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The Pinnacle



**A Magazine for the parish of
Kildwick, Cononley and Bradley**

*The Churches of St Andrew's,
St John's and St Mary's*

St John's is a Local Anglican/Methodist Ecumenical Partnership

June 2020

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Clapping

I've just been out to clap for the NHS. Actually, I didn't because I got tied up with something else – but I did get out there just after the clapping. It was the "10th Clap" and it is billed as the last one. That's probably a good decision; far better to stop on a high, rather than let it peter out dismally.

We were all out there on the street. We clapped, rang bells, beat drums.

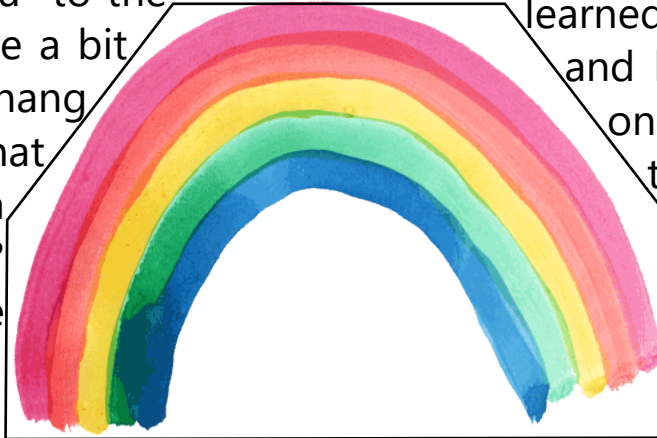
All to say "thank you" to the NHS. It has become a bit of a tradition – but hang on... how does that say "Thank You" to a huge organisation? Is the NHS there to listen? Did an ambulance pass by to hear? Did a District Nurse pause to hear my clap?

My clap is an almost insignificant part of The National Clapping and few, even at my end of the road will have spotted that I was late. The whole Walker Close contribution was small – it's not one of the places that would have attracted the media cameras like the big crowds in the large blocks of flats do. I'm not one of the crowd outside Airedale, clapping individual nurses and doctors.

Was there really any point in me turning out on the doorstep and making my hands sore?

Perhaps the fact that I've turned out for ten Thursdays at 8.00pm gives some idea of my answer.

First of all, it has been a catalyst for community. We were all out there on the street; neighbours we barely glimpse in normal times. And afterwards we have learned to stay out at the front gate and chat. I've



learned what Yolande enjoys and how Karen is getting on. Peter has rejoiced in the recovery of Hilly, his wife and Ruth has offered her spare French Bean plants. It hasn't been the only catalyst but we are now, mostly, linked on social media. We've had some silly Quiz Nights!

At a level, rather deeper even than that, it has made me think about prayer and our relationship with God and God's family. We have stood out there, an outward and visible sign. We have stood there, communicating in some strange way with a big organisation that we can neither see nor hear – but which we know exists.

The church will host an evening of fine dining, super entertainment and gracious hostility.

It would be easy to mock and to wonder aloud what possible difference it could make to the world if I go down to the end of my drive and flap my hands around on the end of my arms. But the fact is that it does make a difference. Doctors and nurses and carers I shall never meet and in places I shall never visit are enriched because I clapped.

Not only that, but there are people here, on my road, who are enriched because we clapped together.

There's a danger in taking analogy too far. But it does make you stop and think a bit.

When I get to my knees (these days, only metaphorically, I'm afraid), it is easy to wonder what difference it can possibly make. I may pray in the privacy of home or I may come out, as it were, to the end of the drive and share my prayer with others. I can only do that, at the moment, through a computer screen but, along with you all, I'm looking forward to the moment when we can join together under the ancient slates of St Andrew's.

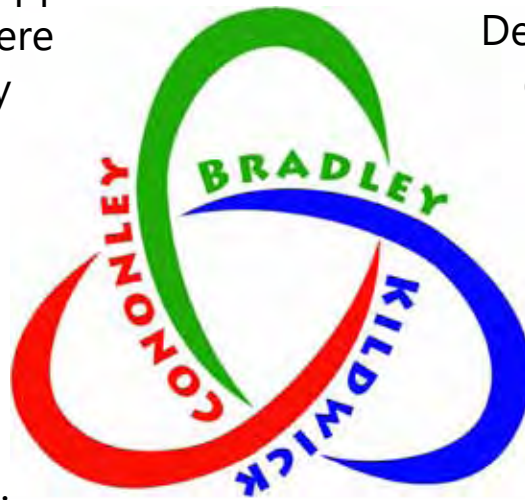
In whatever way I join my prayer to the countless prayers of others, I can know that it makes a difference

We can find a lot to be thankful for in this strange lock-down world. Our household could be said to be in clover. We last filled the car in April. We're breathing cleaner air and we can hear the birds. With a steady pension and no shops, our bank balance is breathing a sigh of relief. We have a comfortable house with a garden and no cabin-fever children.

Despite a yearning to see grandchildren, we're comfortably placed.

Unlike many who are locked into a lonely and restricted dungeon-space.

We were forcibly ejected from our well-trodden ruts by the extraordinary events of the past few months and we must now begin to imagine a new world with none of the ills of the old and all of the good of the new. That's not easy. While I rejoice in the sight of all those parked aeroplanes, not pumping gases into our atmosphere, a neighbour bewailed her holiday in Tenerife; "we really need those aeroplanes back in the sky". The trouble with Utopia is that my Utopia is probably quite different from your Utopia (I'll guess yours doesn't have a bell tower in it!) And all of us have to share in a common Utopia.



