

A QUARTERLY MAGAZINE FROM ST. GEORGE'S PARISH CHURCH - NEW MILLS

A Fond Farewell to our Churchwarden.



There are always mixed emotions when we are saying farewell to someone who has contributed so much to St. George's over the past few years. We are pleased that Jan and Mike are looking forward to their new life in Sussex, but we are sad that we be losing their presence amongst us.

Jan was an active member of St. George's following her move here from Yorkshire. In 2014 she was elected on to the Parochial Church Council and the following year she was elected Churchwarden, a role that has continued until the end of June.

Whilst a Churchwarden's responsibilities are always challenging, the two years leading up to the appointment of Fr. Owain as our vicar in February were particularly demanding for both Jan and her fellow churchwarden, Richard. Together they led the parish through a two year interregnum maintaining as far as possible the life and witness of the parish. Along the way there were difficulties and problems that had to be and were overcome, and working as a team Jan and Richard complemented each other well.

In addition to "churchwarden duties" Jan has also played her part in other aspects of church life. In recent years she has arranged a very successful fashion show and has been heavily involved with the Christmas Tree festivals and several band concerts.

Mike has actively supported Jan in all her roles in recent years and has been a member of the PCC since 2018.

We are going to miss you both when you move to Sussex. Have a long and happy retirement and do visit us when you are in the area.

To David's words, I would simply like to add my personal thanks to Jan and Mike for their warm welcome, wisdom and all of their support given to me as I moved here with Claire, and began to settle into life in New Mills. Jan has always been at the end of the telephone with sage advice to offer when I've needed to know how things work here. So thank you, both. Your kindness and support have made it possible for us to say, in a very short period of time, that both New Mills, and Saint George's, feel like home to us. I hope you are able to settle just as easily and quickly in your new home. God bless you and we hope you will visit us when you're over this way.

Jan's farewell to us:

I do know that it has been a real joy and privilege to serve our congregation for the last 5 years. I have learnt so much, especially during the interregnum and have done and experienced so many different aspects of church life.

The last 5 years have also been the extent of our married life and I couldn't have done any of it without Mike, his support has been enormous. Also the help and kindness extended to both of us has been wonderful and we both really do feel part of a family. As to what the future holds, who knows, after all I never expected to be asked to be a churchwarden! We are both looking forward to a life less hectic and are very much looking forward to spending a lot more time with our family.

I also feel that I have left our church in safe hands so can move on with a clear conscience.

and Mike adds,

I have enjoyed my time at St George's although it has been less than six years. I married Jan in the church and through the church have met many lovely people.

It has been a joy to help Jan in her duties when necessary and to offer all my support to her in her period as Churchwarden. I have also enjoyed doing my bit in and around the grounds, helping at events in the Church and Church Hall and verging at various funerals and the odd baptism. I will miss everybody associated with the church but I know that the church is in good hands for the future with yourself and Claire. I wish everybody very best wishes for the future and God bless you all.

"Offering a welcoming, God-centred environment to the people of New Mills"

FROM THE VICARAGE...

FR. OWAIN MITCHELL | VICAR OF NEW MILLS

There is a saying... if you want to make God laugh, tell Him your plans! I arrived in February with many ideas for my first six months as Vicar of New Mills.

During the first six months, I had planned to invite parishioners to the Vicarage for a series of 'getting to know you' coffee mornings, and I had planned to get out and about to establish links and relationships within the wider community. I envisaged working with the PCC to build up our pastoral ministry around life events (Baptisms, Marriages & Funerals) and get some nurture courses up and running. I had just begun conversations with a few people about how we could use key points in the Church's Year, such as Mothering Sunday and Easter Sunday, to reach out and rebuild relationships with those members who we sadly lost during the interregnum, reassuring them that they still have a spiritual home at Saint George's. There were several other seeds beginning to grow in my mind during the first couple of weeks here, and I was very much looking forward to moving from the reactive model of ministry which is the norm in multi-parish groups to ministering proactively here in New Mills.

