

THE PARISH MAGAZINE

June 2021



**The United Benefice of
St Michael Lichfield, with St John, Wall**

85p

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Reflection.....

24th June - John the Baptist

A few years ago we were lucky to be able to join our daughter's Choir Trip to Jerusalem. It was an amazing experience. One of the visits we made has always stuck in my mind - the day we went to the Wilderness. We all sat, or stood, in a viewing area looking out on a vast expanse of rocks, cliffs, caves, and dark valleys. The 23rd Psalm came into my mind - "Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil." I think we were all awe struck. Looking down I saw a small figure leading a donkey which was heavily loaded. He stopped and began to beat the poor animal ! I was horrified and wondered what Jesus would have made of that. Would he have used it in a story to illustrate his teaching ?

I thought of both Jesus and John the Baptist spending time praying and meditating whilst in that harsh environment. In the Gospels John is linked to words from Isaiah, "the voice of one crying in the wilderness: Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. " Unusually, John's clothes are described: a garment of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist. There is hardly a mention of Jesus' clothes so why mention those of John? It was to link him with Isaiah whose words he quoted. *Isaiah wore a special cloak* which marked him out as a prophet, so John's clothes too marked him as a prophet. Also the prophet Malachi said, "Lo, I will send you the Prophet Elijah before the great and terrible day of the Lord comes." (Mal. 4, 5) Elijah spent time in the Wilderness too . All this adds authority to John's words.

The wilderness was not the only place that was important to the Baptist, of course. There is the River Jordan itself. This was a total contrast to the harsh reality of the wilderness. We found that the Jordan valley was lush and green. The river was lined with grasses, shrubs and trees, it was quite beautiful. Some sites on the bank had been cleared to provide space for mass Baptisms of groups. It had been raining when we saw the river so the water was rather cloudy. Further along we could see people dressed in white robes waiting for their baptism. So this was where John had drawn the crowds to him seeking to be baptised.

John was the son of Zacharias, a priest, so some would have regarded him to be priestly too, as these professions traditionally passed down the family. People asked if he, John, was the longed-for Messiah, but he said that there would soon come one who was much more important. John is pictured as the forerunner of the Messiah, although he was a considerable person in his own right. He had many followers; some theologians say that John was more known than Jesus in some areas. In CE250 Clementine said, "There were some of John's disciples who preached about him as if he were the Messiah"

John gives Jesus the first place, being himself a witness to the "light". Jews were not usually baptised, that was for people who were joining the Jewish faith; some would have been shocked that John thought they needed to be cleansed, but John's baptism was a sign of a change in their lives.

John identifies Jesus as Messiah and calls him "Lamb of God." Was this to refer to the Passover lambs which were sacrificed at the Temple

to redeem God's people ? The Old Testament story of the Jews in Egypt preparing to leave their captivity tells how God told them to kill a lamb and smear its blood on their door posts so that when the Angel of Death passed over Egypt he would see the blood and know they were God's special people, while the eldest sons of the Egyptian families were slain, allowing the Jews to escape and journey to their Promised Land.

But John was put in prison by Herod Antipas for criticising the marriage of Herod to his sister-in-law. He was executed after a rash promise made at a drunken party.

We still use those lovely words "Lamb of God" taken from St John's Gospel (John 1, 29) in our communion Service, "Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world !"

We give our Best Wishes to St John's Wall as they celebrate their Patronal Festival on 24th June (Sunday 20th June)

Lesley

LARGE COPIES of the magazine are available on request

Deadlines!

For **July** Magazine: Deadline is
MONDAY 14th June
Contact David Shiel

Pew Sheet:
every Thursday 7:30am
Contact Parish Office

Mothers' UNION

Christian care for families

Diocese of Lichfield

The quiet strength of *Kindness*

Our MU Central Chaplain, Bishop **Emma Ineson**, urges us to show kindness to those around us – as well as ourselves..

The Mothers' Union theme of this year is "Rebuilding hope and confidence". How we need to rebuild after recent events! As I write this, England is in another national lockdown due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Who knows where we will be by the time you read this article? I hope we will be in a much better place, and that vaccines will mean that the virus is on its way out, but the experience of the last year or so has taught me that it's dangerous to hope too definitely for things about which we may well be disappointed. As we live through turbulent and unpredictable times, it can be difficult to know what to focus on, or how best to live our lives, because we have so little apparent control over our external circumstances.

But one thing we will always have control over is our internal landscape and our choices about how to interact with other people. We can decide which values and qualities we wish to see coming to the fore in our own lives, and in our own attitudes. And one of the things we can choose to be is – kind.