Chris Wright

Moving Again



Lockdown and other restrictions put the emergency brake on a lot of activity but it is good to see how people across the country are working out how to get their various shows back on the road.

Back in December, a group met in the White Lion to continue the ongoing discussions about the future of St Andrew's. A wide selection of folk from the church and the wider community of Kildwick have been involved in these discussions, along with the church architect and a Diocesan adviser.

It was decided to set up a properly funded scoping project that would put us in a better position to plan out, with community involvement, a sustainable future for St Andrews. The first step towards this would be an application to the National Lottery Heritage Fund (NLHF) for funding and supporting this initial investigation. Two members (Tim and Louise) compiled and submitted a project enquiry and in early March received a positive response from NLHF in Manchester. They would not talk about specifics, but seemed to approve of the size and scope of the proposed bid which was, largely, to engage a suitably qualified project officer and to enable the appropriate professional work to be undertaken. As the enquiry says... "Not only will this project aim to open St Andrew's doors, it also seeks to start to engage with the local primary school in enhancing the natural heritage within the cultural heritage setting of the church grounds. More importantly it will facilitate members of the local community, local businesses, and community groups in shaping the sustainable vision for St Andrew's."

Of course, at that moment, COVID happened and everything came to an abrupt halt.

The NLHF have responded to the pandemic by putting all new applications on hold and concentrating on emergency funding for currently and recently funded projects. It is said that the earliest that they will be open for new applications will be some time in October. In the current situation, that is bound to be a rather fluid date! A small group from St Andrew's has met and it seemed prudent to move forward now so that we can build on the positive response from NLHF and have a properly worked-out application that will be ready to submit just as soon as the starting pistol is fired.

We need to "meet" online. As we learn to use these new digital tools, they become, in themselves, more useful. We will aim to think, too, about a strategy that includes funding and awareness raising as well as identifying the skills that each member of the group can bring to the table.

If you are interested in being involved, that would be great. Please get in touch!

The Thumbnail Chain

Here's the third in our series of "Thumbnails". Each month someone is challenged to write a snippet about themselves. Something that people won't know. It can be trivial – or it could be deep. The point is that it is **your** choice! (There's no need to go baring your innermost private thoughts!)

This month, the Lancasters have stepped up to the plate:

After 26 years living in Barlick, many would say I was entitled to consider myself an honorary Barlicker and Sue, though brought up in Salterforth can rightfully claim the title. So, to many people in KCB, we will be known as the retired Vicar and his wife from Barlick. However, Sue is a Throup on her mother's side, - no more to be said in Bradley!

It was when Stephen Hobson, Vicar of Linton, died at a young age that Sue and I decided that we should make some provision in the eventuality that I too might die in service.

It so happened that Sue owned her grandad's barn, situated in the field known as Longherds, owned at that time by her mother. Her great grandparents lived at High Bradley, Great Aunt and Grandad lived up High Bradley Lane and her maternal Great Grandad owned the quarry in Bradley.

Over the years there has been much speculation about what the barn comprises – don't trust Zooplah, the barn has never been sold and the description is way out! Some thought it a holiday cottage, others a small bungalow. We leave it to your imagination, but with a clue, rather than 'barn' it was properly described as a 'laithe.'

Whilst we have never 'let' the barn, Matt and his family did stay here on their return from New Zealand, via Chile. He was married at St Mary's and his second child was born here, so we keep the Bradley connection for another generation!

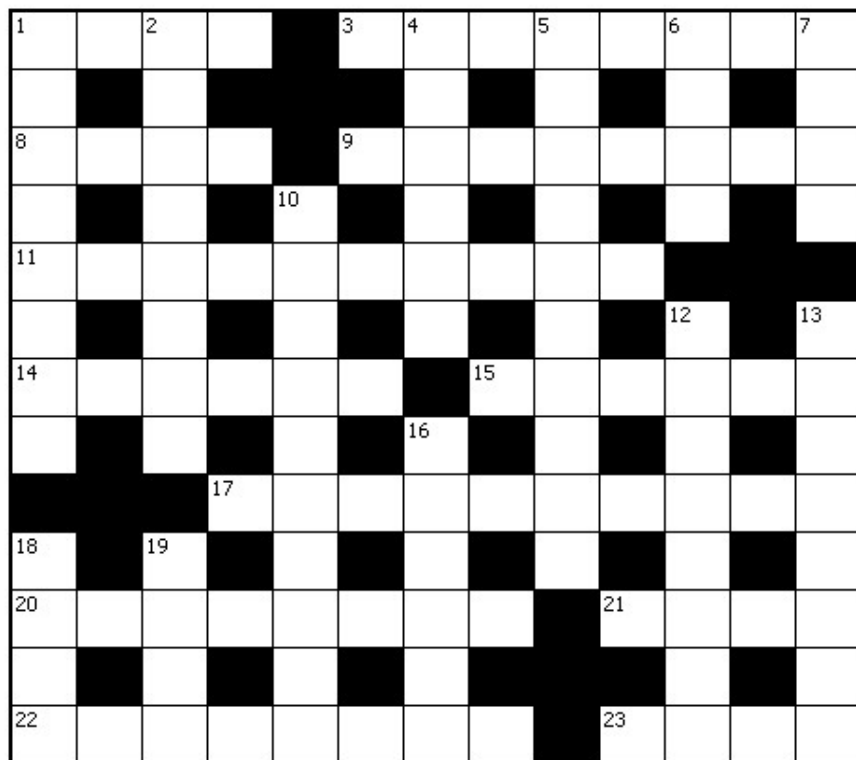
And now we are pleased to nominate Andrew Symmonds for the next issue.