The reality was quite different. There were several funerals during the first two weeks of beginning my ministry here. Then we had to close the church and decamp to the hall for a couple of weeks after the weather vane worked loose in the high winds that battered the country in early March. Having dealt with this and we returned to church for worship, the Covid-19 pandemic hit the world, and lockdown became a reality. All plans and aspirations for the beginning of my time here went out of the window!

This certainly has not the start I had anticipated. Yet it has been wonderful in so many ways. Whilst I haven't been able to build up the breadth of relationships I had hoped for, the depth of relationships which have emerged though all of this are a true blessing. The kindness and care you have shown to Claire and I have helped both of us to feel settled and at home here. And the support and encouragement of the church members shows what a great team God has called me to work alongside.

As we have journeyed alongside one another through these difficult times, something of God and something amazing has been happening in this place. Whilst no one could have foreseen how events would unfold during my first six months with you, I am truly grateful for the innumerable blessings I have received. For all these blessings, I thank God, the congregation of Saint George's and I thank the people of New Mills. And the things I had planned... they are not wasted ideas; they're simply parked until we can pick up the threads when normality returns.

With my prayers and every blessing,

Father Owain

HOLY DAYS

SEPTEMBER | 2020

1st Sept	Drithelm - vision of the afterlife
1st Sept	St Giles of Provence - helping those damaged by life
2nd Sept	The New Guinea Martyrs of 1942
2nd Sept	St William of Roskilde - standing up for social justice
3rd Sept	St Gregory the Great - man who saved the 'angels'
4th Sept	St Birinus - apostle of Wessex
5th Sept	Laurence Giustiniani - the saint who knew how to help a beggar
6th Sept	Allen Gardiner - founder of the South American Missionary Society
8th Sept	The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary
9th Sept	St Peter Claver - compassion for slaves
11th Sept	St Protus and St Hyacinth - victims of mindless violence
11th Sept	St Deiniol of Bangor - bringing disagreeing bishops together
13th Sept	St John Chrysostom - living a public faith
14th Sept	Holy Cross Day
15th Sept	St Adam of Caithness - the way NOT to tithe
16th Sept	Ninian, Bishop of Galloway - Apostle of the Picts (Scotland)
16th Sept	Cornelius - the saint who had mercy on sinning Christians
18th Sept	St Joseph of Copertino - the awkward saint
20th Sept	The Martyrs of Korea
21st Sept	St Matthew
23rd Sept	When the sun goes edgewise - and daytime equals night
24th Sept	St Gerard Sagredo - church planting in the 11th century
25th Sept	St Ceolfrith - baking and Bibles
27th Sept	Vincent de Paul - devotion to the poor and oppressed
28th Sept	St Lioba - a memorable woman
29th Sept	Michael and All Angels
29th Sept	Angels Unawares
29th Sept	Enter all the angels, led by Michael

PRAYER REQUESTS



Please submit your prayer requests to Fr. Owain by calling the vicarage on: (01663) 743225 or email: vicar@newmillschurch.co.uk

HYMN: The story behind ...

ABIDE WITH ME

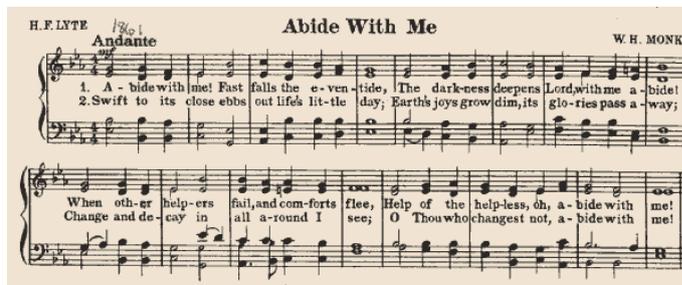
One of the most famous hymns in the world came out of Brixham, near Torbay, Devon, in 1847.

In those days it was a poor, obscure fishing village, and the vicar was the Rev Henry Francis Lyte. It was a discouraging place to be a pastor, but Henry felt that God wanted him there, and so he stayed, though it was lonely work, and he suffered constant ill health.

