

This is the time of year when I have had enough of the cold! I love the rhythm of the different seasons which we get to enjoy in this country, but there comes a point in the year when I just want it to be warm again! The darkness and cold of winter can lead me into a dark and cold place mentally, emotionally and spiritually. This is especially true if I feed myself a media diet of news and ‘current affairs’. Perhaps when you read this, the world will be a brighter place than it seems as I write: maybe Brexit will have been resolved to everyone’s satisfaction and we will all be moving forward together!? Of course, we might have concerns, other than politics, which lead us into a dark and cold place, perhaps difficulties and trouble which are closer to home. Health, relationships, finances, disappointment, loss, loneliness; the human experience is never pain free! I have always been impressed by many of the psalms, where the psalmist pours out their troubles to God - their grief, sadness and even anger - and yet so often in the same psalm there will be words of praise and thanksgiving towards God. Psalm 43, for example: “Why have you rejected me? Why must I go about mourning?”, but ends “I will yet

praise him, my Saviour and my God.”! I wonder whether there is wisdom in being disciplined about being thankful? Paul, in his letter to the Philippians, wrote “Rejoice in the Lord always” and “with thanksgiving present your requests to God”. Is this an impossible and unrealistic teaching? Of course, the trouble and pain which we, as human beings, experience is real and, like the psalmist, it is important to acknowledge this. And sometimes we simply cannot do anything but come before God in silence. But I am going to try and start my day being thankful. Thankful that “**The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.**” John 1:5.

Mark



PARISH DIRECTORY

Vicar	Rev. David Maher	351844
Associate Priest	Rev. Judith Gretton-Dann	750013
Assistant Curate	Rev. Mark Osborne	560494
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
Community Chaplain	Anastasia Sanders	07467 056296
Churchwarden	Guido Barzini	300497
PCC Chairman	Rev. David Maher	351844
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	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
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	351844
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 FEBRUARY

Sundays and holy days

- 3 CANDLEMAS
Malachi 2: 1-5
Psalm 24: 7 – end
Hebrews 2: 14 - end
Luke 2: 22-40
- 10 4 BEFORE LENT
Isaiah 6: 1-4
Psalm 138
1 Corinthians 15: 1-11
Luke 5: 1-11
- 17 3 BEFORE LENT
Jeremiah 17: 5-10
Psalm 1
1 Corinthians 15: 12-29
Luke 6: 12-26
- 24 2 BEFORE LENT
Genesis 2: 4-9, 15 - end
Psalm 65
Revelation 5
Luke 8: 22-25
- *******Weekdays at 9.30am**
- 6 HOLY COMMUNION
Hebrews 12: 4-7, 11-15
Mark 6: 1-6
- 13 MORNING PRAYER
Genesis 2: 4-9, 15-17
Mark 7: 14-23
- 20 HOLY COMMUNION
Genesis 8: 6-13, 30 - end
Mark 8: 22-26
- 27 MORNING PRAYER
James 1: 19 - end
Mark 9: 38-40

REGULAR SERVICES IN FEBRUARY

- 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 FEBRUARY

- Sunday February 3** at 12 noon. Sunday
Lunch Club
- Sunday February 24** at 10am All Age
Service

EVENTS IN JANUARY

- Wednesday February 20** Activities and
Lunch followed by a Universal Credit Event.
- Saturday February 23** Jumble Sale 10-12



THE BEGINNING OF A NEW CHURCH

Little did I know what would happen to us as a family when I was approached by a next door neighbour one day. She said, "Are you Church of England?" After I affirmed that we were, she said, "Do come and fill a pew for us one Sunday morning, at the last morning service there was the Priest and one Communicant and myself at the piano. That was the beginning of it all.

The church was an army hut on a piece of waste land to be developed later,, and it looked very forlorn standing there alone with just a small crucifix over the door. I went to look at it during the week before our first visit and it didn't look very inviting. The weather didn't help much, it was pelting with rain' Looking through the glass of the door, however, I saw a simple altar with a small wooden cross and metal chairs set in rows. The chairs were of a cheerful red and somehow it looked warm and pleasant and like a church. We became regular attenders and were delighted to see the chairs slowly filling as weeks went by.

We were asked to stay behind some weeks to learn the music of the service and this way we very soon became familiar with the beautiful responses of the Communion and came to know and love some of the hymn tunes.

One of our biggest events in this Church was when the Bishop of Ely consented to have a Confirmation Service. Due to the smallness of the hut, a tent was erected for the I shop to robe and my son, then a very small boy, was asked to attend the Bishop. He stood beside him and held his staff which was almost more than he could hold. As the Bishop and priests entered the church, chairs were moved into the gangway thus closing everyone in.

The evening before the ladies of the church had spent a busy day cleaning and putting flowers in the church. During this time some of the little girls, not to be out done, came to us with boughs of May blossom, asking that these should also be used in the decorations. We nailed them to the cross bars of the roof so that the Bishop passed beneath them on his entry. This is an occasion I shall never forget, never has there been an army hut so full of people and never has there been such a simple and joyous service.

