



St Mark's Parish Magazine

October 2020

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Your Views & Contributions

Next issue will be available from Sunday 1 November 2020
All contributions to the editor by Friday 16 October 2020

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LETTER FROM THE VICAR

Dear Friends,

"The harvest is past, the summer is ended, and we are not saved."

Six months on and still we are in very different arrangements to the ones we would expect as autumn begins. We are reminded of the words of the prophet Jeremiah: "The harvest is past, the summer is ended, and we are not saved." (Jeremiah 8.20). We didn't expect to be here, we are impatient for the familiar and the routine. We feel powerless because events have not turned out as we hoped or anticipated. Perhaps our resources of basic hope seem to be running low. For the most part we enjoy being active – learning, helping, being alongside those in need – we don't like being unproductive or idle. But recent months have not been empty – there are new things happening; we have had the opportunity to do things which were not part of our usual routine. Some people used permitted exercise periods to explore and walk our neighbourhood. Those with gardens have spent more time there. Some have found our online services to be part of a new discipline or pattern of life.

The Covid-19 pandemic shouts at us and reminds us of our frailty. It reminds us that we are together on this small planet and we must learn to cooperate to survive. It reminds us that we are becoming more, not less, dependent on each other. It reminds us that we must protect the vulnerable. It reminds us of the deep injustices that create so much of that vulnerability. We are not called to trust in a way of life which can be shaken, but in our God who is bringing (here and now and for ever) a kingdom which cannot be shaken.

The theologian WH Vastone wrote about "the stature of waiting" – not a condition of diminished dignity but a period in which we might find sanctity, meaning or a renewed awareness of God's calling. The parable of the prodigal son (or should it be called "the prodigal father"?) is often seen as a reminder of the quite extraordinary patience God shows in waiting for us. If we believe we are made in the image of God we can also discover meaning and worth in waiting, in times when we are not frantically active. There is a holiness we discover as we wait in love. Perhaps this is echoed in the lives of those we encounter in the Beatitudes – the people who truly know their need of God because they cannot rely on a safety net or a spiritual crutch, who are blessed because of their fortitude and patience as they reimagine their world. Discovering the how and why we are blessed may be the moment we discover each other – and the matter and the meaning God sees in us.

With every blessing.



A visitor from Mars – a story

The Ellipse had returned from Earth yesterday and the Committee had spent that day examining the captain on the details of his journey. The main purpose of the flight had been to recover a spy landed there some years ago. Of course, they had received pictures of the flight to Earth as it happened but there were aspects beyond what one could see which had to be investigated.

Now, today was the first of many to be spent debriefing the spy who had, with great difficulty, assumed the form of a human and spent five years on Earth gathering information on the way the humans lived. The committee was drawn up in a horseshoe with the spy seated on a chair at the focal point. It was rather like one of the old-fashioned committees which used to examine candidates for the British Civil Service. Some things do not change.

“So you think you have a grasp of how the humans live?” asked the Chairman.

“Yes,” replied the spy, “but only up to a point.”

“Why is that?” was the next question.

“Well they are so irrational and unpredictable and they have values vastly different to ours which are often hard to understand,” said the spy.

“How did you go about it?” the Chairman asked.

“It’s a very long story. I decided to take the path of the more fortunate humans so I enrolled for Oxford University and concurrently studied the sciences, arts, social sciences and joined most of the clubs and sports societies. By using our Quick Learning App I had no problems in taking in all that knowledge except I had to wait for the normal times between exams. I expected this would help me advance my understanding of how humans behave. Then I pursued a few professional qualifications and climbed up the ladders of power. That was tricky.”

“Why so,” asked the chairman.

“Well, I found what I had learned from all the academic disciplines I had studied did not help me much. Life was conducted at a much lower level. The continuous iteration of unreal values in advertising and other entertainment on TV and elsewhere in the media, diverts the widely held cultural values away from reality. I found that decision making on Earth is not very closely aligned to rational thought. The ways of selection for positions of power and government, which differ between countries, is a good example. It usually involves much pandering and discreet lying and pretence. It is also a problem trying to find out what the voters really wanted before you could offer it to them. Often you had to tell them what to think. The more successful candidates encapsulate the essence of what the people are intended to want into short slogans which they repeat at every opportunity, a bit like advertising, till that is what people have in their minds. They do not question it and so they follow it in placing their vote. It is hardly surprising that it is pure chance if, from such a system, someone emerges

who is actually fit to govern in the national interest. Once in government you find you are mainly expected to do what you are told and vote the way the leader wants you to."