Reflecting God's character

Kindness is an underrated quality in our society. We tend to admire people who are intelligent, decisive, courageous, strategic; people who get things done. And at different times and for different reasons, those qualities might be very necessary. But I wonder if what we most need to cultivate, in these strange and unusual days, is kindness. Whatever state our country is in, wherever we are with the vaccine rollout, whatever challenges we are living through, one thing that will never be unwelcome is a little kindness.

Far from being a weak and pathetic quality, to be kind is to show great strength.

When we are kind to one another we reflect the character of God. In the book of Ruth, a key theme is the faithful, loyal loving-kindness of God towards his people. This kindness is reflected in turn in the way the characters in the story, particularly Ruth, Naomi and Boaz, treat each other (see Ruth 1:8, 2:20, 3:10). Jesus encourages us as his followers to be kind and forgiving towards each other, even those we most disagree with, not because we feel like it, but because in so doing we will be showing one of the family characteristics of our Father God: 'Love your enemies, do good to them, and lend to them without expecting to get anything back. Then your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High, because he is kind to the ungrateful and wicked' (Luke 6:35).

Kindness is, after all one of the fruits of the Spirit: 'love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self control' (Galatians 5:22-23, NASB).

Kindness is right at the heart of what it means to love. When St Paul wrote about the qualities of love, he mentioned kindness as part of

the package: 'Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs', (1 Corinthians 13:4-5). Kindness is also one of the hallmarks of community and a sign of how Christians are to treat each other: 'Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you' (Ephesians 4:32).

So I wonder what it might look like for you and I to express this undervalued yet crucial quality in our own lives? Perhaps it might begin with simply committing to be more kind in our interactions, conversations and dialogues. So much of our public debate is shrill and critical, and entire entertainment shows are based on people saying unkind things to and about each other. Let's be different, and season our comments with kindness – even towards those who most wind us up!

And don't forget one very important thing: take time to be kind to yourself too. Mothers' Union members are invariably great "do-ers". Sometimes we need to remember to take care of ourselves in order to be able to take care of others. What act of kindness could you show yourself today?

'Do not let kindness and truth leave you; Bind them around your neck, Write them on the tablet of your heart' (Proverbs 3:3, NASB)

For His loving kindness is everlasting

DIOCESE NEWS

FROM LAMENT TO ACTION

Published 27th April 2021



The Archbishops' Anti-Racism Taskforce today published its report 'From Lament To Action' proposing a suite of changes to begin bringing about a change of culture in the Church of England.

The Bishop of Lichfield, the Rt Revd Dr Michael Ipgrave, said: “I welcome the report of the Archbishops’ Anti-Racism Task Force, and I recognise that it sets out some clear challenges for us, in this diocese as across the Church of England. We need to be courageous in facing difficult issues, in appraising our history and our current position honestly, and in working for concerted change to enable us to become more fully and more visibly the Body of Christ, honouring, inviting and reconciling people of every ethnicity and culture. I am very grateful to the members of our own diocesan Task Group on Racial Justice and Inclusion, who have already begun work in laying foundations for this work; I am confident that today’s report will help them and all of us address these tasks with determination, wisdom and hope.”

Co-Convenors of Lichfield Diocese's Task Group on Racial Justice and Inclusion, the Revd Pamela Ogilvie and the Ven Julian Francis, explained:

"The purpose of our Task Group is to shape and implement a vision for racial justice, inclusion and equity. The group has met five times since it began its work in December 2020. The first six months has been focussed on framing a group agenda and producing terms of reference. Using the five key areas signified by the national Anti-Racism Task Force (Participation, Education, Training and Mentoring, Young People, Governance and Structures) we are now identifying priorities and action points for our diocesan context. These include:

- Collection of accurate data on UKME (UK Minoritised ethnic) presence across the diocese
- Attending to UKME clergy and lay wellbeing in ministry
- Monitoring and responding to reported racist incidents
- Encouraging wider participation in lay and clergy ministry development
- Reviewing and reshaping recruitment processes
- Working within church schools to hear the voices of UKME children and young people
- Reaching out to UKME under-represented Anglican constituencies."

The Anglican Bishops in the West Midlands have also issued the following statement following the publication of the report of the Church of England's Anti-Racism Taskforce today:

"Racism has no place in the Church of England, but we must face the fact that it still exists. As West Midlands bishops, meeting on Stephen Lawrence Day, we strongly affirm the work of the Archbishops' Anti-Racism Taskforce and the report 'From Lament to Action' issued

today. We acknowledge our part in past and present failures, and recognise the challenges it presents. We wholeheartedly support its recommendations, and look forward to taking them forward with energy and determination.”

