

Candlemas ▪ What's on ▪ Lent ▪ Holy Week ▪ Easter

# Whaley Bridge

Parish Magazine Free ▪ February/March 2024



The Worship Wall at Kettleshulme St James CE Primary School. See page 15 to discover more.

Revd Frances reflects on celebrating Easter - Page 3

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# Celebrating Easter

How do you celebrate Easter? In the last few years when we have been out walking we have noticed that people are decorating for Easter more. We will stop to admire a tree hung with delicately painted Easter eggs. The egg from which the chick emerges is a symbol of new life, and in the West, Easter falls in the spring when signs of new life in nature are all around us – and which of us isn't longing for that after the dark and difficult days of winter.

For Christians, the celebration of Easter is all about the new life of resurrection. What had seemed a tragic story, ending in the ignominy of Jesus's execution on a Roman cross, turns around to become a story of the ultimate overcoming of life and love. For Christians, this means our faith is grounded in hope – not false optimism, but hope.



It also means that Easter is a very special time of celebration. Palm Sunday marks the beginning of Holy Week – the last week of Jesus's life. In church we tell the story of this last week through a dramatised reading of the Gospel in which everyone takes the part of the crowd. We all shout "Hosanna to the Son of David" to welcome Jesus as he rides in to Jerusalem, and we all join in with the shout of "Crucify him!" as the crowd turn against Jesus. It never fails to be moving.

On Maundy Thursday we remember the Last Supper Jesus shared with his friends – the sharing of the bread and wine. We do this very regularly in church but it has a special potency in the context of the night when Jesus was betrayed.

It is important to share the Easter story with children – research shows that about half of children don't know the meaning of Easter. So, on Good Friday morning we do "Messy Easter" telling the Easter story with crafts, drama and song. It's always a popular and well attended event for primary aged children and parents to share. In the afternoon we gather for a quiet hour of reflection at the cross. The main event though is a wonderful Churches Together service at the cross on the summit of Eccles Pike, where we gather at 5.00 pm with Christians from Chinley, Chapel, and all the communities around the hill. There are families with children, dogs, people of all ages. It's been a local tradition for fifty years and continues, come sunshine, rain or snow! It never fails to inspire.

At Taxal our Easter morning celebration begins outside on the road. Our Easter candle is lit, and the chorus of "Christ is risen! He is risen indeed!" goes up to the sound of birdsong and the wind in the trees before we continue the service inside the church, which is filled with flowers and the scent of Easter lilies. Having followed the events of Holy Week through, Easter morning brings a special sense of uplift and joy.

If you have never taken part in an Easter service, you would be very welcome to dip into any of our Easter celebrations! Everyone is very welcome to join in as much or as little as you want to in an unpressured way. All the details are in the magazine and on our website.

Every blessing

**Frances**

## The Parish of Whaley Bridge

St James Taxal • Holy Trinity Fernilee • Kettleshulme

[www.whaleybridgecofeparish.org](http://www.whaleybridgecofeparish.org)

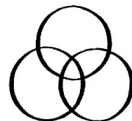
<b>Vicar</b>	<b>Revd Frances Eccleston</b> 01663 732724 (mobile) 07554 240762 46 Buxton Road, Whaley Bridge <a href="mailto:revfrances.whaley@gmail.com">revfrances.whaley@gmail.com</a>
<b>Reader Emeritus</b>	<b>Beryl Axcell</b> 732612 Hilltop, Macclesfield Road
<b>Reader</b>	<b>Steve Eccleston</b> 07572 079423
<b>Pastoral Worker</b>	<b>Sue Mellor</b> 732005 2 Taxal View, Fernilee <a href="mailto:themellors32@gmail.com">themellors32@gmail.com</a>
<b>Churchwardens</b>	<b>VACANCIES</b> <i>For details please contact Revd Frances on the numbers listed above</i>
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## Praying for the Streets of Whaley Bridge

The names of the streets to be prayed for in any particular week will appear on the church notice sheet and these streets will be remembered in our prayers.

