

ST LAWRENCE CHURCH

Hatfield, including Dunscroft, Dunsville,
Hatfield Woodhouse and Lindholme

The Fruit of the Spirit
is
Love JOY Peace
Patience
Kindness Goodness
Faithfulness
Gentleness
and Self-control

Galatians 5: verse 22

Church Officers

Vicar The Rev'd Chris Bishop
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Email: father.chris@outlook.com

The church is not a postal address but the postcode for SatNavs is DN7 6HN, what three words is caressed. ports. heartless

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Curate The Rev'd Chris Wroot
Priest with PTO The Rev'd Joyce Barker
Readers with PTO Beryl Adamson
Viv Stubbs

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Safeguarding Officer Viv Stubbs
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Local Information

Childline tel. 0800 1111

South Yorkshire Police
Emergency 999 or 112
Non-emergency 101

Hatfield Health Centre
tel. 01302 897600

Out of Hours Doctor
tel. 01302 761172

Homestart
tel. 01302 340856

Family Lives
tel: 08088 002222

Bus help line
tel: 01709 515151

Travis St Lawrence C of E Primary School
Lower School tel. 01302 840200
Upper School tel. 842164

Roman Catholic Priest
Roman Catholic Priest:
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07714 793120

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tel : 01302 842799

Funeral Directors
Charles Carpenter Funeral Services
tel. 01302 841679

B A Wright & Sons
tel. 01302 841296
tel. 01302 880450

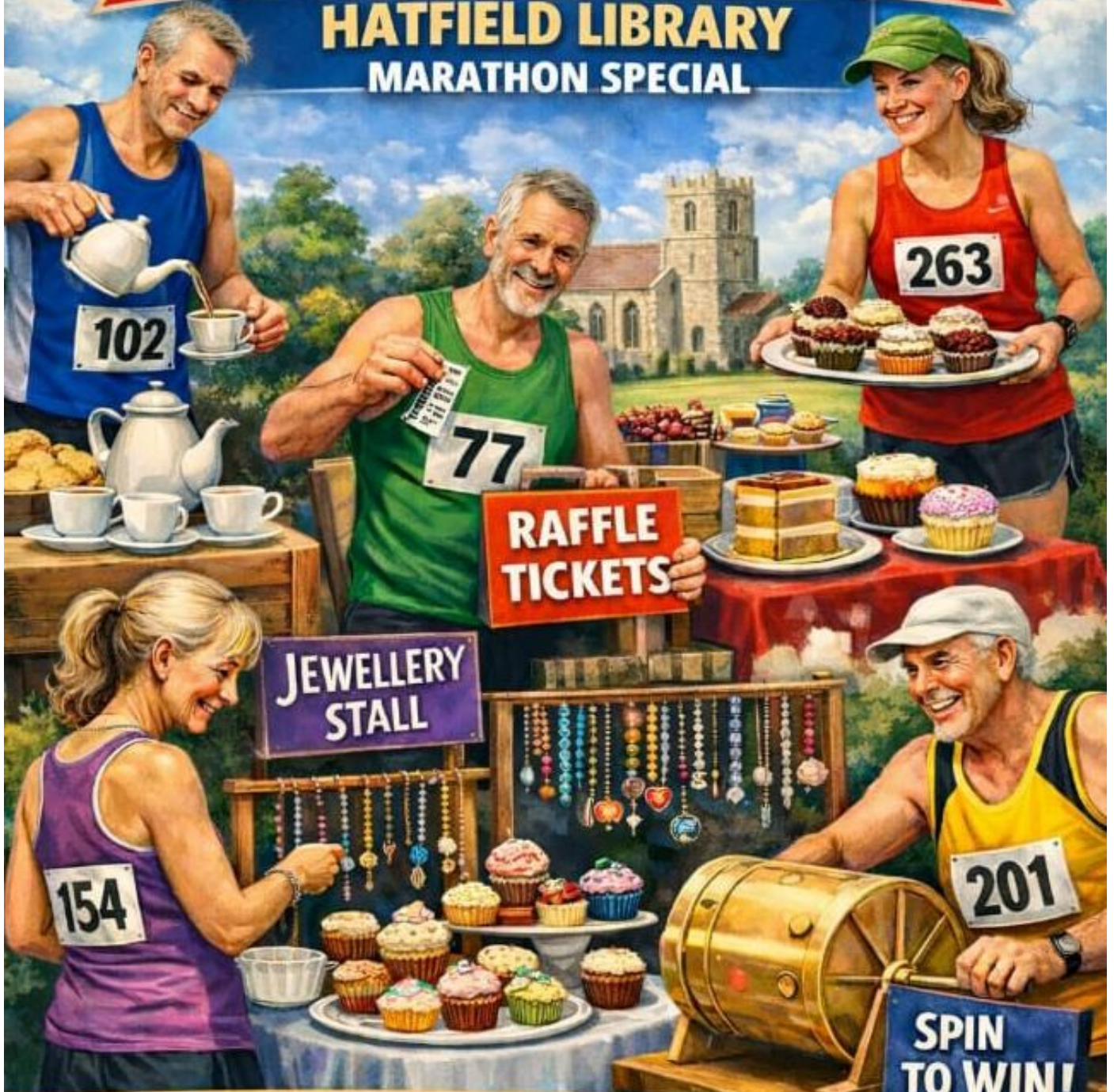
Wade's Funeral Service
tel. 01405 812966

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COFFEE MORNING

IN AID OF THE FRIENDS OF
HATFIELD CHURCH BUILDING TRUST

HATFIELD LIBRARY
MARATHON SPECIAL



SAT 25th APRIL

• 10AM – 12 PM •

A Word From the Vicar

Friends, as I look back over this past year, I am filled with gratitude. Gratitude for people, for grace, and for the unmistakable work of Jesus Christ among us. This has been a year where the Lord has gently but unmistakably drawn us deeper into His mission, strengthened our safeguarding culture, and grown us as disciples who long to see Hatfield encounter the living God. If there has been one theme running through our life together this year, it is this: **Jesus is making St Lawrence a well: a place where the thirsty can drink deeply of His life.** We have seen this in so many ways.

