

**Dear Lord, I pray that whoever  
reads this shall have Your  
comfort, joy, peace, love, &  
guidance and be carried by You**

**I may not know their  
troubles, but You do.**

One of the most troubling problems for religious belief is the problem of evil. If God is all-good and all-powerful, why does not God use his power to eliminate all disease and disaster from the creation? I believe that the issue of undeserved suffering holds many people back from religious belief and it continues to trouble and perplex those of us who are believers.

Just ten years ago an undersea earthquake induced an tsunami which swamped the coastlands of Thailand and neighbouring countries. 170,000 people died in Thailand alone. Earthquakes occur because of the tectonic plates which make up the surface of the earth. Secretly we tend to believe that if we had been in charge of creation we would have done it better, keeping the nice things and getting rid of the nasty ones. For example, the earth could have a solid crust, with no plates to slip. However, science shows us that that would not have worked, for the cracks between the plates are vital to allow minerals to well up from inside Earth and replenish its surface resources which sustain life. The fruitful processes of nature are subtly interlocked, and it just isn't possible simply to tinker with them., keeping what we like and discarding what we don't like. Creation is a kind of package deal.

Scientific insights like this show us that there is a necessary costliness to creative process and God is far from being incompetent or indifferent. I think this insight is helpful in wrestling with the problem of disease and disaster, even if does not remove all perplexities.

The deepest Christian response to the problem of evil comes from meditating on the Cross of Christ. The Christian God is not simply a compassionate spectator sympathising with the suffering of creation, but invulnerable himself. Instead, in the crucified Jesus we see that God shares in suffering. The Christian God is truly a fellow sufferer who understands from the inside and not just from the outside.

*John Polkinghorne*



But I will sing about your strength;  
every morning I will sing aloud of your  
constant love.

You have been a refuge for me,  
a shelter in my time of trouble.  
I will praise you, my defender.  
My refuge is God,  
the God who loves me  
(Psalm 59: 16-17).

## *PARISH DIRECTORY*

Vicar	Rev. David Maher	351844
Curate	Rev. Judith Gretton-Dann	750013
Assistant Curate	Rev. John Polkinghorne	360743
Assistant Curate	Rev. Harry Rose	01954 211553
Licensed Lay Minister	Linda Dean	328658
Authorised Lay Minister (Admin & Music)	Ruth Banger	07764 613862
Authorised Lay Minister (Pastoral Care)	Lilas Davison	354300
Authorised Lay Minister (Social Awareness)	Liz Collinson	01954 251377
Churchwarden	Rhodri James	357607
Churchwarden	Fiona Blows	329822
PCC Chairman	Rev. David Maher	351844
PCC Vice Chairman	Rhodri James	357607
PCC Secretary	Ruth Banger	07764 613862
PCC Treasurer	Ginni Carroll	01954 212993
PCC Electoral Roll Officer	Lilas Davison	354300
Administrator	Ruth Banger	07764 613862
Convenor PCC Buildings and Grounds Team	David Wilson	720097
Convenor PCC Children and Families Team	Hazel Maher	351844
Convenor PCC Discipleship and Teaching Team	David Maher	351844
Convenor PCC Pastoral Team	Linda Dean	328658
Convenor PCC Social Awareness Team	Liz Collinson	01954 251377
Convenor PCC Worship and Music Team	Ruth Banger	07764 613862
Altar Linen	Finsetta Cummings	352757
Assistant Treasurer	Bill Elsey	357622
Chalice Bearers	Bill Elsey	357622
Children's Society	Ruby Leyshon	352151
Church Hall Bookings	Ruby Leyshon	352151
Coffee Makers	Guido Barzini	300497
Fund Raising Events Co-ordinators	Ruby Leyshon	352151
Fund Raising Events Co-ordinators	Evelyn Walker	364067
Intercessors	John Lamont	565559
Jimmy's Night Shelter	Paula Carter	07952919701
Food Bank	Liz Collinson	01954 251377
Lesson Readers	Rhodri James	357607
Good Shepherd News Editor	Ruth Banger	07764 613862
North Cambridge Area Deanery Synod	Ginni Carroll	01954 212993
North Cambridge Area Deanery Synod	Ruth Banger	07764 613862
North Cambridge Council of Churches	Michael Lovell	328521
Planned Giving Secretary	Jinty Keir	572303
Registrar of Planned Giving Envelopes	Lilas Davison	354300
Rural Development Movement	Henry Disney	359396
Sacristan	Stuart Keir	572303
Safeguarding Officer	Paula Carter	07952 919701
Servers	Bill Elsey	357622
Sidesmen & Sideswomen	Terry Barringer	424584
Sound System	David Wilson	07899 917831
Sunday Lunch Club	Jinty Keir	572303

