

# Roundabout

The Parish Magazine for St. Anne's Church  
April 2020



St Anne's is seeking to be a home to invite everyone into.

## WEST

Welcoming  
Encountering Jesus  
Serving others  
Telling His Story

## HEATH

Hospitality...  
Everyone...  
Acceptance...  
Teamwork...  
Helpful...

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## The Editor Writes

It is Easter Sunday as I sit writing this. A very different Easter to previous years. Mum and I have just watched the Easter Service on-line as I am sure many of you have done. I would like to thank everyone who worked so hard to produce the service. It was wonderful to sit at home knowing other members of the congregation were celebrating Easter at the same time. It was extra special for Mum as she has been unable to get to church for so long. The pleasure on her face when she saw Father Paul and Ian was lovely: she could actually join in with everyone instead of hearing second hand about a service from me. I think it will be a service that we all remember for many years.

I hope you are all well and coping during this time of 'lockdown'. One positive from the situation is that communities seem to be pulling together and supporting each other during this difficult time. I'm lucky to have a kind sister and brother-in-law, and several good friends who are willing to do our shopping so that I can stay at home with Mum. I finally have time to catch up on all the small jobs around the house as well as continuing to redesign the back garden so Mum is able to garden - something she really enjoys. We are visited each day by the black cat (who we have found out lives three doors away!) who likes to sit with us or follow me around the house while I do the house work. The highlight of our week is Thursday evening when everyone in the Grove comes out at 8pm to clap and cheer!

This month's magazine is a much shorter edition so that I can email it to Charitas to go on the website. Next month will mark 75 years since the end of the Second World War in Europe. I would like to include people's memories of that day in the May edition of the magazine. If you are old enough to remember that day I would love to hear what you were doing, where you were and who you celebrated with. You can e-mail me or send your memories by post to the Vicarage, 54a Lilley Lane, West Heath, Birmingham B31 3JT.

Best wishes to you all, Georgina

# God Walking With Nations

## THE HISTORY BOOKS OF THE OLD TESTAMENT

*Joshua, Judges, Ruth, 1 & 2 Samuel, 1 & 2 Kings,  
1 & 2 Chronicles, Ezra, Nehemiah, Esther*

**Beware! The History Books of the Old Testament come with a very serious health warning.**

They tell it like it is, they conceal nothing, they expose everything, they pull no punches. They ruthlessly catalogue man's inhumanity to man, not sparing our blushes. They are a long, hard look at reality, not a handbook of how we ought to behave. They don't paint a rosy picture of the world because we have not made the world a rosy place. If you want to 'restore your faith in humanity' don't start here! God knows 'what a state the world is in' and He knows that it hasn't changed since before the flood!

*"The Lord saw how great the wickedness of the human race had become on the earth, and that every inclination of the thoughts of the human heart was only evil all the time."*

**(Genesis 6.5)**

And yet, despite all this, the History Books of the Old Testament show God still Walking with People and even Walking with Nations. They show God still standing between all the 'rocks and hard places' that human beings create. They show God still 'up to His armpits' in the blood that human beings spill. They show God still taking nations 'by the scruff of the neck' for both protection and punishment. And they show how God is 'hidden in plain sight' and can be found by those who look for Him. This promise of the never-failing presence of God ***no matter what***, begins in Genesis, ends in Revelation and figures prominently in the History Books of the Old Testament.

*“Never again will all life be destroyed by the waters of a flood... The Lord himself goes before you and will be with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you... the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go... May the Lord our God be with us as he was with our ancestors; may he never leave us nor forsake us... The Lord is with you when you are with him. If you seek him, he will be found by you, but if you forsake him, he will forsake you... Though my father and mother forsake me, the Lord will receive me... I, the God of Israel, will not forsake them... surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age... Look! God’s dwelling-place is now among the people, and he will dwell with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God.”*

**(Genesis 9.11; Deuteronomy 31.8; Joshua 1.9; 1 Kings 8.57; 2 Chronicles 15.2; Psalm 27.10; Isaiah 41.17; Matthew 28.20; Revelation 21.3)**

The History Books of the Old Testament assure us that God never gives up - even on those who insist on erecting the barriers of their sinfulness against Him, generation after generation!