Online services

Julie is streaming a regular service most days from her home. This is available on Facebook <facebook.com/KCBParish> (see also p.8)

Other services are available. Bradford Cathedral <bradfordcathedral.org> does a service at least every Sunday – and probably more often.

You may like to search <achurchnearyou.com> for other churches that stream services.



Across

- 1 See 23 Across
 3 Where the thief on the cross was told he would be, with Jesus (Luke 23:43) (8)
 8 Invalid (4)
 9 Blasphemed (Ezekiel 36:20) (8)
 11 Adhering to the letter of the law rather than its spirit (Philippians 3:6) (10)
 14 Shut (Ecclesiastes 12:4) (6)
 15 'This is how it will be with anyone who — up things for himself but is not rich towards God' (Luke 12:21) (6)
 17 Mary on Isis (anag.) (10)
 20 Agreement (Hebrews 9:15) (8)
 21 Native of, say, Bangkok (4)
 22 Deaf fort (anag.) (5-3)
 23 and 1 Across 'The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of — to work it and take — of it' (Genesis 2:15) (4,4)

Down

- 1 Struggle between opposing forces (Habakkuk 1:3) (8)
 2 James defined this as 'looking after orphans and widows in their distress and keeping oneself from being polluted by the world' (James 1:27) (8)
 4 'The one I kiss is the man; — him' (Matthew 26:48) (6)
 5 'Be joyful in hope, patient in — , faithful in prayer' (Romans 12:12) (10)
 6 St Columba's burial place (4)
 7 Swirling current of water (4)
 10 Loyalty (Isaiah 19:18) (10)

- 12 'God was pleased through the foolishness of what was — , to save those who believe' (1 Corinthians 1:21) (8)
 13 Camp where the angel of the Lord slew 185,000 men one night (2 Kings 19:35) (8)
 16 'There is still — — — Jonathan; he is crippled in both feet' (2 Samuel 9:3) (1,3,2)
 18 David Livingstone was one (4)
 19 Driver and Vehicle Licensing Authority (1,1,1,1)

Circular walk

By Angela Newing

No ringing for Easter Day. What a tragedy!

One of our ringers, who is a keen Rambler, decided to go for a long walk instead. He left the church between 8.00am and 9.00am at the time he would normally have arrived for ringing, and when the hands of the church clock were exactly together on the clock face.

He got back between 2.00pm and 3.00pm when the clock hands were exactly opposite each other (ie. exactly 180 degrees apart). How long had he been away?

Please note, this is not a hard teaser if you do a bit of lateral thinking.

Adapted from an idea of the late Charles Salkind USA and reprinted from the Ringing World, 24th April 2020

Readings for June

Here is a list of the Sunday readings for June, with the traditional Collects.

7th June – Trinity Sunday

Isaiah 40.12-17,27-31

Psalm 8

2 Corinthians 13.11-13

Matthew 28.16-20

Collect

Almighty and everlasting God,
you have given us your servants grace,
by the confession of a true faith,
to acknowledge the glory of the eternal Trinity
and in the power of the divine majesty to worship
the Unity:

keep us steadfast in this faith,
that we may evermore be defended from all
adversities;

through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

14th June – The First Sunday after Trinity

Continuous

Genesis 18.1-15 [21.1-7]

Psalm 116.1,10-17*

Romans 5.1-8

Matthew 9.35 – 10.8 [9-23]

(or – Related)

Exodus 19.2-8a

Psalm 100

Romans 5.1-8

Matthew 9.35 – 10.8 [9-23]

Collect¹⁴

O God,
the strength of all those who put their trust in you,
mercifully accept our prayers
and, because through the weakness

of our mortal nature

we can do no good thing without you,
grant us the help of your grace,
that in the keeping of your commandments
we may please you both in will and deed;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Sundays

A service of Morning Prayer is streamed each Sunday at 10.00am.

This takes place on our Facebook page. www.facebook.com/KCBParish

A downloadable booklet containing these streamed services in June is available
on the KCB Website at www.kcbchurches.org.uk/index.php/services

21st June - The Second Sunday after Trinity

Continuous

Genesis 21.8-21

Psalms 86.1-10,16-17*

Romans 6.1b-11

Matthew 10.24-39

(or – Related)

Jeremiah 20.7-13

Psalms 69.8-11[12-17]18-20*

Romans 6.1b-11

Matthew 10.24-39

Collect 21

Lord, you have taught us
that all our doings without love are nothing worth:
send your Holy Spirit

and pour into our hearts that most excellent gift
of love,

the true bond of peace and of all virtues,
without which whoever lives is counted dead
before you.

Grant this for your only Son Jesus Christ's sake,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

28th June - The Third Sunday after Trinity

Continuous

Genesis 22.1-14

Psalms 13

Romans 6.12-23

Matthew 10.40-42

(or – Related)

Jeremiah 28.5-9

Psalms 89.1-4,15-18*

Romans 6.12-23

Matthew 10.40-42

Collect

Almighty God,
you have broken the tyranny of sin
and have sent the Spirit of your Son into our
hearts whereby we call you Father:

give us grace to dedicate our freedom
to your service,

that we and all creation may be brought to
the glorious liberty of the children of God;

through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Daily Readings

There are set readings for every day of the year in the Church of England's regular calendar. If you have Internet access visit the excellent Oremus website.