By the time he was 54, Henry had contracted tuberculosis and asthma, and he and his family knew he was dying. It would have been so easy for him to look back on his life and feel a complete failure. What had he ever much accomplished? And yet – and yet – Henry knew that in life it is not worldly success that matters, but how much we respond to Jesus Christ, and how much we follow Him.

In September of 1847 Henry was preparing to travel to the south of France, as was the custom for people with tuberculosis at that time. One day before he left, he read the story in the gospel of Luke about the two disciples on the road to Emmaus. They were met by Jesus on the day of His resurrection, and they invited Him to stay with them because it was getting late. “Abide with us”, they said “for it is towards evening.”

“Abide with us - for it is toward evening.” These words struck a chord with Henry, who knew that it was getting ‘towards evening’ in his life. So, he sat down and wrote this hymn as a prayer to God – (the following are just some of the verses)



Abide with me

*Abide with me; fast falls the eventide;
The darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide!
When other helpers fail and comforts flee,
Help of the helpless, O abide with me.*

*Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day;
Earth's joys grow dim; its glories pass away;
Change and decay in all around I see;
O Thou who changest not, abide with me.*

*I fear no foe, with Thee at hand to bless;
Ills have no weight, and tears no bitterness.
Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy victory?
I triumph still, if Thou abide with me.*

Shortly after Henry wrote that hymn, he preached his last sermon. He was so ill he practically crawled into the pulpit to do so. A few weeks later, in Nice, France, he died, and so of course he never knew that his hymn would go on to become greatly loved the world over.

PSALM 23 - A PSALM FOR THE PANDEMIC

EDITOR | CANON PAUL HARDINGHAM

There are few psalms as personal and real as Psalm 23. It records David's experience of God as his Shepherd going through dark times. In the midst of the effects of a global pandemic, this psalm speaks to the fears that can overwhelm us.

He Knows Me: ‘The Lord is my shepherd...’ Just as a good shepherd knows every sheep in his flock, so God know each one of us intimately.

He Provides for Me: ‘He makes me lie down in green pastures...’ Just as the shepherd knows the needs of his sheep, so God will provide what we need in our lives and circumstances.

He Guides Me: ‘He guides me along the right paths...’ Just as the shepherd leads the sheep to the best pastures, so God provides the best for us, as we listen and follow Him.

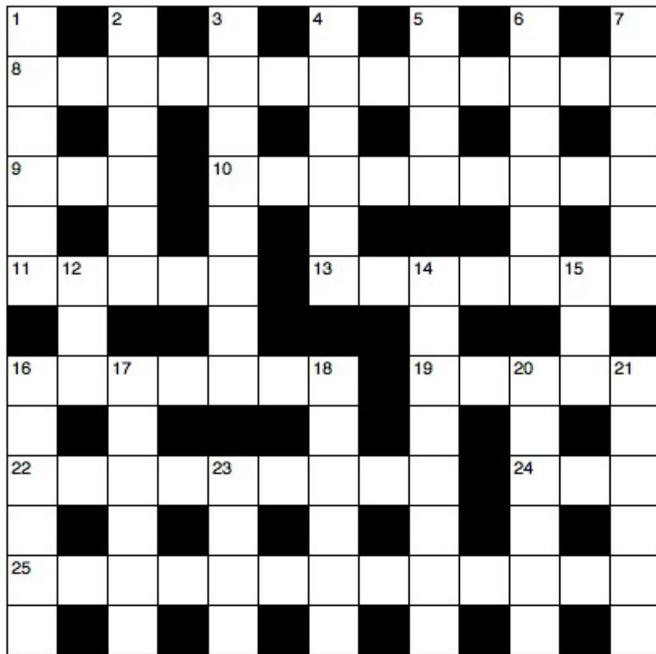
He Protects Me: ‘Even though I walk through the darkest valley...’ Just as the sheep have no need to fear danger when following the shepherd, so we live knowing God's presence and protection.