*“The Old Testament is a book in which is written the law of God and the deeds of those who fulfill it, and, also, of those who do not.”*

A Pathway Into the Holy Scripture  
William Tyndale  
(c.1530)

Revd. Stuart Kimber



# Puzzle Page

## Which?

Only one of the four suggested answers in each group is correct. Which? (answers on page 8)

1. Noah's ark was made of (a) cedar wood, (b) gopher wood, (c) fir wood, (d) olive wood.
2. Paul found an altar 'To the Unknown God' at (a) Lystra, (b) Antioch, (c) Ephesus, (d) Athens.
3. 'Ephphatha' means (a) be opened, (b) Farewell, (c) having five porches, (d) it is written.
4. 'Honour thy father and thy mother' is (a) the second (b) the fourth, (c) the ninth, (d) the fifth commandment.
5. A Sabbath day's journey was about (a) one mile, (b) two hundred yards, (c) five miles, (d) five furlongs.
6. The parable of the Good Samaritan is found ONLY in (a) Mark, (b) Luke, (c) Matthew, (d) John.
7. Goliath was (a) an Ammonite, (b) an Assyrian, (c) a Philistine, (d) a Perizzite.
8. The eighth plague of Egypt was of (a) frogs, (b) boils, (c) locusts, (d) flies.
9. The wall of Jerusalem was rebuilt under the direction of (a) Nehemiah, (b) Elisha, (c) Jeremiah, (d) Ezra.
10. The man who helped Joseph of Arimathaea to bury Jesus was (a) Barnabas, (b) Matthias, (c) Zacchaeus, (d) Nicodemus.
11. Which of the Gospels has the most chapters and which the fewest?



# Children's Page

## An Easter Picture to Colour



# Children's Page

## Easter Wordsearch

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| R | B | Y | B | E | F | T | Q | L | A | T | Q | V | X | C |
| F | T | M | M | N | T | R | E | T | E | P | Y | O | W | V |
| S | I | R | O | E | M | A | A | E | K | R | R | H | R | V |
| G | D | L | N | T | G | O | L | Q | U | C | A | S | E | H |
| U | L | O | U | U | E | S | X | O | A | D | M | X | N | J |
| X | T | X | Y | Q | H | J | N | W | C | Q | I | G | E | B |
| S | S | S | E | N | I | P | P | A | H | O | G | J | D | F |
| O | S | T | G | J | B | R | S | R | K | E | H | R | R | T |
| E | M | P | T | Y | Y | D | Q | I | Z | W | C | C | A | L |
| M | Q | Z | K | X | Q | M | T | S | R | J | P | U | G | U |
| A | O | U | K | T | J | N | M | E | P | N | E | T | M | A |
| S | L | I | H | E | L | G | Q | N | W | H | A | L | H | M |
| H | N | I | S | U | L | K | J | T | Y | Y | W | H | U | J |
| F | U | U | V | W | P | B | T | R | H | E | C | P | V | W |
| K | S | Z | B | E | F | O | D | X | Y | T | Q | M | I | N |

Can you find these words

ALIVE CHOCOLATE EGG EMPTY  
GARDENER HAPPINESS JESUS MARY  
PETER RISEN STONE TOMB

## Answers to April's Puzzle Page

1. b. gopher wood
2. d. Athens
3. a. Be opened
4. d. the fifth commandment
5. d. five furlongs.
6. b. Luke.
7. c. Philistine
8. c. Locusts
9. a. Nehemiah
10. d. Nicodemus

## Church Finances

At the moment we are unable to hire out the buildings which means we have a lot less income than usual. We are saving money by not using as much gas or electricity but there are other bills that still need to be paid (including our apportionment to the Diocese which this year is £23,860). Fortunately many members of the congregation use the Parish Giving Scheme to pay their collection money every week so we still have that money coming into our bank account. If you use an envelope for your planned giving I have received all the envelopes for this coming year. If you would like me to post you your envelopes so that you can set some money aside each week for church then please email me and let me know the address you would like your set of envelopes posted to. If you do not use the envelopes but are able to set some money aside each week that would be most appreciated. Thank you, Georgina Arnold, Treasurer.



## April 1970

11th April

Apollo 13 launched on its journey to the moon. Days before the mission, backup lunar module pilot, Charles Duke, inadvertently exposed the crew to German measles. Command Module Pilot Ken Mattingly had no immunity to measles and was replaced by backup command module pilot, John Swigert. The other crew members were James A. Lovell Jr., Commander and Fred W. Haise Jr., Lunar Module Pilot.

Apollo 13 was to be the third lunar landing attempt. During the first two days, the crew ran into a couple of minor surprises, but generally Apollo 13 was looking like the smoothest flight of the program. The public showed less enthusiasm for this flight than for Apollo 11 and 12: people expected the flights to run smoothly.

13th April - 'Houston we've had a problem'

At 46 hours, 43 minutes Joe Kerwin, the capsule communicator, or Capcom, on duty, said, "The spacecraft is in real good shape as far as we are concerned. We're bored to tears down here." It was the last time anyone would mention boredom for a long time. Less than ten hours later oxygen tank No. 2 blew up, causing the No. 1 tank to also fail. The command module's normal supply of electricity, light and water was lost, and they were about 200,000 miles from Earth. Thirteen minutes after the explosion, the astronauts realised oxygen gas was escaping at a high rate from the second, and last, oxygen tank.