"But you managed it?" said the Chairman.

"Yes I think so, I got very near to the seat of power, but it was necessary to do daily mental exercises to prevent my becoming like them," said the spy

"What are your conclusions," the Chairman asked.

"Earth is divided into Nations. There are international bodies such as The United Nations and the European Union, but the members are always squabbling, seeking what is best for their own country rather than the right answer or the common good. What counts is the relative power of countries rather than rational decisions concerned with solving the problem in hand. The more powerful countries offer bribes or threats to get support for what they want and they often interfere in other countries in various ways, sometimes by force. The same is the case within nations. There the governing parties are usually more concerned with their own self-interest, which is getting elected, than the national interest.

"There are systems which they call 'democratic' where each citizen has a vote but citizens are generally poorly informed either through their own laziness or perhaps deceived by prejudiced news sources or political parties which are supposed to represent voters' interests. Some other nations may pay lip service to votes by citizens but are really ruled by self-perpetuating oligarchies or even monarchies which change the law to suit themselves. And it's all confused by being built on different historical backgrounds. For example, one small country has a Second Governing Chamber of 800 people none of whom are elected. 75% are over seventy-five years old, well past the age necessary for actual work, and many of the rest have only the vaguest knowledge of government. Some are even there only through historical anomaly because their forbears got rich perhaps through war or the slave trade."

"This is really confusing", said the Chairman. "It sounds like rule by the elderly unemployed supported by the unemployable. Can you give me some concrete examples on serious topics, please?"

"Well, recently there was a pandemic, the spread of a lethal illness across the world. Each nation followed different paths to try to stop it spreading. There was little co-operation or a plan to defeat the pandemic. Yet it was in everybody's interest to defeat the illness. At one extreme there was no action at first hoping, without evidence, that acquired immunity would give protection; that people would become immune as the disease spread. Only when the number of deaths threatened to become really large did they change to some form of isolation. At the other extreme some locked their people in their homes, surrounded them with barbed wire and only released them when the threat had passed.

"But nearly everywhere protecting health was in conflict with economic activity which is difficult to conduct with lockdown. They gave up any idea of eradicating the virus and pursued policies of containment within what health authorities could manage though many who caught the disease would die. So they relaxed isolation and even

allowed people to fly off to other countries for a holiday so as to release the pressures of lockdown and save the aviation industry.”

“Let’s get this right,” said the Chairman. “People from some nations with the virus were allowed to travel to all manner of other countries which mostly had the virus. Can you think of a better way of spreading the contagion and promoting new mutations?” asked the Chairman.

“Well, no, though there were countries such as the USA, India and Brazil where people could not go because they were so infected and less controlled,” said the spy. “Furthermore, they allowed them to travel on vehicles such as aeroplanes where close contact is almost inevitable. People using the planes did not always obey the instruction to wear masks and keep to their seats. You see they could not change their normal habits. All this was going on just at a time when they had an even more serious problem of climate change through the release of carbon and other greenhouse gasses into the atmosphere. That seems to have been forgotten”

Having discussed the nature of Climate Change, the Chairman said, “But presumably most of the humans were not aware of such consequences?”

“Ah, but they were. They have known about the warming effects of burning carbon for thirty or forty years. In fact, during that same time the release of such greenhouse gases has exploded. But they also know that after a certain point climate warming will be out of control, natural forces will produce greenhouse gasses and there will be no way of stopping it.

“They have done some things. Against the interests of some powerful organisations and a lot of fuss, they have gradually expanded renewable sources such as windmills and solar energy to produce electricity to replace the burning of coal. They have improved insulation of their houses to save heat, but much, much more is required. However, at the same time countries such as Greece, which is poor, have been creating new huge open cast mines for coal to burn because it is in their short term interest. Other countries continue to mine and sell the coal and plan to open even more mines, but claim responsibility for the consequences lies with the users.

“You see people and counties by and large still pursue self-interest in spite of the longer term effects. Governments even sign up to reaching nil net carbon use by 2050 and at the same time increase the capacity of airports and rail systems which would involve burning even more carbon. Consistency is not a strong point with humans. Even when they have suffered huge floods and massive wood fires destroying huge areas of valuable forest, they simply bemoan the losses of life and environment, and then go on as before. They seem incapable of doing anything else.”

