

**Sale, St. Paul's**

**'Serving God and the community'**

**October 2023**

**You designed and made the  
earth,**



**Ps 74:17**

**You made summer...**

**and winter.**

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**Suggested donation 50p**

# From the Vicarage....

Dear Friends,

There are many things to commend about getting in the car and taking a break somewhere in our wonderful British Isles, but being stuck in traffic on the motorway is not one of them!

As I write I have already spent this week sitting in long stretches of traffic including a school run that took an hour to cover 6 miles there and back. I'm sure you too have stories of sitting in queues, on the bus or on the way to work, sandwiched between lorries for what seems like hours with 'roadworks ahead' signs all around and miles and miles of cones. And when you finally reach the roadworks the site seems deserted with no sign of active construction going on at all - diggers seemingly abandoned, and no sign of life!

During our drive to the South-West for the summer holidays, a sign caught my eye that I had never seen before. It read *'We are working out of sight, so you may not see us'*. I wondered if this had been created in response to all those grumbles from the general public about just such experiences.

Construction work on motorways is incredibly complex. What we see and experience once the work is completed in the new intersections, widened motorways, new bridges etc. is the result of the keen minds and skills of a myriad of people from all sorts of disciplines from planners to architects, from civil engineers to groundworkers, often working out of sight, always working to a masterplan, but all we experience is the upheaval as change takes place- and all this takes time.

Change often causes upheaval, always takes time, but may bring with it significant benefits.



My experience of seeing God at work is not dissimilar to my experience of motorway roadworks. Life can be hugely frustrating. We try to find a way through the obstacles that get in the way of what we want to do or where we want to be, or we get 'stuck in traffic', stalled at perhaps a time when we are most trying to get to a destination.

Perhaps we look around for those who can help us and we see no-one. But God is working, often working hardest in the most difficult and challenging times we



encounter. God may be working out of sight, and you may not see him, but he is there, patiently waiting for each one of us to accept that changing our ways, turning towards him and asking to be part of his masterplan is the only way to bring about the change that leads to life in all its fullness.

Perhaps the motorway sign that God writes might say this: *'We are working out of sight so you may not see us, but you will definitely know where we have been'.*

Perhaps it's time to make a few changes in your life and seek the God who loves you and is working to change your heart and bring about a better future for you— even if he seems to be out of sight...

Yours in faith,  
Becky



*The harvest produce was taken to the old people's bungalows*



Save the date!

**Christmas Tree Festival—**  
Friday, Saturday, Sunday  
8-10 December

## Tuesday Group

Last month Catrina Walker-Jones gave us an extremely interesting talk about Powers of Attorney. She stressed the importance of having both a medical and a financial one for anyone over the age of 50. She went on to say that it is important to keep our Wills up to date and recommended the use of a Solicitor. She then explained that her work as a Financial Advisor included investments and trusts.

On 10th October we welcome back Dr. Jean Robinson who will give us an illustrated talk on the beauty and culture of Japan. This meeting will be in the church hall at the usual time of 1.30pm

Diana

**St Paul's Church**  
1st Sunday of the month  
6pm Evening Prayer is  
celebrated in the style of  
**Taizé**



Song, Silence,  
Contemplation



With optional reflective  
prayer stations

# Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

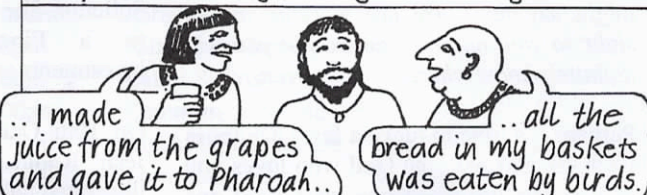
It can be read in the Bible in  
Genesis chapters 39:20-41:44

Joseph's brothers had sold him as a slave  
and he had ended up in Egypt. Then he was  
wrongly accused and was sent to prison.



Joseph was trusted to look  
after the other prisoners.

Then Pharaoh's butler and baker were sent to  
the prison. One night they had strange dreams.



