

PEWTALK 50_P

September 2020



EAST & WEST TILBURY AND LINFORD PARISH MAGAZINE

Parish web site: www.stcatherinesthurrock.org.uk

BITS AND PIECES

October PEWTALK: The October edition of the magazine will not be out until nearer to the middle of October as I will be on holiday at the end of September / beginning of October. This is why this month's calendar extends to the 15th October.

"Easyfundraising": As I was working on this issue of the magazine I had an email advising that we had just been paid our latest quarterly payment to 30th June 2020 which amounted to £36.72. Many thanks to everyone who has supported us in this way.

100 Club The response to the appeal for support for the 100 Club has been most heartening as has the appeal for regular giving to be continued during the time that we were unable to attend Church. **Re. the 100 Club** Norman was delighted that two recently purchased tickets were bought by people who are well into their nineties. I know that it is rude to reveal people's ages so I will resist, but as I have known them both all my life I will give a couple of hints. One is the daughter of the Bata butcher the other a member of the Bata Fire Brigade. Thank you to everyone who has contributed and apologies if I have embarrassed anyone. The first 100 Club draw will be in Church on the first Sunday in September. It would be great to have a few more contributions to set a record £400 contribution to Church Funds.

Harvest Thanksgiving - At the recent PCC meeting it was recognised that, with the current COVID regulations it is not possible to have a harvest meal (whether lunch or supper). However Revd. Michèle is planning a special harvest themed

service for 10am at St. Catherine's on Sunday 4th October. As in previous years we will support the Thurrock foodbank with donations of non-perishable food.

Annual church meetings - Because of the coronavirus pandemic we were not allowed to hold our usual annual meetings earlier in the year but they must now be held before the end of October. It has been agreed by the PCC that our meetings will be held after the morning service on Sunday 25th October. At these meetings we will receive the annual financial accounts and a report of the parish activities for the year 2019. We will also need to elect Churchwardens and members of the PCC. To be able to vote at the meeting you need to be on the parish electoral roll. If you want to check whether you are or if you wish to be added to it speak to Kathy Bird who is our electoral roll officer.

Churchyard - If you have visited the churchyard at St. Catherine's recently you may have noticed a couple of things. The first is that the grass has been brought back under control with hard work by our volunteer mowers and the Community Payback Team. The second is that person or persons unknown decided to "treat" half of one of the ashes memorials with some kind of "preservative". Sadly the wood that the memorial is made of is green oak and does not need preservative and is meant to age naturally. Unfortunately whoever was responsible has not come forward and so we do not know how to restore the memorial - the cost of which will sadly fall on the parish.

Reflections from The Rectory



So, this time last year (27th August 2019) 'Essex Removals' were packing up our belongings in preparation for our move to The Rectory in Linford the next day. There then followed several days of hastily getting the Rectory in order so that I would be up and running for my Licensing Service at St Catherine's in East Tilbury on 5th September.

During the licensing service the new minister and church community are dedicated and commissioned to continue the mission and ministry of God in the parish. The new minister stands before the Bishop and makes declarations and promises, I suppose a bit like when a young person joins one of the uniformed groups and promises 'to do their best'. Promises made, the 'Licence' is then signed and the Bishop presents it to the new minister with the words, 'Receive this cure of souls, which is both yours and mine; in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.' As I write my first anniversary is fast approaching and what an extraordinary first year in the parish it has been.

The emphasis during the Licensing Service is very much on priest and people working together. Each person has their role to play to work for the greater good and one of the things I really enjoy about being here in this parish is the really strong sense of teamwork. Lots of people are willing to work very hard so that we can make our churches places of hospitality and welcome. Together we strive to ensure that St Catherine's and St Francis are sacred spaces for people to visit regularly or occasionally, in times of great joy and times of great sadness and feel the comfort and love that holy places offer.

Of course, this year, we have seen church buildings and places of worship having to close because of the lockdown we all endured during the months of March to July, and beyond in some places. During that time we were determined that the Foodbank at St Francis should be kept running and we were allowed to have St Francis open for this purpose. The Foodbank was extremely busy and with your support we were able to offer God's love to those in need in a very practical way.

For Priests and people Church is a little different now and there is a 'new normal' to embrace in our church services. But with just a little time and effort and a lot of cleaning and sourcing of handgel St Catherine's and St Francis are open once again on Sunday and Wednesday mornings. We have even been able to host a socially distanced wedding and baptism which brought such joy in these challenging times.