Lawrence's Place

What began as a simple idea has become a place of warmth, welcome, and genuine community. The buzz on Saturday mornings, the conversations, the laughter, the sense of belonging is not something we manufactured. It is the fruit of the Spirit at work among us. People who have never stepped into church before are finding a home here.

Mission Week

One of the highlights of our year. It was a week where we stepped out in faith, prayed boldly, and opened our doors and our lives to the parish. We visited homes, offered prayer on the streets, shared meals, listened to stories, and invited people to encounter the hope of Jesus. It reminded us that mission is not an event but a posture: **we go because Christ first came to us.**

A Missional Shift

We still have work to do in shifting from “come to us” to “we go to them.” But this year we have taken real steps: visiting homes, care settings, and those unable to attend church, strengthening our links with other local faith groups, offering prayer, presence, and practical help across the parish. More and more, people in Hatfield describe St Lawrence as: “warm, safe & caring”.

Safeguarding: A Gospel Commitment

Safeguarding has remained at the heart of our leadership and ministry. This year we have continued to embed a culture where safeguarding is not an administrative burden but **a gospel commitment**, a way of loving our neighbour and honouring Christ. Key developments include: every warden, PCC member, and volunteer completing or renewing training

- safeguarding scenarios discussed regularly at meetings
- clear expectations for all leaders and volunteers through Codes of Conduct
- a renewed emphasis on confidentiality, accountability, and transparency
- pastoral boundaries strengthened and modelled.

Jesus calls His church to be a place of safety, dignity, and honour. By God's grace, we are becoming that place.

Discipleship: Deepening Roots, Growing Faith

This year has seen a quiet but significant deepening of discipleship across the church. Our worship from the 10am Eucharist to the 4pm Family Service and everything in between is truly beginning to form us. We have worked hard to make our worship accessible, reverent, seasonal and joyful.

More people are praying aloud, praying for one another, and praying expectantly. Our intercessions are more rooted in mission, justice, and the needs of our community. Our growth groups are helping to shape us. People are asking deeper questions. Sermons are sparking conversations that continue long after Sunday. God is doing something here in Hatfield. Our story is being noticed. Our faithfulness is bearing fruit. And our small steps of obedience are part of a much larger movement of renewal across the Church of England.

Our Key Passage for the Year: Deuteronomy 6:4–12

As we look ahead, I want to introduce our key Scripture for the coming year: This passage known as the *Shema* is the beating heart of biblical faith. And I believe it is the word God is giving to St Lawrence for this season.

Why this passage? Because it calls us to:

remember who God is

love Him with our whole lives

teach the next generation

live our faith in our homes, our conversations, our decisions

guard against forgetting the Lord in times of comfort or challenge

Hatfield needs a church that is **rooted**. A church that remembers. A church that loves God wholeheartedly. A church that passes on the faith with joy and clarity. A church that refuses to forget the Lord.

Throughout the coming year, we will be doing **deep work** on this passage: in sermons, growth groups, prayer, in our leadership, in our family ministry & in our mission

My prayer is that Deuteronomy 6:4–12 will shape us, steady us, and send us. We are not a perfect church. But we are a church in whom Christ is at work. And that is enough.

Thank you for your faithfulness, your generosity, your prayers, and your love. It is a privilege to serve as your Vicar.

To Christ be the glory, in this parish and in every heart.

Arrangements for Baptism (Christening) and Weddings

St Lawrence would love to celebrate your special day with you and your family. The first step in arranging a Baptism or a Wedding is to attend one of our services. Please introduce yourself to Chris our Vicar, who will speak with you about the next steps.

These are joyful and life changing events! Both require making serious promises before God and some preparation will take place before a date can be set.

Another option for Parents is a 'Thanksgiving Service' rather than a Baptism. This is a great way to celebrate the gift of a child with family and friends for those who aren't quite sure about God, but would still like to thank Him for the gift of a new life! Thanksgiving Services can be booked directly with Chris our Vicar and don't require any preparation.

Funerals

Thomas Leslie Braiden

Annmarie Stone



Chris our Parish Priest is very happy to be contacted directly by email or phone to arrange a convenient time for any of the following;

A conversation for spiritual guidance and advice

The Sacrament of Confession

House Blessings

Visiting parishioners, especially the sick

Ministry at the time of death (day or night)

Our church's passage for the year—

see pages 4 and 5 for the context.

Deuteronomy 6:4-12

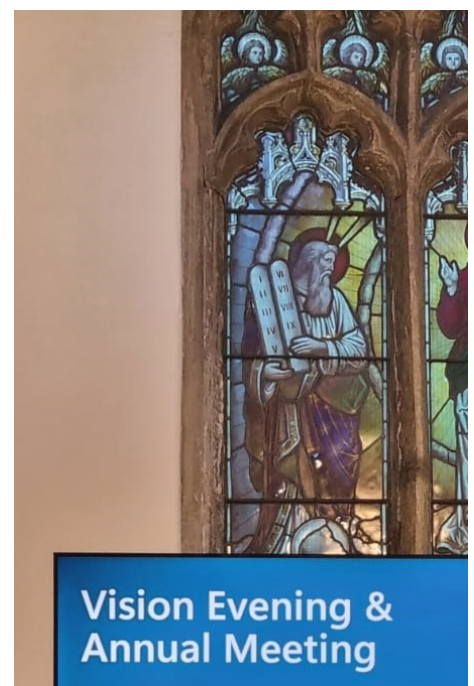
⁴ Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one.

⁵ Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. ⁶ These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. ⁷ Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. ⁸ Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. ⁹ Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates.

¹⁰ When the LORD your God brings you into the land he swore to your fathers, to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, to give you—a land with large, flourishing cities you did not build, ¹¹ houses filled with all kinds of good things you did not provide, wells you did not dig, and vineyards and olive groves you did not plant—then when you eat and are satisfied, ¹² be careful that you do not forget the LORD, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery.

This was from the Vision Evening that was held on 22nd April. As we all sat there, watching photos from through the year, following the words of songs, reading along as someone read aloud, we had this as background. It's the window above the "devil's door" which shows us Moses holding the Commandments, and it was a strong reminder of verse 6,

"These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts."