The church was decorated inside by the men of the parish and the roof was made waterproof by the same band of men led by our Priest. Later another member of the parish was able to say her husband would make us altar rails which was a great help to the older members of the congregation.

We had a cleaning rota and duly did the dusting and flowers most weeks. Harvest Festival was a grand sight, the produce and flowers being sold afterwards for church funds.

We had a couple of oil stoves to warm us in the winter, but this wasn't always much of a help to our poor pianist. She bravely carried on though and somehow won through. When she went on holiday another dear soul took her place. This was at great cost to herself as she was the organist at the other daughter church at the other side of the parish. This involved a mad dash on her bicycle to get her to us, very red in the face and out of breath, in time for our service. The piano was temperamental and didn't always respond to a new touch with some disastrous results on occasions.

During this time all the work of the parish was getting under way, we started off with

a lady Church Warden and a good job she made of it too. The Priest asked us to see if my son would like to be a server. He was only 12 but he said he would like to. My husband then thought it would be a very good thing if he also served - which he did and liked it very much.

We didn't always have a choice of jobs to be done, sometimes one felt quite inadequate to do something, but our Priest was quite firm with us and we came to realise that nothing is impossible if we try for God. I remember well volunteering to take over a magazine round, only to be given a whole district of new ground to visit and start up a new one. I didn't do it with very good grace, I'm afraid, but I did manage to get nine customers in over fifty houses visited.

Another team of people distributed a leaflet to every house in the new estate and then called back to find out if they would like to know more about, or take advantage of any of our services etc. This, I'm afraid, I couldn't face up to - much to my shame.

Every new face that appeared on Sunday mornings was looked at in eagerness, not only joy of seeing a new member arriving but what can we do was a question at the back of everyone's mind.

During one Lent it was suggested we had a series of talks, one a week. These were held in a beautiful house then being run by nuns. They had a small chapel in which we had a service, then afterwards coffee and biscuits followed by religious discussion. This was tough, especially at the beginning, when everyone was a little nervous about talking about prayer, and the Holy Spirit, and God. I always found difficulty in expressing myself and embarrassment at the thought of making a fool of myself, but I still learned a great deal and found a talking point for weeks at home. My husband was bombarded with questions (I did not mind making a fool of myself to him) and sometimes we would sit in the car after the meeting with a couple of our friends for as much as three quarters of an hour trying to sort out a point.

These meetings were so useful and such a comfort that they continued for some time afterwards. The nuns were marvellous people, such a capacity for joy and fun, yet always one was aware that God was very close to them and made them very happy people. They were very helpful in guiding our discussions and helping us sort out many problems in our faith. The quiet time in the chapel was a start for me to listen to God. How difficult this is, one feels one must rush on with all the praise and thanks, and hardly pausing for breath rush forward into confessing our sins and asking forgiveness. This visit to the chapel taught me how to be still with God.

After some time we were asked if each of us would be prepared to go into our own church and spend at least twenty minutes in prayer during the week from one meeting to the next. Have you entered an empty church knowing you are about to kneel down all alone and pray? I must confess I felt rather foolish to begin with and keep thinking someone would come in and sort of catch me at it. The new church began, but O so slowly a committee was formed to discuss the building and its function. A great interest was taken by many of our members.

My second joyous occasion was the laying of our foundation stone by Her Royal Highness Princess Margaret. I was one of those privileged to be presented

to her. The day was baking hot but everyone was so glad it didn't rain. The Princess looked beautiful in deep blue and white, I have never seen such glorious eyes. She took tea on the Vicarage lawn and a marquee was set up for refreshments. One vivid memory was of our beloved Priest standing before Her Highness presenting his parishioners. He came to my husband and said with great aplomb "This is one of our servers". - there were only two, the other one being my son.

This is a fragment relating to the early years of our church. It was sent to us by John Crossman and had been written by his mother. He sent it with this note

My father, Leslie Crossman, died 18 months ago, still an active Christian to the end... and I am still going through his archives. I came across this little memoire of the very early days of the church, which was actually written by my mother, Joan Crossman, who died in 2005.

It is interesting that she refers to her early experiences of praying alone in the church. In her later years she would spend an hour or more every day praying for the needs of the world and worshiping her God. She plays down her own role as she was a very able woman who did many things in her life including acting to a good amateur standard, singing in choirs, establishing a very early hospital radio station and setting up a recording group for people who couldn't read, which included the parish magazine, snippets from papers, songs etc etc. Also I found a spoof "invoice" sent to Rev Tom Akeley, "charging" him for repairs to two cassocks!

My mother always referred to the church as the church of St Nicholas Ferrar as that was its first designation.