As I look back over this last year it is with sadness that I recall the farewells there have been within the church family ~ June Hutson, Sue Spiers, June Clifford and Valerie Doyle. I knew each one for just a little while but each one has enriched my life because of the encounter. And as one generation leaves us a new one joins and we welcomed the arrival of Chloe Olivia Louise Crickmay. Chloe and older brother Charlie with their mum

Vikki join us for our midweek communion services or as Charlie likes to describe it 'biscuit Amen'. They certainly bring a smile to our Wednesday mornings.

So, an extraordinary year where much has been not as we would have designed it and hopes and dreams and plans for new projects paused. But as with all of life's challenges we learn a lot about ourselves and those we work with when times are difficult and you have to dig deep to keep going.

At my licensing service last year the Bishop asked me the following questions:

Michèle, do you believe, so far as you know your own heart, that God has called you to serve here?

Michèle, will you commit yourself to the mission and ministry of the people in this place, to further the kingdom of God?

And I replied: I believe that God has called me. With the help of God, I will.

A year on those answers remain the same and I look forward to what lies ahead and all that we will achieve together.

I conclude with words of heartfelt thanks to the Churchwarden, members of the PCC and members of the church family whose love, support and prayers have made this first year very special. Thank You all so much.

Stay safe and keep well,

Every Blessing, *Revd Michèle.*

Louis Pasteur – 'father' of microbiology

A tiny invisible thing that brings disease and death where have we heard that before?! But Louis Pasteur, who died 125 years ago this month, on 28th September 1895, was not interested in a virus from China, but in tiny living organisms that brought disease and death in other ways.



Pasteur made some outstanding breakthroughs. He discovered the principles of vaccination, and then created the first vaccines for anthrax and rabies. His medical discoveries provided support for the germ theory of disease and nullified the theory of spontaneous generation.

But Louis Pasteur is best known for his invention of the technique of treating milk and wine to stop bacterial contamination, a process that was named after him: pasteurisation. In doing so, he saved the French beer, wine and silk industries.

All in all, this gifted French biologist, microbiologist, and chemist well deserves his title as the 'father of microbiology,' and to be seen as one of the three main founders of bacteriology.

Flowers for our first wedding after "lockdown"

It was with great pleasure Pam, Carole and I met in church to arrange flowers for the wedding of Garron and Vanessa on 11th August.

The kitchen was full of flowers and greenery to start our masterpieces. I felt Sue whispering in my ear with words of encouragement, an extra flower here or a tweak there.

Arrangements of pinks and greens filled St. Catherine's. Pedestal and window arrangements adding to the atmosphere and beauty of our church.

It was our honour to help in the preparation for the forthcoming wedding.

If you would like to join our team of flower arrangers you would be very welcome just have a chat with Pam Painter or myself and we can let you know when we meet.

Would you like a flower arrangement to remember an anniversary or special occasion? Just let us know and we can arrange that for you. We would like to start a flower fund for these flowers and Reverend Michèle is going to find a donation box for contributions.

The expression 'stop and smell the roses' is not simply about flowers, but rather to slow down and notice the little things that makes life worthwhile.

Flower arranging makes you smile, enjoying the scent and sense of self worth with your creation, come and join us

Kathy Bird



Kathy's veggie recipe

Did you know that you don't have to eat meat to eat protein? Many green vegetables and pulses will give you enough protein for a healthy life style.

So the trick is to be creative and develop tasty meals.

During our Foodbank sessions Kim and I would talk about food and I told her about a lunch that my daughter and I enjoyed. Kim tried it and agreed it was worth a mention in Pewtalk - so here goes.

A lunchtime sandwich: use hummus instead of butter and spread on 2 slices of bread, lightly grill or spray with fry light oil and fry slices of courgette or aubergine, add these to your sandwich and enjoy.

Back to School

Mother to young daughter after first day at school: "Well, dear, what did they teach you today?"

Daughter: "Not much. I've got to go back again tomorrow."

Celebrating 400th anniversary of the voyage of the *Mayflower*

If we find it difficult to cross the Atlantic just now, it was even worse 400 years this month. On 6th September 1620, 102 determined Puritans climbed on board the *Mayflower* and set sail from Plymouth. They had 30 crew to steer them across 3000 miles of open, perilous ocean.