100 Club and Vera's chatter

First prize Anne E Bennett

Second prize Jean Singleton

Third prize Julia Green

Well, done ladies, have fun and thank you for taking part.

A quarter of the way through the year, how did that happen? My Christmas tree fell out of the shed as I rummaged to get my Easter decorations out, I told it firmly to get back on it's shelf it's not your turn yet, but at this rate it soon will be!

We had a fabulous time at Spring Harvest Skegness a couple of weeks ago, I appreciate Butlins Skegness may not be everyone's idea of fun but for me being in the middle of thousands of like minded people all there to learn more about God and share their experiences is a little tiny taste of Heaven. Thank you Maureen Scott and Terry Raper for doing the leg work for us. Next year's dates are 5th-9th April 2027 if you are curious, please speak to them, Viv or me. Rhys and I had an unfortunate incident involving hot water and overflowing bathroom sink, please ask me about it. It is enough to say the staff were gold stars, the classic comment was "at least the water was clean and hot, we will clean up much worse in the summer ." If I was a hugger I would have taken their breath away.

We came back to a half finished kitchen refit, work tops on today so very nearly straight and loving it . My thanks to Jill McGarvie for introducing me to M&S ready meals. They do a wide variety of really edible "ping" meals which have kept us happy, although I am looking forward to being able to bake again soon. There is an urgent reason to get baking, The Friends of Hatfield Church Building Trust are holding a coffee morning in the library on Saturday 25th April, 10-12 usual attractions plus a chocolate tombola from the DN7 Community Food Bank. The HCBT was set up in 1997, its sole purpose is to maintain, repair and improve the Hatfield Church of St Lawrence and its church yard. Over the years they have funded lots of repairs, most recently picking up a large proportion of the cost following the vandalism of the stained glass windows, they are now eagerly awaiting the opportunity to help pay for

the repair of the window above the devil's door and The Hatfield Monument. If your interest is in the grade 1 listed building and its history rather than the spiritual element why not join us and be someone to keep the wonderful building in good repair for the next millennium... we look forward to meeting you on the 25th.

We have recently lost two friends from St Lawrence, Andy Riggott and Rob Bateson, both delightful gentlemen. Andy and I had many hilarious conversations when he explained the error of my ways being a vegetarian. The fact that he was a butcher had a bit to do with it I think, but a lovely memory. Andy had a wonderful singing voice, often being accompanied by his wife Barbara on the piano or organ at events, a sad time for his family. Rob Bateson and his wife Betty were founder members of the HCBT and many other local community organisations. I always felt Rob was the strength that allowed Betty to flourish, they were a team and a joy to be with. Both gentlemen lived their lives gently or perhaps not, because I only met them in their later years, perhaps someone will write beautiful tales of their lives for us to remember them. It always irritates me when I attend funerals and realise that I knew so little about the person being celebrated. What I do know is that they are now safe for eternity and will be missed.

Still on the subject of service Viv, Elaine, Dawn and I will be church cleaning on 8th May and 12th June at 2pm, come and join us if you have time, the other team will be going in at the end of the month. I am sure the new Church wardens will be publishing a rota in the near future.

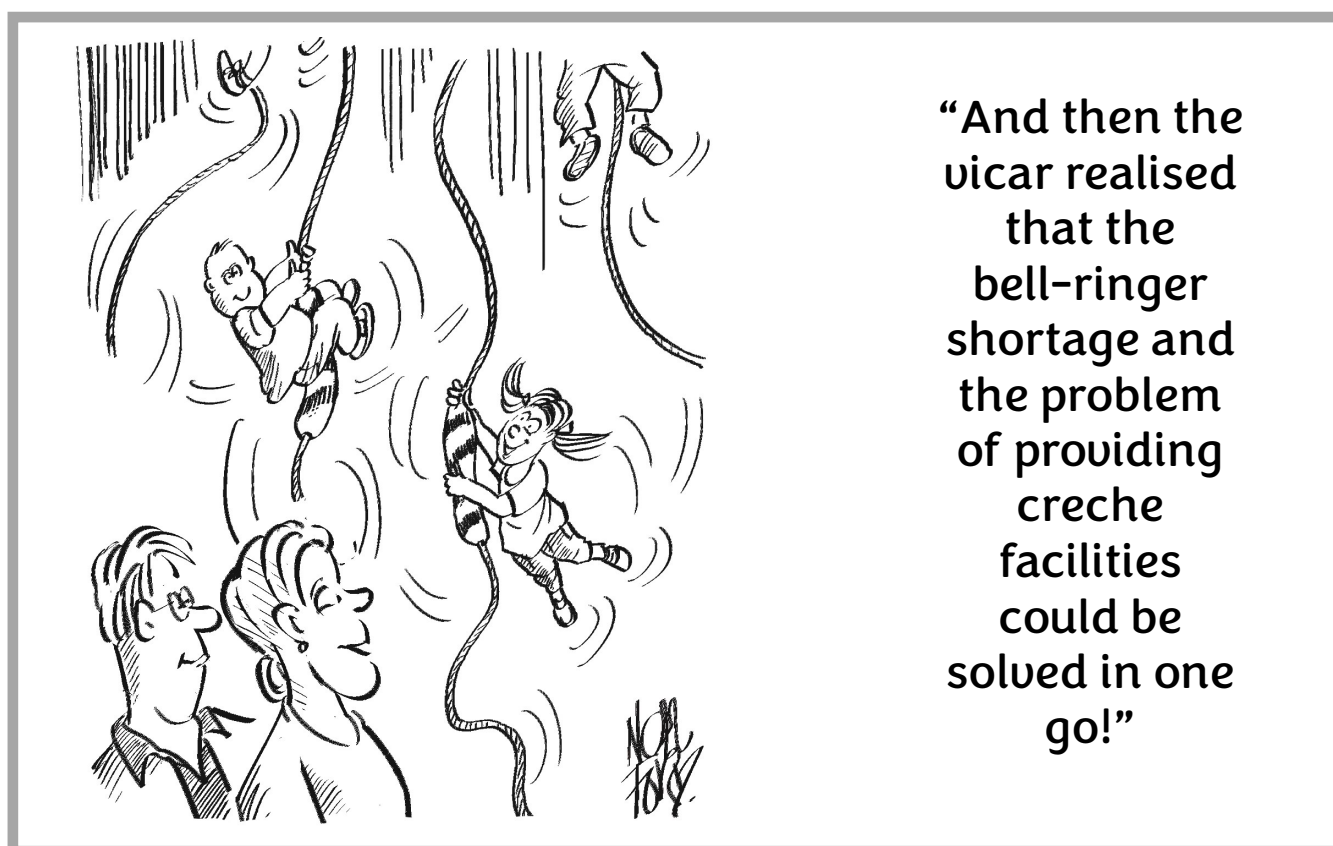
Good link that, well done Chrissy and Terry for shepherding us through this year of great change in the life of St Lawrence, relax and enjoy coming to services now without the 'what if?' anxieties, we have been blessed by your service, and I thank God for your both. By the time you read this we will know who has stepped up and taken on the responsibility of the role. I pray God has chosen two strong sensible Christians to go forward, who can be listening ears for the congregation as well as support to the clergy team.