## READINGS FOR FEBRUARY

### Sundays and holy days

- 1 EPIPHANY 4  
Revelations 12: 1-5  
Mark 1: 21-28
- 8 SECOND SUNDAY BEFORE LENT  
Colossians 1: 15-20  
John 1: 1-14
- 15 SUNDAY NEXT BEFORE LENT  
2 Corinthians 4: 3-6  
Mark 9: 2-9
- 18 ASH WEDNESDAY  
Joel 2: 1-2, 12-17  
Matthew 6: 1-6, 16-21
- 22 FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT  
Genesis 9: 8-17  
Mark 1: 9-15

### Wednesdays

- 4 Hebrews 12: 4-7, 11-15  
Mark 6: 1-6
- 11 MORNING PRAYER  
2 Chronicles 12  
John 19: 31 - end
- 18 Joel 2: 1-2, 12-17  
Matthew 6: 1-6, 16-21
- 25 Jonah 3  
Luke 11: 29-32

## FIRST CALL

**Sunday February 1** at 7pm in our Church

*also*

**Sunday February 15** at 7pm at Arbury Road Baptist Church.



## REGULAR SERVICES IN FEBRUARY

- Sundays 8.30am Holy Communion  
10am Parish Communion
- Wednesdays 9.30am Holy Communion
- Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays  
Morning Prayer, when said in church, will be at 9.15.  
Second Monday of each month will be set aside for Staff Prayer.

## SPECIAL SERVICES IN FEBRUARY

- Wednesday February 18** Ash Wednesday services at 9.30am and 7.30pm  
**Sunday February 22** the 10am service will be an All Age service

## EVENTS IN FEBRUARY

- Sunday February 1** at 12 noon Sunday Lunch Club meets in the Church Hall.
- Tuesday February 10** Open Deanery Synod meeting at St. Augustine's at 7.30. This is to discuss the Diocesan Mission plan
- Tuesday February 17** Shrove Tuesday Fish and Chip supper
- Saturday February 21** Jumble Sale in the Hall
- Saturday February 28** Welsh Evening at the Collinsons' home Bring and share supper 7.30 onwards





## **Practise speaking ENGLISH!**

ESOL Café – Beginners to Intermediate  
(Monday/Friday 9.30am)

Just Talk! –Advanced discussion group  
(Monday/Friday 11.15am)

Spoken English for Work –Exam  
group  
(Friday 1-2pm)

Chesterton Community College,  
Cambridge

**Contact Sarah Adams**

**[sadams@chesterton.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:sadams@chesterton.cambs.sch.uk)**

## **Jumble Sale February 21<sup>st</sup> 2015**

Here we are, just over Christmas, and already the next Fundraiser is upon us! A few weeks earlier than usual this year, but still a good excuse for taking a good look at those cherished possessions that are cluttering up space, which could be better used, in your cupboards at home. Take this opportunity to have a “clear out” and donate all those never used or never worn items to the Sale. We will be selling clothes and accessories (shoes and handbags), bedding, towels and of course, the old favourite – “bric-a-brac”!

All donations are gratefully received and every penny raised will go towards achieving success in our ministry in the parish. We’ll announce details of when and where to bring things nearer the day.