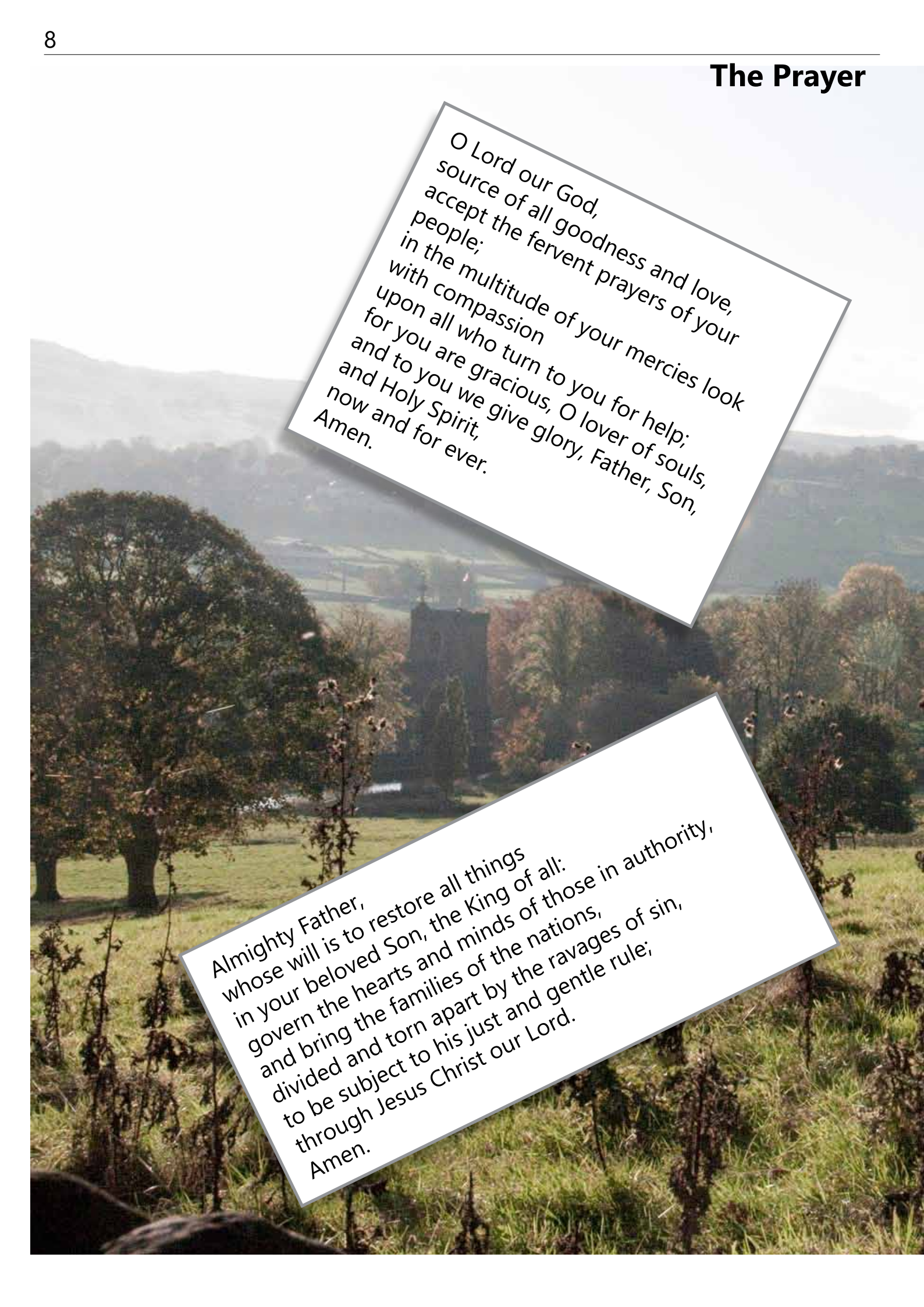
<oremus.org/cofe.html> gives a simple link to the Common Worship liturgy for that day. It's all in one place and includes all the readings and psalms as well as the Collect and so on.

If you can't access this, the full lectionary for May is available in printed format. (Yes! On real paper!). If you want one, get in touch with Chris Wright on 634526 with your address and Postman Pat will do the rest!

Yet another option would be to get a copy of Bible Reading Fellowship notes.

New Daylight (May to August 2020) costs £4.70.

We have two spare copies here – if you want one, just let us know.



O Lord our God,
source of all goodness and love,
accept the fervent prayers of your
people;
in the multitude of your mercies look
with compassion
upon all who turn to you for help;
for you are gracious, O lover of souls,
and to you we give glory, Father, Son,
and Holy Spirit,
now and for ever.
Amen.

Almighty Father,
whose will is to restore all things
in your beloved Son, the King of all:
govern the hearts and minds of those in authority,
and bring the families of the nations,
divided and torn apart by the ravages of sin,
to be subject to his just and gentle rule;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

O God, who would fold both heaven and earth in
a single peace:
let the design of thy great love
lighten upon the waste of our wraths and
sorrows:
and give peace to thy Church,
peace among nations,
peace in our dwellings,
and peace in our hearts:
through thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen.

God of love, show us our place in this world
as channels of your love
for all the creatures of this earth,
for not one of them is forgotten in your sight.
Enlighten those who possess power and money
that they may avoid the sin of indifference,
that they may love the common good, advance the weak,
and care for this world in which we live.
The poor and the earth are crying out.
O Lord, seize us with your power and light,
help us to protect all life,
to prepare for a better future,
for the coming of your Kingdom
of justice, peace, love and beauty.
Praise be to you!
Amen.