From the Bishops of Hereford, Worcester, Gloucester, Lichfield, Birmingham, Stafford, Warwick, Aston, Dudley, Tewkesbury, Wolverhampton, Coventry, and Shrewsbury.

Hear the Ven Julian Francis talk about the work of the diocesan task group in this interview with BBC Radio Shropshire.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/p09dm5rn>

Watch Bishop Jan McFarlane preach on Lament To Action during Lichfield Cathedral's Holy Communion service on Sunday 25 April.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tpIXkX0tOTI>

Racism

has no place

in the

Church of England

What was happening in June 2020?

It's been a strange year! How many times have we all heard that? However, looking back at the events of June 2020 may help to remind us all of some of the other (non-Covid) events that have taken place during the pandemic.

June 1 US President Trump threatens to employ the military to quell protests across the country sparked by the death of George Floyd then walks with staff to St. John's Church

June 3 Three former police officers were charged in connection with the death of George Floyd in Minneapolis. Derek Chauvin's charge was upgraded to second degree murder

June 4 Thousands in Hong Kong ignore a Government ban and mark the anniversary of the Tianenman Square Massacre in Beijing, 1989



June 4 State of Emergency declared after 20,000 tonnes of diesel oil spills near Russian city of Norilsk, Siberia within the Arctic Circle

June 7 Black Lives Matter Protests continue worldwide in large numbers, In Bristol a statue of 17th century slave trader Edward Colston was pulled down



June 8 Former astronaut Kathy Sullivan is the first woman to reach deepest point of the ocean - Challenger Deep in the Marianas Trench. Formerly the first American woman to spacewalk.

June 16 At least 20 Indian soldiers killed in 1st deadly clash on the Chinese Indian border in 45 years in the Galwan Valley, Himalayas



June 16 Support from Manchester United player Marcus Rashford and others forces UK Government to make U-turn on summer school meal vouchers

June 19 Australian government and companies suffer a months-long state-based cyber attack according to PM Scott Morrison

June 20 Highest-ever temperature recorded in the Arctic circle, 38C (100F) in Verkhoyansk, Siberia

June 20 Historic dust cloud from the Sahara desert reaches the Caribbean, largest for half a century

June 21 New archaeological discovery announced near Stonehenge of a large circle of shafts surrounding a village 2500 BC, largest prehistoric structure in Britain

June 25 WHO declares the Ebola outbreak in the Congo over. The Second worst outbreak it killed 2,280 people over 2 years

June 27 Locust invasion labelled 'Swarmageddon' by The Times of India as it reaches Delhi

June 28 50th anniversary of 1st Gay Pride march in New York City marked around the world



What happened in June in History?

June 2, 1953 On a cold and wet day in London, the Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II took place in Westminster Abbey.

June 3 1162 Thomas Becket was consecrated as Archbishop of Canterbury.

June 5 755 English missionary Boniface, 'the Apostle of Germany', is murdered in Germany by unbelievers, along with 53 of his companions.

June 5, 1783 - The first sustained flight occurred as a hot-air balloon was launched at Annonay, France, by brothers Joseph and Jacques Montgolfier. Their 33-foot-diameter globe aerostatique ascended about 6,000 feet. In September, they repeated the experiment for King Louis XVI, using a sheep, rooster and duck as the balloon's passengers.

June 6 1944 D-Day invasion of Normandy by 1 million Allied troops to liberate Western Europe from German occupation.

June 9, 1898 - The British signed a 99-year lease for Hong Kong.

June 11 1509 In a private ceremony at the Palace of Placentia, Greenwich, the 18 year old English King Henry VIII married his former sister-in-law Catherine of Aragon, his first wife.

June 14 1645 In the English Civil War, Oliver Cromwell defeated the Royalists at the Battle of Naseby, Northamptonshire.

June 15, 1215 - King John set his seal to Magna Carta, the first charter of British liberties, guaranteeing basic rights that have since become the foundation of modern democracies around the world.

June 16, 1963 - Valentina Tereshkova, 26, became the first woman in space as her Soviet spacecraft, Vostok 6, took off from the Tyuratam launch site. She manually controlled the spacecraft completing 48 orbits in 71 hours before landing safely.

June 17, 1972 - Five men were arrested at the National Democratic Headquarters in the Watergate complex in Washington, D.C. The burglars were agents hired by the Committee for the Re-election of President Richard Nixon.

June 20 1756 In India, over 140 British subjects were imprisoned in a cell measuring only 5.4m by 4.2m ('The Black Hole of Calcutta'); only 23 came out alive.