We will, as usual need help on the day, so if you can spare 2 hours or so to help, please contact Ruby or Evelyn as soon as possible.

*Ruby & Evelyn*



### **Two Quizzes sent by Kathleen Silk Cambridge Shops**

1. Worn on wet or cold days
2. Scratches and women’s underwear
3. Rainy season in the East
4. Comes closest to you in line
5. Soul saving organisation
6. These organise and control large crowds
7. A flower that hangs about
8. Name of an ancient Greek ship
9. They bind papers together
10. Young cows

### **Games**

1. A man’s game with a ball which he must not handle when playing
2. A man’s game played with a mallet and a horse
3. A man’s game played with a netted staff (originally a Red Indian game)
4. A game played with stones on ice originally
5. A man’s indoor game played on a lined board with a coin
6. A man’s game when points are gained by running with a ball
7. An indoor game with holes in the ground, a ball and a stick
8. An indoor game in which Royalty, Chivalry and Commoners are mixed.
9. Coloured balls are sent into holes at the side of the gaming table by a long stick
10. Two players play a very fast game with a ball and racquets where the ball ricochets from wall to wall and floor.

**(ANSWERS ON NEXT PAGE)**

## 15 EXERCISES WE'D BE BETTER OFF WITHOUT IN 2015...

Jumping on the bandwagon  
Wading through paperwork  
Running around in circles  
Pushing your luck  
Spinning your wheels  
Adding fuel to the fire  
Beating your head against the wall  
Climbing the walls  
Beating your own drum  
Dragging your heels  
Jumping to conclusions  
Grasping at straws  
Fishing for compliments  
Throwing your weight around  
Passing the buck



### Quiz answers

#### Cambridge Shops

1. Boots
2. Marks and Spencer
3. Monsoon
4. Next
5. Salvation Army
6. Marshalls
7. Waitrose
8. Argos
9. Staples
10. Heffers

#### Games

1. Football or Soccer
2. Polo
3. Lacrosse
4. Curling
5. Shove Halfpenny
6. Rugby
7. Golf
8. Chess
9. Snooker
10. Squash

## WHOLESOME LOAVES

(First published in 2014 in COME WHAT MAY)

Stampede of change, the choice of goods,  
The market free to sin, the lure  
Of pictures flashed on screen or flipped  
And glimpsed as pages turn, the cons  
That litter e-mail spam, the trash  
Delivered daily through our door,  
The milling gangs of teenage kids  
Emitting nuanced laughs or phrase  
Of smutty bent, the lack of thought  
For other's needs, the rudeness hurled  
Without a cause, the news deprived  
Of all that's good, the hollow words  
Of spin by those who claim to lead,  
The tinsel world of stars of sport  
Or idols spawned by moneyed pop,  
The brittle dreams of those who hope  
To win a prize at spin of wheel,  
The cynics knocking those who strive  
To make the world a better place.  
They claim our hopes are always dashed -  
Their's were in past so why not ours?  
They scorn beliefs of those whose faith  
Is fired by grace that overflows  
As pity turns to giving cash  
And time to service meant to mend  
Some humble parts of mess we've made.  
I note it's hidden acts by these  
That slowly work as yeast in dough  
To turn this yielding lump to bread,  
To wholesome loaves that keep us fed.

*Henry Disney*



## **CHRISTINGLES – AND A MORAVIAN CHURCH**

By the time you read this, the Christmas services and festivities will be over and we shall be looking forward to the last treat of the Christmas season – our Christingle service. This service, which raises funds for the Children's Society, is very popular with children and adults alike. At it everyone receives an orange with a red ribbon around it representing Christ's blood, shed for the redemption of the world. On cocktail sticks pressed into the orange are raisins or sweets representing the fruits of the earth and God's goodness in providing them. In the centre of the orange is a candle representing Jesus as the light of the world. When all the candles are lit and the lights turned out, the glow from the Christingles is reflected up into the faces of the congregation and the effect is truly magical – in the best sense of the word!