4 <sup>th</sup> February:	Linglongs Avenue, Linglongs Road, Low Meadow
11 <sup>th</sup> February:	Lower Macclesfield Road, Macclesfield Road, Manor Road
18 <sup>th</sup> February:	Market Street, Meadow Close, Meadowfield, Meadowside
25 <sup>th</sup> February:	Mereside Gardens, Mevriil Road, Mevriil Springs Way
3 <sup>rd</sup> March:	New Horwich Road, New Road, Old Hall Drive
10 <sup>th</sup> March:	Old Road, Orchard Avenue, Orchard Road
17 <sup>th</sup> March:	Paddock Lane, Park Road, Randal Crescent, Reddish Avenue
24 <sup>th</sup> March:	Reddish Lane, Reddish Road, Reservoir Road





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## **Services in February and March 2024**

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### **FEBRUARY 2024**

#### **Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> February:**

**10.30am:** Holy Communion at Holy Trinity.

#### **Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> February:**

**10.30am:** Holy Communion at St James Taxal.

#### **Ash Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> February:**

**7.30pm:** Holy Communion with ashing at Holy Trinity

#### **Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> February**

**10.30am:** Family Church at Holy Trinity.

#### **Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> February:**

**10.30am:** Holy Communion at St James Taxal.

### **MARCH 2024**

#### **Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> March:**

**10.30am:** Holy Communion at Holy Trinity.

#### **Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> March - Mothering Sunday:**

**10.30am:** Holy Communion at St James Taxal.

#### **Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> March:**

**10.30am:** Family Church at Holy Trinity.

#### **Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> March -**

#### **Palm Sunday:**

**10.30am:** Holy Communion with Passion drama at St James Taxal.

#### **28<sup>th</sup> March - Maundy Thursday:**

**7.30pm:** Holy Communion at Holy Trinity.

#### **29<sup>th</sup> March - Good Friday:**

**10.00am:** Messy Easter at Holy Trinity.

**2.00pm:** At the Cross at Holy Trinity.

**4.00pm:** Gather at Good News Church for walk to Eccles Pike

**5.00pm:** Churches Together Open-Air Service at Eccles Pike.



#### **Easter Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> March:**

**10.30am:** Holy Communion at St James Taxal.

### **PARISH WEBSITE**

Please visit the parish website for the latest updates on services and events:

**[www.whaleybridgecofeparish.org](http://www.whaleybridgecofeparish.org)**

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# Let your light shine!

I have just typed that heading and my phone has pinged signalling the arrival of Eileen Connell's nightly prayer on WhatsApp, and it's amazingly apt!

The prayer quotes the psalmist who said, "Lord you light my lamp, my God, illuminate my darkness"... and ends..."Give us your light, in Jesus' name. Amen.

If you are of a certain age, you might well remember the old Sunday school song, "Jesus bids us shine with a pure clear light, like a little candle burning in the night. In this world of darkness, so we must shine, you in your small corner and I in mine".



**By Beryl Axcell**

**Harbhajan Singh**

Everybody is a candle  
- true  
But not everyone is lit!



**S. Boss**

Be like a candle light,  
Burn from inside  
But  
Spread light outside.



**John F. Kennedy**

We are not here to curse the darkness  
but to light the candle  
that can guide us through  
the darkness to a safe and sure future.

**Patrick Kane**

You can curse the  
darkness  
or light a candle -  
the choice is yours.



**Confucius**

All the darkness  
in the world can't  
put out the light  
of one candle.



**Shakespeare**

How far that little candle  
throws its beam!  
So shines a good deed  
in a naughty world.



**Leo Tolstoy**

Just one candle can light  
another candle and can  
light thousands of other candles.  
So one heart illuminates another  
and can illuminate thousands of others.

**St. Paul**

Fan into flame  
the gift  
that is in you.



As the Church celebrates Candlemas on February 2<sup>nd</sup> we read:

**Shellen Lubin**

Let's hold whatever lights we can,  
a candle, a flash light;  
an app on your way-too-smart phones,  
-whichever may be at hand to light our way.  
-to light each other's way.  
So we may be, may be, able  
to find a way TOGETHER.