Those Puritans, or 'Pilgrim fathers', could never have dreamed that their journey would become one of the most influential in world history. Their courage and purpose for the voyage would help shape the very history and culture of the USA.

The Pilgrim fathers themselves were in search of religious freedom and a new life. Years before they had rejected the Church of England, due to its Roman Catholic past, and in 1608 they had moved to Holland, where they could worship freely. But life was very hard there, and so the New World beckoned to them.

They had originally intended to use two ships, but the *Speedwell* sprang a leak shortly after sailing, and so they crowded as many as possible into the *Mayflower*. After a long and difficult 10 weeks at sea, they reached America, but could not reach their intended destination, Virginia, because of heavy seas. They finally landed in Provincetown Harbor, Cape Cod, Massachusetts on 11th November.

That presented the next great challenge: the bitter, harsh winter of Massachusetts. Half of the Pilgrims perished that first winter, of hunger and cold. Without the help of the local Indigenous peoples to teach them food-gathering and other survival skills, all of the colony would probably have perished.

After months of hard work, by the 'Fall' of 1621 the tiny colony had its first harvest. They celebrated this great achievement with their new Indigenous friends. It became Thanksgiving. The Pilgrims had been convinced that God wanted them to go to the New World. They wrote: "We verily believe and trust the Lord is with us, and that He will graciously prosper our endeavours according to the simplicity of our hearts therein."

The *Mayflower* was one of the earliest pilgrim vessels, and so became a cultural icon in the history of the United States. This year, until coronavirus put a stop to things, many celebrations in the USA, England and the Netherlands had been planned.

Are politicians the oldest profession?

A surgeon, an architect and a politician were arguing as to whose profession was the oldest. Said the surgeon: "Eve was made from Adam's rib, and that surely was a surgical operation."

"Maybe," admitted the architect, "but prior to that, order was created out of chaos, and that was an architectural job."

"But," the politician pointed out in triumph, "somebody had to have created the chaos in the first place!"

Norman's "lockdown" Reflections

I know that we still have restrictions Wearing Face Masks Social Distancing etc. But things are easing so I thought I would reflect on the past five months with my pluses and minuses and some ways in which I have been affected.

Pluses -

I have lost some weight by eating less and walking daily plus working in the garden. I can cook a few dishes. Our garden looks O.K. and better than it has for years. The Shed and Garage are very clean and tidy. Paperwork and Files are up to date I have read a couple of good history books and sports autobiographies.

In the early days of the lockdown there was live football on TV. Sheila claims every day!

I am better at Suduko and Crosswords.

Minuses -

Missing seeing friends and attending Meetings/Social events. Missing Church, the drop In coffee mornings and friends social events. No golf. Cancelling holidays and chasing refunds. Not eating out after a walk.

Other ways in which the "lockdown" has affected me .

I am not that confident about going out and anxious to get back home. The first time out in the car I felt nervous and I was probably ultra cautious. I have had very strange and never ending dreams

AndSheila's thoughts on moving forward

Since the easing of restrictions we are now back at church services both at St. Catherine's and St. Francis with social distancing and wearing face masks as we move about. It is good that many members of our congregation are enjoying a chat outside after the service at St. Catherine's and a coffee at. St Francis on Wednesday, table service does work and Norman did well as a trainee waiter!

Thank you to Patricia for making the face masks, we now have a selection of machine washable masks . Patricia has asked for donations to the church which to date have exceeded £60.

I have got back to entertaining friends for lunch or afternoon tea in the garden adapting recipes for individual plates so we can still keep our distance.

Norman is now back at golf on Mondays and we have enjoyed coffee and toasted teacake after our walks at Hanningfield reservoir and Heybridge Basin, we even got this for half price under the government 'eat out scheme'.

And.....

Norman also reminded me that many of us have mostly the same notes in our wallets as we had before "lockdown" - the effect of contactless payments. *Ed*

FROM THE AUGUST MEETINGS OF THE P.C.C.

The P.C.C. had another extraordinary "ZOOM" meeting on Wednesday 26th August to deal with a number of matters. The minutes of the extraordinary meeting in July were approved and there were no matters arising from them.