.. I made  
juice from the grapes  
and gave it to Pharaoh..

.. all the  
bread in my baskets  
was eaten by birds.

God knows what your dreams mean -  
you will be pardoned . . . but you won't.



The two men  
left the prison.



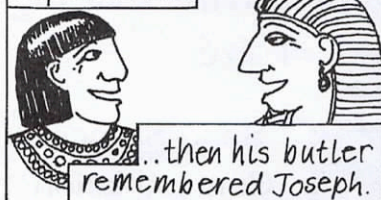
Don't forget me!

But they did

Two years later  
Pharaoh had a dream

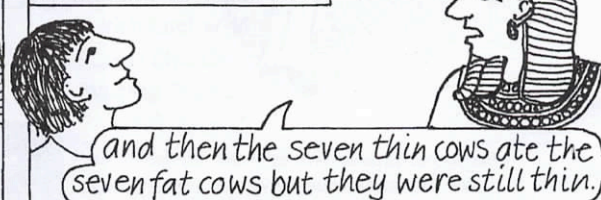


None of his advisors could  
explain it...



..then his butler  
remembered Joseph.

So Joseph was cleaned up  
and sent to Pharaoh.



and then the seven thin cows ate the  
seven fat cows but they were still thin.

God says there will be  
seven bumper years, then  
seven years of famine.

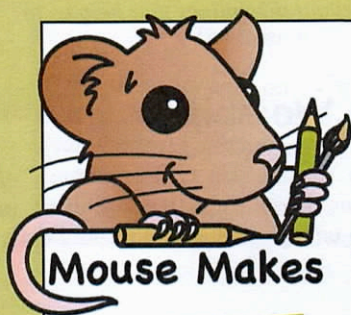


You must choose someone  
trustworthy to store the  
spare food in the good years

Pharaoh was so impressed  
he gave Joseph the job!







### CONNECT THE BIBLE FOOD PAIRS

MANNA	HONEY
OIL	WINE
WATER	FISH
LOCUSTS	QUAIL
LOAVES	FLOUR

What drink ran out at the wedding?

and what did Jesus use to make more?

John 2:3 and 7

What food did God supply for his people in the wilderness?

\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_

Numbers 11:7-9 and 31

After Elijah came to visit, what never ran out?

\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_

1 Kings 17:14

What food did the ravens feed Elijah?

\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_

1 Kings 17:6

What food did John the Baptist eat in the wilderness?

and \_\_\_\_\_

Matthew 3:4

What did the boy give Jesus to feed 5,000 people?

Five \_\_\_\_\_

and two \_\_\_\_\_

John 6:9

### FIND THE BIBLE VERSE

Change each letter in this bible verse to the letter **before** it in the alphabet.

NBO TIBMM OPU  
MJWF PO CSFBE  
BMPOF, CVU PO  
FWFSZ XPSE UIBU  
DPNFT GSPN UIF  
NPVUI PG HPE.

NBUUIFX 4:4

### DID YOU KNOW?

As Lot escaped Sodom with his family an angel told him not to stop or look back, but Lot's wife did look back and became a pillar of salt.

READ Genesis 19  
v15-26

Find the words below and the answers to the questions all in the word search

OLIVES • CHEESE  
FIGS • DATES  
MUSTARD  
RAISINS • WHEAT  
SALT • GRAIN  
FRUIT • GRAPES  
VEGETABLES

E B R E A D H O N E Y Q J S F  
L O A V E S G Q W A T E R C I  
M Q I W M F R U I T F I S H G  
E U S H A L A A N O L I V E S  
A I I E N O I I E G R A P E S  
T L N A N U N L O C U S T S Y  
M U S T A R D E I H D A T E S  
E V E G E T A B L E S A L T H

Canon Paul Hardingham continues his series on the spiritual disciplines that help us to grow and deepen our faith.

## Spiritual Disciplines — Worship

*'Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshippers will worship the Father in Spirit and in truth, for they are the kind of worshippers the Father seeks.'* (John 4: 23).

