

Grey towers of Durham! ...
Yet well I love thy mix'd and massive
piles,
Half church of God, half castle 'gainst
the Scot,
And long to roam these venerable
aisles,
With records stored of deeds long
since forgot.
Sir Walter Scott (1771-1832)

These words are carved on Prebends Bridge which I walked over pretty much every day for three years on my way to college. The towers Sir Walter Scott is referring to are the towers of Durham cathedral, my favourite building in the world. There is so much about the cathedral I love. The history, Cuthbert's shrine, the Galilee chapel where you will find the venerable Bede's tomb and the library where you can sit in the seats of monks who read what you are reading hundreds of years before. But what I love the most are rows of giant pillars, as tall as they are around (22ft (6.6m) to be precise), each hollow and decorated with a pattern. When I first went in I stood in awe at these pillars. I was approached by a guide, "what do these pillars tell you about the architect's view of God?" He asked. "Solid un-moveable, steadfast and safe" was my reply. The building itself witnessed to me an aspect of God that I love and find myself running into often.

Buildings can do that, not only tell a story, but they can reflect intention and theology. Here at the Good Shepherd we have been journeying together, exploring our calling in this community and seeking ways to demonstrate God's love with generosity and action. Seeking to

share and embrace our community with God's love.

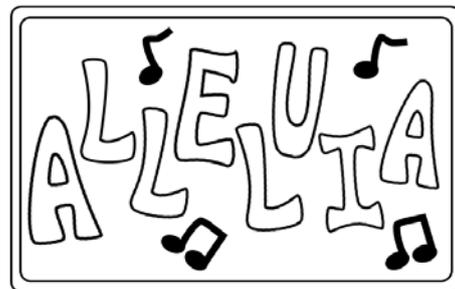
This Eastertide I'd like us to consider our buildings and as how we reflect our intention and theology as God's people in this place. We are looking at redeveloping the hall, something which has been on the cards for a while but was rudely interrupted last year. To begin the process we need to ask, ask you as a congregation, as well as the views of the building's users, the community around and local leaders. So that we may discern the local need as well as our own. Above all we need to seek and ask for God's guidance. We don't want a new building to be an edifice to what we want, but something that will further our mission and give glory to God for generations to come.

We want to begin this process with a questionnaire, we will be working in partnership with Arbury Baptist Church as they too are asking similar questions of their buildings. More details will follow but this questionnaire will be part of the process to help us discern God's voice so that we can continue to use our buildings for His glory and to build His Kingdom.

**Alleluia, Christ is risen
He is risen indeed, Alleluia!**

Dave

Name: _____
Directions: Decorate each letter with bright colors or patterns. Then seal this page in an envelope and open it out after Lent.



PARISH DIRECTORY

Vicar	Rev. David Maher until further notice please phone	07764 613862
Assistant Curate	Rev. Judith Gretton-Dann	750013
Assistant Curate	Rev. Rachel Blanchflower	523066
Assistant Curate	Rev. John Polkinghorne	360743
Assistant Curate	Rev. Harry Rose	01954 211553
Licensed Lay Minister	Linda Dean	328658
Licensed Lay Minister	Terry Barringer	424584
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	Fiona Blows	329822
Churchwarden	Philip Morris	352698
PCC Chairman	Rev. David Maher	see above
PCC Vice Chairman	Fiona Blows	329822
PCC Secretary	Ruth Banger	07764 613862
PCC Treasurer	Jinty Keir	572303
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	Margaret Handley	357970
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
Fund Raising Events Co-ordinators	Paula Carter	07952 919701
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	Ruth Banger	07764 613862
North Cambridge Council of Churches	David Maher	351844
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	Fiona Blows	329822
Sound System	David Wilson	07899 917831
Sunday Lunch Club	Jinty Keir	572303