The first item of business was to review how the church services at St. Catherine's and St. Francis, which restarted in August, had been received. Everyone agreed that the COVID arrangements had worked well with all those attending feeling safe. It was known that those members of the congregations that had felt able to attend much appreciated the fact that they could attend public worship once again. Revd. Michèle was thanked for all her hard work in planning the safe operation of the buildings and she commented that her chaplaincy work had given her valuable insights into the precautions that were required. There was some discussion about the numbers that could be accommodated and Revd. Michèle said that there was some scope to "tweak" the seating to match the combination of singles and couples that are attending. The "table service" drop-in at St. Francis was discussed and it was also judged to be a success with several of our previous visitors enjoying the chance to chat.

The meeting went on to discuss the reopening of St. Francis to other groups. Revd. Michèle explained that she had been in touch and asked that the leaders meet with her. She had already spoken with some of them to agree what is possible within the COVID guidelines.

Norman gave an overview of the parish finances and thanked all those that had joined the "100" club this year and those that had been able to continue their regular church contributions. In answer to a question from Janice he said that it was possible to use a direct debit for this purpose by getting in touch with him.

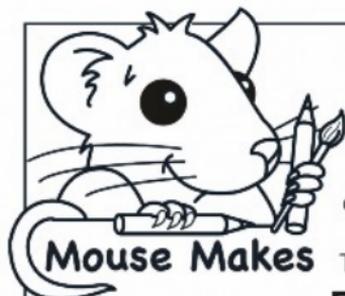
It was noted that there had been a survey of the trees at St. Catherine's that showed that were generally in good health but some minor surgery was required. It was agreed to get quotes for this work.

The recent damage to one of the ashes memorials was noted and to date nobody had admitted to doing it. Revd. Michèle was contacting the Diocesan DAC for advice as to how to deal with the issue. It was noted that the churchyard grass was looking much better with thanks to those involved.

The committee agreed draft proposals produced by the Diocese for the transfer of the West Tilbury churchyard to the owner of St. James subject to confirmation of the right of future burials into existing grave spaces.

It was noted that the church annual meetings that could not take place earlier this year must take place by the end of October and it was agreed that ours would be on Sunday 25th October.

It was agreed that it was not possible to agree anything about harvest celebrations, Remembrance Sunday or a memorial and Thanksgiving service at this time.



The **Bible** is a collection of **books** that took over 2,000 years to write! The books were written by many different people, all helped and inspired by God. The Bible has books about:

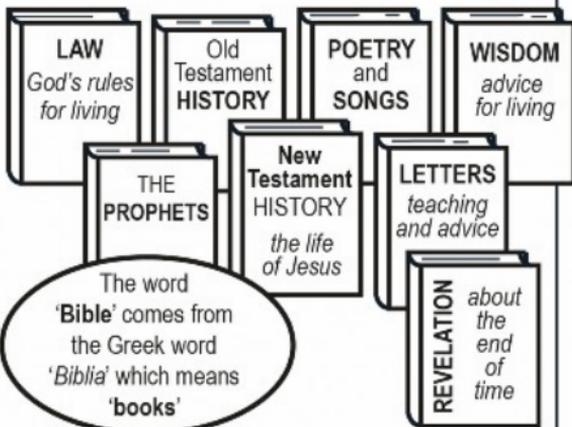
There are **66** books in the Bible. How many can you name?



BIBLE WORDS

The Bible words in **BOLD** type on this page are also hidden in the word search, can you find them?

P L B O W I K
 R I O S I L G
 O G O N S W O
 P H K E D O L
 H T S W O R D
 E R L T M D O
 T E A E G O D
 S V W S E E D
 L E T T E R S
 T L W A N L O
 H A M M E R N
 O T I E H I G
 N I R N I R S
 E O R T S A B
 Y N O R T I I
 F I R E O N B
 P O E T R Y L
 F O O D Y O E



The word 'Bible' comes from the Greek word 'Biblia' which means 'books'

God speaks to us today as we read the Bible. The Bible encourages us, corrects us and shows us how to live, it also describes itself as:



Mirror
James 1:23



Food
Hebrews 5:12-6:1



Honey and Gold
Psalm 19:10



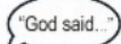
Light
Psalm 119:105



Rain
Isaiah 55:10-12



Seed
Mark 4:14



Living Word
Hebrews 4:12



Hammer
Jeremiah 23:29



Fire
Jeremiah 20:9



Sword
Ephesians 6:17

...but most of all The Bible teaches us about **God** and how we can be friends with Him.