The spiritual discipline of worship has both a personal and corporate dimension. It includes worship services as well as day-to-day activities. God is actively seeking worshippers (John 4:23) and worship is a response to our experience of God's love. The main words used of worship in the Bible have the sense of *submission* and *service*. They remind us that our lives need to be shaped by worship *on a daily basis*.

There are different ways into worship: practising stillness, offering praise (cf Psalm 95) and offering the whole of our lives as a living sacrifice (cf Romans 12:1). Worship is an act of the will; we choose to honour and please God. Depending on our circumstances, worshipping God requires effort on our part. However, entering into worship is to be transformed by His presence into the likeness of Jesus (cf 2 Corinthians 3:18).

Richard Foster in *Celebration of Discipline* offers some helpful ways in which to engage with worship on a daily basis:

*Learn to practise the presence of God daily* by punctuating every moment with praise and adoration.

*Have different experiences of worship*, both in large and small gatherings (i.e., small group)

*Be prepared for gathered worship* in heart and mind.

*Be willing to let our worship transform* our thinking and practice as God meets us.

*Cultivate holy dependence* on God for everything in our lives, looking forward to all God wants to do.

*Learn to offer a sacrifice of worship*, however we are feeling!

*'Now the worship is over, let the service begin'* (Bishop Michael Marshall, closing a service)





**ST PAUL'S CHURCH**  
**SUNDAY 8TH OCT**  
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**foodbank**

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COLLECTING MONIES FOR  
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CAMPAIGN SUPPORTING  
CHILDREN IN SRI LANKA





## **29<sup>th</sup> October - Bible Sunday as Ukrainians request more Bibles**

The war in Ukraine has led to a dramatic rise in the demand for Bibles, as people ask existential questions about life and death.

The Ukrainian Bible Society reports that, in the last 15 months, some 700,000 Bibles have been distributed across the war-torn country. This is a five-fold increase on numbers handed out before the war. In 2020, some 136,767 Bibles were distributed in Ukraine.

Anatoliy Raychynets, deputy general secretary of the Ukrainian Bible Society explains, "The experience of this time is that so many people are looking for Bibles and churches.

"We are doing everything possible to reach all the needs, but more Bibles are needed. With the help of the Word of God, we can bring the love of God to those who need it."

Bibles are distributed around the country, including to soldiers and civilian communities on the front line, and to those in hospital. "Wherever the Bible is taken, it is very much appreciated," said Anatoliy.

## **Spoken, Written, Living Word**

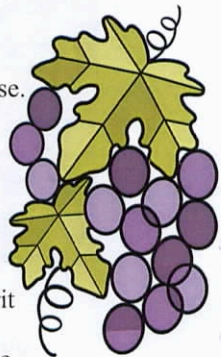
*(Gen1:3&31, 3, Ps 119:105,  
Isaiah 40:8, 55:11, Jn1:1)*

God has spoken.  
His word created everything  
In the beginning.  
God saw all  
That He had spoken into being,  
And it was very good,  
His spoken world.

He spoke freedom  
To the ones in His image.  
But then a stumbling  
And a falling  
And a need for the path to be lit.  
By His power,  
Through His people  
It is written,  
God's word.  
To stand for ever,  
To accomplish His purpose.

Spoken and written,  
Revealing Jesus.  
Word-man,  
Word alive,  
Life itself,  
Gift-wrapped by His Spirit  
And offered to all  
Who will trust and receive  
The rescue package,  
And live the Word  
In the world  
Until He comes.

*By Daphne Kitching*





## **Reflected Faith Series :**

### **Seating in churches**

In many 'old' churches and cathedrals today the original wooden seats or pews have been completely removed. They have been replaced by moveable chairs, to enable the space to become very flexible. In this way concerts and exhibitions can more easily take place.

But where does the priest or worship leader sit?

Often there will be a special chair or 'stall' set aside for them. In older churches, you may find as many as three.

The first is a 'prayer stall' between the choir stalls and the nave. From here the priest will conduct the majority of the first section of the Sunday service, and during the week will use this stall for their morning and evening public office.