Usually in the service sheet that we're given, or in the service itself, we're reminded of the fact that the Christingle service derives from a custom of the Moravian Church. But what do we know of the Moravian Church and its faith and customs? In our case, the answer was very little – until last summer we found ourselves staying in the Gloucestershire village of Brockweir in the Wye Valley, right on the border of England and Wales, where the only church was a Moravian church.

Today the Wye Valley is a tranquil tourist destination, but for centuries, up until the early years of the twentieth century, it was busy with commercial river traffic and with all sorts of shipbuilding and repair industries which serviced it. Brockweir grew up on the basis of this industry and, by the early nineteenth century, had a reputation as one of the most lawless places in England. It had 16 public houses, cockfighting pits, skittle alleys and various other venues of ill repute and was known as a 'city of refuge' for the most lawless elements in society.

It was this situation which, in 1833, led the Duke of Beaufort to provide resources for the building of a Moravian church in the village and today it still stands, actively ministering to its community, a simple white building with a white manse attached, nestling on the river bank at the foot of the steeply wooded hills. Inside, the simplicity continues: whitewashed walls, windows of a simple geometric pattern, a plain wooden communion table with pulpit behind and, on the wall above, what you might call the Moravian logo – a lamb and flag surrounded by the words: 'Our lamb has conquered. Let us follow Him.' Outside, the noticeboards proclaim the basic tenets of the Moravian Church: 'In things essential, unity. In non-essentials, liberty. In all things, charity.' In our best moments we might like to think that sums up the character and goals of the Church of the Good Shepherd!

The church was just round the corner from our holiday cottage and inside it we found information about the Moravian Church and the origins of the Christingle service. The Church originated in Bohemia – roughly the western part of the Czech Republic – following the martyrdom of John Huss, who was himself much influenced by the writings of the English reformer, John Wycliffe, the first translator of the Bible into English. It was established in 1467 as the first protestant and reformed church in Europe with its own church order, rule and life, and went through various periods of persecution and expansion up to the present day. In England it was recognised by Act of Parliament in 1749 as an 'ancient, Protestant, Episcopal Church' and today it has 26 English congregations with a further 5 in Northern Ireland.

The Christingle service originated in the Moravian congregation at Marienbon in Germany on 20 December 1747. At the children's service the minister, John de Watteville, gave each child a lighted wax candle with a red ribbon to emphasise that 'Jesus has kindled in each little heart a flame which keeps ever burning to their joy and happiness.' From that point on the Christingle gradually developed in its form and symbolism into what we know today. The origin of the word 'Christingle' is obscure and no one knows for certain when it started to be

used. One suggestion for the derivation is that it comes from 'Christ' combined with the Saxon word 'ingle' meaning fire and is therefore the 'Christfire' or 'Christlight'. Another suggestion is that it derives from the German word 'engel' or 'kindle', a diminutive form of the word 'kind' which means 'child', and therefore it simply means 'Christchild'. Whatever its derivation, the service which bears its name leads us to focus on the light of Christ in the world and in our lives.

Outside the church at Brockweir the noticeboards proclaimed that the church welcomed everyone to take part in its services and to receive communion. So, on the Sunday evening of our stay, we went to a communion service at which we were made very welcome. Like the Church of England, the Moravian Church uses a liturgy and most of the services are in modern English, but they have retained the communion service in a version which almost replicates its counterpart in the 1662 Anglican Prayer Book. As in most 'nonconformist' churches, communion was received in the pews, with the wine in tiny glasses which were brought round on a tray. It was a very moving service, with a great sense of quiet sincerity and simplicity.

But what we shall probably always remember more than anything else was the sermon – or, to be accurate, the ending of it. Being the holiday period, the service was taken by an elderly minister who had served at Brockweir some fifteen years previously. He preached on the feeding of the five thousand and clearly knew his theology because he went through the various approaches which could be taken to the gospel story. He ended with these words: 'However we interpret what happened there, the essential point for our faith is this: that wherever Christ is present, the weary find rest and hungry souls are fed.'

