

The Vicar Writes...

Dear Friends

All through the Bible we hear of people giving thanks to God and in the New Testament we are repeatedly told to be thankful. Why? Why is it so important? Without gratitude we can so easily take everything and everybody for granted. It is so easy to become blind to all the blessings we receive day by day, even though we see people in other parts of the world lacking even clean water to drink. Selfishness and greed can ruin life, as the young man in the parable of the prodigal son discovered to his cost. Instead of finding happiness, it took suffering to make him come to his senses and realise that he had lost everything that he had taken for granted. If we could make gratitude a part of each day, what a difference it would make to our view of life and our relationships with others.

Some might say "that's all very well, but try dealing with my problems – what have I to be thankful for?" Yet, strangely enough, it is often those experiencing the greatest difficulties who seem to be most aware of their blessings. The wife of England cricketer and one time Bishop of Liverpool, David Sheppard, was diagnosed for the third time with cancer. In an interview she described how she coped with the fear of terminal illness. She said "There is a huge power in gratitude – once we start to itemise what we are being given, then it becomes a habit to say and to be thankful. I don't have to look miles away to see things that I am thankful for. I see photos of my grandsons and my daughter; flowers that someone has brought me; a drink that will quench my thirst – all these little things and they mount up and you think aren't I blessed and to me these

are all gifts from God and it does help the suffering, helps you do the hard bits”.

In James 1 v. 17, we read “every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father”.

Instead of seeing good things being given to us by God, we so often pass them off as a strange coincidence, a stroke of genius, a lucky chance – prayers answered, problems solved, anxieties lifted. What a difference it would make to our outlook on life if instead we saw them as gifts from God.

With all good wishes
Andrew

WELCOME

By the time you read this our new curate, the Rev'd Tom Pelham, will have been ordained deacon at Salisbury Cathedral and will be working in our parish. We welcome him and his wife, Sarah, as they join us in Canford Cliffs and Sandbanks. They will be with us for a minimum of three years and a maximum of four. I am sure Tom will be visiting many of you over the coming weeks and getting to know the people and the parish and I know you will make him and Sarah very welcome.

THE BISHOP OF SALISBURY

The Rt. Rev'd Nicholas Holtam, the Bishop of Salisbury, will be joining us on Sunday 15th July at 10.30 am for our Parish Communion to celebrate Andrew's 30 years in ministry. The Bishop was Andrew's Ethics tutor at Lincoln Theological C



From the first planning meeting, we have welcomed some new helpers and, as ever, requests were made for others to come forward. Please give all helpers your support and respond to requests for items for sale if you can (which should be delivered in good time for pricing and preparation.) *Please remember that this is a Fête and not a jumble sale!* As always, assistance will be required in setting up and dismantling the Fête. **A final pre-Fête meeting will be held on Wednesday, 18th July at 11.30 am.**

<u>STALL</u>	<u>STALLHOLDER</u>	<u>TEL</u>
Books, cds & dvds	Perry Jeandren	706107
Raffle	Michael Wright	707735
White Elephant	Graham Luker	723305
Handbags	Tessa Yeoman	707629
Jewellery	Nina Crane	376325
Nearly New Clothes	Tove Taylor	707018
Flower Guild Stall	Susanne King	707265
Fruit, Veg & Plants	Christobel Beattie	07843382067
Home Produce & cakes	Jan South	768900
Toys	Julie Bailey	701020
Bottle Tombola	Andrew O'Brien	700341
Teas/Cakes/Kitchen	Wendy Bales	709850
Art Group	Tony Ogg	700058
Crafts	Joanne O'Brien	700341
Car Park	Richard Goodall	c/o 738198
Gate	John McGill	700372
Treasurer	Michael Wright	707735

Just a note about the fete stalls!

Book Stall: Paperback and hardback books needed, but only novels please.

White Elephant: Small items particularly needed, no electrical items thank you.

Cakes both for the Home Produce Stall and for Refreshments: just normal size cakes please, no elaborate cakes. Cupcakes welcome!

Jewellery: Please give any items of jewellery to Nina or leave with Joanne.



Can you find 30 books of the Bible hidden in this passage?

This is a most remarkable puzzle. It was found by a gentleman in an airplane seat pocket, on a flight from Los Angeles to Honolulu, keeping him occupied for hours. He enjoyed it so much that he passed it on to some friends.

