

St Mark's Parish Magazine September 2025



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Your Views & Contributions

Next issue will be available from 2 October 2025 All contributions to the editor by Thursday 18 September 2025

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LETTER FROM THE VICAR

Dear Friends

Strengthen for service, Lord, the hands that have taken holy things; may the ears which have heard your word be deaf to clamour and dispute; may the tongues which have sung your praise be free from deceit; may the eyes which have seen the tokens of your love shine with the light of hope; and may the bodies which have been fed with your body be refreshed with the fullness of your life; glory to you for ever.

Common Worship post-communion prayer for Trinity 8

This prayer, attributed to Ephrem the Syrian (c.306-73), has a long history in the Eastern Churches, most notably, since the fifth century, in the Syro-Malabar rite in South India. I first came across it as a hymn, translated by J. M. Neale and Percy Dearmer; in 1997 it was included in *Common Worship* as the post-communion prayer for the Eighth Sunday after Trinity, in this version rewritten by Bishop Michael Perham.

As I preside at holy communion, I often reflect on how the priest's hands take and consecrate the ordinary things in life, that they may become for us the body and blood of Jesus Christ. That is an awesome privilege, and a solemn responsibility. But the prayer is not only for priests who preside. In holy communion, each of our hands takes these holy things to our comfort; each of us hears and receives God's holy word; and each tongue tells of the glorious mystery. Our eyes behold the Lamb of God, and our bodies are made clean by Christ's body. The prayer makes us realise that everything we are, our hands, ears, tongues, eyes, and bodies, is transformed by this offering of praise and thanksgiving.

When we encounter Jesus in the Eucharist, we enter into a deeper understanding, both of ourselves and our Saviour. Theologians have often asked: "What changes at holy communion?" It is a question that can easily be limited to the elements placed on the altar, but this beautiful, touching, and profound prayer reminds us that it is we who are changed. Indeed, we can go further. What changes? Everything.

With every blessing

Marks



NEWS FROM THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND Bishop raises £35k in Pennine Way challenge

The Bishop of Kingston, The Rt Revd Dr Martin Gainsborough, and his Border Collie Jem have raised more than £35,000 to build new schools in Zimbabwe by running 267miles in 10 days.

Averaging a marathon a day, the pair ran the Pennine Way, which crosses some of England's wildest terrain, from Edale in the Peak District to Kirk Yetholm just over the Scottish border, with nearly 40,000 feet of height gain.

Bishop Martin was inspired to take on the challenge by the incredible children and teachers he met on a visit to Matabeleland in Zimbabwe last year. He set an initial fundraising target of £30,000 to improve children's education in the region.

The money raised will be used to build schools like the brand-new St Cecilia's School in Lupane – still under construction – but



already offering an education to local children. St Cecilia's will allow many children to attend a local secondary school without having to make long journeys to do so. Many children currently walk up to 10km to get to their nearest school — a dangerous journey leaving many, particularly girls, unable to attend.

Nearly £27,000 has been raised in online donations, with more than a further £8,000 donated offline. The total raised currently stands at £35,389, but there is still time to donate

https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/bishop-martin-kingston?utm_medium=CR&utm_source=TW

Bishop Martin said: "Running the equivalent of a marathon a day for ten days was pretty brutal as it is wild and mountainous terrain and it is quite easy to lose the path. I think it would be overstating it to say I enjoyed it but it is deeply exhilarating to have completed it in one piece! Jem, who was magnificent throughout, is now enjoying a more sedentary pace in Southfields.

"I have been amazed how my run has captured people's imagination – reflected in a huge amount of support and prayers, and incredible generosity in fundraising. To be able to make a difference to the lives of children in our Link Diocese of Matabeleland so they no longer have to walk long distances to school means more than I can say and makes all the pain and heartache worth it. Thanks be to God!"

The Kingston Episcopal Area in the Diocese of Southwark, which Bishop Martin leads, has had a <u>link with the Anglican Diocese of Matabeleland</u> in Zimbabwe for many years. The Link celebrates unity across the miles, helping churches and communities in both areas to grow in friendship and in faith.

Palestinian statehood – comment from Church of England bishops

The Church of England has released comment from the Archbishop of York, together with the Bishops of Southwark, Gloucester, Chelmsford and Norwich, in response to the Prime Minister's announcement supporting the recognition of a Palestinian state.