The Chairman knocked on the table to restore order over the gasps of incredulity from the other members. “It all sounds very irrational to me,” he said.

“Well, it is,” said the spy. “It’s all very primitive and tribal based. Deep in their natures is the driving force of self-interest. It is true that this driving force has been behind change which for many years has benefitted many. However, the driving force is for personal gain rather than the common good. This has meant that wealth is more and more concentrated in the hands of a few who still operate to get more and more wealth

and this opens up a big, ever growing gap between rich and poor. Even when long term interests are common to all, as with climate change, people and companies are unable to suppress their own short term, personal interests. Some still maintain that climate change is a fiction. This also applies to governments which rarely last or see beyond the short term.

“Another example of confusion and the use of power is taxation. That is a way of collecting funds to meet expenditure for such things as defence, police, and social services incurred to benefit society at large. Sometimes it may be used to counter recessions though this is very unpopular in some circles. Rates of tax are decided through the democratic process and are in some ways progressive and in others regressive so that they impact more on the poor. But most large companies and many rich individuals avoid it by placing the apparent, though not actual, source of income in a small, well controlled foreign country where the funds are safe and tax is low or non-existent. There are nominal attempts to prevent avoidance and evasion but they are largely ineffectual and such practices these days are widely practiced by most countries, but especially the wealthy ones. Indeed, some countries deliberately encourage those avoiding tax to come to live with them. Sometimes those in power are beneficiaries. It is an international problem but there is little co-ordinated attempt to change things.”

“Well, it really does seem to be quite a mess,” said the Chairman.

“Yes, I am afraid so” said the spy. “Over my five years there I became quite fond of humans. They have many attractive qualities. In spite of all I have said they can still be very kind, concerned for each other. In spite of the self-interest many of them devote themselves in many ways to the good of the poor, the sick and their neighbours. However, I am afraid if we tried to help they would only respond with war.”

“War, what’s that?” asked the Chairman sharply.

“War, don’t let’s go there. It is something they do to each other when they can find no other way to get what they want. It destroys cities which have taken years to build up. It involves killing many humans most of whom had nothing to do with the disagreement. Then they have to clear up the mess and start all over again.” said the spy.

“I think we have heard enough for now. It’s hard to take it all in,” said the Chairman.

“Maybe we should have a break and think about all this. Pass round the Mars bars, please.”

Harry Ingram

Fundraising

SMOAT is back! With an event for everyone.

This year SMOAT celebrates its 40th Anniversary. We had several fund raising events planned, which were, sadly, all thwarted by COVID-19. However, we have been meeting via Zoom to discuss ways to move forward and I am excited to announce that we are holding a socially distanced, fully COVID-safe event.

SMOATathome will be an afternoon tea and quiz for all the family, to be enjoyed at home, delivered to your door, just for fun. On the afternoon of Sunday, 11 October, we will deliver scones, jam, clotted cream, and a quiz for all ages.

Now, more than ever, overseas aid projects need our support. As we have seen in the news, charities are struggling and some are closing down. We are determined to keep raising money and helping out as many projects as we can.

We couldn't let our 40th year pass without holding a fund raising event and we would love you to support us on 11 October, enjoying a delicious afternoon tea, with homemade scones, while helping to support people overseas who need our help. Tickets will be £5.00 per person, with the option of buying more scones for £2.50 each. Or, why not add a bit of sparkle to the afternoon with a 20cl bottle of prosecco for £5.00 or two for £8.00.

This event will be restricted to RH1 and RH2 for delivery reasons and there is a shut off date for buying tickets of Wednesday, 7 October. You can purchase tickets on [TicketSource.co.uk](https://www.ticketsource.co.uk) or contact me at Barbara@barbaraperkins.co.uk to order your tickets or for more information.

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News from the Church of England

Farmers mark Harvest Festival with a call for Climate Change action

As this month's edition of the magazine is launched on the 4th October we will be celebrating Harvest Festival. And to mark this occasion the Church of England in their weekly online service will be showcasing farmers based in the Yorkshire Dales, who are committing and calling for greater action for climate change.