June 21 1675 Construction work starts on Sir Christopher Wren's St. Paul's Cathedral in London

June 28, 1914 - Archduke Francis Ferdinand, Crown Prince of Austria and his wife were assassinated at Sarajevo, starting a conflict Serbia that escalated into World War I.

June 28, 1919 - The signing of the Treaty of Versailles formally ended World War I.

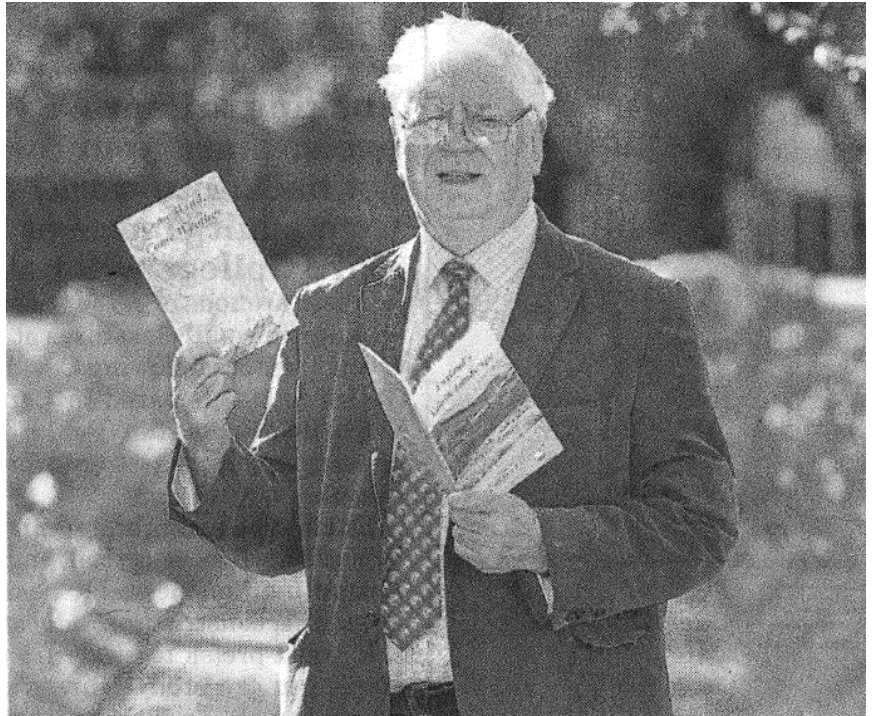
June 29 1613 London's Globe Theatre was destroyed by flames as a cannon is fired to announce the king's entrance in Shakespeare's *Henry V*.

June 30 1894 Tower Bridge in London was officially opened by H.R.H. The Prince of Wales. After the ceremony the bascules were raised to allow a flotilla of ships and boats to sail down the Thames.

Come what may

St Michael's will weather the storm!!

Do not miss out on the marvellous new book from our very own Historian --Trevor James. A follow-up to his recently published, and well-received, "*England's Saintly Landscapes*".



The new book's title "Come Wind Come Weather" may well, for some of us, recall the school speech days of our teenage years when the School Hymn – John Bunyan's "*He who would valiant be*" would ring out with such enthusiasm as to almost lift the Assembly Hall roof, much as referenced by the weather events in Trevor's latest book!!

One event of local interest and relevance to us here at St. Michael's is the occurrence on the 21st. March 1593 when, during a "*great tempest of wind*", the top of the spire was "*blown down*". This was of such import that it was recorded in the Parish Register of All Saints Church in nearby Alrewas from whom a donation, or Parish Brief, was paid towards the spire's repair. Also, a lightning strike around that time caused a hairline crack through the interior of the church's tower. Hopefully not to be repeated due to the installation of the

substantial lightning conductor on the SW corner of the church!!

But back to Trevor's latest book –another excellent and gripping read which highlights the many and varied natural weather phenomena that this planet and in particular this little island of ours has suffered over the centuries and continues to suffer to this day.

PS: A warning to “The last Vicar” of a Tsunami which hit Somerset in January 1607!!!!

Trevor has kindly made a number of copies available at a cost of £10 from the Churchwardens with proceeds going, as before, towards Church funds.



St Michael's Churchyard



I was pleased to see that a number of the young Crab Apple trees that we have planted over the last 3 years have now started to flower. Hopefully, they will produce fruit in the Autumn. It is always uncertain how well fruit trees, especially young ones, will do. All fruit trees are susceptible to late May frosts, but young trees even more so. Let's keep our fingers crossed and hope for warmer weather. Meanwhile, the mature Crab Apple trees have once again flowered magnificently, a great sight to see from the Church door.

