

Homeward bound

My Great Auntie Joy, who died earlier this year, was a member of the Northumbria Community. It was my privilege to visit in her final days and pray one of the Community's own blessings with her, one which is often said at times of parting. It finishes with these powerful words:

*'May He bring you home rejoicing at the wonders He has shown you.
May He bring you home rejoicing once again into our doors.'*

This phrase - 'may He bring you home rejoicing' - is one that has been echoing repeatedly in my prayers for you through these past weeks as I have wept and prepared to make our farewell to the parish and people of The Good Shepherd.

It is hard to find the words to articulate all that the last six years have meant. They have involved a journey and ministry together which has passed through birth, death, illness, celebration, exhaustion and healing. They have been years in which we as a church have encountered and been sustained by the grace, generosity and love of God in ways we could not have begun to imagine. They have been years in which we as a family have been welcomed and supported by you with hospitality and friendship that has been consistently faithful.

We are profoundly humbled by and thankful for the goodness of God and you, His people. Truly, The Good Shepherd never deserts His flock and to this your own lives bear witness!

This is why the picture we have chosen to give the church as our leaving present to you feels apt. It is a painting of 'Der Gute Hirt' (The Good

Shepherd) by a priest and painter called Sieger Koder (1925-2015). It shows young and old gathered around a shepherd with a rescued lamb upon his shoulders, against a backdrop of a rainbow-coloured, dazzling light. The thicket in which the lost lamb had been caught is in the background, with a little of its fleece still snagged on it, with footsteps showing the shepherd has himself carried the lamb safely out of danger. His face nuzzles into the lamb, and children play music in celebration and joy at the rescue. Butterflies hint at resurrection; red roses are presented suggesting praise and love. An upturned face invites us too to join in the excitement, and a dog (curiously wolf-like!) is also part of the circle of fellowship. This is a painting about promise and hope, about everyone being included, about an irresistible love and a contagious dance....and about being brought home by the One who always comes to find us.

Christian discipleship can be hard-going. Sadly, it is not possible to miss the pain and disappointments of life. But, always and always the direction The Good Shepherd leads us in is the one that leads us home. Home to Him, and to a community of faith in which new songs are ever to be sung as we keep our eyes on Him.

So, may He bless you and keep you. And may He bring you home rejoicing at the wonders He has shown you. Thank you so much for all your precious cards and gifts, and for sharing your journeying with us. You remain deeply in our heart and prayers. Please keep us in yours as we seek to follow His voice along new paths...

Rachel, Sean, Samuel & Joseph

PARISH DIRECTORY

Vicar	Rev. David Maher until further notice please phone	07764 613862
Associate Priest	Rev. Judith Gretton-Dann	750013
Assistant Curate	Rev. Rachel Blanchflower	523066
Assistant Curate	Rev. Mark Osborne	
Honorary Curate	Rev. John Polkinghorne	360743
Honorary 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	Guido Barzini	300497
PCC Chairman	Rev. David Maher	see above
PCC Vice Chairman	Guido Barzini	300497
PCC Secretary	Ruth Banger	07764 613862
PCC Treasurer	Jinty Keir	572303
PCC Electoral Roll Officer	Terry Barringer	424584
Administrator	Ruth Banger	07764 613862
Convenor PCC Buildings and Grounds Team	David Wilson	07899 917831
Convenor PCC Children and Families Team	Judith Gretton-Dann	750013
Convenor PCC Discipleship and Teaching Team	David Maher	see above
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
Children's Society	Ruby Leyshon	352151
Church Hall Bookings	Ruby Leyshon	352151
Coffee Makers	John Phillips	502969
Fund Raising Events Co-ordinator	Ruby Leyshon	352151
Fund Raising Events Co-ordinator	Evelyn Walker	364067
Fund Raising Events Co-ordinator	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 Area Deanery Synod	Guido Barzini	300497
North Cambridge Council of Churches	David Maher	see above
Rural Development Movement	Henry Disney	359396
Sacristan	Stuart Keir	572303
Safeguarding Officer	Paula Carter	07952 919701
Sound System	David Wilson	07899 917831
Sunday Lunch Club	Jinty Keir	572303
Sunday Lunch Club	Ruth Banger	07764 613862
Welcomers	Fiona Blows	329822

READINGS FOR OCTOBER

Sundays and holy days

- 7 TRINITY 19
Genesis 2: 18-24
Hebrews 1: 1-4, 2: 5-12
Mark 10: 2-16
- 14 TRINITY 20
Amos 5: 6-7, 10-15
Hebrews 4: 12 - end
Mark 10: 17-31
- 21 TRINITY 21
Isaiah 50L 1-9
James 4: 1-12
Mark 8: 17 - end
- 28 TRINITY 17
Isaiah 53: 4 - end
Hebrews 5: 1-19
Mark 10: 35-45

