the keyboard by Geoffrey. This was further enhanced by the knitted dramatis personae, - lambs, Joseph and Mary, Baby Jesus, Shepherds, Wise Men etc., who all eventually made their way into the "pop-up" stable. We knew there was no room at the inn, but on this occasion there was barely any room in the stable! The proceedings came to a close with mulled wine and mince pies - thank you to everybody who contributed to the afternoon.

Sheila reminded us that our next meeting would, of course, be the AGM and that we needed another Committee member. So will everybody who enjoys coming to our meetings, think seriously about this! It would be wonderful if we needed to have a vote! The AGM will be followed by a Bring and Buy which will help boost our funds.

Looking ahead, in February, for our regular Meeting on the 11th, Paulette and Tiff are going to come and tell us about their experience on the AFIA (Away from it All Holiday) this last summer. Later on in the month after the regular Friday Coffee Morning on the 21st, we hope to have. "Winter Warmer" - soup (homemade) and a pudding, as a mini fundraiser. More details nearer the time.

Wednesday, 1st January at 9-30. Corporate Communion

Tuesday, 14th January at 2-30. AFIA Holidays with Tiff and Paulette

Mavis Walker

[mavis55walker@gmail.com](mailto:mavis55walker@gmail.com)



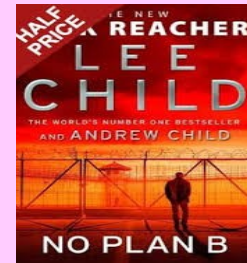


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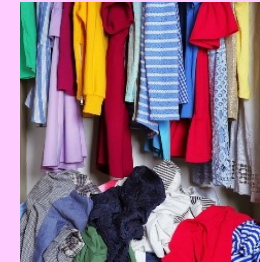
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**"APPEAL"**

**WE NEED**



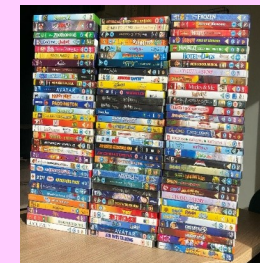
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## **WEDNESDAY CLUB PROGRAMME 2024**

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



**2025:**

**January NO MEETING (NEW YEARS DAY)**

**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 Policing**

**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**

**Lesley 07757 335879 or Hilary 07970 075039**

## **DAY AND NIGHT BLESSING**

May God's blessing be yours, and good be it sent;  
May Christ's blessing be yours, and good be it meant;  
Spirit's blessing be yours, for life's good intent,  
Day arising indoors, night lying down spent.  
Amen



## DEADLINES

The deadlines for the next three issues are:

**February Issue**

**Wednesday 15th January 2025**

**March Issue**

**Wednesday 12th February 2025**

**April Issue**

**Wednesday 12th March 2025**

Contributions accepted in person, by post or by email.

Contact details

Paul Henry

Address

24 Clarefield Road

E-mail

[pen2link@btinternet.com](mailto: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
January 5	Paul Ward	Sally Morris
January 12	Rachel Spiers	
January 19	Gail Inskip	Ellen Bateman
January 26	Jan Gough	Richard Davey
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

### SUDOKU

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## REMEMBERING T S ELLIOT: AUTHOR OF 'THE WASTELAND'



Sixty years ago, on 4<sup>th</sup> January 1965, T S Eliot, American-born British poet, playwright, literary critic and editor, died. He won the 1948 Nobel Prize for Literature.



Thomas Stearns Eliot was born in 1888 in St Louis, Missouri, but his family were prominent Unitarians, with roots in Boston. However, he had a Roman Catholic nanny, of whom he was very fond, and who took him to her church. This may have had some bearing on his converting to Anglicanism in 1927, the year he became a British citizen. He was baptised and confirmed secretly in Oxfordshire, saying he hated spectacular conversions.

He identified as Anglo-Catholic, saying he was "classicist in literature, royalist in politics, and anglo-catholic in religion". Much later he said he combined "a Catholic cast of mind, a Calvinist heritage and a Puritanical temperament".

Eliot married twice but had no children. His first wife was Vivienne Haigh-Wood, who he married in 1915 – the year that his first "professional" poem, *The Love Song of J Alfred Prufrock*, was published. But the marriage was fraught, because his wife had mental problems and eventually went into an asylum. They separated in 1933. His second wife was his much younger secretary Esme, whom he married in 1957.