There is likely to be also a chair for them in the sanctuary, and in older church buildings you will see in the chancel area some seats (sedilia) set into the wall. Depending on the size of the original parish, these vary from being a single plain seat for the priest alone to something quite ornate: seating up to four people. They even come stepped, so that the people are sitting at different heights.

In medieval times, during Mass, the priest was the celebrant, the deacon read the Gospel and the sub-deacon read the Epistle. They would be seated in the sedilia while the Creed and Gloria were being sung, giving them a time of rest during a long ceremony.

Where the seats are at different heights, the priest would have sat on the highest one, nearest the altar. Later when Chantry endowments provided some churches with several clergy in full orders, the seats were all made at one level. Where there are four seats, the last would have been for the clerk.

In many churches nowadays, you have to look very carefully for these seats, as over time they have been rearranged, and sometimes even the floor around them has been raised so they no longer look like seats.

More modern churches also need somewhere for the priests and deacons to sit, and often you will find very fine chairs placed near the altar for them.

*This month:* What happens when the bishop comes to your church? Where does s/he sit? How do you know? What does the formality or informality of these chairs say about the way your church thinks about these roles?



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By Tim Lenton

## A Bear called Paddington

It was 65 years ago, on 14<sup>th</sup> October 1958, that Michael Bond's children's book, *A Bear Called Paddington*, was published. It marked the debut of the lovable Paddington Bear, who is now a household name after appearing in two irresistible films.

Paddington starred in more than 20 books written by Bond, who died aged 91 in 2017. The original story was inspired by the author witnessing Jewish and British evacuee children passing through Reading station. Bond wanted the bear to have come from "darkest Africa", but this was changed to Peru when his agent pointed out that there were no bears in Africa.

Many people have found Christian characteristics in the bespectacled, kind, red-hatted, innocent Paddington, who always tries to do the right thing but often gets into trouble as a result. He is invariably polite, but has a "hard stare" for those who behave badly. The two hugely successful films, with Ben

Whishaw voicing Paddington and household names in other roles, established the bear in the national psyche – a natural successor to Winnie the Pooh.

A stuffed toy Paddington Bear was chosen by British tunnellers as the first item to be passed to their French counterparts when the two sides of the Channel Tunnel came together in 1994. The books have been translated into 30 languages and have sold more than 30 million copies.

Paddington has also reached the very top of society. Comedian and later President of Ukraine Volodymyr Zelensky dubbed him in the Ukrainian version of the films, and to cap everything, Paddington joined the late Queen in one of her last public appearances – a brilliant comedy segment in the Platinum Party at the Palace on 4<sup>th</sup> June 2022, in which the Queen 'revealed' that she always carried a marmalade sandwich – Paddington's favourite food – in her handbag.



## Love Mercy – the twelve steps of forgiveness

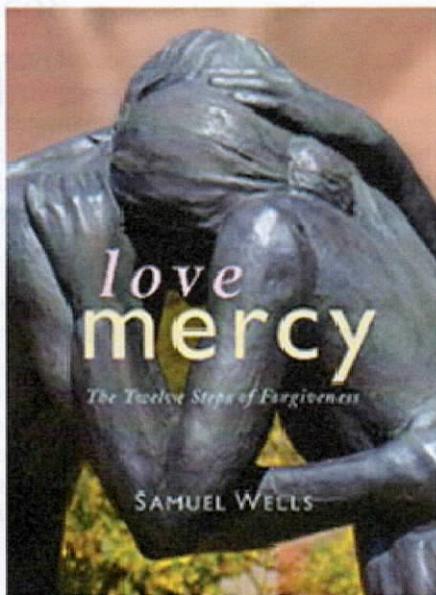
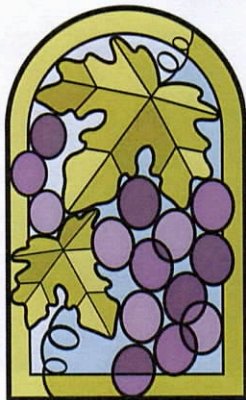
By Samuel Wells,  
Canterbury Press, £6.00

This is a thoughtful exploration of forgiveness and making peace.