READINGS FOR APRIL

Sundays and holy days

- 1 EASTER VIGIL
Romans 6: 3-11
Mark 16 1-8
- 1 EASTER DAY
Acts 10: 34-43
Mark 16: 1-8
- 8 EASTER 2
Acts 4: 32-35
1 John 1: 1 – 2: 2
John 20: 19 - end
- 15 EASTER 3
Acts 3: 12 – 19:
1 John 3: 1-7
Luke 24: 36-48
- 22 EASTER 4
Acts 4: 5-12
1 John 3: 16 – end
John 10: 11-18
- 29 EASTER 5
Acts 8: 26 – end
1 John 4: 7 - end
John 15: 1-8

Weekdays at 9.30am

- 11 MORNING PRAYER
Exodus 16: 11 - end
Colossians 2: 1-15
- 18 HOLY COMMUNION
Acts 8: 1-8
John 6: 35-40
- 25 MORNING PRAYER
Isaiah 62: 6-10
Acts 12: 25 – 13: 13

REGULAR SERVICES IN APRIL

- Sundays 8.30am Holy Communion
10am Parish Communion
- Wednesdays 9.30am Holy Communion or
Morning Prayer
- 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 APRIL

Sunday April 29 All Age service at 10am

EASTER CLOSURE

The Church will close after the 10am service
on Easter Day. There will be one service
only on April 8 (at 10am) and we will re-open
for the 9.30am service on Wednesday April 1

EVENTS IN APRIL

Sunday April 22 at 12 noon Sunday Lunch
Club

Sunday April 29 Annual Parochial Church
Meeting at 11.15



COME TO BROWNIES



Brownies is for people aged 7- 10 years old. It has loads of great activities and badges. Some of the activities are:

Pack holidays, lots of fun badges, such as the artist, writer and discovering faith badge and sometimes different cultural foods to try. Even though we do badges as a pack you can also do them by yourself. If you want to talk to anyone then you can either ask Pat who runs Brownies and sometimes comes to church or myself Emma.

Brownies has a uniform of a top, trousers or skort, hoodie, cap and sash. (The cap and sash are optional.)

There is a Brownies here, at the **Good Shepherd Church on a Wednesday 6-7:15** if you are interested, then go to

<https://www.girlguiding.org.uk/information-for-parents/register-your-daughter/> and register your child or call Pat Marsh, her number is at the front of the magazine. Also there is a Rainbows too for **5-7** year olds.



SEE YOU AT
BROWNIES!

By Emma



FROM DAWN TO DUSK
(First published in 2012 in
'Teach us of Love')

There's not a hint of wind this morn
As birds proclaim it's nearly dawn.
As red and orange light the base
Of sky, a pair of squirrels chase
Across the lawn all unaware
Of calm and promise in the air.
It's good to be alive today,
Despite what papers might purvey.
It's only few who foul the scene
With crimes or acts and words obscene.
The rest of mess is due to greed
Depriving some of what they need
To raise their children well in peace.
Resentment builds until increase
Results in urge to march for right
And calls to put the world aright.
Too soon resort to threats entails
A strong response as fear prevails.
So blood is spilled and tears are shed
As we begin to count the dead.
The selfish drives of ancient beast
Impede desire to join the least
Of pilgrim band, who march in hope
That heaven isn't merely trope.
The Kingdom Christ proclaims begins
On earth, despite the fog of sins,
As Easter's gift at end of road
Is goal of soul's unearned abode.



THE GIFT THAT GOES ON GIVING

A week or so ago I casually picked up and read a very short book – little more than an essay really – by the landscape writer and fellow of Emmanuel College, Robert Macfarlane, called *The Gifts of Reading*. In it he talks about the power of reading (and by ‘reading’ he means reading books which have some depth of thought or feeling in them) to affect and transform, so that the reader goes on to share that transformation with others.