To end, come and support the coffee morning Saturday 9th May 10-12 in the Barn. Christian Aid has been one of our chosen charities for many years and now possibly more than ever the need is great. My prayer is that the world can turn itself inside out and learn to care for itself and everyone in it, God must wonder why we have become so stupid and selfish. I will share this magic moment with you I was browsing in TK Maxx when I

became aware of some giggly teenagers behind me, they picked up a very flamboyant handbag and said “oh God our . . . would love this”, giggle. Mum was standing beside them in her Hijab and immediately apologised for their language, telling them to be respectful to this Christian lady (I presume my crucifix was visible). We smiled at each other and went about our day. Wouldn't it be wonderful if all the world could be so tolerant.

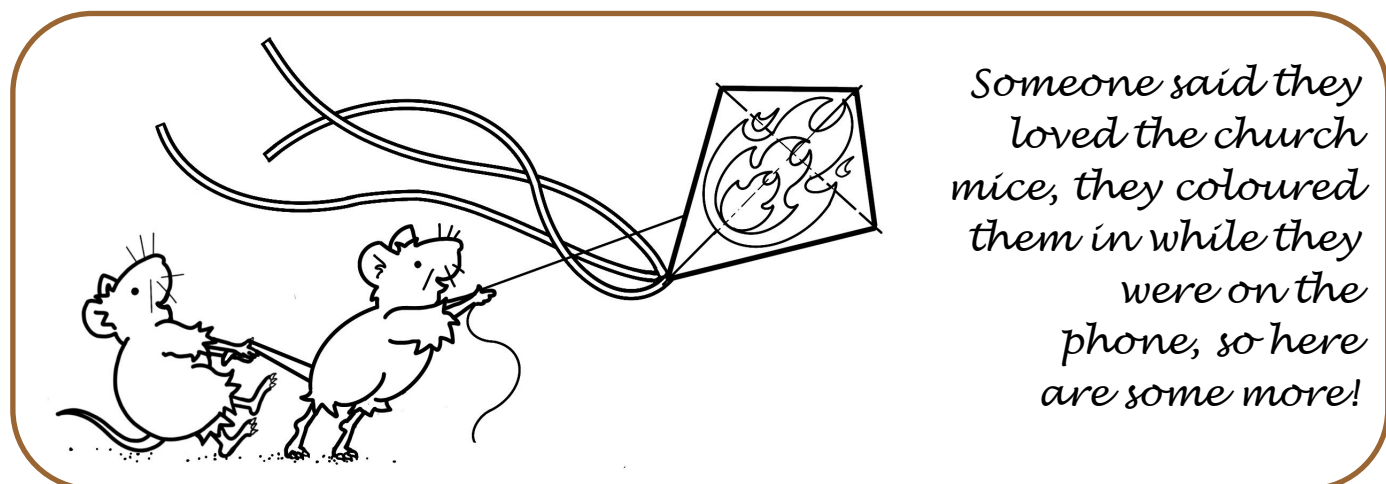
May the love of God be poured over you.

Vera x



“And then the vicar realised that the bell-ringer shortage and the problem of providing creche facilities could be solved in one go!”

Please note that this cartoon bears absolutely no reference to recent bell-ringers or Little Lions. Honestly! Editor



Someone said they loved the church mice, they coloured them in while they were on the phone, so here are some more!

1st May - May Day: unbridled merriment



May is the month when the ancient pagans used to get up to 'all sorts'! The Romans held their festival to honour the mother-goddess Maia, goddess of nature and growth. (May is named after her.) The early Celts celebrated the feast of Beltane, in honour of the sun god, Beli.

For centuries in 'Olde England' the people went mad in May. After the hardship of winter, and hunger of early Spring, May was a time of indulgence and unbridled merriment. One Philip Stubbes, writing in 1583, was scandalised: 'for what kissing and bussing, what smooching and slabbering one of another, is not practised?'

Henry VIII went 'maying' on many occasions. Then folk would stay out all night in the dark rain-warm thickets and return in the morning for dancing on the green around the May pole, archery, vaulting, wrestling, and evening bonfires.

The Protestant reformers took a strong stand against May Day, and in 1644 May Day was abolished altogether. Many May poles came down - only to go up again at the Restoration, when the first May Day of King Charles's reign was 'the happiest Mayday that hath been many a year in England', according to Samuel Pepys.

May Day to most people today brings vague folk memories of a young Queen of the May decorated with garlands and streamers and flowers, a May Pole to weave, Morris dancing, and the intricacies of well dressing at Tissington in Derbyshire and elsewhere.

May Day is a medley of natural themes such as sunrise, the advent of summer, growth in nature, and - since 1833 - Robert Owen's vision of a millennium in the future, beginning on May Day, when there would be no more poverty, injustice or cruelty, but harmony and friendship. This is why, in modern times, May Day has become Labour Day, which honours the dignity of workers. And until recently, in communist countries May Day processions were in honour of the achievement of Marxism.

There has never been a Christian content to May Day, but nevertheless there is the well-known 6am service on the top of Magdalen Tower at Oxford where a choir sings in the dawn of May Day.