One of the Young Crab apple trees in flower and with more buds to open.



Peak Blossom time for a Mature Crab Apple tree.

Bluebells and Wild Garlic die down this month after a great display in May. **Cow parsley** also flowered. There were lots of these Early Summer wild flowers to see. They enjoy growing in shady woodlands so are well suited to the conditions to be found in the Churchyard. They grow in lots of different areas and the ones that line the paths were especially attractive. Here is some information about them.



A popular plant with pollinators, cow parsley grows just about anywhere. Apart from cow parsley it has a number of other common names, such as Queen Anne's lace, mother die and fairy lace. Its leaves are strongly divided in shape with an alternate leaf arrangement, It is one of a large family of plants called Umbellifers, so called because they have clusters of flowers with stalks which come from a common centre. Each flower is around 6 centimetres in diameter and white in colour.

Cow parsley plants growing among headstones in the Churchyard.

Cow parsley is important for a variety of insects including bees and hoverflies as it is an early source of pollen. It also provides nectar for orange tip butterflies. The alternative name of Queen Anne's Lace harks back to a folk tale that the flowers would bloom for Queen Anne and her ladies in waiting and reflect the lace they wore.

Do go for a walk in the Churchyard this month if you can and enjoy the beautiful Early Summer Wildflowers.

Ray Allen

Mission Agencies

[https://
www.churchofengland.org/
resources/world-mission/mission
-agencies](https://www.churchofengland.org/resources/world-mission/mission-agencies)



The History of The Mission to Seafarers

For more than 150 years, we have had one mission; to provide compassion, care and support to Seafarers around the world when they need it most.

Visit <https://www.missiontoseafarers.org/about/history>

to learn more about The Mission to Seafarers and how they have evolved to support over 1.5 million Seafarers in 50 countries around the world.



Lyn Shiel's late father, David Bailey, was a decorated Merchant Seaman who sailed in many WWII convoys, including those through the Baltic taking vital supplies to our Russian allies.

Lyn is St Michael's Churchwarden.

How Would You Define a Seafarer?

<https://www.missiontoseafarers.org/about/seafarer-meaning>

You can define a seafarer as literally being someone who is employed to serve aboard any type of marine vessel. This usually refers to active seafaring workers, but can be used to describe a person with a long history of serving within the profession.

This may sound like a simple definition, but delving further into the profession will reveal a plethora of service types and roles that individual seafarers can play in their line of work.

The work that seafarers do is often under-appreciated by the majority, and their working conditions vary. . Read on to learn more about the 1.5 million international seafarers worldwide and discover just why they are so important in helping to maintain our way of life.

Fundamental to the Economy

The supply of goods and fuels is one of the fundamental pillars in the operation of our global economy. But how do these products get transported from manufacturers to their targeted destination for distribution?

A freighter or cargo ship is often the answer to this question. In total, more than 90% of the world's goods and fuels are transported around the world, thanks to seafarers. Without them the world economy would grind to a halt. This would place businesses and millions of jobs around the world in jeopardy.

This is why seafarers are so important in helping to maintain our current way of life and considered by many to be an under-appreciated key worker.

Seafarers Life on Board Ships

The life of seafarers can be far from idyllic, with many international seafarers regularly completing long term voyages which leave them

isolated from friends, family and loved ones for up to nine months at a time. For others it is a career of choice which enables them to provide a better life for their families at home and is worth the sacrifice of time away from them.

Unsurprisingly, communication back home can be problematic for many seafarers owing to varying degrees of access to Wi-Fi on ships or in port. Many seafarers choose to only sail on those ships which provide access to Wi-Fi on board.

However, extended periods away from home can put a strain on relationships with loved ones as well as on mental health. This has been particularly so during the pandemic.

The Mission provides training courses in long-distance communication with loved ones through its WeCare social communications course.

Life on board ship is tough and often dangerous for seafarers who very often have to endure extreme weather conditions, particularly during the cold winter months. Living conditions have improved over the years, but still cabins are functional rather than spacious and vary in quality and comfort. Seafarers face long working hours, long contracts and whilst they are entitled to their own nationality food, sometimes this is not catered for.

A Dangerous Occupation

Alongside a tough environment, seafarers will sometimes also face notable dangers. These can occur for various reasons including extreme weather conditions and piracy at sea in key places around the world.

Many people are ill-informed about piracy, believing it to be a long forgotten life path which has been romanticised by Hollywood. However, this is far from the truth with piracy at sea being one of the most extreme dangers that seafarers can encounter. This is a frightening experience for them and often leaves them suffering

mental breakdowns as a result.