One friend from Illinois worked on this while fishing from his John-boat. Another friend studied it while playing his banjo. Elaine Taylor, a columnist friend, was so intrigued by it, she mentioned it in her weekly newspaper column.

Another friend judges the job of solving this puzzle so involving that she brews a cup of tea to help her nerves. There will be some names that are really easy to spot.

That's a fact. Some people, however, will soon find themselves in a jam, especially since the books are not necessarily capitalised.

Truthfully from answers we get, we are forced to admit it usually takes a minister or scholar to see some of them at the worst. Research has shown that something in our genes is responsible for the difficulty we have in seeing the books in these paragraphs. During a recent fundraising event, which features this puzzle, the Alpha Delta Phil-Lemonade booth set a new sales record.

The local paper, the Chronicle, surveyed over 50 patrons who reported that this puzzle was one of the most difficult they had ever seen. As Daniel Humana humbly puts it, "the books are all right here in plain view, hidden from sight". Those able to find all of them will hear great lamentations from those who have to be shown. One revelation that may help is that books Timothy and Samuel appear without their numbers.

Also, keep in mind, that punctuation and spaces in the middle are normal. A chipper attitude will help you compete really well against those who claim to know the answers. Remember, there is no need for a mass exodus, there really are 30 books of the Bible lurking somewhere in these paragraphs waiting to be found.

(Answers are on page 19!)

Edmund Burke quotes:

"The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing".

"To read without reflecting is like eating without digesting".

Little Gem in the Prairie

Just over two hours out of Wichita, Kansas, which is home to our son and his family, lies the town of Pawhuska in the state of Oklahoma. It is experiencing something of a resurgence since the host of a popular TV show opened a restaurant and gift emporium recently. Coach loads of devotees come from all directions and we were invited to go and take a look. However, this fun day trip turned into a much more memorable treat because the real gem in that run of the mill Midwest town was the Church of the Immaculate



Conception. From the outside it is a large and unlovely edifice but inside glorious stained glass windows let in the Prairie sun and one in particular shone a light on some fascinating history.

Pawhuska, the county seat of Osage County, was established in 1872 with the reservation for the Osage Nation, part of Indian Territory. The people bought this new land and therefore received revenue from all who wished to graze on the prime bluegrass prairie. Then life got even better when oil was discovered. They were so rich they were able to afford fine homes and to buy the latest automobiles. Henry Ford valued their business enough to produce his Model Ts in more cheerful colours than black, which better suited the people's sensibilities.

The current church was completed in 1915 and it features some fine stained glass windows. Some of the windows were made in Munich, Germany, and their construction was halted for a time by the First World War. The glass makers

hid the windows in sand to save and protect them throughout the fighting. All the windows are very special but there is one window that is exceptional. It's one for which they are most famous — the window of Father Shoemakers when he brought Catholicism to the Osage Nation. They were in Kansas at that time and the link between the Osage Nation and Catholic Jesuit priests goes back to the early 1800s.

The window depicts real people, including Osage Chief Bacon Rind (I couldn't make that up!) Others in the scene were also Osage Tribal members. As many of them were alive when the window was planned, the church had to petition the Pope for special permission because at that time the Vatican didn't allow living people to be portrayed in church stained-glass windows.

Our lovely guide was clearly proud of her church and its history. She told us that generations of families in the church go back to the 1880s. Just about everyone in the parish has ancestors depicted in the "Osage" stained-glass window or who helped build the church.



So our retail therapy trip turned into a step back in time to the Wild West. This reverie continued on our route back to Wichita which took us through the Tall Grass Prairie where bison (rather than buffalo) roam free.

Bill and Marjorie Morris

NEWSROUND

Sea Sunday is 8th July – buy some yellow wellington boots!

The Fishermen's Mission is selling yellow wellington boots as part of its campaign to raise awareness of those lost at sea while working in the fishing industry in the past ten years.

For every pair of boots sold, the charity will tie a yellow ribbon to the flagpole outside its head office in Hampshire. The campaign, '100in10', hopes to highlight the dangers of working on trawlers, and the impact of deaths on families and communities.