As we continue to pray for everyone caught up in the devastating violence and suffering in Palestine and Israel, we welcome His Majesty's Government's statement yesterday calling for a ceasefire in Gaza, pledging to work with international partners on a long-term settlement, and the additional steps being taken to help get aid into Gaza.

We call upon the Israeli Government to commit to an immediate ceasefire and to desist from actions that are leading to starvation in Gaza as well as from policies leading to the progressive annexation of the West Bank.

We condemn unequivocally the Hamas terrorist attacks of October 7, 2023. The hostages should be immediately and safely released without conditions attached to their freedom.

We continue to call for an immediate end to this war and for negotiations leading to lasting justice, security and peace.

But the fact remains: a deliberate famine is being inflicted on the people of Gaza. Air drops of aid are dangerous and entirely inadequate substitutes for what is needed: the unimpeded delivery of aid through the UN and other established humanitarian organisations.

His Majesty's Government has a legal and moral obligation to use every possible political, economic and diplomatic means at its disposable to end this abomination. This approach is clearly still not being taken – and so the urgent question remains: what more will it take?

Meanwhile the prospect of the United Kingdom recognising Palestinian statehood is welcome, overdue, and cannot come soon enough. As settlement expansion

continues in the West Bank, the UK must recognise Palestine while there is still land on which a state could be recognised.



The UK has a particular historical and moral duty to recognise the State of Palestine, and it is therefore disappointing that this recognition has been made conditional. The right of the Palestinian people to self-determination is not a bargaining chip, and there can be no conditions placed on it.

We urge the Government to move ahead with recognition of Palestine regardless of the facts on the ground.

In the name of Jesus Christ, we continue in prayer each day for our Palestinian Anglican sisters and brothers and for all the Christian communities, as well as for all Palestinians, Israelis and peoples of the region.

May God bring an end to these terrible injustices and guide our feet into the way of peace.

- The Archbishop of York, Stephen Cottrell
- The Bishop of Southwark, Christopher Chessun (House of Lords Lead Bishop for the Middle East)
- The Bishop of Gloucester, Rachel Treweek
- The Bishop of Chelmsford, Guli Francis-Dehgani
- The Bishop of Norwich, Graham Usher

<u>https://www.churchofengland.org/media/press-releases/palestinian-</u> statehood-comment-church-england-bishops

MODERN SLAVERY: RIGHT HERE, RIGHT NOW





Do you know that:

- Victims live and work in your community
- You see them
- You can change their lives

Come to Southwark Against Modern Slavery's FREE event
Southwark Cathedral
John Trevor Williams Room
Saturday 18th October 2025, 10.00am – 3.30pm

Hear expert speakers share their knowledge and experience

Dr Júlia Tomás – The Passage Detective Superintendent Andy Furphy – Metropolitan Police Members of Southwark Against Modern Slavery Right Rev Alastair Redfern – Chair of The Clewer Initiative

You are welcome to attend Evening Prayer in the cathedral at 4.00pm where prayers will be said for victims of modern slavery, their perpetrators and those working to combat this crime.

For more information, please contact SAMS at RAsocialjustice@gmail.com
To book a place please go to:

https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/southwarkagainst-modern-slavery-free-event-tickets1412169830979?aff=oddtdtcreator



A Different Side of Britain

Dale had recently returned from a working holiday in Peru which he was discussing with friends.

The work side involved helping to run a refuge for street children. This was a charity set up in the UK. There were far too many needy children to provide sleeping accommodation, but the refuge provided food and a safe place during the day. Some basic education was also on offer. He organised the children to help decorate the whole place with some remarkable collages filling the walls. These were dramatic and colourful with hints of home. The idea was to make the children feel that they had some kind of home there. He was describing all this to his friends who were appalled that such conditions should be found in what they thought was a modern country.

But then the conversation drifted to the state of the United Kingdom. "It's all a mess not only the state of the economy and the social services but the normal foundation such as the army, police, prisons and so on," said Gill. "All are short of funds. There is no public money to do anything about them and no radical ideas what to do to address them."

"Well, the government has to identify priorities and solve them with increased efficiency," said Fred. "We need to force the scroungers into work."