These are just a few of the many situations which can arise as part and parcel of what is considered to be one of the world's most dangerous occupations.

Don't They Have a Choice?

In the developed world we often think about our vocation as being a chosen path. However, for many international seafarers of lower ranks, this is a route out of poverty.

On account of being low skilled, many international seafarers are happy to take any well paid work that they can get. Indeed, in less affluent regions such as the Philippines, a seafarers wage is invariably used to provide fundamental support for up to 15 family members at home.

How Does The Mission to Seafarers Help?

The Mission was set up to provide vital help and support to seafarers as they undertake their essential work. Without their service, we would see our economy crumble and our way of life evaporate.

Offering practical and emotional support and spiritual guidance when asked, to all seafarers regardless of nationality, faith or no faith, The Mission to Seafarers aims to provide as much help as possible to international seafarers through our representation at over 200 sea ports across 50 different countries.

We can't continue to offer this charitable service without the kind donations and time which is offered by people like you.

If you would like to play your part and help us continue to offer this service to seafarers, then you can [make a donation online](#). Why not give something back to a group who sacrifice so much so that we can continue to enjoy our preferred way of life.

News from the Hawksworth Family in Hong Kong:

We're still very much enjoying our time in Hong Kong. Milo pointed out that we've been living here for almost 10 months! We still can't believe it's been that long. We've done so much but still have lots left to see and do!

The start of the Easter holiday was great. Beaches were open and the weather was starting to warm up again after a short but chilly spell. We visited friends on Lamma Island and spent a wonderful afternoon



on Power Station Beach. The children went paddle boarding for the first time and really enjoyed it. The only downside was, until that point, both the weather and the sea had been quite chilly so there were swarms of jellyfish close to the shoreline as the water was warmer there. These were the small kind and looked harmless enough, but could give you a nasty sting if you were unlucky enough to brush past one.

The second half of the Easter break was spent in hospital. Milo was unlucky enough to have broken his wrist and radius bone in his left arm. A two-night stay at the local hospital and an operation later, he was finally allowed home the following Friday morning.

Due to Covid restrictions, I was not allowed to stay with Milo on the ward. I had to sit outside and wait for an update from the nurses. The care Milo received was excellent and they were very kind to him. We have to pay for hospital visits here and they are subsidised by the government. Milo's two night stay at hospital plus x-rays, operation, etc. came to \$HKD300 or 30GBP.

His arm continues to heal and it doesn't seem to bother him that much at all. He'll have the larger cast taken off and the pins removed on May 17th. Another smaller cast will then be applied so his arm can fully heal without the risk of breaking again.

Ellie and Milo continue to enjoy school and love being physically back in the building. They continue to progress well in all subjects and will finish the school year on June 23rd 2021.

Rupert and Gabriel have started at a local Anglo-Chinese Kindergarten. Rupert does mornings and Gabriel does afternoon sessions. They are both thriving in the setting and have enjoyed making many new friends. Both children have a 20minute Cantonese lesson a day, and Rupert will be learning Mandarin as well.



Peter has recently joined the choir at St. John's cathedral in Admiralty. They meet up twice a month for evensong. Everyone has been really welcoming and Peter has really enjoyed getting back to doing what he loves. The cathedral itself is smaller than you might imagine and not as imposing as Lichfield's mighty cathedral. However, Peter said it was like walking into a small piece of England right in the middle of Hong Kong.

We continue to enjoy hiking through the surrounding jungle. The weather is getting increasingly hotter and much more humid so our hikes are getting shorter or being replaced with trips to our local beach instead. The children just adore being outside and love being close to the water. Rupert and I frequently go looking for crabs in the rockpools. There's such a variety of different species and we're still trying to learn all the names.

Today, May 9th, as I write this, is Mother's Day. The children presented me with some wonderful homemade cards this morning. Peter then spent the afternoon at school for rehearsals of *Les Miserables*. The shows are scheduled for next weekend and he's enjoying being finally able to make the shows happen. The restrictions here have meant all performances have had to be put on hold.

We're hopeful that now the vaccines are available for 30 year olds and above, we'll be able to travel more and enjoy more of what Hong Kong has to offer. Both Peter and I have now been fully vaccinated with no real side effects.

We continue to think about and pray for you all at St. Michaels whilst you appoint a new Rector. We hope you're all well and keeping safe.

With much love,

The Hawksworths xx

Let's Celebrate !

The last magazine that had Weddings listed at either St Michael's or St John's was December 2019

The last time Away Banns were read at St Michael's was September 2020

It's time to celebrate! On Sunday 6th June 6 couples will be having their Banns read at St Michael's because they will be getting married in July either at St Michael's, St John's or they live in our Benefice and are marrying elsewhere.