God pours his love into our hearts to  
pour out to others - to shine. In her book,  
"Joy to the World", Joyce Huggett  
quotes a prayer from a Christmas card  
produced by the Sisters of the  
Community of the Holy Name, Derby:

Only in Him we live  
Our lamp light only His  
Our lives for wick we give  
Lamp, oil, flame  
JESUS is.

## POETRY CORNER

### Transfiguration

Reveal Thyself to me,  
Transfigured shining Son!  
Thy Holy radiance may I see  
God's own anointed One.

The prophets there with Thee  
What stories do they tell?  
What holy words of mystery?  
What glories do they spell?

Then, God's own mighty voice  
Rolling through shrouding cloud;  
Must make the hardest heart rejoice  
To hear Him clear and loud:

"This, my beloved Son!  
"Listen to what He says  
"Know that He is the chosen One  
"And follow Him all thy days!"  
(Tune: Trentham)

*By Nigel Beeton*

### True Love

(Lk2:22-35)

Broken world,  
Broken lives,  
Broken hearts  
Without hope  
Until there, in the Temple,  
In that bundle of a baby,  
Love provides  
Restoration,  
According to His word.

*By Daphne Kitching*



### Looking to advertise in Whaley Bridge Parish Magazine?

We are grateful to all of our advertisers for their support! If you would like to advertise in the magazine please contact Mrs Julie Bristol on 01663 734198.

If you feel you would like to donate towards the cost of this magazine you can send a cheque (made payable to The PCC of Whaley Bridge) to our treasurer Mrs Jo Fyfe c/o 46 Buxton Rd, Whaley Bridge, SK23 7JE.

Alternatively, you can give online using the QR code on this page.

Do please send an email to [cofe.whaleybridge@gmail.com](mailto:cofe.whaleybridge@gmail.com) to say you have donated so we can thank you.



## To my Dear and Loving Husband

If ever two were one, then surely we.  
If ever man were loved by wife, then thee;  
If ever wife was happy in a man,  
Compare me with ye women if you can.  
I prize thy love more than whole mines of gold,  
Or all the riches that the East doth hold....

*From a poem by Anne Bradstreet, 1612-72*



## A poem to pray for peace during troubled times

“Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid.” **John 14:27**

“Peace is not something you fight for  
With bombs and missiles that kill,  
Peace is attained in the silence  
That comes when the heart stands still...

For hearts that are restless and warlike  
With longings that never cease,  
Can never contribute ideas  
That bring the world nearer to peace...  
For as dew never falls on a morning

That follows a dark stormy night,  
The peace and the grace of our Father  
Fall not on a soul that's in flight...

So if we seek peace for all people  
There is but one place to begin,  
And the armament race will not win it  
For the fortress of peace is within.

***Daily Stepping Stones, Helen Steiner Rice.***

## Tai Chi Chuan classes in High Peak

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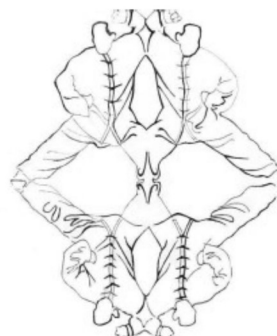
**Instructor is registered with the British Council for Chinese Martial Arts and Tai Chi Union of GB.**

### NEW CLASS

10am on Tuesday mornings at The Mechanics Institute

Wednesday evenings  
Mechanics Institute  
Whaley Bridge  
SK23 7AA

For any enquiries  
contact Debbie  
on 07879114836 Or  
debbiemccall@gmail.com



## A warm welcome at Horwich End Women's Institute

Horwich End W.I. meets every second Wednesday of the month at the Mechanics Institute in Whaley Bridge, starting at 2.00pm.

They are a friendly group and new faces are always welcome.

You are warmly encouraged to attend.

If you are interested or would like more details, please contact Jill on 01663 735310 or Mary on 01663 732123.