He Comforts Me: ‘your rod and your staff, they comfort me.’ As the shepherd's rod defends the sheep, and the staff enables him to control the sheep, so God comforts us through His Word and discipline.

The final verses of the psalm (v5-6) offer the security of knowing that our lives are in His hands, even through death, as He leads us to the home we've been looking for all our lives.

Some years ago, a great actor was asked to recite Psalm 23, but asked one of the other guests to do the same. His remarkable rendition was followed by the other man, an older Christian speaking from the heart. Afterwards the actor said: ‘The difference between us is that I know the psalm, but he knows the shepherd.’

PUZZLES FROM THE PEWS



Down

- 1 Rough drawing (2 Kings 16:10) (6)
- 2 See 24 Across
- 3 Underground literature (including Christian books) circulated in the Soviet Union (8)
- 4 Lo, mash (anag.) (6)
- 5 The Bible's shortest verse: 'Jesus —' (John 11:35) (4)
- 6 'Can a mother forget the baby at her — and have no compassion on the child she has borne?' (Isaiah 49:15) (6)
- 7 Can be seen in a dying fire (Psalm 102:3) (6)
- 12 'Send me, therefore, a man... experienced in the — of engraving, to work in Judah and Jerusalem' (2 Chronicles 2:7) (3)
- 14 Second city of Cyprus (8)
- 15 United Nations Association (1,1,1)
- 16 One of the women who first heard that Jesus had risen from the dead (Mark 16:1) (6)
- 17 Braved (anag.) (6)
- 18 — of Evangelism, outreach initiative in the 1990s (6)
- 20 'Woe to those who are wise in their own eyes and — in their own sight' (Isaiah 5:21) (6)
- 21 'Neither — nor depth... will be able to separate us from the love of God' (Romans 8:39) (6)
- 23 What Jesus shed in 5 Down (4)

Across

- 8 Where the Ark of the Covenant was kept for 20 years (1 Samuel 7:1) (7,6)
- 9 One of the parts of the body on which blood and oil were put in the ritual cleansing from infectious skin diseases (Leviticus 14:14-17) (3)
- 10 Uncomfortable (3,2,4)
- 11 'Yet I have loved Jacob, but Esau I have —' (Malachi 1:3) (5)
- 13 Where Paul said farewell to the elders of the church in Ephesus (Acts 20:17) (7)
- 16 'Jesus bent down and — to write on the ground with his finger' (John 8:6) (7)
- 19 Prophet from Moresheth (Jeremiah 26:18) (5)
- 22 Comes between Exodus and Numbers (9)
- 24 and 2 Down "Then Elkanah went home to Ramah, but the boy ministered before the Lord under — the —" (1 Samuel 2:11) (3,6)
- 25 There was no room for them in the inn (Luke 2:7) (4,3,6)

ANSWERS on Page 6.

JUST FOR FUN...

Mother to young daughter after first day at school: "Well, dear, what did they teach you today?"

Daughter: "Not much. I've got to go back again tomorrow."

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ST. MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS

29th | SEPTEMBER



St Michael is an archangel, whose name means 'who is like unto God?' He makes various appearances throughout the Bible, from the book of Daniel to the Book of Revelation. In Daniel, he is 'one of the princes' of the heavenly host, and the special guardian of Israel. In Revelation, he is the principal fighter of the heavenly battle against the devil.

From early times, St Michael's cult was strong in the British Isles. Churches at Malmesbury (Wiltshire), Clive (Gloucestershire) and Stanmer (East Sussex) were dedicated to him. Bede mentions him. St Michael's Mount in Cornwall was believed to commemorate a vision there in the 8th century. By the end of the Middle Ages, St Michael had 686 English churches dedicated to him.

In art St Michael is often depicted as slaying the dragon, as in the 14th century East Anglican Psalters, or in Epstein's famous sculpture at Coventry cathedral. Or he is found (in medieval art) as weighing souls, as at Chaldon (Surrey), Swalcliffe (Oxon.), Eaton Bishop (Hereford and Worcester), and Martham in Suffolk. St Michael's most famous shrine in western Europe is Mont-Saint-Michel, where a Benedictine abbey was founded in the 10th century.