We've taken these words away with us, and have held them in our hearts. And perhaps they're appropriate to keep in mind as we look forward to our own Christingle service. Because the Christingle reminds us of a Jesus who meets us where we are, whatever our situation, whose love surrounds us, whose blood has been shed for us; a Jesus who blesses us with the fruits of creation and who leads us with the light of his presence.

*Liz and Rex Collinson*



## IN THE CHURCH HALL (to book call 352151 (evenings))

<b>THE SUNDAY LUNCH CLUB</b> 1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month noon – 1.30pm	John & Elizabeth Lamont	565559
<b>RED HEN</b> Monday 8.15 – 11am	Christine O'Reilly	<a href="tel:07816444439">0781 6444439</a>
<b>MONDAY MUMS</b> 11am – 1pm	Zuzana Lovellova	328521
<b>THE MONDAY CLUB</b> Monday 2.30 - 4pm	Eva Hutson	574070
<b>THE GOOD SHEPHERD CUBS</b> Monday 6.30 - 8pm	Charles Brown	07720 441123
<b>LINE DANCING</b> Tuesday 10.15 - 11.45am	Deborah Walker	01954 231382
<b>KEEP FIT 50+ GROUP</b> Tuesday 2.30 - 4pm	Margaret Briggs	01954 250870
<b>THE GOOD SHEPHERD RAINBOWS</b> Tuesday 6.15 – 7.15pm	Miss Rachel Marsh	574520
<b>DOG TRAINING CLASSES</b> Tuesday 7.30 - 9.30pm	Susannah O'Hanlon	235281
<b>CARERS &amp; SUFFERERS OF DEMENTIA</b> Wednesday 10 – 12 noon	The Manager	884031
<b>THE 18<sup>th</sup> &amp; 25<sup>th</sup> GOOD SHEPHERD BROWNIES</b> Wednesday 6 - 7.15pm	Mrs Pat Marsh	574520
<b>THE CAMERA CLUB</b> Wednesday 7.30 – 9.30pm	Steve Morrell	529670
<b>GUILDHALL RETIRED MEMBERS CLUB</b> 2 <sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month 2 - 4pm	Yvonne Wisbey	523549
<b>ROYAL BRITISH LEGION</b> 3 <sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month 2.30 - 4.30pm January to November	Mr. Gawthrop	351855
<b>T G W U</b> 4 <sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month 2 – 4pm	Evelyn Hunnyball	364293
<b>ALZHEIMERS DROP IN CAFÉ</b> 12.15 – 3pm on 1 <sup>st</sup> Thursday of the month	Sheila Burgess	01353 699422
<b>THE GOOD SHEPHERD BEAVERS</b> Thursday 6.15 - 7.30pm	Emma Roberts	426043
<b>THE GOOD SHEPHERD SCOUTS</b> Thursday 7.30 – 9.00pm	Chris White	0700 891511
<b>CHURCH TODDLERS' CLUB</b> Friday 9.15 – 11.30am	Claire Duell	0787 4850867
<b>TAI CHI</b> Friday 2 – 3pm	Mike Tabrett	503390
<b>DOG TRAINING CLASSES</b> Friday 7.30 - 9.30pm	Arbury Road Vet. Surgery	361911

**Submission date for  
March Newsletter:  
February 8  
(Publication date February 22)**



Vicarage 01223 351844

Church Hall bookings  
(evenings) 01223 352151

Newsletter Ruth Banger 07764 613862  
**OR** ruthbanger51@gmail.com

## **CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD**

Here at the Good Shepherd we like to help you to celebrate and commemorate many of the milestones on the journey through life; these include weddings, anniversaries, funerals, and baptism services.

If you wish to find out more about these, the first step is to contact the Vicar, the Reverend David Maher. He will be able to tell you what is involved and arrange for a meeting with you if you then wish to take things further.

He can be contacted on 01223 351844

Church website: [www.churchofthegoodshepherd.co.uk](http://www.churchofthegoodshepherd.co.uk)