I know a bit about child poverty," said Gil ignoring Fred. "There are 4.4million children living in official poverty and that number is rising. It's about one in four. Nearly a million children have no personal bed. Many make do sleeping on the sofa. Three million children regularly are forced to do without meals through lack of money in the family. So, it goes on. It's heading in the direction of Peru."

"It's hard to credit these statistics. Official poverty does not mean starvation and street children as it was in Victorian times," said Andrew. "But, I really had no idea things were so very bad."

"You wouldn't," said Gill, "it's geographically varied. These are just average stats. In some places it's better; in others, far worse."

"The impact on education of poor circumstances is remarkable," said Claire, a teacher. "Now there are what are called 'ghost children' who attend school less than fifty percent of the time. Today I think the number is about 170,000 and 1.8 million have absentee problems, mostly the poorer students. I don't know what they do in the day. The result is poor learning and poor results with children often hungry at school unless they are lucky enough to have a meal provided and even better, breakfast as

well. These children don't get a chance, and they live in conditions you expect to find in rural Africa. What a way to start life. It's just not civilised," said Claire.

"Yes, I am horrified too," said Fred, "but better conditions must be paid for and the economy is simply not producing the tax to pay for it all and as you said earlier, many aspects of British life are broken. Already the cost of power here is higher than in Europe and likely to increase. Nevertheless, it seems almost impossible to me that by and large we are ignorant about the state of our fellow residents and especially the children who cannot be responsible for their condition. We just don't notice these things."

In the face of the indignity of the two women, Andrew plucked up courage to offer a comment. "I am not so sure about tax, Fred. Our tax take from individuals is below the US and nearly every Western country. We are a tax haven but that does not prevent our income especially from hedge funds being sheltered abroad. People should be prepared to pay more tax if it will benefit children and the most disadvantaged. It's just that the electorate has had level or falling real income for some time and want a better deal for themselves. Perhaps they are uninterested in the condition of others."

"Well, I can't reconcile that when a recent poll showed 75% of the people polled consider child poverty morally wrong," said Claire. "On the question of cost, for example, apparently for every thousand children in residential care because of family poverty, it costs the treasury £300m every year. That's wrong and wasteful."

"I am afraid that people when challenged usually come up with what they know is the morally right position, but when their day-by-day living is concerned or their vote asked for, individuals put themselves first," said Andrew. "As for government, the yield today from Corporation Tax is tiny, but wealth, on the other hand, is accumulated at an ever-increasing rate both here and especially in the States. I guess much of it is shielded through tax havens. Furthermore, many of the problems you mention can be found in the States and most western countries. Loss of jobs is often, as with globalisation, the unintended result of government policy, but little is done to stimulate alternative jobs. People are resentful and disillusioned."

"If that is true then how do you think the parents of children in poverty feel. They are not all avoiding work. Many have such poor pay that they qualify for support," said Claire. This treatment of children is divisive of social class, results in poor educational achievement and their children, when they become adults, have a deep grudge against their country. It's depressing, socially divisive and will be trouble in the future."

"It seems to me," said Fred, "that we are demonstrating that the presumption of Adam Smith and philosophers like Hobbs were wrong. They thought that if each individual

pursued what was best for themselves it resulted in the maximum material benefit for society. Whereas in the West globalisation led to declining real wages and concentration of wealth in the hands of a few. What is right for economies may not be good for a civilised society."

"Tell me this," said Gill," what is the purpose of economic activity? Is it to enable inhabitants to have a civilised society and a better life or just to enhance the wealth of the few. Why can't people consider what is best for the whole society they live in and not just themselves?"

Harry Ingram



Action Stations

When this command is given verbally or on a Naval pipe all those on Board a Naval ship must, without hesitation, obey the order immediately as trouble is imminent. We must all rush to the places that we have formerly been told to go to by those in charge. How much happier is the order to "Stand Easy" when the conflicts are over.

There are times in our private lives when crises occur, and reluctantly we have to act quickly and decisively. These are not always coming from orders above, but we have to act to save desperate situations on our own initiative.

I find that so often we yearn for and take periods of "Stand Easy" when, maybe, we should be at "Action Stations." In a ship to do this would be disobeying orders and could result in disaster for all aboard. So, too, if we ignore pressures from our consciences, or the Holy Spirit. Then we can not only endanger ourselves but also our neighbors, wherever and whoever they are.

In some situations, delay makes it impossible to even act later when then it will be impossible to follow the duty or self-imposed need to get to those "Action Stations".