The service which starts at 9am will be led by the Bishop of Leeds, Nick Baines (former Bishop of Croydon) and include reflections on climate changing, farming and natural beauty.

A reflection led by farmer and chair of the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority, Neil Heseltine, will explore the role agriculture can play in tackling climate change.

Mr Heseltine who has been farming in Malham since 2001 has been working alongside local environmental group to promote biodiversity. He will tell the national online service his work "promotes nature and promotes biodiversity on the farm."

Reflecting on the existential threat climate change poses for those in rural communities he will add: "We could farm... but at the same time do it in harmony with nature to promote biodiversity and get a balance between the food we produce and the natural environment we are working in at the moment."

Adapted from the article: <https://www.churchofengland.org/more/media-centre/news/farmers-mark-harvest-festival-call-climate-change-action-national-online>



St Mark's is celebrating Harvest Festival this year at the 10.00am service and also at the 4.00pm Family Service via Zoom.

Donations for the Food Bank will be welcomed in church or outside the vicarage.

Church News

All Soul's Service

As with so many things in 2020, our All Souls' Memorial Service on **Sunday 1 November** will be very different. It will be completely online, but will include the reading of names of our loved ones departed. The families of all those whose funerals I have celebrated in the last 2 years will be sent the details of how to access the service and those names will be remembered. If there are any of your loved ones that you wish to be remembered, please contact Alexia our Parish Administrator by phone or email before Thursday 29 October.

Revd Reg's Ordination

Our Assistant Curate Reg will be ordained Priest on **Saturday 17 October 2020 at 11am** at a Private Service (because of COVID-19 restrictions). This service will be live streamed and the details will be available from the Parish Office.

On **Sunday 18 October 2020 at 10am**, by happy coincidence St Luke's Day, the Patron Saint of Health Care Workers, Revd Reg will preside at the Eucharist for the first time in St Mark's. I hope many of you will be able to be there, but if you cannot or do not wish to, the service will be live streamed on our YouTube Channel. Unfortunately we will be unable to have the usual "party" afterwards but we will join with him in celebrating this next step in his ministry.

Annual Meetings

Our APCM and Annual Meeting will be on **Sunday 11 October at the 10.00am Service**. This is the meeting postponed from April. You will also be able to attend the meeting online – more details will be issued in due course. We will need to elect 2 Churchwardens, up to 4 Deputy Wardens, 4 Deanery Synod Members and 3 PCC members (2 for a 3-year term and 1 for 1 year). Nomination Forms and the Annual Report can be downloaded from the website.

Thursday Holy Communion (Iona) Service

From Thursday 1st October we will resume the Thursday Iona Holy Communion Service. This short said service is ideal for those who want to worship in a very small group. Initially this service will be held monthly on the **First Thursday of the Month**.

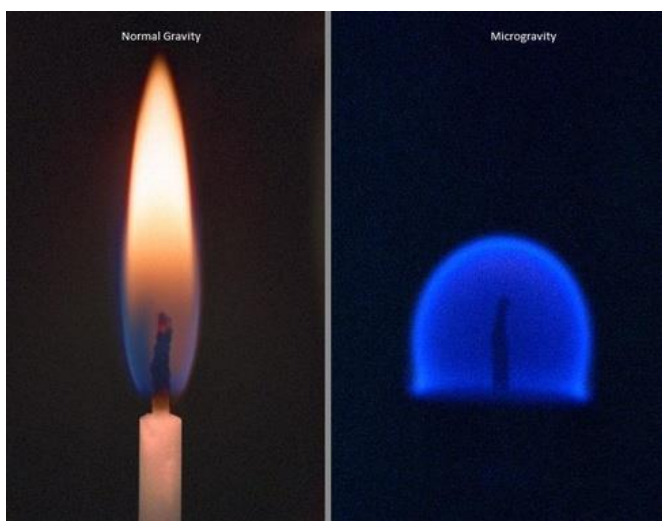
Environmental News

How starting a fire in space could help energy efficiency on Earth

Whilst this story has environmental implications, I just found the science of it so interesting. I wanted to share.

Now, starting a fire in space is not possible I hear you say. There is no oxygen. Well, there is on the International Space Station and Astronauts for NASA have been starting fires on board the ISS to understand the impact on flames of zero gravity and the results have been beautiful and exciting.