Reading, he says, is a gift – and I was particularly struck by what he says about the nature of gifts and the nature of things. He makes sustained reference to a book by Lewis Hyde, published in 1983, called *The Gift* in which two kinds of property are contrasted: the commodity and the gift. The commodity, Hyde says, is something which is acquired and then hoarded or resold. But the gift is kept moving, given onwards in a new form. He differentiates between what he calls the *market economy* where value comes from hoarding or saving something and the *gift economy* where value grows between individuals by means of giving and receiving. The giving of a gift, as opposed to the acquisition of a thing or commodity, is likened to an act of love which ‘speaks commandingly to the soul and irresistibly moves us on.’ The outcome of a gift, says Hyde, is uncertain at the time of giving, but the fact that it has been *given* charges it with great potential to act upon the recipient for good.

Robert Macfarlane applies all this to the effect which reading can have on us, and anyone who enjoys reading will know how a book can affect us, stay with us and change our outlook long after we’ve finished reading it. But I found myself thinking that the distinction between commodity and gift has resonances in what we encounter in our daily lives too. Not only is there enormous pressure in our culture to *acquire* things – to have the latest smartphone or piece of hi-tech equipment, for instance – but there’s also enormous pressure from the things we have to do or respond to: the emails, the text messages, the meetings we have to go to or the arrangements we have to make.

The advent of the mobile phone has made this trend considerably more pronounced. I often notice how I’m almost bumped into in the street by people whose gaze is fixed on the screens of their phones rather than on what’s going on around them. Sometimes we can be so hemmed in by the world of things and obligations that it’s almost impossible to step back and simply to feel, to enjoy and to share. So many things jostle for our attention that we often simply don’t have time to pause and consider what the true gifts really are or what really is of value.

In a sense it’s an age-old problem, and it’s well illustrated, I think, in a familiar story in Chapter 10 of St Luke’s gospel when Jesus visits the home of Martha and Mary. Martha is immensely busy with all the preparations while her sister, Mary, simply sits listening to Jesus. Martha’s frustration with this situation boils over when she blurts out, ‘Lord, don’t you care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her to help me.’ In a response which can seem rather unfair Jesus tells Martha that she’s worried and distracted by many things while her sister has chosen the better part that will not be taken away from her. Is Jesus just being totally insensitive here and blind to the practicalities that his visit entails for the household? I don’t think so. What I think he *is* pointing out is that there’s something more important than being totally enslaved by the tyranny of things. Martha’s ‘fault’ (and I suspect most readers of the story will have more than a sneaking sympathy for her) is that, by being totally enmeshed in the web of things which she feels need to be done to prepare for

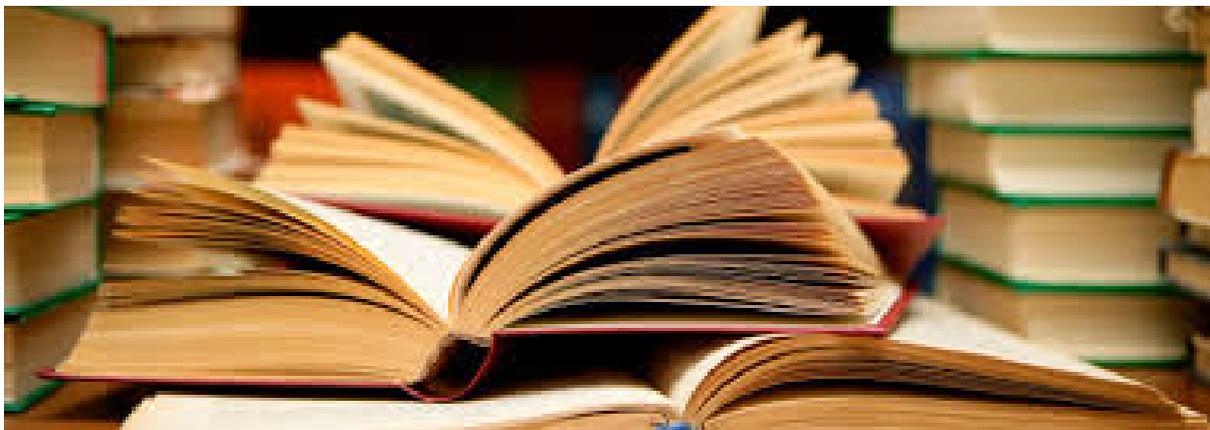
her guest, she effectively fails to acknowledge him at all as a person or to accept the gifts of love and wisdom which he has to offer. I find myself wondering if it can sometimes be a bit like that for us too in our lives as Christians and church members.