"Stand Easy" is important but should only be enjoyed when we feel we have acted promptly to the crises that have taken place. Then we can celebrate as they would have done in the Navy in times past when rum was available and they could then "Splice the Mainbrace."

Let's hope that none of us have to follow the ultimate order or need to "Abandon Ship."

Ian Archer

CALENDAR FOR SEPTEMBER 2025

Wednesday 3rd September 9.00am Prayer Meeting

Thursday 4th September 12.45pm Holy Communion (Iona) in Church

Sunday 7th September 12th **Sunday after Trinity**

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) – in Church 10.00am Sung Eucharist – in Church and Online

4.00pm Family Service – in Church

Wednesday 10th Sept 9.00am Prayer Meeting

3.25pm T-Time Tales

Thursday 11th September 12.45pm Holy Communion (Iona) in Church

Saturday 13th September 9.00am Church Cleaning

Sunday 14th September Holy Cross Day

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) – in Church 10.00 am Sung Eucharist – in Church and Online

1.00pm Community Lunch

Wednesday 17th Sept 9.00am Prayer Meeting

3.25pm T-Time Tales

Thursday 18th September 12.45pm Holy Communion (Iona) in Church Saturday 20th September 8.00pm Social Ballroom and Latin Dance

Sunday 21st September St Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) – in Church 10.00am Sung Eucharist – in Church and Online

4.00pm Messy Church

Wednesday 24th Sept 9.00am Prayer Meeting

3.25pm T-Time Tales

Thursday 25th September 12.45pm Holy Communion (Iona) in Church

Sunday 28th September 15th Sunday after Trinity

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) – in Church 10.00am Sung Eucharist – in Church and Online

6.00pm Taizé Prayer

Monday 29th September St Michael and All Angels

Please remember that planned services are subject to change at short notice so please check the details on our website or with the Parish Office.

CALENDAR FOR OCTOBER 2025

Wednesday 1st October 9.00am Prayer Meeting

3.25pm T-Time Tales

Thursday 2nd October 12.45pm Holy Communion (Iona) in Church

2.00pm SMART

Sunday 5th October Harvest Festival

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) – in Church 10.00am Sung Eucharist – in Church and Online

4.00pm All-age Harvest Service

5.00pm Harvest Supper

Wednesday 8th October 9.00am Prayer Meeting

3.25pm T-Time Tales

Thursday 9th October 12.45pm Holy Communion (Iona) in Church

Sunday 12th October 17th Sunday after Trinity

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) — in Church 10.00 am Sung Eucharist — in Church and Online

1.00pm Community Lunch

Wednesday 15th October 9.00am Prayer Meeting

3.25pm T-Time Tales

Thursday 16th October 12.45pm Holy Communion (Iona) in Church

Saturday 18th October St Luke the Evangelist

8.00pm Social Dance in the Hall

Sunday 19th October 18th Sunday after Trinity

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) – in Church 10.00am Sung Eucharist – in Church and Online

4.00pm Messy Church

6.30pm Confirmation Service

Wednesday 22nd October 9.00am Prayer Meeting

3.25pm T-Time Tales

Thursday 23rd October 12.45pm Holy Communion (Iona) in Church

Sunday 26th October Bible Sunday

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) – in Church 10.00am Sung Eucharist – in Church and Online

4.00pm Taizé Prayer

Wednesday 29th October 9.00am Prayer Meeting

Thursday 30th October 12.45pm Holy Communion (Iona) in Church

Please remember that planned services are subject to change at short notice so please check the details on our website or with the Parish Office.



Believing

We clearly do not believe all that we hear, read or see but are tempted to accept things told by others we do not even know. I am thinking of news on the radio, television and newspapers, much of which is used to put over the views of political parties or other factions.

Maybe in the times before these media when we had to rely only on the words of those we knew, we would be more ignorant but less likely to follow the lead of those in power.

Sometimes we are given only part of the truth, whereas on other occasions the truth has been exaggerated in an effort to make it more dramatic.

Happily, we can, on reflection, or when persuaded rightly by others, change our minds. I suggest this is not a sign of weakness but of strength, to sometimes admit we were wrong.

St Paul, on the way to Damascus, was an example of this, turning from being an enemy of Christians to being one of their greatest heroes.