From ITV News

Ant and Dec help recite Durham mum's 'Rainbow Children' poem

Ant and Dec have played a part in reciting 'The Rainbow Children' poem, written by a County Durham mum.

Gemma Peacock's poem has become a social media sensation, shared all around the world.

The mum of two was inspired to write it after going for a walk with her sons and seeing the many rainbow pictures displayed in windows.

With schools closed due to the coronavirus outbreak, the rainbow has become a symbol of hope for many children across the country.

The poem describes a time 'when the world stood still' and when people 'risked their lives so others could be saved'.

Staff at ITV Tyne Tees got together with their families to recite the rhyme, and Ant and Dec were delighted to be involved.

It took Gemma just an hour to put pen to paper, she said she never dreamed that it would bring so much comfort to people, at such an uncertain time:

"I was a little bit worried that I am trying to juggle my work with school work and I'm not a teacher and I was a little worried that day that my kids weren't being given enough time, I wasn't doing a very good job.

"So I took the dog for a walk and all of the way up the street there were just rainbows covering every window. It made me think about my kids, other peoples' kids, our wonderful NHS and that's where the last two lines of the poem came.

"I literally came home, grabbed a piece of paper, grabbed a pen and I wrote the last two lines down and built the poem around that. I think I put every emotion into it that I was feeling and it was finished within about an hour."

– Gemma Peacock

Gemma Peacock spoke to ITV News Tyne Tees presenter Ian Payne:

Across: 1 Care, 3 Paradise, 8 Null, 9 Profaned, 11 Legalistic, 14 Closed, 15 Stores, 17 Missionary, 20 Covenant, 21 Thai, 22 Trade-off, 23 Eden
Down: 1 Conflict, 2 Religion, 4 Arrest, 5 Affliction, 6 Iona, Eddy, 10 Allegiance, 12 Preached, 13 Assyrian, 16 A son of, 18 Scot, 19 DVLA,

CROSSWORD ANSWERS (see page 5)

The Rainbow Children

by Gemma Peacock

The history books will talk of now,
That time the world stood still.
When every family stayed at home,
Waved out from windowsills-
At those they loved but could not hold,
Because they loved them so.
Yet, whilst they did they noticed all the flowers start to grow.

The sun came out, they can recall,
And windows, rainbows filled.
They kicked a football in their yards,
Until the night drew in.
They walked each day but not too close,
That time the world stood still.
When people walked straight down the roads,
That once the cars did fill.

They saw that people became ill,
They knew the world was scared.
But whilst the world stood still they saw,
How much the whole world cared.
They clapped on Thursdays from their doors,
They cheered for the brave.
For people who would risk their lives,
So others could be saved.

The schools closed down, they missed their friends,
They missed their teachers so.
Their Mam's and Dad's helped with their work,
They helped their minds to grow.
The parents used to worry that,
As schools were put on hold,
Their children wouldn't have the tools,
They'd need as they grew old.

Jigsaw Prayer Letter 15/5/20

Thank you so much for your prayers and gifts, God is using them in a mighty way to bring His love, faith and Hope to so many vulnerable children, young people and families at risk and in need at these very difficult times.

Prayer update and prayer news May 2020

- Thank you for your prayers for Jigsaw's staff and families who have miraculously all been kept well in these difficult times.
- Thank you too for your prayers for God's wisdom, guidance and leading for Jigsaw in how to respond in these difficult times, God is opening up miraculous ways for Jigsaw to minister in the neediest situations. Thank you too for all your gifts and resources which are empowering and enabling this work to happen.

Delivering vital oxygen supplies:



Miraculously God is using Jigsaw, Pastor Jolly (silver hair) Pastor Roland (front) and Jigsaw vans to work with the police to deliver vital oxygen supplies for the sick and unwell in urban poor areas of Manila, bringing life and hope to so many. This is an ongoing and big task so please pray for the team's safety and health in this vital but dangerous work.

Jigsaw's Sonny leading a team to pack and deliver phase 2 of Jigsaw's emergency food initiative:



Jigsaw's baby and infant emergency response initiative:



Jigsaw is leading a vital initiative to bring nutritious snacks and milk powder to street and slum babies and infants. Jigsaw became aware of the dangerous rise in life threatening malnutrition in babies and young children 3 weeks ago. Mums were beginning to struggle to breast feed due to their own poor health and malnutrition and with lack of money and resources babies and infants health and lives were becoming at risk. In response Jigsaw is giving out baby milk, nutritious snacks and hygiene resources across the slum and street communities it works in. Thank you for all your prayers, love, and support.

- Thank you for your prayers for those who were sick. We praise God for the full recovery of the young boy who had a stroke. Thank you for your prayers for Aaron who had water on his lungs, unfortunately we don't know where he is and we have no update but please keep praying. Thank you for the prayers for Nila who has heart disease, she is on medication and although still unwell is able to walk, praise God. Elena with kidney disease is still seeing the doctor but is improving. The father who had an accident is still in hospital since December. Ramil who was an alcoholic is now more in control and is not drinking at all and Eva who had a lump in her nose is improving and the lump is getting smaller. We thank God for all your prayers and Praise God for the power they release and the healing they bring, thank you.