Ground controllers in Houston faced a formidable task.

Completely new procedures had to be written and tested in the simulator before being passed up to the crew. The navigation problem had to be solved. Power also was a concern. Water was the main consumable concern. Removal of carbon dioxide also was a concern. Suddenly the whole world became interested in the plight of the crew. Information was continually being updated on

on television, radio and newspapers. The world seemed to come together to pray for the safe return of the three men.

The trip was marked by discomfort beyond the lack of food and water. Sleep was almost impossible because of the cold. When the electrical systems were turned off, the spacecraft lost an important source of heat. The temperature dropped to 38 degrees Fahrenheit and condensation formed on all the walls.

The most remarkable achievement of mission control was quickly developing procedures for powering up the CM after its long, cold sleep. Flight controllers wrote the documents for this innovation in three days, instead of the usual three months. The command module was cold and clammy at the start of power-up. The walls, ceiling, floor, wire harnesses and panels were all covered with droplets of water. It was suspected conditions were the same behind the panels. The chances of short circuits caused apprehension, but thanks to the safeguards built into the command module after the disastrous Apollo 1 fire in January 1967, no arcing took place. Lovell recalled the descent to Earth, "The droplets furnished one sensation as we decelerated in the atmosphere: it rained inside the CM."

17th April

People around the world watched live on television awaiting the final re-entry to earth. Everyone held their breath and prayed for a miracle. Four hours before landing, the crew shed the service module; mission control had insisted on retaining it until then because everyone feared what the cold of space might do to the un-sheltered CM heat shield. Photographs of the service module showed one whole panel missing and wreckage hanging out, it was a mess as it drifted away. Three hours later, the crew left the lunar module Aquarius and then splashed down gently in the Pacific Ocean near Samoa.

The whole world celebrated.

The mission was classified as a "successful failure" because of the experience gained in rescuing the crew.

# Thoughts from the Garden

Although many of you may be self-isolating I do hope you can look outside at a garden or nearby tree. Spring seems to be in full bloom with plants and trees all coming into flower.

Amazingly the rose behind the Lilac bushes was flowering in early March and we had one at home in flower also. The Daffodils and Forsythia were also in flower in early March.

The Ash tree by the back carpark had to be cut down on March 16<sup>th</sup> as it was unsafe. I spent the next afternoon clearing up some of the debris left from the tree felling and some fallen leaves. I cut down some dead stems and weeded the small border near the church front door the following week. I checked the plant troughs which were still in the back garden and the Daffodils were growing through the netting. I decided it was better to leave them than to try and untangle them.

On April 4<sup>th</sup> I removed all the fallen twigs from the lawn and cut down some more dead stems. I also removed the Common Cleavers which had started to grow all over the plants. On April 7<sup>th</sup> Chrissie cut the lawn and I cut down more dead stems. The Honesty plants were in flower in front of the church hall, which is very early. The yellow Tulips were in full flower and the Lilley of the Valley were just coming through.

At home the frogs first laid frogspawn on April 2<sup>nd</sup> and have been very busy in the pond since then. We have had a Sparrow Hawk fly through the garden twice trying to catch a small bird but failing each time. Brimstone and Comma have both been flying around and a Peacock butterfly.

Stay safe and enjoy nature when you can.

Regards,

Elaine.

## St. Catherine of Siena - 30th April

Catherine of Siena was born in 1347, the youngest of a family of twenty five children. Even when she was very young she seemed to be especially close to God, and as she grew up she became so well known for her goodness, and for her care of the sick and poor, that many came to her for advice, or to heal quarrels between one family and another.

When she grew up because she was both clever and good she was consulted by everyone, even by popes and heads of States. There were two great tasks that she was especially anxious to see accomplished. The first was that the popes, who for over seventy years had lived at Avignon in France, should once again return to Rome, so that the ancient tradition might be restored. She went to Avignon as ambassador from the city of Florence, and succeeded in persuading Pope Urban V to take ship and return to Rome.

The second task was to make peace between the Pope and the people of Florence, between whom there had been an old quarrel. In this also she succeeded.

Unfortunately, it was not long before a new quarrel broke out between the next pope, Urban VI, and a rival who claimed to be the true pope. Catherine went to Rome to do all she could to get Urban VI recognised by everyone, and died from overwork, worn out by her efforts, when she was thirty three years old.

### **Articles for Publication**

Please submit articles either by email to:  
arnold112@btinternet.com

Or leave a printed copy in the Parish Office clearly marked for the attention of the Editor.

### **Submission Deadlines**

Items for inclusion in the May 2020 edition must reach the Editor, Georgina Arnold by 4pm on Friday 24th April 2020.