

Answers to last month's crossword



B	A	R	N	A	B	A	S				
A		A					I	M	A	G	E
R		P					L			U	
U		H					V			S	
C		A					E			H	
H		E					R			E	
		L	A	M	B					D	
			D								
G	A	M	A	L	I	E	L				
	B		M				A	G	N	U	S
	B						N				O
B	A	P	T	I	S	E	D				N

Editorial

With the start of a new year, several changes are arriving. Two of our clergy are retiring and this will be my last edition of *Outlook*. I hope that you have enjoyed reading it over the past year. As I am now devoting more of my time to music—I sing bass in the choir of St. Stephen's Lindley, where I was baptised over a quarter of a century ago—I feel that it is appropriate to hand over the reins to Fr Simon. All the best for the future!

David M. Sargent

From Fr Simon

Dear all

What do you do with Christmas gifts you don't want? To start with it's good to recognise the love and intention behind the gift – that is a gift in itself. But, what about the item itself?

Some unsuitable gifts you can give away. Some things you can store for our next tombola (or hand them to me if you've not got space). But there are some things that don't seem to fall into any of those categories, and it doesn't seem right to just throw things that people have lovingly given us away. For those who tend to be hoarders, unwanted/unneeded gifts are stored away, unlikely to be seen or used.

There has been some research on the psychology of giving. The researchers found that people like to give a surprise. It feels good if we can know someone well enough to buy or make something that they would appreciate. In contrast, the research found that people receiving presents are quite happy to tell people what they would like; it is much better to be given a requested gift, than to receive an unwanted surprise.

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A Fresh Start

by Mother Janet, Associate Priest

January is a good time for fresh starts and new beginnings. As you probably know I am retiring as your Associate Priest at the end of January.

I was thinking back to when I first took services in both our churches. At St John's I took a Book of Common Prayer Evensong (at Martyn Crompton's invitation) as part of my training to be a Lay Reader in 1999 or 2000. St Mark's was the first church (other than St Philip's Birchenclyffe) where I presided after being priested in 2008 – again at Martyn's invitation.

A couple of people have asked what happens next. I shall certainly be having a break from taking services as I shall no longer have the Bishop's license to do so. Eventually the Bishop will decide whether or not to give me permission to officiate (PTO). If he does, I shall then be able to preside and preach again if invited to do so by an incumbent or churchwarden (if a parish is in vacancy).

For many years I have been very involved in the diocesan training and selection of Licensed Readers and this will carry on. Most of our things are being done online at the moment which makes life much easier for people with dodgy knees!

I also have plans to write a book and to learn to speak German – and take up gardening -knees permitting.

It just remains for me to thank Father Simon for his friendship and support and to thank you all for your welcome and kindness over the last couple of years – Covid 19 has certainly made my ministry among you very different from how I thought it would be.

God bless you all.

Closure of St Mark Lower Churchyard, Longwood, Huddersfield

Notice is hereby given that it is the intention of the Secretary of State for Justice, acting on an application by the incumbent and churchwardens, to apply to the Privy Council for an Order requiring the discontinuance of burials in the above churchyard.

Provision would be made for the following exceptions:-

- a. in any vault or walled grave in the churchyard, burial may be allowed but every coffin in such vault or grave must be separately enclosed by stonework or brick work properly cemented;
- b. in any existing earthen grave in the churchyard, the burial may be allowed of the body of any member of the family of the person or persons previously buried in that grave, but no part of the coffin containing the body shall be less than one metre below the level of the surface of the ground adjoining the grave; and
- c. in any grave space in which no interment has previously taken place, the burial may be allowed of any person for whom, or any member of the family for which that grave space has been reserved and appropriated, with the exclusive right of burial there, but no part of the coffin containing the body shall be less than one metre below the level of the surface of the ground adjoining the grave.

Any representations about the proposed closure should be sent to the Coroners and

Burials Team, Ministry of Justice, 102 Petty France, London SW1H 9AJ (quoting reference CC/JULY21/008) within 21 days of this publication.