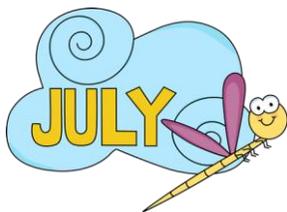
The Fishermen's Mission provides 24/7 practical, financial and pastoral support to fishermen and their families. More details at: www.fishermensmission.org.uk



China stops sales of Bible

China appears to have banned the Bible from being sold online, or in large bookstores. This seems to have followed tensions between China and the Vatican over who should have influence in appointing bishops in China.

Searches for Bibles on major e-commerce platforms JD.com and Taobao bring up no results, and staff at one of Beijing's biggest shops admit they no longer sell it. In April, China released its first white paper on religious freedom in more than 20 years. It called on religions to adapt to a socialist society.



CALENDAR FOR JULY

TRINITY 5

Sun	1	8.00 am 10.30 am 6.00 pm	Holy Communion Ordination of Tom Pelham at Salisbury Cathedral. No service here. NO EVENING PRAYER
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Wed	4	10.30 am	Holy Communion <i>at St. Nicolas</i>
Thurs	5	10.00 am	Parish Art Group
Fri	6	10.30 am	Coffee Morning in hall

TRINITY 6

Sun	8	8.00 am 10.30 am 6.00 pm	Holy Communion Matins (<i>Sunday Club in hall</i>) Evening Prayer
Wed	11	10.30 am	Holy Communion <i>at St. Nicolas</i>
Fri	13	9.30 am	Baby Group <i>in hall</i>

TRINITY 7

Sun	15	8.00 am 9.30 am 10.30 am 6.00 pm	Holy Communion Family Service Parish Communion with the Bishop of Salisbury Evening Prayer
Wed	18	10.30 am 11.30 am	Holy Communion <i>at St. Nicolas</i> Pre-Fete Meeting <i>in hall</i>
Thurs	19	10.00 am	Parish Art Group

Fri 20 10.30 am **Coffee Morning in hall**

TRINITY 8

Sun 22 8.00 am Holy Communion
10.30 am Matins (*Sunday Club in hall*)
6.00 pm Evening Prayer

Tues 24 10.00 am Craft Group *in hall*
Wed 25 10.30 am Holy Communion *at St. Nicolas*
Thurs 26 3.30 pm Magazine collation
Fri 27 9.30 am Baby Group *in hall*

TRINITY 9

Sun 29 8.00 am Holy Communion
10.30 am Parish Communion
4.00 pm Tea at Evening Hill
5.00 pm Service at Evening Hill

AUGUST

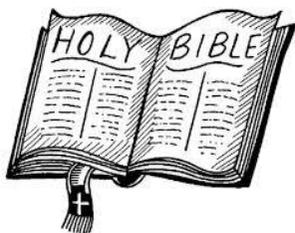
Wed 1 10.30 am Holy Communion *at St. Nicolas*
Thurs 2 10.00 am Parish Art Group
Sat 4 2.00 pm *SUMMER FETE*

PATRONAL FESTIVAL

Sun 5 8.00 am Holy Communion
10.30 am Parish Communion
6.00 pm Evening Prayer

ADVANCE NOTICE: There will be no coffee mornings in the hall during August. They will restart on Friday 7th September at 10.30 am





SUNDAY READINGS IN JULY

Sunday 1st July - Tom's ordination at Salisbury Cathedral

Sunday 8th July - Trinity 6

OLD TESTAMENT: 2 Samuel 5.1-5,9-10

David becomes king over Israel and conquers Jerusalem which becomes the City of David.

NEW TESTAMENT: Mark 6.1-13

Jesus was amazed at the lack of faith in his home town. He sends out his disciples to preach, drive out demons and heal the sick.

Sunday 15th July - Trinity 7

OLD TESTAMENT: 2 Samuel 6.1-5,12-19

David and his army bring the ark to Jerusalem. King David, wearing a linen ephod, dances before the Lord with all his might.

NEW TESTAMENT: Ephesians 1.3-14

Paul describes the spiritual blessings of Christ. In Christ we have all been chosen and given the promised gift of the Holy Spirit.

GOSPEL: Mark 6.14-29

Hearing of the wonders performed by Jesus, King Herod fears that John the Baptist, who he had put to death, has come back to life.

Sunday 22nd July - Trinity 8

OLD TESTAMENT: 2 Samuel 7.1-14

God speaks to the prophet Nathan and promises David that he will make him great among the peoples.

He also tells David to build the temple.