It is utterly realistic about the nature and effects of the hurt we inflict both as individuals and societies, and the conditions and work that is needed to bring healing. Sam Wells sees forgiveness as a twelve-step process, beginning with resolve and culminating in the newness of resurrection.

With deep pastoral wisdom, he reflects on the issues and challenges that touch us all, and he offers a way of living to bring us into reconciliation with ourselves, with others, with creation and with God.

Love Mercy is the sequel to 'Walk Humbly' and the second of three volumes by Samuel Wells that offer a basic introduction to Christian faith and life.



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## Who's Who?

### Members of the Parochial Church Council (not mentioned on the back page)

Diana Kelly	973-4578
Carole Shakeshaft	969-6319
Paula Hughes	973-5121
Joyce Green	973-0396
Eileen Craven	283-7668
Jean Law	962-6761
Fiona Vaughan-Thomas	
Amanda Pearson	

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# October 2023

1 <sup>st</sup>	Sunday	10.00am	Parish Eucharist
		6.00pm	Taize Style Evening Prayer
3 <sup>th</sup>	Tuesday	9.30am	Babes & Tots
4 <sup>th</sup>	Wednesday	10.00am	Communion Service
5 <sup>th</sup>	Friday	1.00pm	MacMillan Cake Sale
		1.30pm	Community Choir
8 <sup>th</sup>	Sunday	10.00am	All Age Worship for Harvest
		6.00pm	Communion Service
10 <sup>th</sup>	Tuesday	9.30am	Babes & Tots
		1.15pm	Tuesday Group
11 <sup>th</sup>	Wednesday	10.00am	Communion Service
13 <sup>th</sup>	Friday	1.30pm	Community Choir
14 <sup>th</sup>	Saturday	5.30pm	RSCM Celebration Day & Festival Chester Cathedral
15 <sup>th</sup>	Sunday	10.00am	Parish Eucharist
		6.00pm	Evening Prayer
17 <sup>th</sup>	Tuesday	9.30am	Babes & Tots
18 <sup>th</sup>	Wednesday	10.00am	Communion Service
20 <sup>th</sup>	Friday	1.30pm	Community Choir
22 <sup>nd</sup>	Sunday	10.00am	Parish Eucharist
		3.00pm	Forest Church
		6.00pm	Evening Prayer
24 <sup>th</sup>	Tuesday	9.30am	Babes & Tots
25 <sup>th</sup>	Wednesday	10.00am	Communion Service
27 <sup>th</sup>	Friday	1.30pm	Community Choir
29 <sup>th</sup>	Sunday	10.00am	Parish Eucharist
		6.00pm	Evening Prayer
31 <sup>st</sup>	Tuesday	9.30am	Babes & Tots



## Next Month—

1 <sup>st</sup>	Wednesday	10.00am	Communion Service
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Friday	1.30pm	Community Choir
5 <sup>th</sup>	Sunday	10.00am	Parish Eucharist
		5.00pm	Commemoration of the Faithful Departed



# A Prayer for October

Dear Lord and Creator of all things,

In this fast-moving and high-tech world, help us to slow down – just occasionally – to notice the rhythms of Your creation; the beauty of the colours of autumn; the annual ritual of falling leaves and darkening evenings. All part of Your cycle of the year that we often take for granted.

And yet Lord, there is evidence of changes in our climate – extremes of temperature, droughts, floods and wildfires. There is evidence that our behaviour might be responsible for damaging Your world.

Lord, we thank You for Your goodness and faithfulness and grace to us. We are sorry when we get things wrong. Thank you for sending Jesus to show us the way to be in a right relationship with You. Help us to put our trust in Him and as part of living Christian lives, to accept our responsibility for caring for the world You created.