Diary of a Youth Worker

Every year at Easter I feel God reveals something new to me. This year, it was through the joy of performing as part of the Open the Book Team. We had already completed the quite dramatic “Arrest and Trial” story for our local schools, but the performance I think the whole team enjoyed the most was “Resurrection!”. We got to share the joy and excitement of that first Easter in a really fun way. It took a lot of planning and practicing to use a moveable screen as the stone, behind which Jesus (AKA – me!) was laid after he had died. The screen then moved back to reveal an empty camp bed where Jesus had been (whilst I hid behind the screen, or at two schools, sneaked out of door.....) which was quite a surprise for some. But the surprises didn’t stop there! Our two angels (AKA Stephen and Pauline) stayed hidden behind this screen until the moment that they came out to tell the women that Jesus wasn’t there anymore. There was such a gasp of awe and wonder when the angels appeared, flashy wings and sparkly costumes! I

wonder if that was how the women felt in that moment? Or was it a bit more scary than that? But nothing could top the gasp of surprise when Jesus miraculously appeared in the room with the disciples (this worked best in the schools with two entrances to the hall, as I ran quickly round and appeared in at another door!). I pray that we



never lose the wonder of that moment. That Jesus actually came back to life. History records it, we have faith to believe it, and it forms the basis of our faith and everyday actions. Despite the fact that I couldn’t actually “resurrect” myself whilst playing Jesus, this Open the Book Story brought a little bit of that shock, awe, wonder and delight that the first disciples and women would have felt, and I hope that those children carry it with them. We certainly have.

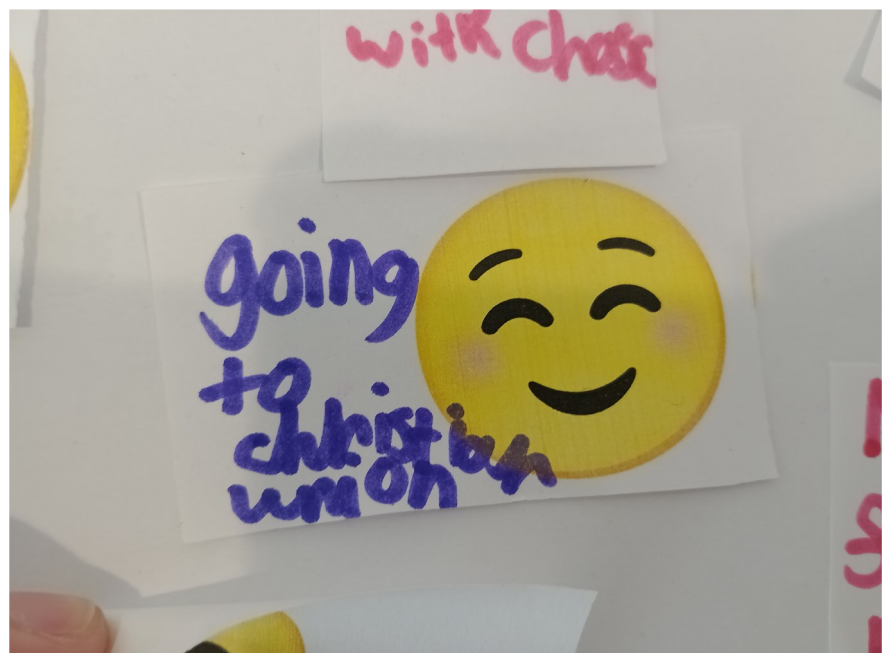
On top of our Open the Book Performances, I have also been able to get the new cupboards up in the children’s corner (with a lot of help from handy men and women). I am sure you will agree that they look significantly better, are fit for purpose, and have tidied up this part of our church building a lot. Please do help us in keeping this area tidy and



inviting for families visiting but popping toys back in boxes on the shelves, or straightening up the books. It makes a huge difference to our families when they walk in to the building and can immediately see that there

is a space for them here.

Finally, please do continue to pray for the work I am doing in Ash Hill Academy. There is real fruit coming from this, as more of our Christian Union members come along to Café Church, and the after school club is growing. Every week I talk to students about God, the gospel, and how much Jesus loves them. Pray especially that the Year 10's and 11's will come and speak to me, as this is a harder group to connect with. My highlight from this month was when I asked students to thank God for the things that make them happy. One girls wrote "Going to Christian Union".



Rachel Ridler

Youth Worker at St Lawrence Church, Hatfield | [The Diocese of Sheffield](https://www.thedioceseofsheffield.org.uk)

Tel 07851 991286 rachel.ridler@centenaryproject.org.uk

A prayer for the Middle East

Lord, we pray for the conflict in the Middle East, and how it is damaging the lives of so many millions of people. You, Lord, make wars cease to the end of the earth; You break bows, shatter spears, and burn shields with fire [Psalm 46:9]. Through Your Holy Spirit, move upon the leaders of the nations to de-escalate this crisis. We hear of wars and rumours of wars (Matt. 24:6), but You Lord are our rock, our fortress and our deliverer. Our hope is in You. Let Your name be exalted among the nations; may You be exalted in the earth [Psalm 46:10]. *Kyrie eleison – Lord have mercy.*

Middle

East

Conflict

Pray

Damage

War

Cease

Earth

Break

Bows

Shatter

Spears

Burn

Shields

Fire

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

crisis
 many
 Lives
 millions

 Lord
 Our
 Rock
 Fortress
 Deliverer

 Hope
 Kyrie
 in
 You
 mercy

A note from the Editor...

I don't usually put in wordsearches, no-one has ever said they liked them.

But I've included this because of what it says in the introductory paragraph. Surely everyone reading this prays for the situation in the Middle East at the time of writing, Tuesday 21st April.

And also because Psalm 46 gives the words to that wonderful song of praise we sing, number 219 in our hymnbook, based on the same Psalm, 46. We may know it as the Dambusters tune, but the words give me hope,

"Come see the works of
 our maker,
 learn of his deeds all-
 powerful,
 wars will cease across the
 world
 when he shatters the
 spear!"