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### Quick Quote

Happy moments, praise God.  
Difficult moments, seek God.  
Quiet moments, worship God.  
Painful moments, trust God.  
Every moment, thank God.

- Anon

## The Parish Rooms Holy Trinity Church Buxton Road

[www.whaleybridgecofeparish.org](http://www.whaleybridgecofeparish.org)



**Special occasion?** - why not consider booking the Parish Rooms. Also available for meetings, coffee mornings, parties, funeral teas. Full kitchen facilities available - reasonable charges. Outside caterers can be used for your special event. Safe off-road parking. Book in good time to avoid disappointment.

**All enquiries to Steve Eccleston 01663 732724 or 07572 079423**



## Quiz on the Book of Exodus

1. Who rescued Moses from the basket in the bulrushes?
  - a. Pharaoh's daughter
  - b. Pharaoh's maid
  - c. Pharaoh's wife
2. How many plagues did God send on Egypt?
  - a. 5
  - b. 10
  - c. 15
3. What was the second plague?
  - a. frogs
  - b. water turned to blood
  - c. locusts
4. What is the name of the sea the Israelites crossed to escape the Egyptians?
  - a. Dead Sea
  - b. Black Sea
  - c. Red Sea
5. At what place did the Israelites arrive to find the water was too bitter to drink and God made it sweet?
  - a. Marah
  - b. Elim
  - c. Horeb
6. Which bird did God provide for meat in the wilderness?
  - a. pigeon
  - b. quail
  - c. turtledove
7. What guided the Israelites through the wilderness?
  - a. a star in the sky
  - b. Moses had visions telling him where to lead the people
  - c. a pillar of cloud and of fire
8. When there was no water to drink, how did Moses provide it?
  - a. from earthen jars
  - b. from his rod
  - c. from a rock
9. On which mountain were the Israelites given the Ten Commandments
  - a. Mt. Sinai
  - b. Mt. Nebo
  - c. Mt. of Olives
10. What Is the seventh commandment?
  - a. Thou shalt not covet
  - b. Thou shalt not commit adultery
  - c. Thou shalt not bear false witness
11. What was on top of the Ark of the Covenant?
  - a. two cherubim
  - b. candlestick
  - c. Aaron's rod
12. What compelled the Israelites to form and worship the golden calf
  - a. they wanted to make a statue to the Lord
  - b. they made it as a symbol of their freedom from slavery
  - c. they didn't know what had happened to Moses
13. What was the name of a man who was given the Spirit of God, to enable him to become a good craftsman, and assist with the building of the tabernacle?
  - a. Caleb
  - b. Bezaleel
  - c. Buz
14. Who was Moses' successor?
  - a. Joshua
  - b. Caleb
  - c. Aaron
15. For how many years did the Israelites wander in the wilderness?
  - a. 20 years
  - b. 30 years
  - c. 40 years

**Answers on page 22**

## **We're all ears for news of the Taxal donkeys**

**By John Swift**

Mary, Henry and Rodney will not be in Taxal church grounds in 2024, but will be at the side of the footpath by the church toilets where they have been requested to perform their mowing capabilities.

New owners called Alex and Nick are in place and welcome any stokers and tit bit providers in spring.



### **Just for fun...**

What do you get if you cross a jeep with a dog?  
*A Land Rover.*

## **Men's Midweek Walking Group**

**Join us for monthly midweek walks, 3 or 4 miles  
with a stop for lunch. The only requirements are  
stout shoes and the ability to climb a stile.**

**All welcome!**

**Call Steve Eccleston on 07572 079423  
or email [steveeccleston@live.co.uk](mailto:steveeccleston@live.co.uk)**

# Let's make butternut squash soup

***Nothing beats a delicious hot soup on a really cold day, and this recipe is sure to become a firm favourite!***

## Method

1. Heat the oven to 200C/180C/gas 6.
2. Cut the squash into large cubes then toss in a large roasting tin with 1 tbsp of the olive oil.
3. Roast for 30 mins until golden and soft.
4. Melt the butter with remaining 1 tbsp of

olive oil in a large saucepan, then add the onion and garlic and cook until soft.