NEW TESTAMENT: Mark 6.45-end

The disciples go ahead of Jesus to Bethsaida in a boat on the lake and then see Jesus walking on the water.

Sunday 29th July - Trinity 9

OLD TESTAMENT: 2 Samuel 11.1-15

David sleeps with Bathsheba and then puts her husband Uriah in the front of battle so that he is killed.

NEW TESTAMENT: Ephesians 3.14-end

Paul's prayer to the Ephesians that they may know the love of God and that he can do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine.

GOSPEL: John 6.1-21

The feeding of the 5,000.

THE STORY

In the beginning I was here with a plan. I embraced it and loved it. It was my first gift - a beautiful world.

Light - land - trees - flowers - sky- sea - living creatures it was perfect.

Then I created man and woman, my masterpiece, to love each other and care for the world. I loved them most of all, but when I gave them a choice they turned away from me. We were driven apart.
For generations they spoilt - corrupted - damaged - hurt ... I stepped in and became a man, human - fragile - mortal - Christ.

They could not bear to see such love so they humiliated and killed me with nails, with thorns, with hate.

But death could not hold me. I rose. My life built a bridge so that nothing now stands between them and me, you and I.

Anna Castley found this, unsigned, in a church.



HIGHGROVE

The Highgrove Estate is open on selected days from the end of March to early October and Michael and I were able to visit in early June. Although security is very tight, it is very unobtrusive and discreet - we were met by armed policemen and directed to a parking spot where we showed passports but after that we were unaware of any observation although it must have been there.

Originally called High Grove, the house was built around 1797 and prior to its purchase by HRH The Prince of Wales in 1980, it was the home of Maurice Macmillan, son of Harold Macmillan. In the early 1980s, the estate was mainly

pastureland with a neglected kitchen garden and an overgrown copse. The gardens now are a series of fascinating tableaux which reflect the interests, passions and enthusiasms of Prince Charles, together with the many and varied gifts received from throughout the Commonwealth which have been incorporated in the designs.

After a short DVD of the gardens, our tour started - a 2-hour walk through the various 'rooms' with a guide in a group of 12 - our guide was excellent and very knowledgeable, not referring to her notes at all. Although we had to stay with the guide - visitors are not permitted to wander round alone - there was plenty of time to take in all the different aspects of each garden which were in amazing contrast to each other.

The Stumpery is inspired by a Victorian idea of growing ferns among upturned tree stumps and at Highgrove these tree stumps are all from fallen or necessarily felled trees, not only from within Highgrove, but brought in from other royal estates. They are placed architecturally and over time are 'decorated' with wild flowers all from seeds dropped by the birds and provide homes for a variety of insects and birdlife.

The Cottage Garden is a quintessentially English mixture of trees, shrubs, herbaceous plants and bulbs for year-round colour and the Sundial Garden comes to life in the summer with a spectacular display of delphiniums. The beds are edged with box and the entire garden is surrounded by clipped yew hedges.

The Thyme Walk is planted with 20 different varieties of thyme, together with marjoram and primroses and lined with clipped golden yew leading down to the Lily Pool

Garden. There are about 15 or so clipped yews and in a little quirky touch each one is looked after by a different

gardener who can clip into any topiary shape - apparently a source of great competition amongst them.

On approaching the Lily Pool at the end of the Thyme Walk, Michael commented that it reminded him of the font in Salisbury Cathedral. A few minutes later, almost on cue, our guide told us that it was designed by the sculptor William Pye who had also designed the font in the Cathedral!

The 4-acre Wild Flower Meadow is stunning - originally planted with a 32-piece seed mix, over 100 varieties can now be counted. Dotted with oaks, chestnuts, poplars and beech, it is cut in summer and grazed by the Highgrove sheep between September and December which helps tread the seeds back into the ground.

Quite apart from the beauty of the gardens, the estate is managed to strict sustainable principles; rainwater is used for irrigation and a specially designed reed bed sewage system manages the estate's waste water. The use of solar panels for heating and the composting of all garden waste ensure that the gardens are as self-sufficient and environmentally friendly as possible.

One of the restrictions on visiting is that no photographs are allowed but this actually turned out to be a good idea as instead of stopping to take photos, it was much more enjoyable to just listen to the guide and enjoy all the features and history of each individual garden - the full glory of the gardens can always be seen on the Highgrove website.