A flame burning in space, does not have the flicking orange glow we see when we light a candle in church. Instead it burns much less intensity and creates a blue fireball. This is because oxygen and carbon dioxide don't move in the same way in zero gravity. The flame also doesn't burn at such high temperatures. Here is a picture of the difference.



Now, this may all sound very nice but what is the so what?

Well, engineers are looking into how they could use the learnings here on Earth. To build combustion engines which use less fuel and at lower temperatures. And that could bring huge benefits through flames that emit less polluting gas or allowing engines to run more efficiently. Helping to reduce the impact of climate change.

Information adapted from:

<https://www.newscientist.com/article/mg24733000-900-lighting-fires-in-space-is-helping-us-make-greener-energy-on-earth/#ixzz6ZSwuXbnY>

<https://www.zmescience.com/science/physics/how-fire-burns-space-zero-gravity/>

Upside down

I came across a rhyme written in the 17th century which went as follows:

*"If all the world were paper,
and all the sea were ink,
and all the trees were bread and cheese.
What would we do for drink?"*

This reminded me of a poem I learnt as a child which went something like this:

*"If all the world were upside down
and underneath was blue
And overhead was green and brown
whatever would we do?
The sea would empty with a run
in one terrific splash
And likely, too, put out the sun,
and turn the stars to ash.
We could not lie upon our beds,
our beds would lie on us.
We'd have to run upon our heads
to catch an upset bus,
Best keeps, or so it seems to me,
the world's the right way up."*

But is the world the right way up? We used to assume a person was innocent until he was proved guilty, but now we sometimes assume people are guilty unless they can prove themselves innocent and we even can imprison people without trial in case they are of danger to us. We used to welcome refugees to this country having compassion on them because of the wars or evil regimes they had been living in, but now often treat them as illegal immigrants. And hasn't Covid-19 turned our world upside down?

You may have other aspects of our world that you see as upside down and no doubt some will not agree with those I have chosen to mention. However some aspects of an upside down world might be good. I especially remember a Flanders and Swan song from the past. Not the Hippopotamus or the Gnu but another animal, the 3 toed sloth that hangs upside down from the branch of a tree.

Swan sang as a verse of that song:

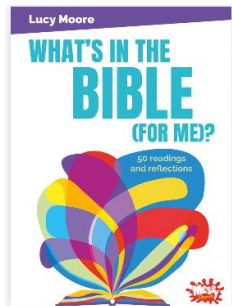
*"The world is such a cheerful place,
when viewed from upside down.
It makes a rise of every fall,
a smile of every frown."*

If you think that would be a good thing for you, too, you need to stand on your head to appreciate it.

Ian Archer

Book Review

This month we review: *What's in the bible (for me)?*



For some the Bible may be a little intimidating. Where do you start? What does it all mean? How do I pronounce some of those names and places?

We need help to bridge that gap. Here's the perfect gift for Messy Church families and others new to Bible reading. Lucy Moore, the founder of Messy Church, has written a booklet of 50 bite-sized Bible passages, selected to cover the wide span of the Bible story across Old and New Testaments, with a reflection on each passage. The chosen stories take you on a journey and give one perspective of the Bible which the author says is 66 books, written over 4,000 years about the entire human race, so it is a little complex.

Written in a user-friendly and jargon-free style, *What's in the Bible (for me)?* is designed to encourage individuals and families alike to start reading the Bible and find out what it has to say to them.

The author suggests the book can be read in one go, or savoured over a month to allow you to really contemplate the passages, perhaps reflect with others or on our own.

It's very accessible and low cost, which makes it a great gift to others or ourselves.

HARVEST

All was fallen, all that had to fall.
With brooms and rakes we set upon the trash;
The cackling leaves revealed a child's blue ball,
An apple core, a scarecrow, last year's ash.
The scraps of summer were all hauled away
To shifty piles out back and left to rot;
We carved and lit fat pumpkins to portray
The fire within, the sickly grin without.
Then children Trailed in through the open door;
We recognized high heels and cast-off dress,
Nudged each other, laughed at masks they wore—
The very things we'd tried to dispossess.
Yet whiter seasons made us blink our eyes
At pieces of snowmen falling from the skies.



ROBERT SHELLEY



A Harvest Prayer

I give thanks to you, Lord over all the earth.

I give thanks to you, Saviour, redeemer, forgiver of my sins.