5. Tip the butternut squash into the pan, add the stock and creme fraiche and whizz with a blender until smooth.

6. Season to taste.

## RECIPE

### Ingredients

- 1 butternut squash
- 2 tbsp olive oil
- 1 tbsp butter
- 2 onions
- 1 glove garlic
- 850ml hot vegetable stock
- 4 tbsp crème fraiche



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# Caring for God's Acre

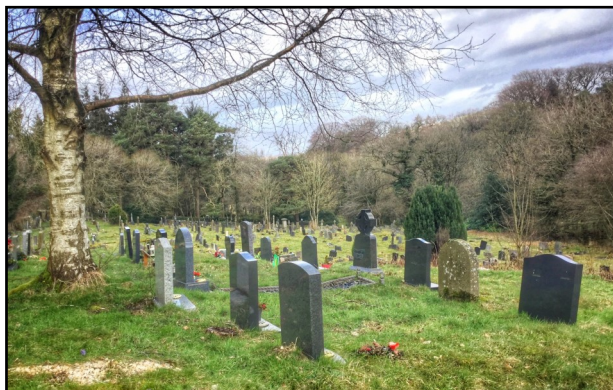
Taxal Churchyard is a place of soul-stirring beauty. It is a place of peace. It stretches down the hill towards the Goyt, and the dense woodland in the valley below shield both the sound and sight of traffic on Long Hill opposite. Often the only sound to be heard is the music of the river and the birdsong from the woods.

It is at its most beautiful in the late spring when it becomes a grassland strewn with native wildflowers – the kind of habitat that is increasingly rare and precious in the UK.

Like many churchyards, it is a haven for wildlife, a place for birds to nest and feed, for bees and other insects to make their homes and to support both smaller mammals and the deer which can sometimes be seen there in the evenings, when bats will flit about.

Our churchyard is consecrated ground, a sacred space belonging to St James Church which has been a place of Christian worship for nine hundred years and continues to be an active community of faith.

Our churchyard is also very much a place for



people. I find it very moving to see how well visited and tended our churchyard is. I have almost never visited without seeing someone carefully tending a grave. We want it to continue to be a place that is used, enjoyed, and respected by our local community.

## Responsible

Because the churchyard is the property of the church, we at Whaley Bridge Parish are responsible for its maintenance and upkeep, which is a sizeable task! We gain some fee income at burials or when memorial stones are installed, but this does not match the expenses of maintenance. It is a challenge but we are committed to continuing to face up to it.

As an expression of this commitment we are currently opening up a new area of the churchyard for burials. The field we have been

using – to the right of the footpath as you face the river – is now full. In early 2024 we are clearing the adjacent area to the right of the current field - to make space for more burials. We are grateful to the Town Council who have offered us a grant towards the cost of this.

Over the next couple of months trees will be cut back and the ground cleared of scrub. A land drain is being installed to make it less soggy, and the path is being extended to enable access. As it is a sloping site, we need to be mindful of the safety both of coffin bearers and of relatives visiting graves. It is not possible to continue too far down the hill because the land is simply too steep to be usable safely.

Alphabetical markers designating rows will be installed to enable graves to be identified and recorded. We are currently improving and



*The churchyard is at its most beautiful in the late spring when it becomes a grassland strewn with native wildflowers...*

updating our burial records – another large but important task. We regularly receive queries about the churchyard from people doing family history research or from families who want to re-use a grave space for a second burial.

These days most people chose cremation rather than burial and often people choose to have their ashes buried in the churchyard (Scattering of ashes inside a churchyard is not allowed). We have plenty of space for burial of ashes above the path at the top of our present field.

Yet some people continue to prefer a full burial, and I am glad that the opening up of our new field means that this option will continue to be available.

We have guidelines for looking after graves and these are available on our parish website. If you have any questions about burial in our churchyard please contact me – my details are available on page 3.

**Frances Eccleston**

## 'Worship Wall' mural brings church into Kettleshulme St James school

Over one year ago we were lucky enough to secure some funding to enable us to create four murals which would help us to live out the Visions and Values of Kettleshulme St James CE Primary School on our walls for everyone to see.