They are

David Saunders and Rachael Woodward

James Brown and Emma Hinsley

Nicholas Hopkins and Naomi Baskerville

Jason Barefoot and Alix Burns

Thomas Staunton and Aimee Scott

Alexander Davis and Laura Sedgwick

Vishal Tween and Alexandra Owens

Peter Burton and Katie Rochelle



We wish them a very happy wedding day and a long and wonderful life together.

From the Registers

19/04/2021	St Michael	Linda Levy (Interment of ashes)	73
29/04/2021	St Michael	Sarah Young	52
04/05/2021	St Michael's	Anthony Baker (Interments of ashes)	87



Bible Readings

Sunday 6th June

First Sunday after Trinity

[Green]

2 Cor. 4.13-5.1

Mark 3.20—end

Sunday 13th June

Second Sunday after Trinity

[Green]

2 Cor. 5.6-17

Mark 4.26-34

Sunday 20th June

John the Baptist

[White]

Acts 13.14b-26

Luke 1.57-66, 80

Sunday 27th June

Fourth Sunday after Trinity

[Green]

2 Cor. 8.7-end

Mark 5.21—end

Sunday 4th July

Fifth Sunday after Trinity

[Green]

2 Cor. 12.2-10

Mark 6.1-13

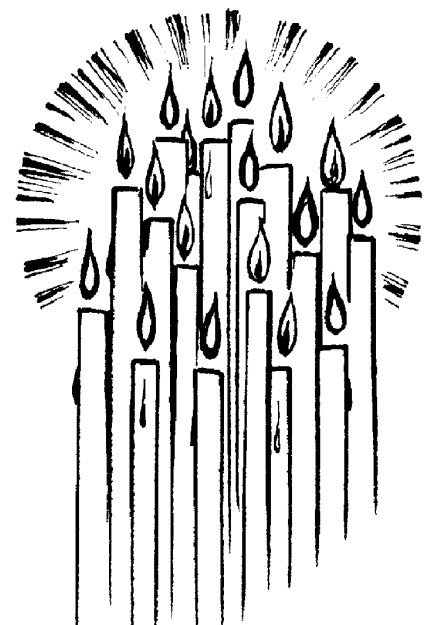
Sunday 11th July

Sixth Sunday after Trinity

[Green]

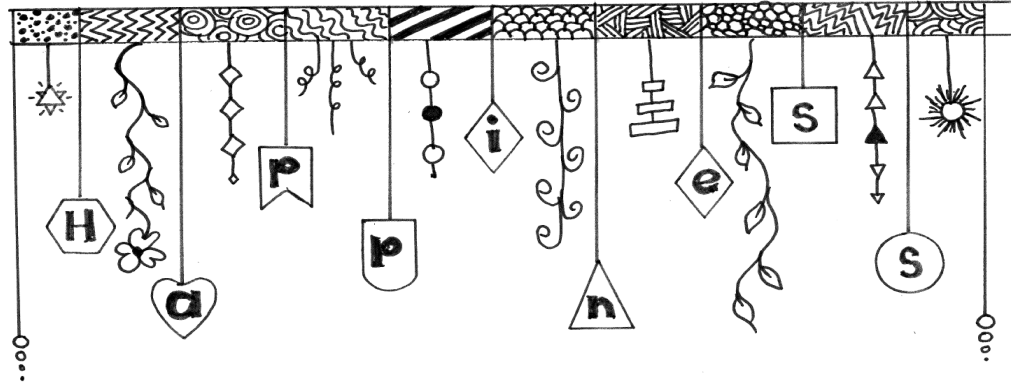
Eph 1.3-14

Mark 6.14-29



PROVERB PRAYERS

3.13-16



- ¹³ Happy are those who find wisdom
and those who gain understanding.
- ¹⁴ Her profit is better than silver,
and her gain better than gold.
- ¹⁵ Her value exceeds pearls;
all you desire can't compare with her.
- ¹⁶ In her right hand is a long life;
in her left are wealth and honour.
- ¹⁷ Her ways are pleasant;
all her paths are peaceful.
- ¹⁸ She is a tree of life to those who embrace her;
those who hold her tight are happy.

Heavenly Father, help me to make friends with Wisdom and cherish her as a close, trusted companion. As I walk life's path help me to remember to ask her to keep me company and walk with her by my side.



Memorial Book

Having the name of a loved one written in our Memorial Book is another way of remembering their life. The Book is kept in the case in the Prayer Corner and pages are turned twice a week, so that names are visible through the glass on the date nearest their death.