I have recently read an extremely good wartime novel called "The Pianist's Wife" by Soraya Lane about the plight of Jews and homosexuals under Nazi rule. The story is so very heartbreaking, but I thought "Well, it's only fiction." But at the end of the book the author explained that although such terrible events did not occur to one individual, they were true but affected several different people.

When challenged by something extraordinary we can either believe it, set it aside to think about later, or dismiss it, believing it to be false. What is dangerous is if rumors are passed on to others as true or even exaggerated in the process.

Although we like to just believe what we can see, some truths cannot be proved except through experience. Our faith that Jesus died and rose again cannot be physically proved but we can believe this and through our lives we can see the work of the Holy Spirit in others, and, hopefully, in ourselves, in our better thoughts and actions.

Ian Archer



All in the month of September

It was:

1,100 years ago, on 4 Sept 925 that England gained her first ever king. He was Aethelstan, King of the Anglo-Saxons (924-927) and then King of England (927-939). Aethelstan was grandson of Alfred the Great, and 30th great-grand uncle to Queen Elizabeth II.

200 years ago, on 27 Sept 1825 that the world's first public railway opened. It was the Stockton and Darlington Railway in north-east England.

175 years ago, on 9th Sept 1850 that California was admitted as the 31st state of the USA.

90 years ago, on 3 Sept 1935 that British driver Malcolm Campbell set a new world land speed record of 301.13 mph in *Bluebird* at Bonneville Salt Flats, Utah. First person to break the 300mph barrier.

70 years ago, 26 Sept 1955 that Bird's Eye frozen fish fingers went on sale in the UK.

50 years ago, on 24 Sept 1975 that Dougal Haston and Doug Scott became the first Britons to reach the summit of Mount Everest. They were also the first climbers from any nation to conquer the south-west face.

10 years ago, on 24 Sept 2015 that the Mina stampede took place. More than 2,000 people were killed in a crush and stampede during the annual Hajj pilgrimage in Mecca, Saudi Arabia.



Prayer

Prayer for September 2025

Heavenly Father, September is the month of new starts for so many. New starts can be exciting, but they can also be daunting. We don't always know what to expect and sometimes we feel as if we are on our own in a strange new place, or situation.

Help us to know that, as your people, we are never alone. You promised, through Jesus, to be with us always and You gave us Your Holy Spirit to empower us.

In some ways every day is a new start – a new gift from You. As we unwrap the gift of each new day, this September, encourage us to receive it confidently and expectantly. Help us to know that we can do all things, through Christ Jesus, who strengthens us. We can!

In Jesus' name, Amen.

Daphne Kitching



Book Reviews

God, AI and the End of History – Understanding the Book of Revelation in an Age of Intelligent Machines By John C Lennox

JOHN C. LENNOX

GOD, AI
& THE END
OF HISTORY

UNDERSTANDING THE BOOK OF REVELATION
IN AN AGE OF INTELLIGENT MACHINES

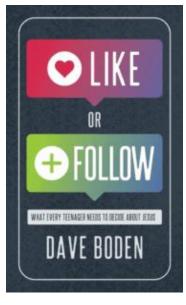
"Revelation promises to do two things: fill our hearts with praise to God, and simultaneously prepare for God's inevitable cataclysmic

intervention in this world to judge evil righteously at the return of Christ." So writes John Lennox, as he explores the connections between John's visions and the terrifying prospect of an Artificial Super Intelligence that emerges to deceive the world and oppose the rule of Christ.

Countless books have been written on the meaning of Revelation. This one draws on the work of great interpreters of the past, but at the same time it breaks new ground by advancing reasons why we need to take very seriously the possibility that a supernatural power opposed to God is using technology – and in particular advanced AI – to drive a transhumanist vision of upgraded humans.

Already some scientists are envisioning the development of superintelligences that may become the gods of the future and rule over humans. Others raise the even more disturbing prospect that ASI (Artificial Super Intelligence) could eventually achieve world domination. These developments, argues Lennox, are likely to involve the deception of billions of people, inspired and engineered by the one whom the New Testament calls 'the Antichrist'.

To find out how John Lennox reaches that conclusion read this fresh, wide-ranging and amazingly thought-provoking commentary on Jesus' last message to His followers.



Like or Follow – What Every Teenager Needs to Decide About Jesus By Dave Boden

No one divides opinion like Jesus. Whatever your first impression of the most famous person in history, many young people claim He is still relevant to their lives today.