In Jesus' name, Amen

*By Daphne Kitching*

## From the Parish Registers

### August 2023

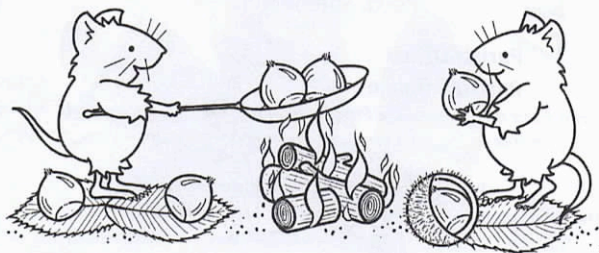
Funeral Service of the late Anne Ibbotson  
Baptism of baby Elliott

### September 2023

At Altrincham Chapel Funeral service of the late Neil Wilkinson  
Marriage of Jonathan Pickton and Simona Ungureanu

### October 2023

Funeral Service of the late Brian Walker



*Please check the weekly pew sheets for any service changes that may occur.*

*Don't forget—email any articles for the Parish News to the Parish Office email address—  
salestpaul@aol.com*

## St. Paul's Parish Directory

Churchwardens:	Yvonne Stevenson	*	07946 644214
	Vacant		
Reader:	Michael Riley	*	969-2795
Pastoral Workers:	Yvonne Kerridge	*	962-4066
	Karen Salisbury	*	283-8309
Treasurer to the PCC:	Vacant (Contact the Parish Office)		
Secretary to the PCC:	Karen Salisbury	*	283-8309
Director of Music:	Anne Allen	*	01925-763103
Assistant Organists:	John Clisset		962-2096
	Kevin Drury		962-7963
	Donald Brooks		
Safeguarding Officer	Carole Shakeshaft	*	969-6319
Parish Giving Officer	Brian Kerridge	*	962-4066
Electoral Roll Officer:	Yvonne Stevenson	*	283-1065
Parish News Editor:	Karen Salisbury	*	283-8309
Bible Reading Fellowship:	Rachel Lee	*	973-1282
Men's Society:	Michael Riley	*	969-2795
Women's Tuesday Group:	Hilary Moore	*	969-1831
St. Paul's Babes & Tots	Rachel Lee	*	973-1282
Tower Warden:	Ian Moore		0787-670-6834
Christian Aid:	Anita Evans		973-4679
Children's Society Rep:	Sheila Clarke		962-4678
Church Hall Bookings:	Contact via the Parish Office		
4 <sup>th</sup> Sale Central (St. Paul's) Rainbows, Brownies & Guides	Vicky Williams		07986 525898
<b>Vicar:</b>	Rev. Dr. Becky Mathew	217-8795 / 07584 604627	
<b>Email:</b>	revbmathewstpaulsale@gmail.com		
Associate Ministers:	Rev. Dr. Lisa Redfern (Forest Church)		
	Rev. Dr. Margaret Jones	*	973-7790
	Rev. Shemil Mathew		217-8795

### Parish Office

**962-0082**

### Parish Office e-mail

**salestpaul@aol.com**

*Names above marked with \* are members of the Parochial Church Council. Please note that **Vicar Becky** is part-time and her working hours are flexible so she might not be able to reply or respond immediately to your calls and emails.*

### Parish Organisations affiliated to St Paul's

*The following groups meet in St Paul's Church Hall unless otherwise stated.*

<b>Tuesday</b>	9.30am-11am	St. Paul's Babes & Tots (school term time)
	1.15pm	Women's Tuesday Group (2 <sup>nd</sup> of every month)
	6.15pm	4 <sup>th</sup> Sale Central (St. Paul's) Brownies
	7.30pm	4 <sup>th</sup> Sale Central (St. Paul's) Guides
<b>Thursday</b>	7.30pm	Chorister Training and Choir Practice
	8.00pm	Men's Society (last of every month Sept to May but not Dec)
<b>Friday</b>	1.30pm-2.30pm	Community Choir (school term time)
	5.30pm	4 <sup>th</sup> Sale Central (St Paul's) Rainbows