It costs £10 to insert a name. Please complete the form below and return it to a member of the Ministry Team with the remittance.

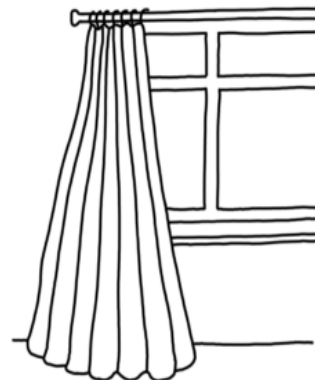
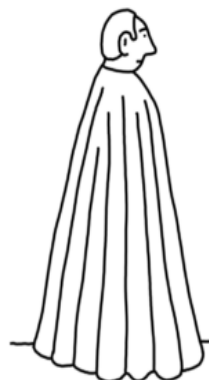
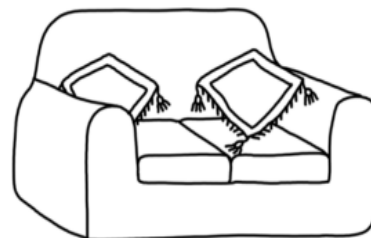
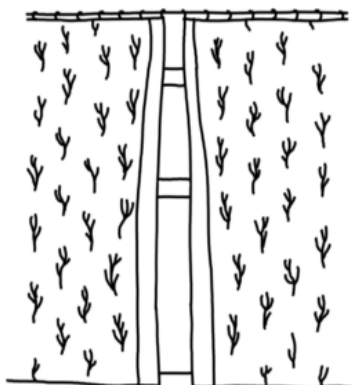
Memorial Book

Name of Deceased (as you wish it to appear in the Memorial Book)	
Date of Death:	Age at Death:
Name of Contact (in case of any problems or queries)	
Telephone Number:	

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And Finally

SOCIAL MEDIA

We now have a Facebook page and a Twitter account which will be our main public presence on social media. I will post to these quite frequently with information about events, interesting links etc. I will use some information from the notices for this, but if anyone has any other church news or events to share, then let me know and I will post them. To make these accounts really effective we need to get as large an audience as possible for them. So could I ask those of you who use **Facebook** to find the page for "**The parishes of St Michael's, Lichfield and St. John', Wall**", ask to become "friends", like the page and share any appropriate content around your followers, and those of you who have **Twitter** accounts to similarly follow **St Michael's Lichfield @StLichfield** and retweet and share any posts that you care to. If there are any queries, then do get back to me. *Chris Baker*

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<p style="text-align: center;">St Michael's Church</p> <p>Verger: <i>Lynn Rock 252634 or 07765 312411</i></p> <p>Sacristan and Head Server: <i>Maggie Easton 255308</i></p> <p>Organist and Choirmaster: <i>Dudley Ray 07847 643373 dudleyrayuk@yahoo.co.uk</i></p> <p>Music Group: <i>Richard Brooks 07918 906 350</i></p> <p>Transport Rota: <i>Brenda Liptrot 251863</i></p> <p>Pastoral Care: <i>June Frayn 264920</i></p> <p>Flowers: <i>Brenda Liptrot 251863</i></p> <p>Safeguarding: <i>Maureen Brand 264880</i></p> <p>Junior Praise: <i>Viv Oliver 258054</i></p> <p>Bell ringers: <i>Gillian Eastwood 07568134115</i> Thursdays, 7:30pm to 8:55pm. gillieastwood@gmail.com</p> <p>Mothers Union: <i>Elizabeth Allen 304938</i></p> <p>Social Team: <i>Contact via the office 262211</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">St John's Church, Wall</p> <p>Verger: Hilary Barker 01543 482027</p> <p>Pastoral Care: Christine Gilbert 07369 245023</p> <p>Safeguarding: Maureen Brand 264880</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">Other Useful Numbers</p> <p>St Michael's School: 227425</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">Parish Magazine</p> <p>Magazine Distributor: <i>Barbara Homewood 255909</i> E-mail brian@britcave.co.uk</p> <p>Magazine Editor: <i>David Shiel 01543320437</i> shiefamily@gmail.com</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Scouting and Guiding</p> <p>Group Scout Leader Carl Hall 07988 685378 chair@7thlichfield.org.uk</p> <p>Rainbows: <i>Becky Bickley 07703 671568</i> <i>Vicki Davies Friend 07970 549284</i> <i>Hannah Heath 07854 824443</i></p> <p>Brownies: <i>Julie Cragg 301098</i></p> <p>Guides: <i>Lisa Webb 07900 164587</i></p>	