This simple introduction to Jesus for the curious teenager will help them to explore why so many people build their lives around His teaching. They will be introduced to the facts and evidence about Jesus, and discover how He can reframe their world with hope and purpose.

Have you recently read a good book? Tell us about it. Email office@stmarksreigate.co.uk with your book review.



A Lasting Gift for St Mark's Church

Leaving a legacy

Legacy gifts can make a huge difference to churches. Each year, gifts in wills, ranging from £100s to £100,000s are received. Faithful witnesses leaving generous legacies have enabled churches to invest in their buildings, pioneer new ministries, and sustain a welcoming presence in their communities.

Why should you write a will?

Writing a will means you choose:

- How you would like to share your property and possessions;
- Who you would like to look after any children under the age of 18;
- How to support any charities or churches that are important to you.

Without a will, these decisions will be made according to pre-ordained rules, and by the courts, which may be different from your wishes. Leaving a will gives you peace of mind and lifts a burden from loved ones after you are gone.

To make it easier the Church of England has partnered with Farewill, the UK's favourite will-writer, so anyone can write a simple will online for free, in as little as 30 minutes. You can find out more by visiting https://farewill.com/southwarkdiocese.

We strongly advise seeing a solicitor for more complicated wills, or for people wishing to review their existing will or add a codicil.

A gift for future generations

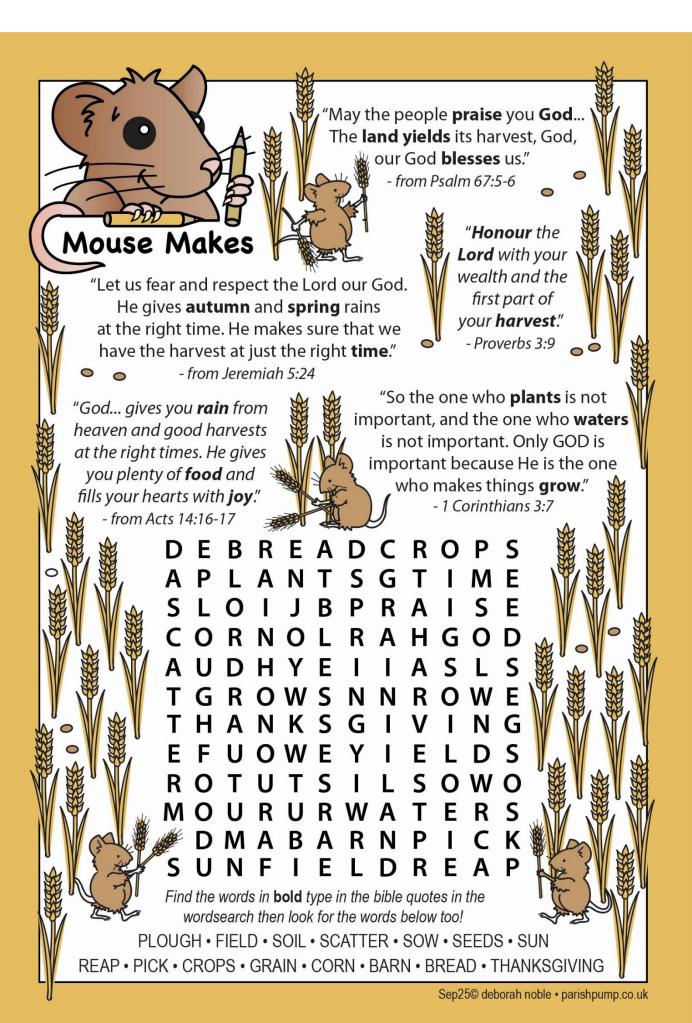
After you have made provision for your family and friends, we hope you'll also consider leaving a gift in your will to St Mark's. A legacy is a valuable expression of how meaningful a church has been during your time there. It's a way to give thanks - a lasting testimony to the faithfulness, goodness and generosity of God.

The policy of the PCC is to use legacies to help fund additional mission or development projects in the parish, whether buildings, equipment or staff. Circumstances change over the years, so church members are encouraged to leave legacies for the general purposes of the parish. The PCC will discuss the most appropriate use of the legacy in the light of current projects and the donor's known areas of interest in the church (for example, children and youth, music, buildings).