I give thanks to you who made the sun and rain,

I give thanks to you for new growth that rises from fertile land.

I give thanks to you for harvests of grain, for nourishing bread.

I give thanks to you for fruit and vegetables, full of goodness.

I give thanks to you for refreshing milk and eggs freshly laid.

I give thanks to you for the hearty and healthy provision of meat and fish.

I give thanks to you for all your great bounty.

Surely we taste your goodness today with truly thankful hearts.

Amen.

Reader recipes

Flapjacks

Ingredients:-

- 200g dates, chopped
- 100g sunflower seeds
- 100g pumpkin seed
- 50g sesame seeds (optional)
- 450g rolled oats
- 200g unsalted butter
- A tin of sweetened condensed milk
- 150g tahini
- 100g honey
- 150g brown sugar (optional)



Method:-

1. Preheat the oven to 160°C. Line a shallow baking tray with baking parchment.
2. Mix together the dates, seeds and rolled oats.
3. Mix the other ingredients into another bowl, then fold into the dry mixture.
4. Spread into the baking tray and cook for 20 minutes until golden brown, leave to cool, then slice into 12 and keep in an airtight container for a week.

Notes: I never use the sugar, you could use dried apricots instead of dates, you can change the 200g of seeds up for your choice or make some of them nuts, you could add desiccated coconut, and you can drizzle over white chocolate to finish.

This recipe was given to me by a work colleague. We would really like to hear from you with your favourite recipes. It really can be anything. Please email them to magazine@stmarksreigate.co.uk.

Candlemouse Returns

Another Tale about a Church Mouse for younger readers

Written by Sarah Cousins and illustrated by Roger Lloyd

Concerning other creatures, as well as mice.

Hello, my name is Candlemouse and I live in St. Mark's church near the railway station in Reigate. I'm as small and as quiet as a mouse can be, so most people don't notice me, which gives me plenty of time to see them and the things that they do!

Have I ever told you about my family? I was born not far from St. Mark's church into a large mouse family with eight brothers and sisters. My mother and father had their work cut out to feed all nine of us. They taught us to always look after one another. This reminds me of a man called Francis who lived long ago in a country called Italy.

Francis believed that all living creatures [including mice] belong together in God's family and that we should all love and respect one another. Francis called the animals his brothers and sisters. He knew that all of God's world can be bursting to show how truly terrific God is.

It is so important for all of us to welcome God's creatures, especially in God's house. There is a beautiful church with a tall spire on a hill, where the vicar left water in the font so that a little bird trapped in the church could find something to drink.

There is another church I used to visit where the lady vicar had six cats. One of these cats, a large black and white lady cat used to regularly go into the church to be with her human. She even went to some of the services which pleased the children tremendously!

I've also heard of a little church in Reigate where lots of different animals came together once a year with their humans to celebrate being part of God's kingdom. You might think that cats and mice do not mix or that dogs would not respect rabbits once they had smelled them in church! Amazingly

though, all these animals and birds knew how special it was to be together in God's house and nothing fearful ever happened.

Story and prayer copyright of Sarah Cousins and illustrations copyright of Roger Lloyd.

Let's pray

Dear Loving God

You made the whole world and every living creature in it.

Thank you for the beauty and goodness of your world.

Please help us God to love and care for all animals who cannot speak for themselves.

Bless all those who work with birds and animals:-vets, nurses, farmers, sanctuary keepers, wildlife wardens, pet shops and the RSPCA.

Help us all to respect and look after your creatures when they cannot help themselves.

We ask this in the name of Jesus who was sent to care for us when we were weak, helpless and far from God.

Amen

This will be the last story in the Candlemouse series. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Sarah Cousins for sharing the wonderful stories and prayers which she has created each month.