(Richard Bewes 1935-2019)

The FRIENDS of Hatfield Church Building Trust

March was a very good month for The Friends with a Coffee Afternoon in Hatfield Woodhouse, a Spring Fayre at Thorne Library plus the arrival of a new committee member, Christine Crookes.

The lovely ladies at **Hatfield Woodhouse Methodist Chapel** organised a great event for us with drinks and cakes while we ran a raffle and had a small jewellery stall. The total raised was **£342** plus **£42. 50** on jewellery, many thanks to the Methodist volunteers who do a fab job for lots of local charities. We also welcomed our new committee member Chris by baptising her at the jewellery table where she did a superb job, like a duck to water! and seemed to enjoy herself too.

Jenny at **Thorne Library organised their Spring Fayre** with a cake stall, hand made items and bric-a-brac for sale and a table from Thorne Community Woods as well as our gorgeous jewellery where we took **£43. 50** in sales. Jenny had also arranged a Ladies Choir to entertain us during the morning who attracted quite an audience.

We had a very large donation of costume jewellery recently which meant that we could send off another 15kg sack of items to Recycling for Good Causes plus having some new stock to sell. We have been invited by **Sarah Jane's Coffee Lounge** again to set up our jewellery stall there so we'll probably be doing that sometime in May. Please keep donating the jewellery.

We're looking forward to our looming **Coffee Morning on Saturday 25th April in Hatfield Library** 10am to 12noon which will have a **Marathon** theme as the London Marathon is the day after. Come and see what the volunteers will be wearing. . . whilst doing their usual tasks of making coffee and tea, **racing** to sell cakes and jewellery and **running** a raffle and 2 tombolas! It should all be good fun along with a mystery **Marathon** game perhaps??

It is with deep regret that I have to share the very sad news that Rob Bateson passed away peacefully at home on 15th April. Rob was our previous secretary for many years taking over from his wife Betty. He did great work for us and was a lovely man who will be greatly missed.

Our deepest sympathy goes to his 2 daughters Julie and Sally and their families.

Information – You can become a ‘Friend’ for a minimum donation of £5 per year. These subscriptions are the backbone of our fundraising efforts with all funds raised going only to maintain, conserve and restore our wonderful Grade 1 Listed building and grounds. Anyone can join us. For more information and to pay Membership renewal fees please contact **Jean Singleton, Eastby, Cuckoo Lane,** Hatfield, Doncaster, DN7 6QE. Tel 01302 842363.
Tina O’Halloran

Recently our vicar Chris reminded us that phones were often used in church, people follow readings on them, one is used for music at Café Church and the monthly Worship Service, very occasionally someone needs to check a message that was important... but he didn’t mention this scenario!



“Whilst I appreciate the thought, would someone please stop tweeting “so far, so good...?”



Each MONDAY coffee afternoon 13:30 -15:00 Hatfield Woodhouse Methodist

Each WEDNESDAY coffee after church at St Lawrence, Holy Communion at 10, chat, coffee, light a candle, sit quietly, 11-12:00

Each WEDNESDAY coffee morning 10-11:30 at Stainforth Methodist

Each THURSDAY coffee morning 10-11:30 at Dunsville Methodist, Greens Road.

Each THURSDAY chair exercise group 13:30-14:30 at Hatfield Woodhouse Village Hall

Each SATURDAY 10-12 coffee morning Hatfield Woodhouse Methodist church

Every second Saturday in the month coffee afternoon 14:00-15:30– Dunsville Methodist Church Greens Road

APRIL

25th Saturday 10-12 coffee morning in Hatfield library in support of The Friends of Hatfield Church Building Trust, see page 14 for more information.

MAY

5th Tuesday Garden Club, 19:30 Working Men's Club at Hatfield Woodhouse (every first Tuesday) This is a great group of helpful enthusiasts, and one of them WILL have a garden like yours, whether it's wild-life friendly intentionally or not! And see below what's happening on 11th!!

7th Thursday Stainforth History Group 19:00 Stainforth Methodist Church (every first Thursday) You don't have to be a member to

come to this friendly group, there's a remarkably small entrance fee to cover costs, and you will be made most welcome! This month Duncan Keating on "No Oyster card required—walking the London underground".

**9th coffee morning in the Barn,
10-12 in aid of Christian Aid.**



**11th Monday Hatfield Woodhouse Methodist church Charity coffee
afternoon 1:30 in aid of Hatfield Woodhouse Gardening Club!!**

**14TH Thursday 14th May – ASCENSION DAY
18:30 Choral Communion**

24th Sunday 24th May – PENTECOST

8:30 BCP and Breakfast

10:00 Choral Communion

**If you've never been do consider coming to breakfast before
the 10:00 service, it's chatty and relaxed.**

JUNE!! 27th 2 - 5 pm

St. Lawrence Church Summer Fayre in The Barn Field

All the usual Stalls / Attractions.

Entrance only 50p per adult (children free). ***A great family event.***

**2027!! 5th-9th April Spring Harvest, speak to Vera, Viv, Terry or Maureen
if you are interested, and read page 8.**



Hatfield Woodhouse Hatfield Woodhouse Methodist Chapel
Charity Coffee Afternoons

We can now accommodate dog walkers outside (our new table and chairs) and if it is raining in the back room. Weekly Pop up stalls are back if you want to book, please see Mandy so call in any Saturday Morning when we can arrange a date for you.

Artwork Vectors by Vecteezy

Happily, the Church of England still retains some singular parish clergy. Take the parish of St James-the-Least in the county of C- for example. Here the elderly Anglo-Catholic vicar, Eustace, continues his correspondence to Darren, his nephew, a low-church curate recently ordained... by the Revd Dr Gary Bowness



On dealing with summer fetes

The Rectory

St James the Least of All

My dear Nephew Darren

So, you are beginning to plan your first Summer Fete in your new parish. That you appear to be looking forward to it shows how little you know about them.

Parishes hold Summer Fetes so that their clergy can preach more meaningfully on purgatory. Their ostensible purpose is to raise money for the church - which is wholly illogical. The parish could double the money raised if the Fete were dropped, none of the endless preparations made, if everyone spent a pleasant afternoon in their own gardens and each person simply donated £20 to the church instead. But we still feel obliged to go to endless trouble, making ourselves miserable so we can show each other what a good time we are having. That it generally pours seems to make the entire event even more grimly satisfying.