This memoire refers to the second half of 1955. We moved to what is now 41 Roseford Road in that July. The neighbour referred to was Joy Thompson, who I think was also the pianist at the time. I am the "son" referred to - though I was younger than 12 - about nine I think -when I began serving - I could hardly reach the altar to "flit" the missal!

The dear priest referred to was. I think, the curate, Rev George Braund OGS, who later was chaplain at Sidney Sussex College, when I was there was a student, and later still became secretary of USPG as it was then.

The vicarage was St Luke's, then occupied by George, Robert Waddington (who at that time was an inspirational young priest) and presided over by the vicar, George Tibbatts. I remember watching on jealously as my Mum and Dad were presented to Princess Margaret on the lawn! I also have clear recollection of the gathering to the east of the church where we watched the laying of the foundation stone - I was there!

I have many happy memories of church life between 1955 and 1963, and I

still go a local Anglican Church here in Sherborne after over 64 years of Christian life - not all of which has been as an Anglican. The last time I was with you I brought my father to Joyce Fletcher's funeral - an occasion made more special by a lovely 15 minute conversation with John Polkinghorne - also an old boy of the Perse where I went, and very influential in developing my beliefs as both as scientist and a believer.

With best wishes,
John Crossman

AND A SAD GOODBYE

I wanted to write a farewell and thank you to my wonderful church family at The Good Shepherd. I'm so sorry that I felt too emotional to say this in person on my last Sunday.

The Good Shepherd church has been a huge part of my life. My first contact was in 1972 when my father came as vicar. I was away at University at that time so it was really only a holiday contact for me – apart from my wedding in 1980 - a very Heath Robinson affair with Dad driving me to church in our orange Datsun, walking me up the aisle and then nipping into the vestry to get changed for the ceremony, and Iris Brown heading up the team of wonderful ladies who provided the eats in the church hall (which were the only non – Heath Robinson part)!

However, I myself came back to Cambridge in 1991 with two young daughters and since then The Good Shepherd has been my spiritual home. My daughters, Ellie and Rachel, grew up here, went to Sunday School and then the youth group ('Black Sheep') organised by Mary Pountain and Alison Phillips, and were confirmed here. I have always felt so supported in all the ups and downs of my life; The Good Shepherd has always been the place where I found peace, have felt loved and I will always feel it to be my home.

However, it now feels right to move nearer the girls – to Ellie and her now three little ones, and to Rachel and my furry grandson, her little dog Frodo. It is a huge wrench and I will miss The Good Shepherd enormously. We will come back for Isabel's christening, I hope, but I meanwhile I could not leave without expressing thanks for all the care and love I have felt while amongst you all.

Thank you and I hope to keep in touch and be back soon for Isabel's christening!

Cathy Suter

SPOILED FOR CHOICE

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

A bowl of fruit is placed with care
As centrepiece on polished round
Of richly patterned reddish hue.
Banana came from Western Isle
Across the sea. An orange grew
In Palestine. The apples, pears
And single purple plum were grown
In Spain along with nectarine.
The mango's rosy blush, acquired
In sun of far Brazil, completes
The scene all set for artist's brush.
But as a child in Hitler's War
I still recall the lack of choice.
But then our bowls of fruit were filled
With season's gifts of homeland's own.
Indeed a local apple, not
So large but twice as sweet as those
We buy today, fulfilled my dream
Of perfect snack. Indeed if Eve
Would offer such a treat I'd soon
Succumb, despite taboo. But now
We're spoiled for choice - a greater sin
In view of those who starve each day.





They had been up in the attic together doing some cleaning. The kids uncovered an old manual typewriter and asked her, "Hey Mom...what's this?"

"Oh...that's an old typewriter," she answered, thinking that would satisfy their curiosity.

"Well what does it do?" they asked.

"I'll show you," she said and returned with a blank piece of paper. She rolled the paper into the typewriter and began striking the keys, leaving black letters of print on the page.

"WOW!" they exclaimed, "that's really cool...but how does it work like that? Where do you plug it in?"

"There is no plug," she answered. "It doesn't need a plug."

"Then where do you put the batteries?" they persisted.

"It doesn't need batteries either." she continued.

"Wow! This is so cool!" they exclaimed. "Someone should have invented this a long time ago!"



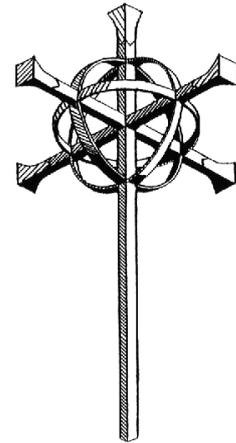
15 EXERCISES WE'D BE BETTER OFF WITHOUT IN 2019...

- ~ Jumping on the bandwagon
- ~ Wading through paperwork
- ~ Running around in circles
- ~ Pushing your luck
- ~ Playing in traffic
- ~ 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
- ~ Running with scissors

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)	Anastasia Sanders	07467 956296
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
March Newsletter:
February 10
(Publication date February 24)**



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