If there is anyone in the congregation who would like to pick up the mantel and write for the magazine I would love to hear from you. magazine@stmarksreigate.co.uk

Puzzles

October Sudoku Puzzle

		9		6	5			
6			3		4		5	
5	7					1		3
		3			6		1	7
		6	9		7	3		
1	2		5			9		
9		8					2	5
	4		6		3			8
			8	9		4		

September Solution

2	5	1	6	8	9	7	4	3
8	4	7	2	1	3	6	9	5
6	9	3	4	7	5	2	1	8
7	3	8	9	2	6	4	5	1
1	2	9	5	4	8	3	6	7
5	6	4	1	3	7	8	2	9
3	1	6	7	5	2	9	8	4
4	7	2	8	9	1	5	3	6
9	8	5	3	6	4	1	7	2

OCTOBER CROSSWORD

Biblical references are from the New International Version

Across

1 He must be 'the husband of but one wife and must manage his children and his household well' (1 Timothy 3:12) (6)

4 'For we must all — before the judgement seat of Christ' (2 Corinthians 5:10) (6)

7 'They reeled and staggered like drunken men; they were at their — end' (Psalm 107:27) (4)

8 See 19 Across

9 It concerned who among the disciples would be the greatest (Luke 9:46) (8)

13 Formed by the Jews in Thessalonica to root out Paul and Silas (Acts 17:5) (3)

16 'He has sent me to bind up the — ' (Isaiah 61:1) (6-7)

17 Moved rapidly on foot (Matthew 28:8) (3)

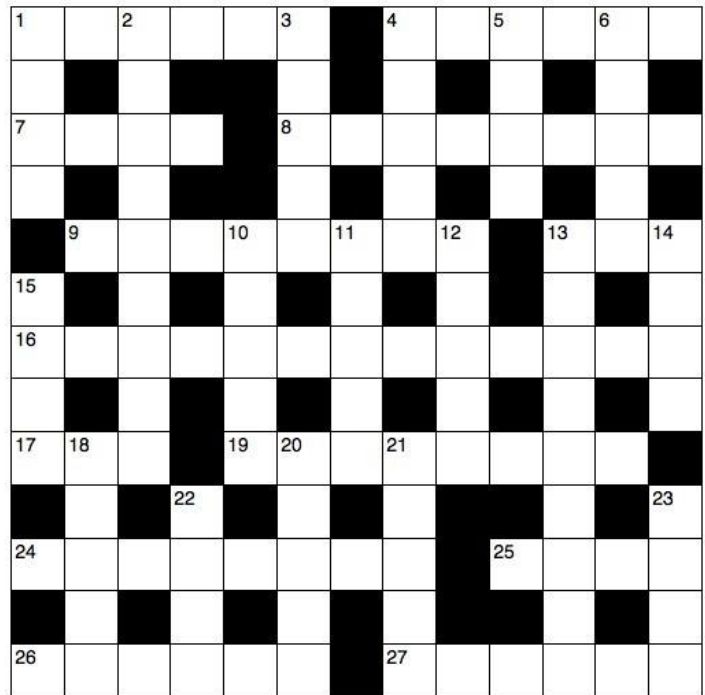
19 and 8 — a great company of the — host appeared with the angel' (Luke 2:13) (8,8)

24 Hindrance (Romans 14:13) (8)

25 Comes between Luke and Acts (4)

26 Empower (Acts 4:29) (6)

27 'Get these out of here! How dare you turn my Father's house into a — !' (John 2:16) (6)



Down

1 Sunrise (Psalm 119:147) (4)

2 The part of the day when Cornelius the Caesarean centurion had a vision of an angel of God (Acts 10:3) (9)

3 He was one of those who returned with Zerubbabel from exile in Babylon to Jerusalem (Nehemiah 7:7) (5)

4 'No one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born — '(John 3:3) (5)

5 Animal hunted or killed as food (Ezekiel 22:25) (4)

6 'He encouraged them — — remain true to the Lord' (Acts 11:23) (3,2)

10 Ruses (anag.) (5)

11 Jewish priestly vestment (Exodus 28:6) (5)

12 Visible sign of what had been there (Daniel 2:35) (5)

13 This was the trade of Alexander, who did Paul 'a great deal of harm' (2 Timothy 4:14) (9)

14 'This is my — , which is for you; do this in remembrance of me' (1 Corinthians 11:24) (4)

15 One of Noah's great-great-grandsons (Genesis 10:24) (4)

18 Traditionally the first British Christian martyr (5)

20 Relationship of Ner to Saul (1 Samuel 14:50) (5)

21 Jacob had one at a place he named Bethel while on his way to Haran, fleeing from Esau (Genesis 28:12) (5)

22 Bats (anag.) (4)

23 'You strain out a — but swallow a camel' (Matthew 23:24) (4)

ANSWERS TO SEPTEMBER'S CROSSWORD

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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