You may also receive tax benefits for including a gift to St Mark's in your will. A gift in your will to a charity is free of inheritance tax and may also reduce the amount of tax payable on the rest of your will. https://www.gov.uk/donating-to-charity/leaving-gifts-to-charity-in-your-will

Please consider leaving a legacy to St Mark's.

Mel Crighton, PCC Treasurer



September Crossword

Biblical references are from the New International Version

Across

- 1 'A little later someone else saw Peter and said, "You are one of them" (Luke 22:58) (4)
- 3 Giving (1 Peter 2:5) (8)
- 9 They came to Jerusalem seeking an infant king (Matthew 2:7) (3,4)
- 10 'An athlete... does not receive the victor's crown unless he competes according to the ' (2 Timothy 2:5) (5)
- 11 Pacifist, temperance advocate, openair preacher, leading 20th- century Methodist, Donald — (5)
- 12 'Come quickly to — , O Lord my Saviour' (Psalm 38:22) (4,2)
- 14 'The God of Abraham, — , the God of our fathers, has glorified his servant Jesus' (Acts 3:13) (5,3,5)
- 17 Sear by intense heat (Revelation 16:8) (6)
- 19 'It is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust — ' (Psalm 118:8) (2,3)
- 22 Goods (Nehemiah 13:15) (5)
- 23 i.e. train (anag.) (7)
- 24 Surrounding area (Luke 24:50) (8)
- 25 'Righteousness will be his and faithfulness the sash round his waist' (Isaiah 11:5) (4)

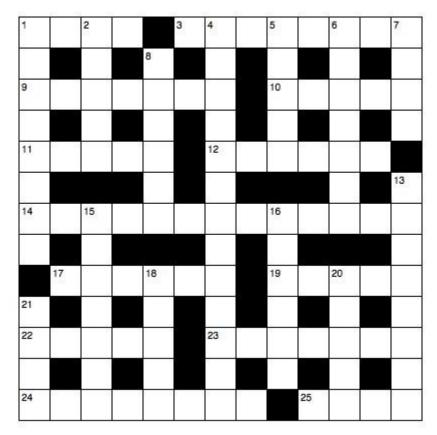
Down

- 1 Elegant and creative (Exodus 31:4) (8)
- 2 'Listen, I tell you a mystery: We will not all , but we will all be changed' (1 Corinthians 15:51) (5)
- 4 'I... delight to see how orderly you are and how firm your -- is' (Colossians 2:5) (5,2,6)
- 5 Enlist (2 Samuel 24:2) (5)
- 6 Of the Muslim faith (7)
- 7 Sharp intake of breath (Job 11:20) (4)
- 8 Woven cloth (Ezekiel 16:13) (6)
- 13 Plentiful (Romans 5:17) (8)
- 15 CIA char (anag.) (7)
- 16 Paul and Silas stopped him committing suicide after an earthquake in Philippi (Acts 16:27–28) (6)
- 18 One of the ingredients in the making of incense for the Lord (Exodus 30:34) (5)
- 20 Episcopal headwear (5)
- 21 Inhabitant of, say, Russia, Ukraine, Poland, Slovakia or Bulgaria (4)

August answers

ACROSS: 1. Amazed 4. Others 8. Peter 9. Zebedee 10. Accuser 11. Endue 12. Scripture 17. Shrub 19. Abashed 21. Foolish 22. Upset 23. Loathe 24. Lesser

DOWN: 1. Appeal 2. Attacks 3. Earns 5. Tableau 6. Ended 7. Shekel 9. Zarephath 13. Rubbish 14. Ephesus 15. Useful 16. Editor 18. Rhoda 20. Abuse



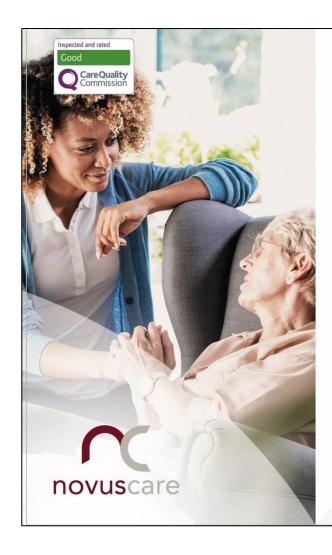
Puzzles

September Sudoku

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

August Solution

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



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