The Bible is full of gifts – not just gifts exchanged between people or gifts like those which the wise men gave to the infant Jesus at Epiphany – but also the great gifts that, in Robert Macfarlane’s sense, go on giving. Among them are the gift of creation, the gift of the promised land, the gift of Jesus to the world in the incarnation and, of course, the gift of Easter – the resurrection, the gift of eternal life triumphing over death. Could there be a better example of a gift as ‘an act of love which speaks commandingly to the soul and irresistibly moves us on’ than that?

It’s because of the gift that God has given us in the resurrection of Jesus at Easter that we are what we are – an Easter people alive and enlivened by the power of Jesus’ risen life at work within us. I recognize that in my own life I need through God’s grace to find afresh the wonder, the excitement and the ongoing power of that gift, to put aside the tyranny of things and replace it with a renewed openness to Jesus’ risen presence and love. St Matthew’s gospel ends with Jesus telling his disciples, ‘Remember, I am with you always.’ Can there be a better encapsulation of the gift that goes on giving, the gift of Easter, than that?

Rex Collinson

Robert Macfarlane’s *The Gifts of Reading* is available in Penguin paperback price £2.50



Plant & Book Sale 19th May 2018

10.30 to 12.00

By the time you get to read this notice, the weather should have got back to normal and Spring will be in the air. All of you gardeners will be itching to rush out to your gardens and begin to prepare the ground for a great display. If you have a greenhouse and are planting seeds, please remember to put some aside for the Sale, especially tomatoes, beans and herbs as they are always in demand and sell particularly well.

If you're splitting up shrubs, irises, etc, please pot one or two for us. We'll make sure they go to a good home. Anything exotic always attracts the customers, too!

There is no need to bring more books as we have so many now, but hopefully, we'll be able to sell many of them, too, this time.

It would be amazing if we could be as successful as the recent Jumble Sale!

Love to all from Evelyn & Ruby



What Should I Do?

I saw you sitting on the street,
All curled up in your sleeping bag.
A big brown dog around your feet,
your written plea on old cardboard.

Your head was bowed in silent pain,
a few small coins tossed in the pot.
I drew nearer, head down and rain
fell; cold, wet, soaking, despairing.

What should I do? Catch your eye? Smile?
But then I must put money in.
For food? For shelter? For a while
it might help; but then tomorrow?

What will you do? The same again?
Shop doorway, car park entrance floor.
Each day like this a constant strain
on mental health and self esteem.

Should I give a sandwich or tea?
Stop and chat? What would Jesus do?
He would love, touch, forgive and see
the heart, the hurt, reason and need.

There are so many everywhere,
homeless, alone, afraid, depressed.
We want so much to show we care
but sometimes fear how genuine.

Our Lord sees all our hearts and minds
and knows our motives good and bad.
We must make sure in us he finds
that we are moved by every plight.

My heart is stirred each time I see
a person sitting there to beg.
Through Grace God's love is free to me,
my choice is how I share with them.

A Fenland Benedicite

O all ye Works of the Lord, bless ye the Lord: praise him, and magnify him for ever.

O ye Angels of the Lord, bless ye the Lord: praise him, and magnify him for ever.

O ye ditches and dykes, bless ye the Lord, praise him and magnify him for ever,

O ye black earth and wide fenland skies, bless ye the Lord, praise him and magnify him for ever,

O ye Waters and washes, bless ye the Lord: praise him, and magnify him for ever.