Eliot lived through two world wars but remained optimistic through his Christianity. He wrote *The Waste Land* in 1923 and *The Four Quartets* were published in 1941 after he became British and an Anglican.

He died of emphysema at his home in Kensington, was cremated and is buried at the parish church in East Coker, Somerset – East Coker being where his family may have originated: it was also the title of the second of the *Four Quartets*. He has a plaque in Poets' Corner, Westminster Abbey.



# TABLE TOP SALE



**10 AM - 1 PM**

**REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE!**

**SATURDAY 11 JANUARY**

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**2 KIRBY ROAD,**

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see







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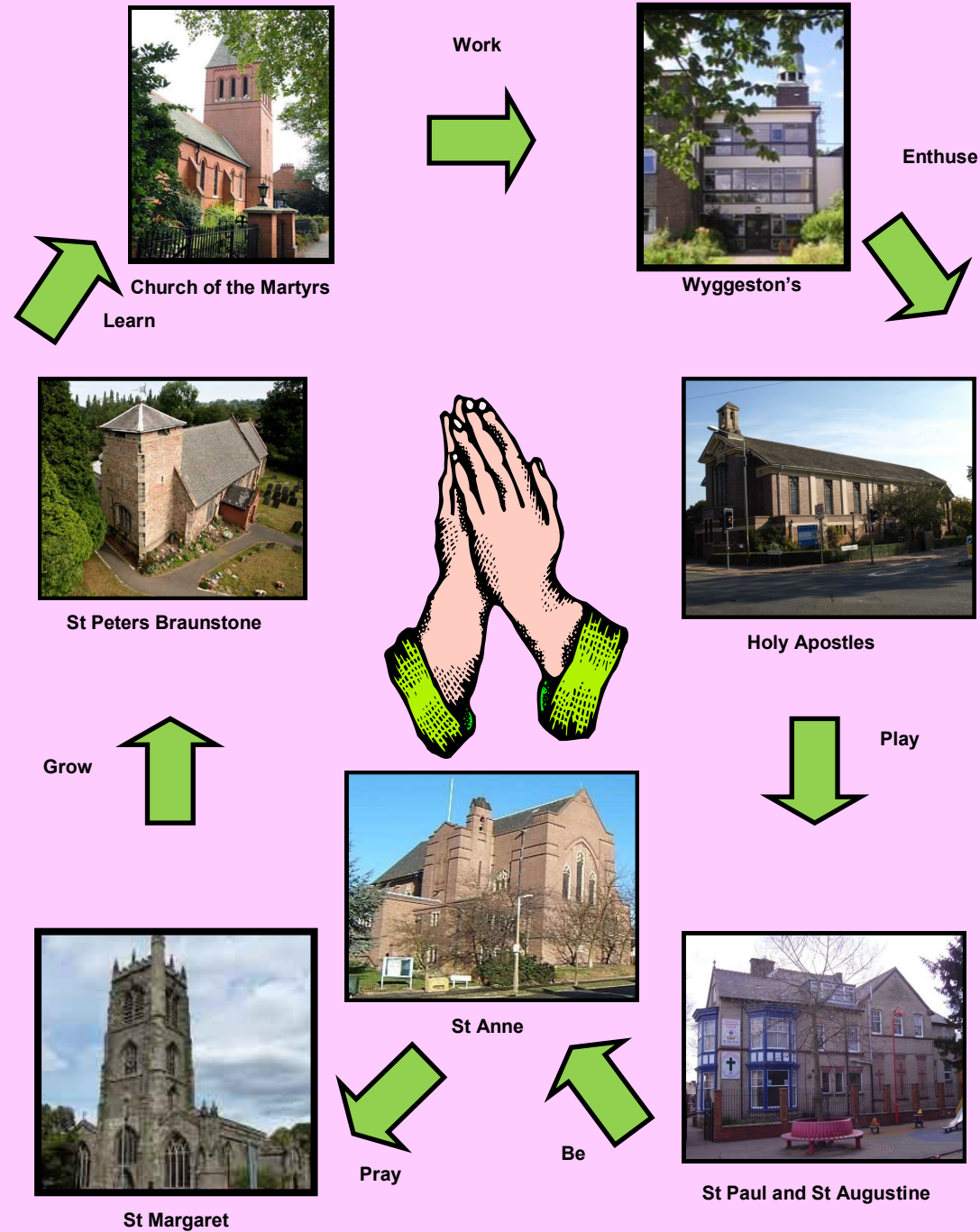
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