



Outlook

**The magazine of
St Mark's Church
Longwood**



July and August 2022

From Fr Simon: keep going!

The Christian faith has often been described as a journey. Christians are sometimes called followers, and if following, then we are moving, we are on a journey.

The bible is full of journeys, some of them are when important things happened, such as the Road to Emmaus, or the Road to Damascus. At Christmas we remember how Mary and Joseph journeyed to Bethlehem and then to Egypt, before journeying again to Nazareth.

We could say that Jesus journeyed from heaven to earth, then to the cross and into death, and then he journeyed to new life and back to heaven.

One of the most famous journeys in the bible lasted 40 years. Moses had liberated his people, escaping miraculously through The Red Sea, and then journeyed for 40 years in the wilderness.

Each of us is on a journey. Sometimes it might feel as if we are escaping something, sometimes it is as if we are moving towards something, and sometimes we are just in the moment.

During August I'm planning to walk the Pennine Way. This will be my first time trying to do it in one block. It is daunting, because it is over 250 miles long and has many mountains and hills along the way. If I'm lucky, then the wind will be gently on my back, the sun won't be too harsh, and it won't rain. Time will tell.

Whatever happens, I will be slightly different at the end. Long walks do this to you. The rhythmic tread, and daily routines and challenges allow a new focus and sense of reality. I will be following the path, and for most of the way it is clearly marked and signposted. My few choices will include how far and fast to walk each day, where to camp, and how many pubs to stop in!

There will be other walkers along the trail. Some will be doing the whole thing, maybe staying in bed-and-breakfast accommodation, with their luggage automatically sent on each day. Some will be out for the day. There will be the occasional person doing the route backwards.

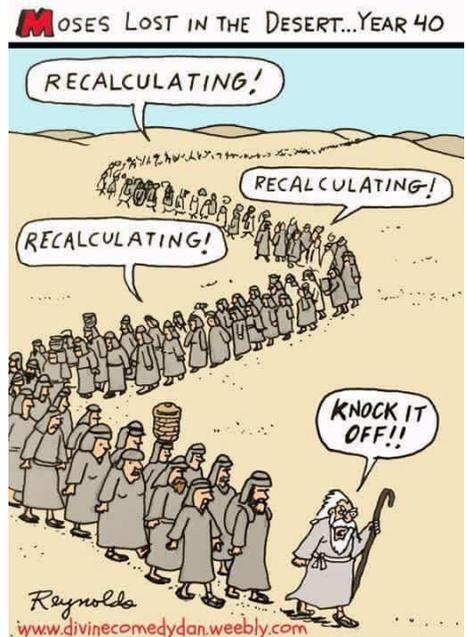
There will be walkers doing other walks as well, some might be out for the first time, others might be seasoned people of the hills. Some people might have all the fancy gear, others might be making do.

All this can put us in mind of the Christian journey. It is not a journey without effort, but neither is it endless toil. It's not a journey without markers, and it is a shared journey, which many people are doing; but it is also your own journey – and it will change you. It is not a journey dictated by the clock and the demands of the desk, but it is a journey of emerging routines, rhythms, disciplines and freedom.

One of the challenges of the Pennine Way and of the Christian journey is the temptation to give up. Jesus knew this challenge when he journeyed for 40 days in the wilderness. We can take inspiration from him: immerse yourself in scripture – the most unexpected passages can hit the mark when you are least expecting it; keep looking to God, however near or far he seems; and just keep taking the next step.

And as you are on the Christian journey, daily taking one more step, you will have those special moments when suddenly you aware that Jesus is walking with you.

God Bless, and see you along the way.



This month's joke:

Q. How do we know Peter was a rich fisherman?

A. By his net income!

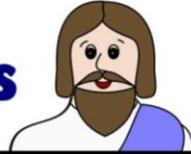
NOTICES

Our Platinum Jubilee Celebrations took place on 5th June, we had a packed church and an excellent time with food and fun, music and princesses, stalls and bell-ringing. We hope you enjoyed it as much as we did. The picture on the front of the magazine might bring back memories of the day.

Sam Crook is now ordained deacon, and is serving as a curate at Halifax Minster, she would like to thank you for your support and prayers.

There is no games evening in August, the next one will be 2nd Sept 6pm.

Search for Jesus' 12 Disciples



Can you find the names of the twelve disciples from the word box below?

ANDREW
BARTHOLOMEW
JAMES
JAMES

JOHN
JUDAS
MATTHEW
PETER

PHILIP
SIMON
THADDAEUS
THOMAS

Quote for the month: Many people don't leave Jesus or religion because they hate both. They leave because they realize how often we love theology more than people, control more than inclusivity, arrogance more than humility, assimilation more than freedom, and power more than love.

Danté Stewart, US speaker and author, Twitter

DIARY

Friday 5th August. Cancelled for August: Family Games Evening.