PARISH DIARY FOR SEPTEMBER / OCTOBER

Our Sunday services are at St. Catherine's



We are now open for public worship at both St. Catherine's and St. Francis. With COVID-19 we have procedures to ensure that the buildings are safe. Please take care to follow the directions when you arrive. The Wednesday "drop-in" will also restart in a COVID safe manner with "Table service" refreshments.

2 Sep	No Service at St. Francis today "Table service" Community "Drop In" at St. Francis	10.00am - noon
3 Sep	Foodbank at St. Francis (N.B. no coffee morning)	11.00am - 1.00pm
6 Sep	13 th Sunday after Trinity Parish Communion (N.B. no refreshments afterwards)	10.00am
9 Sep	No Service at St. Francis today "Table service" Community "Drop In" at St. Francis	10.00am - noon
10 Sep	Foodbank at St. Francis (N.B. no coffee morning)	11.00am - 1.00pm
13 Sep	14 th Sunday after Trinity Parish Communion (N.B. no refreshments afterwards)	10.00am
16 Sep	Holy Communion (St Francis) "Table service" Community "Drop In" at St. Francis	10.00am 10.30am - noon
17 Sep	Foodbank at St. Francis (N.B. no coffee morning)	11.00am - 1.00pm
20 Sep	15 th Sunday after Trinity Parish Communion (N.B. no refreshments afterwards)	10.00am
23 Sep	Holy Communion (St Francis) "Table service" Community "Drop In" at St. Francis	10.00am 10.30am - noon
24 Sep	Foodbank at St. Francis (N.B. no coffee morning)	11.00am - 1.00pm
27 Sep	16 th Sunday after Trinity Parish Communion (N.B. no refreshments afterwards)	10.00am
30 Sep	Holy Communion (St Francis) "Table service" Community "Drop In" at St. Francis	10.00am 10.30am - noon
1 Oct	Foodbank at St. Francis (N.B. no coffee morning)	11.00am - 1.00pm
4 Oct	17 th Sunday after Trinity and Harvest Festival Service of thanksgiving for the Harvest	10.00am
7 Oct	Holy Communion (St Francis) "Table service" Community "Drop In" at St. Francis	10.00am 10.30am - noon
8 Oct	Foodbank at St. Francis (N.B. no coffee morning)	11.00am - 1.00pm



PARISH DIARY FOR SEPTEMBER / OCTOBER

Our Sunday services are at St. Catherine's



11 Oct	18 th Sunday after Trinity	
	Parish Communion (N.B. no refreshments afterwards)	10.00am
14 Oct	Holy Communion (St Francis)	10.00am
	"Table service" Community "Drop In" at St. Francis	10.30am - noon
15 Oct	Foodbank at St. Francis (N.B. no coffee morning)	11.00am - 1.00pm

A prayer for all those affected by corona virus

Keep us, good Lord, under the shadow of your mercy. Sustain and support the anxious, be with those who care for the sick, and lift up all who are brought low; that we may find comfort knowing that nothing can separate us from your love in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

FROM ST. CATHERINE'S PARISH REGISTERS

Baptisms

23 Aug Scarlett

Weddings

15 Aug Garron Leatherbarrow and Vanessa Steadman

Committal of ashes

none

Funeral

none

Could you use any of these items?

John Stokes, who is one of our Pewtalk subscribers and a supporter of the "100 club", no longer has any use for the items in the pictures. He is wanting to give them away to anyone who will have a good use for them but they have to be collected from his house in Linford. If you are interested just get in touch with the me on 01375-675863 and I will

put you in touch with John*Ed*



If you have noticed that two of the items that were advertised last month have gone. They were gratefully received by Brenda and Daphne. The wheelchair, shown this time, was omitted last month by mistake.



The Parish

The Priest in charge

REVD. MICHÈLE MARSHALL

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Stanford-le-Hope

Essex, SS17 0QA.

Telephone: 01375 671754

email: mjmarshall@fastmail.co.uk

The Services

Sunday 10.00 a.m. Holy Communion service at St. Catherine's
Except 1st Sunday of the month when we have
"The Family Service"

Wednesday 10.00 a.m. Holy Communion at St. Francis
For Baptisms, Weddings or Funerals please contact the Priest in Charge.

The Churchwarden

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St. Francis Centre

The centre is available for hire for regular events when not used by the Church. To check availability please contact:

PATRICIA STRONG

patricia.a.strong@outlook.com

Copy Dates for Pewtalk

21st September 2020

23rd October 2020

22nd November 2020