The focus we wanted for the hall was a 'Worship Wall'. This is because, due to the distant location of Taxal St James Church, we rarely have the opportunity to worship in a church building so our idea was to attempt to bring the church to Kettleshulme.

The Governors and I (Mrs Bellshaw, Headteacher) worked closely with the design team from Outtoreach to ensure that the final piece reflected our stunning location in the Peak District, was a true representation of Taxal St James Church, and that the visuals were surrounded by words and phrases which were used regularly within our School Family.

For this design we took inspiration from the work by Hannah Dunnett who also incorporates words into her visual art. We are very happy with the result.

As the mural is floor to ceiling it certainly has the 'wow' factor when entering into the hall. Now our daily Collective Worship are truly grounded by our visuals.



## WHALEY BRIDGE TOWN COUNCIL

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Mechanics Institute, Market Street, Whaley Bridge, High Peak, SK23 7AA  
Tel: 01663 733068 e-mail: [townclerk@whaleybridgetowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:townclerk@whaleybridgetowncouncil.gov.uk)

### **Whaley Bridge Town Council Vacancy**

Whaley Bridge Town Council currently has one vacancy. The Town Council is looking to fill these vacancies and invite interested members of the public to fill in an application form to apply for co-option onto the Council.

If you are interested in becoming a Town Councillor the role will require you to attend the monthly meeting of the Town Council (apart from August). The meetings are on the second Thursday of the month, start at 7:30pm and usually last around two hours. A full calendar of meetings is available on request. One of the main duties of Councillors is to provide effective financial management of the Town Council's finances which is done through the Council meetings. The Town Council meetings also present an opportunity for Councillors to debate certain issues by requesting items are put on the agenda.

A Town Councillor plays a role in representing the community in their ward which could entail addressing grievances of residents or supporting a local community group. The Town Council has a number of advisory bodies and sub committees such as the Regeneration Committee which focuses on the Regeneration of Whaley Bridge and Furness Vale through the advisory body Whaley 4 Wards. Finally, as the Town Council is the trustee of the Mechanics Institute Charity any Town Councillor would also become a member of the trustee of the charity. If applicants would like more information about what being a trustee involves, please contact the Town Clerk.

### **For a copy of the application form.**

Please contact the Town Clerk via email [townclerk@whaleybridgetowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:townclerk@whaleybridgetowncouncil.gov.uk) or by telephone on 01663 733068 or in person at the Mechanics Institute available weekdays from 10.00am – 12.00pm.

Any applicant shall be sent a Code of Conduct on request as this identifies the conduct required of a Town Councillor.



## Looking for a study book for Lent?

'Tarry here and watch with me ...'

*Matthew 26:38*

Tarrying is a Black Christian spiritual practice in which believers actively wait to experience the manifestation of God's presence. It answers 'yes' to the question Jesus once asked His disciples: Will you tarry here and watch with Me?

Whether in the vibrancy of music and singing, or in the hushed silence of the congregation, people of all ages anticipate an encounter with God that will transform what they know, feel and experience day to day.

This book makes the wisdom of Black spiritualities and faith available for all people. It focuses on seven themes: darkness as a place of encounter with the divine; the unity of all things; movement, belonging and migration; the Spirit as one who moves in unexpected ways; quiet contemplation as essential to spiritual growth; healing in community; and weeping that turns to joy.

*Tarry Awhile* offers wisdom for all who hope to encounter God in the midst of wearying times.

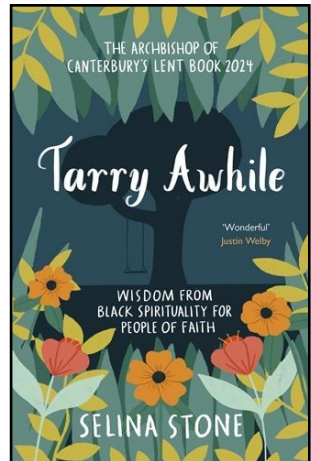
### **Tarry Awhile: Wisdom from Black Spirituality for People of Faith**

**The Archbishop of Canterbury's Lent Book 2024**

**By Selina Stone**



## BOOK REVIEWS



### **Lent Groups**

Details of Lent Groups will be advertised on the Parish Website.