Jigsaw Prayers for May 2020



Monday: Prayers for the Philippines: Lendehl urges us to pray for the Philippines, the number of virus cases are rapidly rising, the health system is very weak, governance of funds is a huge problem and many thousands of the poorest children, young people and families are suffering from lack of any income or health care. Please pray for good governance by the government, that health, food and aid will get to those in most need, that the hospitals will somehow be able to cope and that miraculously the virus numbers will stabilise. Please pray especially for those most poor without income and food who are beginning to starve and get ill from the lack of clean water and nutrition. Amen.

Tuesday: Prayers for Batasan urban poor, slum area: Please continue to pray for Batasan urban poor slum and depressed area. Hundreds of families are in an extended and imposed lockdown as virus numbers continue to rise. Nobody is allowed in or out and so many have no money and no food. Please pray for a miracle for virus numbers to go down and for ways to be opened for Jigsaw and other organisations to bring aid and food into this desperately needy area. Amen

Wednesday: Prayers for Jigsaw emergency relief initiatives: Please pray for Jigsaw's emergency relief initiatives, for Phase 2 of our emergency food response, for enough funds to provide for all the families, for protection for the staff. Pray please too for the baby and infant emergency response, that God may guide Jigsaw to those in most need, those who are often hidden away that we may be able to support them and their children and babies with baby milk, nutritious foods and health/hygiene resources. Pray too for Jolly and Roland as they drive oxygen tanks to dangerous parts of Manila for those who are extremely sick, for protection for their health and from violence and that God will bless the work and save many lives. For Jenalyn our social worker as she is volunteering part time with the government to bring counselling and support to the traumatised and bereaved. Amen.

Thursday: Prayers for developing Jigsaw's services and ministries: Please pray for Jigsaw as we review our ministries and services. Over the next two weeks I am connecting with Lendehl and the Board of Trustees to review our ministries and programs and to seek God's guidance as to how we can adapt and develop our mission, programs and ministries in the months ahead and post Covid 19. Please pray for guidance and wisdom of how to adapt and implement our ministries in this new and different time, thank you. Amen.

Friday: Prayers for new funds and resources for Jigsaw: Please pray for God to open up NEW ways and partnerships for Jigsaw funding, and resourcing, locally in the Philippines, across Asia, from the UK/Europe and in ways that God wills. Amen.

Saturday: Prayers for the Lee Family: Please pray for our family for physical, mental, and spiritual health and especially for guidance for the year ahead. God is using us in many significant ways with Jigsaw, Asia CMS, Kate's teaching and James in the church ministry and at the refugee centre. However, Grace has been so lonely and unhappy and despite her amazing resilience she is finding it hard to keep going. Please pray for God's will and if it is right for us to stay that he will open friendships and a wonderful and abundant, happy life for Grace in the months ahead. PLEASE Father, Amen.

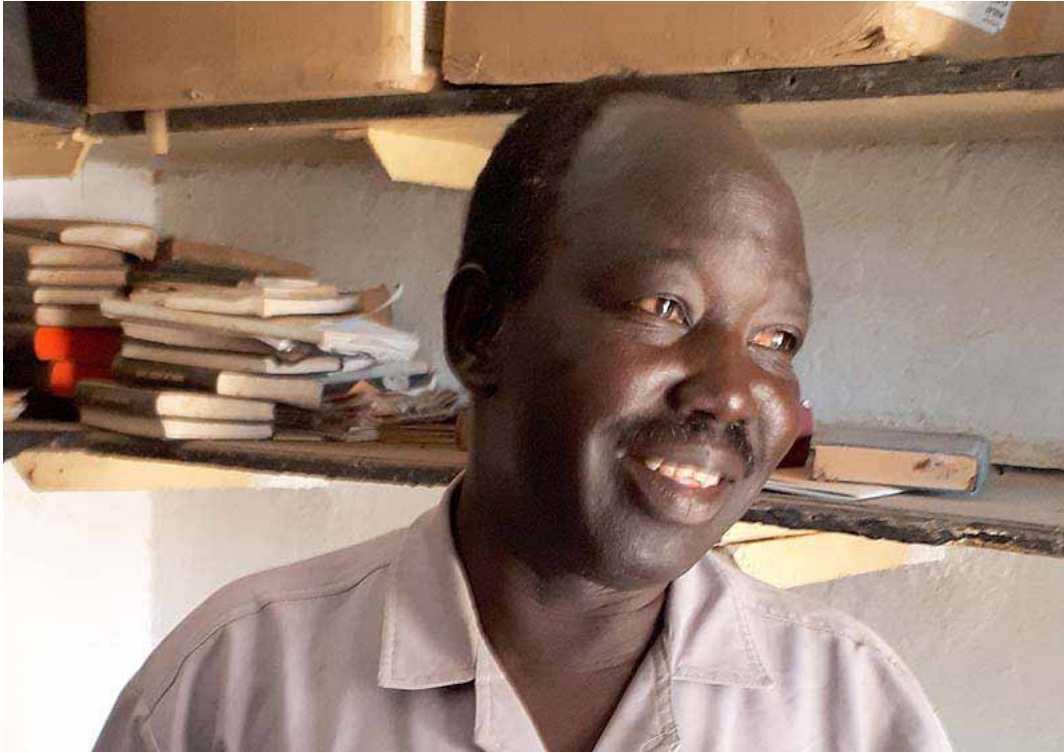
Sunday: Please pray for those who are sick: Please pray for healing for Michelle a young mum in Jigsaw who is extremely ill with TB and pneumonia, for a young girl Elena who is very ill with water in her kidney, for Theresa another young girl from Jigsaw who has a very painful gall bladder stone, For a young lady Athea with severe kidney problems, for Josie who has an ovarian cyst, for a young man Roy who is very sick with corona virus, for Jigsaw worker Nila who has severe pain in her chest and is being taken to a clinic to have it checked. Thank you for your prayers.