The Last Service

By Rev'd Canon Stephen Henry

As you can imagine taking my last service on St Stephen's Day (Sunday 26th December 2021) was —having been a priest for over 58 years—a very special and indeed emotional occasion . It was most kind of Simon our Vicar , not only to let me take this service on St Stephen's Day (to preach and to celebrate) , but also to give me on behalf of the two churches a book token , presented by James ,the Churchwarden , for the work I have been able to do at these churches, across the Deanery and far beyond over the twenty year period that I have held the Bishop's Permission to Officiate . Recently I decided not to renew that PTO : so I am now officially retired . As Simon said "Retirement from retirement". It has been a great privilege to have been of service over all these many years , but as with everything in life , nothing goes on for ever !

Of course , all being well , you will still see me and Margaret (who has been a huge support throughout my whole ministry) coming to, and worshipping at , St John's Church Golcar.

History

- Brasted Theological College , Kent 1958-1960.
- Bishop's College , Cheshunt , Herts 1960-1962.
- Ordained Deacon at Leicester Cathedral , Michaelmas 1962
- Ordained Priest at Leicester Cathedral , Michaelmas 1963 .
- Curate at St Philip's Leicester for five years (Vicar , the Archdeacon of Leicester , Ven R B Cole).
- Royal Army Chaplains' Department 1967-1970.
- Vicar of Woodhouse , Huddersfield , 1970 — 2001.
- Hon. Canon , Wakefield Cathedral 2000.
- Hon. Canon (Emeritus) , Wakefield Cathedral 2001.
- In retirement : Permission to Officiate 2001-2021.

From Fr Simon

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So, there is a difference in perception in the giver and the receiver.

At Christmas we remember that we have received the gift of Christ. God gives himself to be born to us, born as one of us. This might not be a gift that everyone wants. Some people want God to remain far away, a distant reality. Other people want Jesus simply to be a baby and not to be the Almighty, always meek and mild in the manger and never powerful and mighty. Some people want Jesus only at Christmas, in nativities and carols. Many want Jesus to be a sort of Father Christmas – handing out presents and favours to those who are good enough.

Whether or not we want God's gift to us, we can be assured that God knows, better than we ourselves, what we need at Christmas and every day of our lives. God is the ultimate giver, and is the great exception to the psychology of giving: what God gives, we need.

So in these seasons of Christmas and Epiphany, let us keep giving thanks for the gift that is beyond all measure, the gift that we sometimes overlook and undervalue. Let us keep thanking God that he is with us in all might and frailty. Born in the stable, and born into our lives. Unchanging God, and yet surprising us endlessly with his presence.

God bless.

Notices

The Reverend Janet Sargent has announced her retirement as associate priest in our benefice. I'm sure you'll join with Fr Simon in thanking Jan for her gifts to us in her time with us (which has mostly been during the pandemic), and in wishing Jan and David well in the future. Jan's **last service** with us will be a **joint benefice service on Sunday 30th January, 10am at St John's Golcar.**

Our monthly bible study is usually on the third Sunday of the month.

Our next one is **17th January at 7.30pm via Zoom.** Meeting ID: 821 7505 2779

All are welcome, no experience necessary.

The **gardening** teams at both churches do a tremendous job. Volunteers are welcome to join in: **Wednesdays 2-4pm.**

Church cleaning at St Mark's takes place on the **second Saturday of the month, 10am-12noon.** The next one will be **12th Feb** (there is no cleaning in Jan). Come and join us: the more the merrier!

Benefice Diary

Sunday 16th Jan, The Second Sunday of Epiphany

9.30am Holy Communion at St John's Golcar

11am Sung Eucharist at St Mark's Longwood

Monday 17th Jan

7.30pm Bible Study on Zoom Meeting ID: 821 7505 2779

Sunday 23rd Jan, The Third Sunday of Epiphany

8am Holy Communion in traditional language, St John's Golcar

9.30am Holy Communion at St John's Golcar

11am Sung Eucharist at St Mark's Longwood

Sunday 30th Jan, The Presentation of Christ in the Temple (Candlemas)

We have one joint benefice service at 10am at St John's Golcar

Sunday 6th Feb, The fourth Sunday before Lent.

Derek Walmsley will be our guest preacher at both churches. He is the diocesan director of ordinands and vocations.

Morning prayer is usually said in church Monday – Thursday:

Mondays and Wednesdays 9am St Mark's Longwood

Tuesdays and Thursdays 9am St John's Golcar.

Fridays the service is live-streamed from home by Rev'd Mtr Jan Sargent

You are welcome to join in with these services in church or on-line.