The whole experience was most enjoyable and extremely well-organised in a very low-key and unobtrusive way, culminating in a beautifully served champagne tea and at no time were we rushed through, plenty of time to take it all in and almost unaware of other groups also being shown round the garden.

Michael and Wendy

THE WAY I SEE IT - Holidays and Holy-days

'Going to go somewhere nice for your holidays?' is the standard hairdresser's opening gambit at this time of year. 'Yes', I reply, 'I'm staying here'. They laugh politely, but clearly that's not their idea of a holiday.



In an average life holidays go through stages. Do you remember your late teens, and the thrill of independence - hitch-hiking with a friend across Germany, or scuba diving, or climbing mountains or camping (in the rain)? Then it's couples, and memorable meals in little cafes in Italy or France. Next, perhaps, it's children - warm sunshine, beaches, Spain or Cornwall. Then it's retirement, and apart from grand-parent duties it's cruises ('cheaper than staying at home!' they tell me, but I don't believe it).

The final stage is where I am now, the holiday season as a time when the fever of life cools, when there's room on the buses and trains, and blissful idleness punctuated by the occasional theatre outing or visit to Lord's to snooze and watch county cricket.

Each phase has its appeal, and each can fulfil the fundamental principle of a holiday, which is hidden in the very word. It is, of course, a holy-day, because God commanded us to rest as well as work, and space and time to think, reflect and pray are precious holiday gifts. At the different stages of life our holiday needs are different. What it should offer is a change from the normal, a new environment (even if it's only the local park) and new experiences to treasure during the months of winter. God invented the Sabbath because we needed it. Enjoy your holy-days, wherever or whatever they are.

Canon David Winter

The Church of England is facing a serious shortage – of church organists

Be very, very nice to your church organist, and don't upset them, because they are becoming somewhat of an endangered species in the Church of England. In fact, so many churches now have organs, but no organists, that nearly one in three churches have introduced recorded organ music for their congregations to sing along to.

A recent survey found something very ominous: that less than four per cent of churches have organists aged 30 years old or under. Almost half of all churches who do have organists report that they are older than 70.

But recorded organ music is hardly ideal – it tends not to leave enough time between lines, and so rushes the singing along. Also, there is a weaker sense of togetherness and community, if you are singing along to a machine, rather than a person well known to you.

The survey was done by the diocese of St Edmundsbury & Ipswich's music development director.

(We really do appreciate all you do Ewa!)

Answers to Bible quiz on page 5

The books of the Bible, as they appear in the quiz, are as follows: Amos, Mark, Luke, John, Joel, Judges, Job, Hebrews, Esther, Acts, James, Ruth, Romans, Titus, Matthew, Genesis, Philemon (spelt Phillemon in quiz), Chronicles, Daniel, Nahum, Hosea, Lamentations, Revelation, Timothy, Samuel, Numbers, Malachi, Peter, Exodus, Kings.

St James the Apostle - Apostle to Spain

James and his brother John were sons of Zebedee and fishermen from Galilee - the 'sons of thunder', as the gospel writers describe their impetuous characters and fiery tempers.

James stands out on three accounts: he was one of the three disciples who witnessed the Transfiguration of Christ. Jesus took him, along with Peter and John, to 'watch' with him in the garden of Gethsemane. Finally, he went on to be the first apostle to die for the Christian faith, when in AD 44 King Herod Agrippa put him to the sword in Jerusalem at Passover time.

In the centuries following his death, James became associated with the evangelising of Spain, and as a powerful defender of Christianity against the Moors. The heyday of the cult of Santiago de Compostela was from the 12th to the 15th century, and the pilgrimage to Compostela became one of the most important of medieval Christendom. This in time transformed the iconography of James, and his emblems became the pilgrim's hat and the scallop-shell of Compostela. Over 400 English churches have been dedicated to James.

FROM THE REGISTERS

Funeral

11th June Keith Ryder Hockey (89)

ALTAR FLOWERS

Sunday 1 st July	Rozanne Parsons
Sunday 8 th July	Rozanne Parsons
Sunday 15 th July	Gilly Bourne
Sunday 22 nd July	Gilly Bourne
Sunday 29 th July	Grace Martin



MAGAZINE DEADLINE

The deadline for the August edition of the
Church Magazine is
Friday 20th July