No, the real reasons for a Summer Fete are twofold. First, it gives the entire parish the chance to inspect the Rector's garden. Whatever state it is in, it will cause disapproval. If it is poorly kept, then I am clearly being ungrateful for having three acres of lawn to enjoy. Mowing it each week should be one of my delights; what else would I do with a whole day off each week anyway? The hand mower, kindly given by Colonel French is assumed to be quite adequate - and rumour has it that I need to lose weight anyway. The mower was presented to me when the Colonel bought his own gardener a sit-on motor mower - which is of a

size and opulence that makes me assume it has a drinks cabinet and satellite navigation.

The second reason for a Fete comes as a special perk for the organisers. It gives them a chance to inspect the inside of the Rectory. Under the pretence of looking for a little more sugar, they can systematically inspect all the kitchen cupboards and comment on their contents. By the end of the day, the whole parish will know what marmalade I spread on my toast, that I use unnecessarily expensive washing powder, and where I have unsuccessfully tried to hide the gin.

The details of what then happens while the Fete is in progress must wait until my next letter, when we will have had our own. It is now time for Evensong, drinks with Major Mallet and his wife, and then a quiet evening with a good book, while I toy with other possible hiding places for the gin this year.

Your loving uncle,

Eustace

To make you smile...

I was looking for information about the author of hymn 219, based on Psalm 46, it made me giggle in several places, look up Richard Bewes in Wikipedia. He had a fascinating life! I thought you'd appreciate this bit...

“Unable, through asthma, to pass the health qualifications for national service, and with the idea of future ministry in mind, he felt it important to experience life ‘in the raw’ and keep his feet on the ground. He therefore sought employment with Peek Frean, the biscuit manufacturer in Bermondsey, making Custard Creams and Twiglets . His mother, on hearing that he was



making Twiglets, enquired as to whether he might give her the recipe for the little brown blobs of marmite with which they were decorated. “Yes”, he answered, “take three tons of salt....”

Chrissy Grindle

St. Lawrence Summer Fayre– 27th June 2026

Our annual Summer Fayre (Previously known as the Garden Party), will soon be upon us. Preparations are well underway, but now is the time to think of those things, which we need to provide for **each** of our stalls.

From 23rd May there will be boxes provided at the back of church for donations to the Tombola, the Bottle Stall, Chocolate Tombola, Books, Raffle Prizes, Second-Hand Toys etc, and not forgetting any non-perishables for the Afternoon Teas.

PLEASE HELP BY FILLING THEM UP!

Please Note: - We are **NOT** intending to run a White Elephant Stall again this year, as it is extremely heavy on work content before and after the event, sorting and disposing of leftovers, and we are short on volunteers.

Cakes, Plants, Preserves, and other perishable items can be brought on the day.

Even if you are not running one of the above stalls, please ask around for donations, they will be gratefully received and will help to make the event more successful.

A full list of Stall Holders will be available at the back of church in June.

Vera is still busy making preserves for the Summer Fayre and other events too and would particularly love to receive donations of fresh fruit. She also requires empty jars (preferably around 3-400gm) & sugar.

We will be requiring the usual help setting up prior to the event; and clearing away afterwards – please offer your help and turn up on the day at 9:00am.

Please note Barn Field Clear up day is planned for 21st June – come & help if you can.

Finally, please help us by publicising the event – encourage family and friends to attend and help us to make it a truly memorable community and family orientated event.

Should you have any queries or suggestions, please contact one of the committee, namely Maureen Scott, Hilary Dinsdale, or Terry Raper.



**St. Lawrence Summer Fayre
27th June at The Barn Field.**

Opening Ceremony at 2 PM.

Entrance Adults 50p, Children Free

**Entertainments including: -
Markham Main Brass Band,
Displays by our Local Schools,
with The McLeod Academy of Irish Dance,
& The Stephanie Maskill School of Dance,**

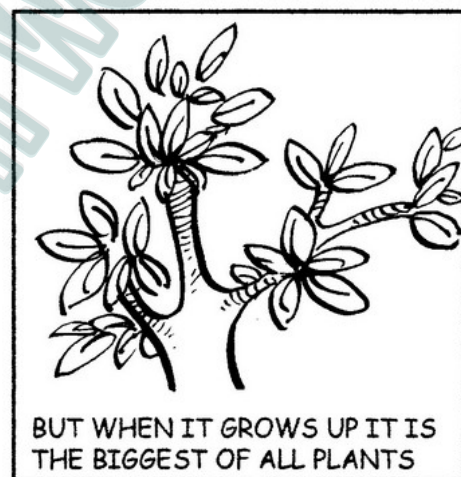
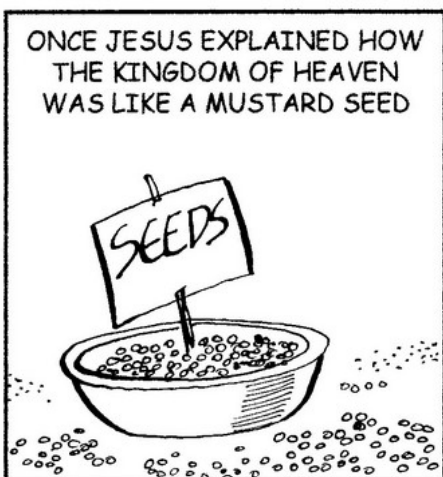
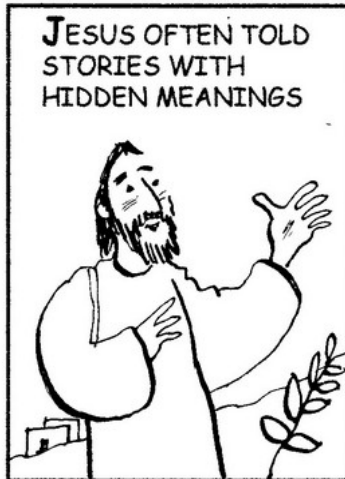
All the usual stalls & attractions including: -