Sunday 7th August

- 9.30am Sung Communion. St John's Golcar
- 11am Sung Eucharist. St Mark's Longwood

Sunday 14th August

- 8am Holy Communion in traditional language. St John's Golcar
- 9.30am Sung Communion. St John's Golcar
- 11am Family Eucharist, and giving of a candle to Brodie. St Mark's Longwood

Sunday 21st August

- 9.30am Holy Communion with music. St John's Golcar
- 11am Sung Eucharist. St Mark's Longwood

Sunday 28th August

- 8am Holy Communion in traditional language. St John's Golcar
- 9.30am All Age Service. St John's Golcar
- 11am Sung Eucharist, St Mark's Longwood

Friday 2nd September: Family Games Evening, 6pm St Mark's Parish Centre

LOOKING AHEAD

Sunday 11th September, The Annual Longwood Sing 2.30pm at the Longwood Tower, or in church if wet.

Saturday 17th September Heritage Open Day, 10am – 4pm

We'll have loads going on, including:

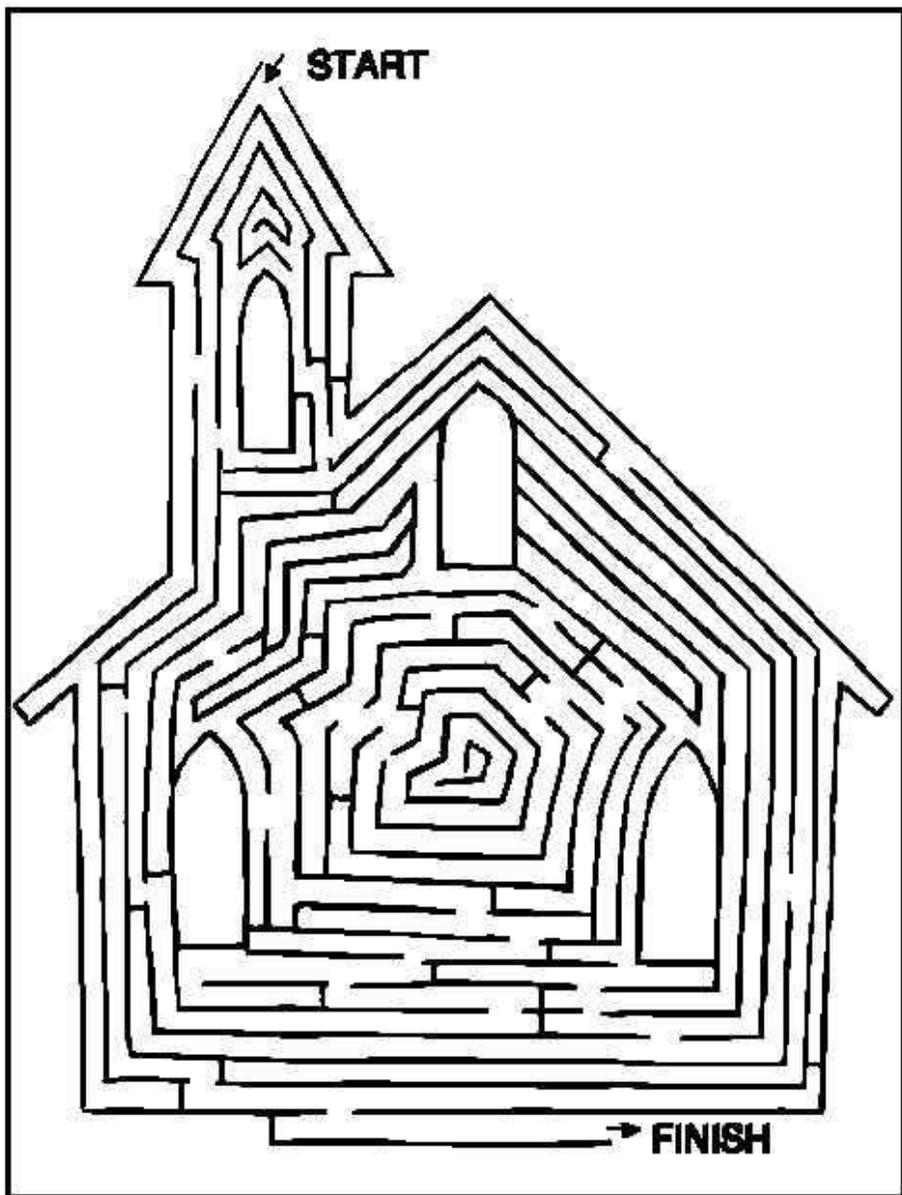
- Informal tours of the building
- Launch of the new church guidebook
- Huddersfield and District Family History Society
- Coffee, cake and other refreshments
- Church Tower Abseils, need to be pre-booked (£25) age 11+
- Experience bell ringing with our silent dumbbell, or have a go on our handbells
- Various items from the archives on display – such as the books in the photo
- Photographic display of the Mount area, by Vincent Dorrington
- 1pm Concert by Honley Ladies Choir
- Raffle



For further details, and to enquire about the abseil contact Fr Simon Crook

revscrook@gmail.com 01484 654647

Here's a church maze puzzle, or for those who prefer, you could colour it in!





**For Weddings,
Baptisms, Funerals or
any other enquiry**

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Sunday services are at 11am