The 'All Angels' bit of this feast-day was added in 1969 when Gabriel and Raphael were included in with St Michael.

Saint Michael

*Saint Michael, angel of the sea,
Lord of the horses he,
Saint Michael, of the angels king,
Of war, of shepherding;
On steed he flies across the skies;
The first-fruits of the harvest corn,
The first-fruits of the flock-lambs born,
Are his, he meets the soul forlorn.*

*The saints and angels watch o'erhead,
Their wings and prayers o'erspread:
The righteous ones in heaven wait,
St Peter at the gate;
In might arrayed they shield and aid;
Be with us e'er, archangel powers,
Be with us, angels, life's long hours.*

A Prayer to Saint Michael

*Saint Michael Archangel,
defend us in battle,
be our protection against the wickedness and
snares of the devil;
may God rebuke him, we humbly pray;
and do thou, O Prince of the heavenly host,
by the power of God, cast into hell
Satan and all the evil spirits
who prowl through the world seeking the ruin of
souls.
Amen.*

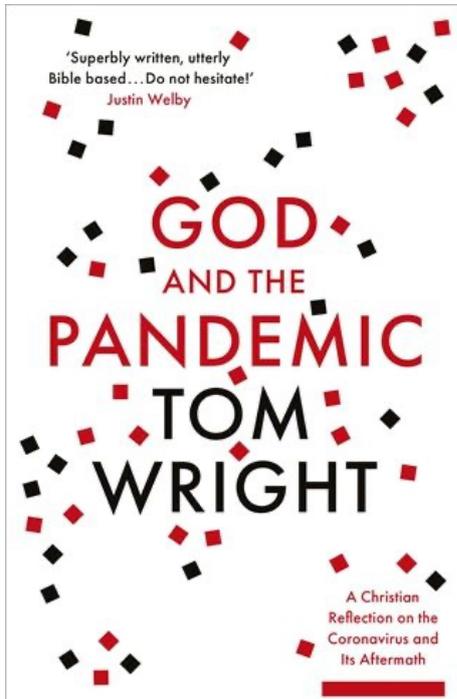


"But did they plough the fields
and scatter at a safe distance?"

BOOK REVIEW

God and the Pandemic – a Christian Reflection on the Coronavirus and its Aftermath

BOOK BY | TOM WRIGHT
SPCK, £7.99



What are we supposed to think about the coronavirus crisis? Some people think they know: “This is a sign of the End,” they say. “It’s all predicted in the book of Revelation.”

Others disagree but are equally clear: “This is a call to repent. God is judging the world and through this disease He’s telling us to change.” Some join in the chorus of blame and condemnation: “It’s the fault of the Chinese, the Government, the World Health Organization...”

Tom Wright examines these reactions to the virus and finds them wanting. Instead, he invites you to consider a different way of seeing and responding – a way that draws on the teachings and examples of scripture, and above all on the way of living, thinking and praying revealed to us by Jesus.

Do you have a book that you would like to review and include in our next issue?

If so, send it to: publicity@newmillschurch.co.uk

EASY SUMMER CHEESECAKE



INGREDIENTS

75g butter
250g chocolate digestive biscuits, bashed
or food processed into crumbs
680g soft cheese
75g icing sugar
300ml double cream
½ lemon zested
Fresh strawberries for the topping.

METHOD

Melt butter.
Stir in crumbs.
Press into base of 20cm tin with removable base.
Chill in the fridge.
Beat soft cheese with icing sugar and lemon zest.
Slowly add cream allowing mixture to thicken.
Put into base.
Chill for a while then stir desired topping just into the surface to give a ripple effect or smoothly cover the cream cheese mixture and place fresh strawberries on top.

Answers to PUZZLES FROM THE PEWS - Page 4

ACROSS: 8, Kiriath Jearim. 9, Toe. 10, Ill at ease. 11, Hated. 13, Miletus. 16, Started. 19, Micah. 22, Leviticus. 24, Eli. 25, Mary and Joseph.