**Cakes, Preserves, Tombola, Raffle, Books, Plants, Bottles, Chocolate
Tombola & Teddy Tombola, as well as all the usual smaller games of
skill / chance.**

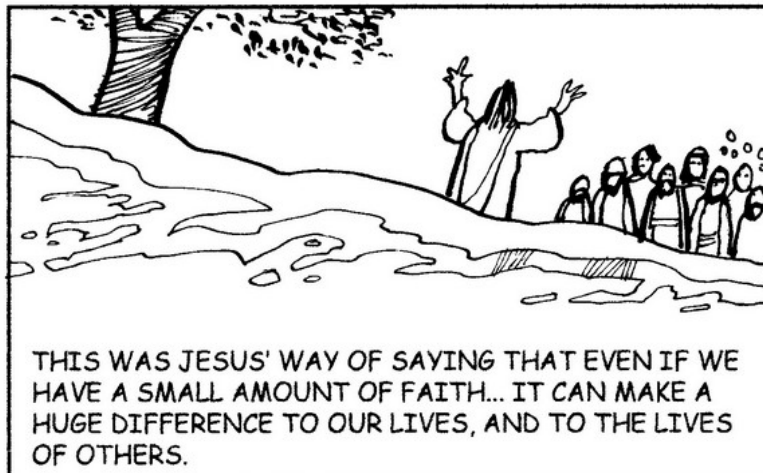
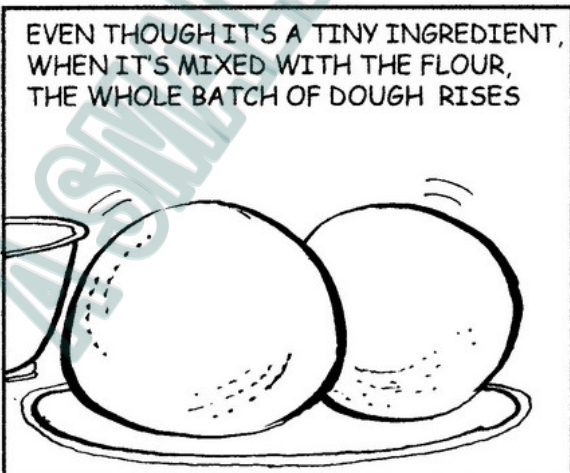
**Not forgetting of course our wonderful Afternoon Teas
– served throughout the event.**

**We look forward to seeing you there
it's a great Community event!**

The tale of the Mustard Seed & the tale of the Yeast



JESUS ALSO EXPLAINED THAT THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN IS LIKE YEAST.



Money-saving hints

We don't seem to have any more money than usual in the summer, but we are spending less on heating. Of course we may pay by direct debit which spreads the cost but it's a good time to get into good habits for heating water, even if we're not having to heat ourselves!

- ⇒ If you have a hot water tank (rather than a combi boiler), use your heating controls to turn your water heating on and off, so you only heat as much water as you'll need. No point in having a warm cupboard in summer!
- ⇒ Try swapping one bath a week to a four minute shower. This can save a typical household £10 a year on energy, according to the Energy Saving Trust. You'd also save money on water, if you have a meter.
- ⇒ Smart thermostats let you operate your heating remotely via your mobile phone, tablet or computer. Some can also learn your routine or adjust your settings depending on the weather conditions. Coupled with smart thermostatic radiator valves, you can control exactly which rooms are heated, and which aren't.
- ⇒ If you have a stand-alone radiator heater remember that it takes time to warm up, so it will also take time to cool down. Turn it off 15/20 minutes before you go out or go to bed.
- ⇒ Use ECO on your dishwasher, machines vary but all use cooler water, between 11-20 C degrees nnnn less, and are designed to use less water overall, relying on more efficient spray patterns and longer soaking times.
- ⇒ To clean your dishwasher, just run an empty hot wash with 2 cups of clear vinegar. This makes it run more efficiently.
- ⇒ To cook pasta: boil the water in a saucepan with a tight lid, put the pasta in and let it re-boil, then turn the heat off and put the lid on. Cook for the same time. Watch carefully if you are using a ceramic hob as it cools less quickly and it may boil over.
- ⇒ To boil eggs use the same method. As soon as the water is boiling with the eggs in the saucepan with the tight lid on it remains hot enough to continue to cook at the same level.
- ⇒ Buy a 3-minute timer for taking a shower.
- ⇒ A power shower takes even more water than a bath, buy an energy efficient shower head. Think gentle rain, not a hailstorm!



One off cleans

Weekly, Fortnight
monthly

Sarah's Cleaning Service

07563808300

Sarahbridge82@gmail.com

Joining in on Facebook!

You can join Rev'd Gill or Rev'd Chris Wroot on Friday mornings at 8:30 for a short Morning Prayer— 10 minutes
Go to the St Lawrence Hatfield page and try it out!



Please ensure that copy for the magazine is with the editor by the 15th of each month, preferably in writing. This means that the magazine can be put together, printed and collated and in church by the last Sunday in each month, and to be delivered by the time of the first activities in the month.

*Copy to
Chrissy Grindle, letter in church or to
60 Station Road, or email:
maghatfieldchurch@gmail.com*

Thank you.

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Worship times

Each Monday to Thursday Morning Prayer at 9:15 in church

Each Friday Morning Prayer on FB at 8:30

Each Wednesday 10. 00 Holy Communion followed by Open Church from
11. 00 – 12. 00 join us for coffee, chat, light a candle, quiet prayer.... .

Each Thursday 15:00 Holy Communion Service Book of Common
Prayer (BCP)

Sunday 3rd May – EASTER 5

10:00 Choral Communion

16:00 Family Service

Sunday 10th May – EASTER 6

10:00 Choral Communion

Thursday 14th May – ASCENSION DAY

18:30 Choral Communion

Sunday 17th May – EASTER 7

10:00 Choral Communion

16:00 Family Service

18:30 Healing Eucharist

Sunday 24th May – PENTECOST

8:30 BCP and Breakfast

10:00 Choral Communion



Sunday 31st May TRINITY SUNDAY

10:00 Choral Communion

Anyone is most welcome to any of these services, there is invariably tea/coffee afterwards, biscuits of course, and chat with lovely people too!