Jigsaw Kids Ministries Sharing the Love of God

Above, find the Jigsaw newsletter for May. Sadly, our publication dates don't marry well! To see these regular updates sooner, visit the website at kcbchurches.org.uk

Sudan Link picture calendar



The Sudan link group publishes a calendar each year. Rather than just looking at nameless photos of a foreign culture, we can get to read – and ponder the story behind those pictures.

This month's photo is of Ahmed Ibrahim.

This is the human face of Christian ministry in Sudan, a work which is a fruit of the Spirit of kindness and faith. Called Ahmed Ibrahim, he is an Evangelist, not a lay reader or ordained, working with a team visiting prisons.

Ordinary people in Sudan get jailed by the police for little reason, and then have to pay fees or fines from which the police benefit. Women may be locked up for not being dressed in accordance with a local interpretation of Islam, or making a living running a street tea kiosk. Children, wandering from parents who perhaps having nothing with which to feed them, and no money for school fees, are imprisoned, not homed. There are no social services.

Ahmed survives on Diocesan honorariums, a lovely man of quiet faith, giving his days to help others in need. He himself has a problem with his eyes, which are getting worse and worse because he cannot afford medical help. The last time one of our visitors saw him they gave him what they had, to get help, but walked away with a sense of guilt at not being able to do enough.

Life is gradually changing in Sudan, following on from last year's overthrow of its oppressive regime, but it has now been hit by a double whammy – high inflation and the coronavirus outbreak. Over the last year prices of basic food items have doubled and tripled, an enormous pressure on the Christian community which tends to come from the poorer part of the population, creating a daily struggle to survive.

Now the arrival of Covid-19 has caused a lockdown. People like Ahmed cannot move around and won't be paid. The Christian community mainly live in densely



A Jigsaw Prayer Meeting

For most readers, this notice will be too late for the June meeting. Notice was sent via the mailing lists - but you can always ask for a link for the July meeting!

Dear friends,

Hi, we are sending news of the start of a monthly Jigsaw zoom prayer meeting. The meeting will be on the first Monday of every month 9.00 to 9.40 UK time; the first meeting will be on June 1st.



We will open with a short devotion, have time to pray for our own situations and for Jigsaw. God is moving mightily through the prayers of Jigsaw supporters, and we feel this is a vital initiative to empower and enable Jigsaw's crucial work even more through prayer.

Please send an email if you would like to get Jigsaw's zoom prayer meeting link to be sent the week before each meeting <jigsawkidsministries@gmail.com>

The prayer meeting will be open to all friends of Jigsaw, of all ages, including people from our 18 supporting churches. To ensure security for the meeting, we will only send the link if you request for it via email. You can then share with others, church members etc, but only with people you know please, thank you.

We look forward to you joining Jigsaw's zoom prayer meeting on June 1st – see you there,

*God's blessings.
Tim*

built townships on the edges of the cities, with no medical facilities. There are no food banks in Sudan, and Islamic Aid customarily is not given to Christian believers.

The Church in Sudan is sometimes desperate for funds to help distressed people: the situation they currently face is becoming absolutely acute. In the past through our Link we have sent funding to help the Church in its caring ministry, including in prisons, but have encouraged them to look for sustainable projects. Right now the need is too great. In 2020 with overwhelming economic forces sapping the life of Sudan, we need simply to give for daily necessities. Our Link Working Group, alarmed by the situation in Sudan at the moment, has made this our number one priority.

Please pray for Ahmed, and the men and women who minister with him as they face great need with nothing in their hand.



The Birds in Your Garden



Bird Song



Bird song is a wonderful and uplifting sound. OK, too much Green Woodpecker, Great Tit or even Cuckoo can drive you bonkers, but...

It's world of different sounds that the majority of people don't tune in to. I've been on walks where I've commented "What a lovely song, but what sort of bird is it?" The response tends to be "What song?" Now though, being confined within a restricted sphere, many of us have the

opportunity to listen in without the usual background noise of traffic. The good weather helps too. I warn you though, once you do tune in you'll stay tuned in!

First, it's useful to think about the purpose of birdsong. It is all about breeding. Most song is used either to defend a territory or attract a mate, and is a male pastime, and between now and late summer is when it all happens – there is no dawn chorus in winter.

Before you start delving into sound clips and try to work out who's song you've been listening to, it's helpful to work out whether it's a song or a call; often you need to listen to the right part of the clip to identify the bird concerned. Whilst song is all about breeding, calls are used for all sorts of purposes such as contact within groups, alarms, or calling to offspring. Definitions vary, but songs tend to be complex and melodious, (I stress tend to be...) whilst calls tend to be simpler; both are often repeated. Perhaps the most frequently heard example is the Blackbird. Their fluid and varied song is heard all day long, with early morning and late evening being the best times to fix it in your mind as they tend to be the first and last songsters. Disturb one during the day though, and you will hear a completely different sound – their alarm call is a series of staccato squawks, rather indignant sounding, as they fly away or warn you off. Another call, much heard at the moment, is the sort of clucking they use to round up their fledglings when they have left the nest but are still dependant.

Social species such as Sparrows, Rooks and Goldfinches are among the birds you can hear chattering away to each other – these are contact calls. Some,

such Starlings are often rather soothing, almost a sort of coo, whilst sparrow communications in particular rise and fall depending on whether they are just chatting, or getting aggressive!