DOWN: 1, Sketch. 2, Priest. 3, Samizdat. 4, Shalom. 5, Wept. 6, Breast. 7, Embers. 12, Art. 14, Limassol. 15, UNA. 16, Salome. 17, Adverb. 18, Decade. 20, Clever. 21, Height. 23, Tear.

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CHURCHYARD REFUSE BINS

The church refuse bins which are located next to the south-west door are being moved to a new location adjacent to the gate on Church Lane.

Please can we kindly ask that you take your rubbish away with you for recycling and not to leave it on the floor where the bins used to be - CCTV is in operation. Please help us to keep the churchyard clean and safe for everybody.

Many thanks for your cooperation.

The churchyard is maintained by High Peak Borough Council.

*Any concerns or complaints, please call:
0345 129 7777 / 01298 28400*



New Mills Helping Hands Food Bank

Helping Hands Food Bank - we are here to help those in need. Covering New Mills, Hayfield, Furness Vale and surrounding Areas in the High Peak, Derbyshire.

For more confidential information either Telephone Mobile 07425 177999 for more details – Alternatively Text or Call Back service available (occurs when the originator of a call is quickly called back in a second call as a response)

Email: helpinghandsnewmills@gmail.com
Twitter: <https://twitter.com/NewMillsFBank>

DONATE TO ST. GEORGE'S PARISH CHURCH HERE



St. George's Parish Church relies entirely on the generosity of our regular congregation giving because we do not receive any funding from the government. The money we receive goes towards the community work, pastoral work, missionary and ministry work within the parish of New Mills.

We are also responsible for the upkeep of this beautiful and historic building of St. George's. The money that our regular congregation gives also has to cover the electric, lighting, heating and repairs. This special building is here as a place of prayer, sanctuary as well as being a useable space for the whole community.

For the work and life of St. George's to continue, we need your help.

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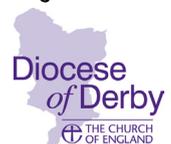


1. Scan the above code with your smart phone camera.
2. Click on the link.
3. Select your donation amount.
4. Choose the 'Gift Aid' option*.
5. Complete payment using the safe donation site.
6. Your donation is gratefully received... Thank you!

* If you are a UK taxpayer and eligible to Gift Aid your donation, please consider selecting this option. This will increase your gift by 25p for every £1 given (at the current rate), at no extra cost to you or us.



Visit www.newmillschurch.co.uk for more information.





- WEEKLY SERVICES -

Wednesdays

9.15am - Said Holy Communion

Sundays

8.00am - Said Holy Communion

10.00am - Parish Holy Communion

6.30pm - Evening Prayer

*A warm welcome always awaits you at St. George's
at any of these services.*

*To allow for social distancing, all services will take place
in the nave of the church.*

Guidance for attending public worship during COVID 19

It is now mandatory to wear a face covering when entering the church for public worship.

Everyone who wishes to enter this building for public worship is welcome. You can enter on your own or with members of your immediate household. Numbers will be limited to allow for social distancing and necessary hygiene measures. Please be patient if this means you have to wait.

We confirm we have read and complied with the government's guidance on managing the risk of COVID-19 in places of worship.

What we have done:

We have carried out a COVID-19 risk assessment
We have cleaning, hand cleansing and hygiene procedures in place, in line with government guidance
We have taken all reasonable steps to help everyone maintain a 2m distance between different users of our church

What we expect you to do:

Refrain from entering if you are feeling unwell or have experienced any COVID-19 symptoms in the past seven days.
Take responsibility for your own safety and that of your household and other people by maintaining social distancing and observing all hygiene measures
Ensure children are supervised at all times.

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If you would like to support us by advertising in our next issue (December 2020), or if you have a story you would like to share with us, then please get in touch:

publicity@newmillschurch.co.uk or call: **(01663) 749323**

All information in this magazine was correct at the time of going to print.

The Deadline for the next issue of 'A Martyr's Message' is Friday 19th November 2020

This magazine is also available to download and view on our website.