Weekdays at 9.30am

- 3 MORNING PRAYER
Job 9: 1-12, 14-16
Luke 9: 57 - end
- 10 HOLY COMMUNION
Galatians 2: 1-2, 7-14
Luke 11: 1-4
- 17 MORNING PRAYER
Galatians 5: 18 - end
Luke 11: 42-46
- 24 NO SERVICE
- 31 HOLY COMMUNION
Ephesians 6: 1-9
Luke 13: 22-30

REGULAR SERVICES IN OCTOBER

- 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 OCTOBER

- Saturday October 13 at 3.30pm** Service of
Remembrance for those we love and have lost
Sunday October 28 at 10am All Age
Communion service

EVENTS IN OCTOBER

- Sunday October 7** Sunday Lunch Club
meets at 12 noon
Saturday October 20 Jumble Sale 10.30-
12.30



MISCONCEPTIONS

(First published in 2012 in Henry Disney's
'TEACH US OF LOVE', Pneuma Springs Publishing)

As evident as water's wet
This world's a place of hazards, knocks
We can't foreknow. And yet there's fools
Who preach that all unwelcome shocks
Are part of plan by God for each
And every soul. If that were so
Our freedom's but a sham. That's why
Response must be emphatic no!
Whatever blows derail our plans
And hopes we can be sure the God
That Christ revealed will help us cope,
Sustain our souls. As Jesus trod
The path his call required it soon
Was clear his end would be a head
On clash with those who thought they ruled
The Jews. But undeterred, instead
Of changing course he rode an ass,
To brief acclaim, to centre stage.
And many thought he'd free the land
From hated Roman rule, engage
With scheming priests to lift the loads
Their rules and temple tax imposed.
Instead he died on dreaded cross.
But Easter triumph then disclosed
That death is not our final end.
We're pilgrims called to better life
Beyond the grave. For now we're meant
To walk the Way that's free from strife,
Where justice, joy and love prevail.
But this demanding, simple creed
Too often gets obscured by daft
Constraints that smother sprouting seed.
It's those impelled by need to feel
They're in control who opt for schemes
That limit Holy Spirit's gifts
Of grace. Despite the wordy reams
By learned scholars, creeds and rites
Are merely crude attempts to bring
To heel excess. Indeed they may
Impede, become a tangled string
In place of safety rope, as we
Become apprentice saints in team
Who serve to build the Kingdom Christ
Proclaimed, where all will share esteem.

TEN THINGS YOU NEVER HEAR IN CHURCH

1. "Hey! It's my turn to sit in the front pew!"
2. "I was so enthralled, I never even noticed your sermon went 25 minutes overtime."
3. "Personally I find witnessing much more enjoyable than golf."
4. "I've decided to give our church the \$500 a month I've been sending to TV Evangelists."
5. "I'll volunteer to be the permanent teacher for the Junior High Sunday School class."
6. "Forget the denominational minimum salary. Let's pay our pastor so he can live like we do!"
7. "I love it when we sing hymns I've never heard before."
8. "Since we're all here, let's start the service early!"
9. "Pastor, we'd like to send you to this Bible seminar in the Bahamas."
10. "Nothing inspires me and strengthens my commitment to the Lord like our annual stewardship campaign."



SIGNS OF LIFE

English sign in German cafe: "Mothers, Please Wash Your Hans Before Eating"

On a scientist's door: "Gone Fission"

Outside a hotel: "Help! We need inn-experienced people"

On a music teacher's door: "Out Chopin"

On the door of a music library: "Bach in a minuet"

At a farmer's field: "The farmer allows walkers to cross the field for free, but the bull charges"

In a podiatrist's window: "Time wounds all heels"

On a front door: "Everyone on the premises is a vegetarian except the dog"

Non-smoking area: "If we see you smoking, we will assume you are on fire and take appropriate action"

On maternity room door: "Push, Push, Push"

Sign on fence: "Salesmen welcome - dog food is expensive"

Muffler shop: "No appointment necessary. We'll hear you coming."

Veterinarian's waiting room: "Be back in 5 minutes. Sit! Stay!"

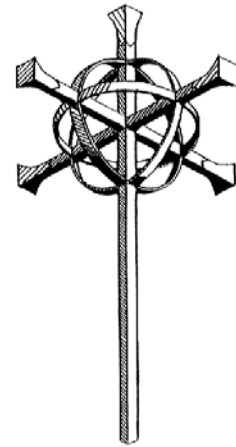
Optometrist's office: "If you don't see what you're looking for, you've come to the right place"



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 10am-12 noon	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
November Newsletter:
October 14
(Publication date October 28)**



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