Finally, if you hear a song, is there a response? Territories usually abut each other, so if one male is proclaiming his ownership, the one(s) next-door is usually having his say too!



There are many websites specialising in bird song; www.british-birdsongs.uk is one of the easiest to use. (Bizarrely, many of the songs are recorded outside the UK!) To try it out, click on the link and then on the Blackbird. Look above the picture on the page which the link opens, and you'll see three tabs: for song, alarm call and flight call. Listen in and you'll hear the difference.

Next question – when you hear a bird singing, how do you go about working out what it is??

A repetitive single note could be a Great Tit (supposedly teacher, teacher). A complex song which rises at the end could be a Chaffinch. A varied high-pitched song could be a Robin (no two phrases are the same) – a Wren maybe if it is even higher pitched.

On the assumption that you'll be in your garden when you first tune in, the 10 most reported garden birds in the GBW survey are

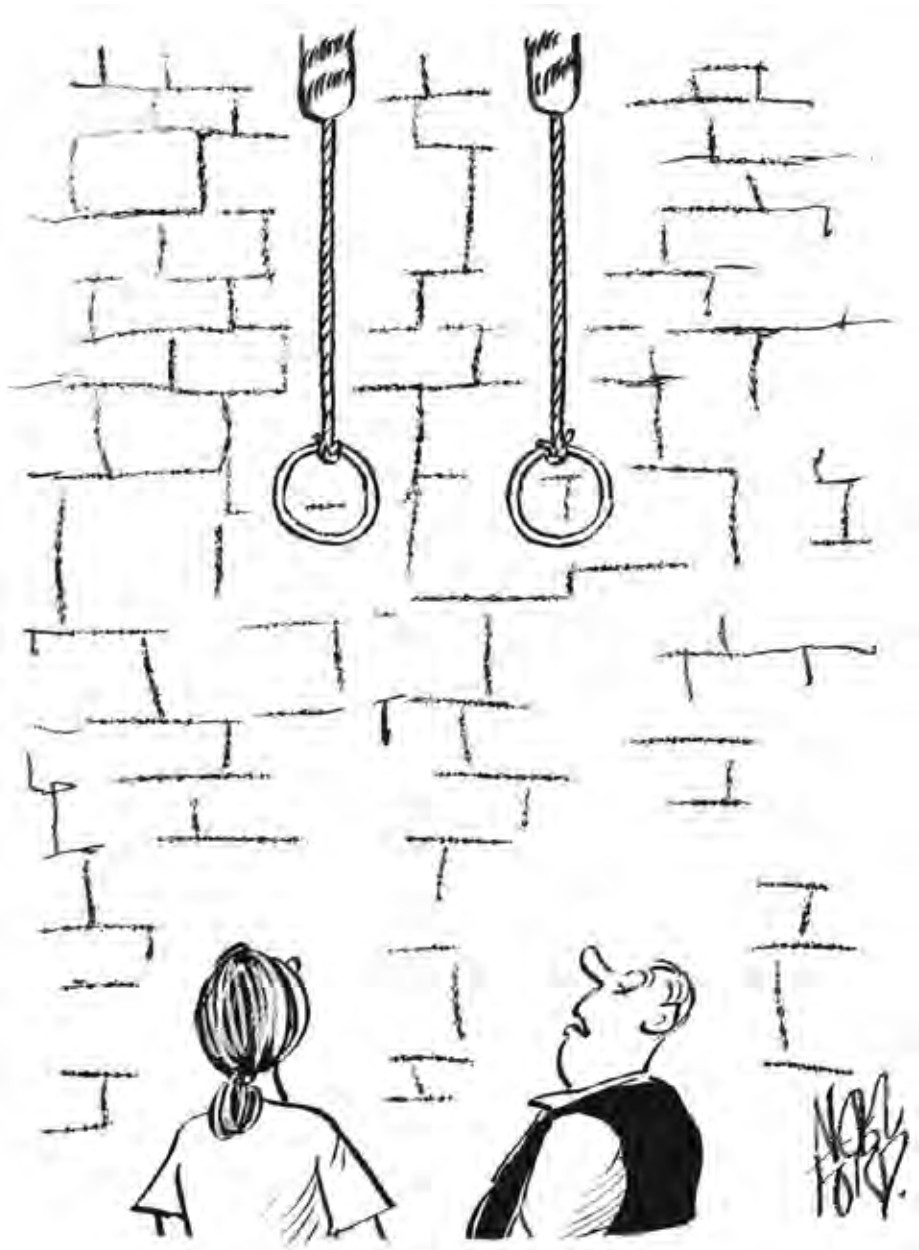
- ◇ Blue tit
- ◇ Woodpigeon
- ◇ Blackbird
- ◇ Robin
- ◇ Great tit
- ◇ Dunnock
- ◇ House Sparrow
- ◇ Goldfinch
- ◇ Magpie
- ◇ Collared Dove

Start there and see how you get on.

For more information on Garden Birds the British Trust for Ornithology is your best source <https://www.bto.org/our-science/projects/gbw>

Mike Gray gbwmike@gmail.com.

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I understand that the new bell ringer
is a keen gymnast

Deadlines

In the current situation, a Sunday publication day is less significant. We'll try to get the magazine online by the 1st of the month, rather than the First Sunday. The 1st July is a Wednesday, so the deadline for that edition is

Wednesday 24th June

Please let us have your material at least by then (earlier will be better!)

We'll try to have the magazine ready for Wednesday, 1st July

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