Please visit:

**[www.whaleybridgecofeparish.org](http://www.whaleybridgecofeparish.org)**

## FRYDAYS - COD & CAKE

*Serving coffee,  
sandwiches &  
cake from  
8.30am until  
closing time.  
Closed Sunday  
& Monday*

### **FRYING TIMES - FISH & CHIPS**

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Wednesday	11.45am-2pm	4.45pm-8pm
Thursday	11.45am-2pm	4.45pm-8pm
Friday	11.45am-2pm	4.45pm-9pm
Saturday	11.45am-2pm	5.45pm-8pm

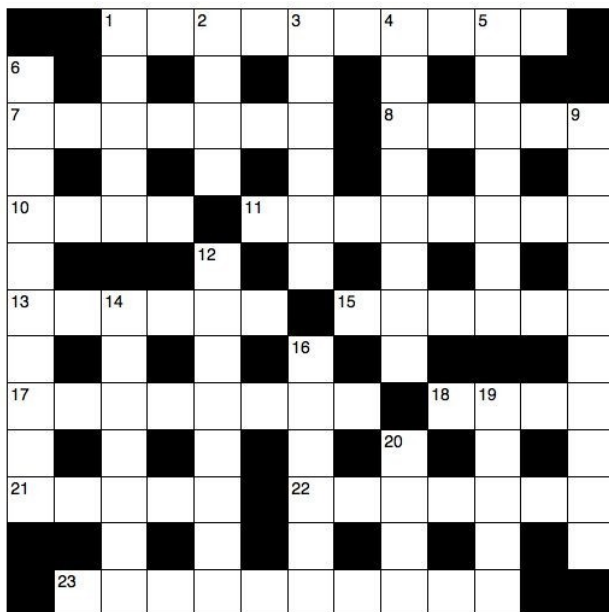


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# Crossword Clues

## Across

- 1** Success or wealth (Deuteronomy 28:11) (10)
- 7** Forbidden fruit for Nazirites (Numbers 6:3) (7)
- 8** Concede (Job 27:5) (5)
- 10** Look at (Psalm 48:13) (4)
- 11** Much in evidence after weddings (8)
- 13** Condense (Job 36:27) (6)
- 15** Breakwater (6)
- 17** Give a tan (anag.) (8)
- 18** More usually now called Pentecost, — Sunday (4)
- 21** After living for 365 years, it was said of him that 'he walked with God' (Genesis 5:23–24) (5)
- 22** Trampled (Judges 9:27) (7)
- 23** For example, Miriam, Deborah (Exodus 15:20; Judges 4:4) (10)



## Down

- 1** Arrogance (Proverbs 8:13) (5)
- 2** Roman poet from first century BC (4)
- 3** So rapt (anag.) (6)
- 4** Declare again (2 Corinthians 2:8) (8)
- 5** Paul's 'fellow worker', to whom he sent two epistles (Romans 16:21) (7)
- 6** God's foreseeing care and protection (Job 10:12) (10)
- 9** Traditional form of Roman Catholic Mass (10)
- 12** 'The Lord. has given the — of Israel to David and his descendants for ever' (2 Chronicles 13:5) (8)
- 14** 'My soul glorifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my —' (Luke 1:46–47) (7)
- 16** The central element in Nebuchadnezzar's dream, identified and interpreted by Daniel (Daniel 2:31) (6)
- 19** 'On this rock I will build my church, and the gates of — will not overcome it' (Matthew 16:18) (5)
- 20** City where Paul was under house arrest for two years (Acts 28:16) (4)