O swans of Welney and all birds of the air, bless ye the Lord: praise him, and magnify him for ever.

O web-footed waders, bless ye the Lord: praise him, and magnify him for ever.

O eels and all that moves in the waters: praise him, and magnify him for ever.

O ye flatlands and levels, bless ye the Lord: praise him, and magnify him for ever.

O all ye Green Things upon the Earth, bless ye the Lord: praise him, and magnify him for ever.

O ye crops of beets and neeps, bless ye the Lord: praise him and magnify him for ever

O all ye Beasts and Cattle, bless ye the Lord: praise him, and magnify him for ever.

O ye Children of Men, bless ye the Lord: praise him, and magnify him for ever.

O let Fenland bless the Lord: praise him, and magnify him for ever.

O Cathedral and cities, market towns and villages: praise him and magnify him for ever.

O ye Priests of the Lord, bless ye the Lord: praise him, and magnify him for ever.

O ye Servants of the Lord, bless ye the Lord: praise him, and magnify him for ever.

O ye Spirits and Souls of the Righteous, bless ye the Lord : praise him, and magnify him for ever.

O ye holy and humble Men of heart, bless ye the Lord: praise him, and magnify him for ever.

O [Ethelreda](#), [Furse](#)y and [Guthlac](#) bless ye the Lord : praise him, and magnify him for ever.

O People of God bless ye the Lord: praise him, and magnify him for ever.

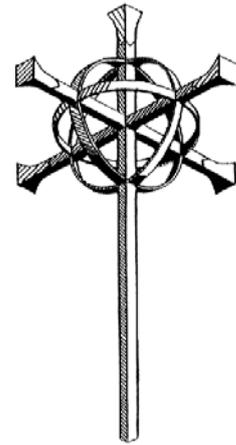
Terry

[For the Fenland saints see Bede's *Ecclesiastical History*]

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

THE SUNDAY LUNCH CLUB 1 st Sunday of the month noon – 1.30pm	Jinty Keir	572303
RED HEN Monday 8.15 – 11am	Christine O'Reilly	0781 6444439
SANG Monday 10– 11.30 (meets in Haven in Church)	Rachel Blanchflower	523066
THE MONDAY CLUB Monday 2.00 – 3.30pm	Ruby Leyshon	352151
THE GOOD SHEPHERD CUBS Monday 6.30 - 8pm	Charles Brown	07720 441123
DOG TRAINING CLASSES Monday 8.15 - 9.15pm	Susannah O'Hanlon	235281
LINE DANCING Tuesday 10.15 - 11.45am	Deborah Walker	01954 231382
KEEP FIT 50+ GROUP Tuesday 2.30 - 4pm	Margaret Briggs	01954 250870
THE GOOD SHEPHERD RAINBOWS Tuesday 6.15 – 7.15pm	Miss Rachel Marsh	574520
DOG TRAINING CLASSES Tuesday 7.30 - 9.30pm	Susannah O'Hanlon	235281
THE 18th & 25th GOOD SHEPHERD BROWNIES Wednesday 6 - 7.15pm	Mrs Pat Marsh	574520
PILATES Thursday 12.40-1.40	Lexi	367639
TAI CHI Thursday 1.40-2.40	Lexi	367639
THE GOOD SHEPHERD BEAVERS Thursday 6.15 - 7.30pm	Emma Roberts	426043
THE GOOD SHEPHERD SCOUTS Thursday 7.30 – 9.00pm	Chris White	0700 891511
CHURCH TODDLERS' CLUB Friday 9.15 – 11.30am	Claire Duell	0787 4850867
TAI CHI Friday 2 – 3pm	Mike Tabrett	503390
DOG TRAINING CLASSES Friday 3.13-4.15pm	Arbury Road Vet. Surgery	361911

**Submission date for
May Newsletter:
April 15
(Publication date April 29)**



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