**Answers on page 20**

## COFFEE MORNINGS at the MECHANICS

3<sup>rd</sup> February: *No booking at time of press*  
10<sup>th</sup> February: *No booking at time of press*  
17<sup>th</sup> February: **Whaley Bridge Well Dressing**  
24<sup>th</sup> February: *No booking at time of press*  
2<sup>nd</sup> March: **Scout-Roverway Explores**  
9<sup>th</sup> March: **Churches Together**

16<sup>th</sup> March: **Whaley Bridge Art Group**  
23<sup>rd</sup> March: *No booking at time of press*  
30<sup>th</sup> March: *No booking at time of press*  
**N.B. Please check the website for updates**

**Website address:**

<http://www.whaleybridge.com/mechanics-institute/>

### New bookings welcome for coffee mornings at the Mechanics

All charity and community-based organisations are warmly invited to book a coffee morning at The Mechanics Institute in Whaley Bridge. Coffee mornings are held on a Saturday morning from 10 am-12 noon. This is an opportunity to support our local groups in Whaley Bridge and the wider community.

If you would like to book a coffee morning at The Mechanics Institute please call 01663 733068.



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### WhatsApp Prayer Group

Our Reader Emeritus, Beryl Axcell, hosts a WhatsApp Prayer Group. Beryl sends a prayer to members of the group every evening, often drawing on prayers from the Celtic tradition. If you would like to join please contact Beryl on 01663 732612 and let her have your mobile number. You can unsubscribe at any time.

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**Deadline for articles (April / May issue) Friday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2024**

## ANSWERS TO CROSSWORD

**ACROSS:** 1, Prosperity. 7, Raisins. 8, Admit. 10, View. 11, Confetti. 13, Distil. 15, Groyne. 17, Navigate. 18, Whit. 21, Enoch. 22, Trodden. 23, Prophetess.

**DOWN:** 1, Pride. 2, Ovid. 3, Pastor. 4, Reaffirm. 5, Timothy. 6, Providence. 9, Tridentine. 12, Kingship. 14, Saviour. 16, Statue. 19, Hades. 20, Rome.

*Crosswords reproduced by kind permission of BRF and John Capon, originally published in Three Down, Nine Across, by John Capon (£6.99 BRF)*

## Help the birds in your garden build a new home

National Nestbox Week begins on 14<sup>th</sup> February 2024. Now an established part of the ornithological calendar, it aims to encourage people to help out the birds in their gardens each spring.

Everyone is invited to put up nestboxes in their local area, and a very helpful website gives full instructions on how to do this. Visit: <https://www.nestboxweek.com> for further details.



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## **Exodus Quiz Answers**

1. a (Pharaoh's daughter)
2. b (10)
3. b (Water turned to blood)
4. c (Red Sea)
5. a (Marah)
6. b (Quail)
7. c (A pillar of cloud and of fire)
8. c (From a rock)
9. a (Mt. Sinai)
10. b (Thou shalt not commit adultery)
11. a (Two cherubim)
12. c (They didn't know what had happened to Moses)
13. b (Bezaleel)
14. a (Joshua)
15. c (40)

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## Learning, crafts, and friends at monthly CATS praise

CATS Pre-School Praise is held on the first Wednesday of each month at Holy Trinity Church (morning), and is designed for pre-school age children and their carers. It's lots of fun so come along if you have little ones.

For further details please contact Beryl Axcell on 01663 732612.

Twelve children plus their carers attended the December event. There were lots of crafts available, including Rudolph toilet rolls, doily angel cards and snowy stick-on scenes. Beryl's story was about the angel coming to visit Mary to tell her about the special baby she was going to have.

There were 10 children plus their carers at January's gathering. The theme was the kings visiting Jesus and setting off on their journey. Craft activities included sticking on pre-cut shapes to make up the kings and their crowns, colouring in, and making stars. Beryl's story was about the angel who visited the kings. Models of the kings were added to the nativity scene.

**Photographs by Janice Nelson**

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## World Day of Prayer Service

The World Day of Prayer Service will be held on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> March at the Uniting Church, starting at 1.30pm. This year's special service was put together by the women of Palestine, long before the present situation in the Middle East. Please do come along. All genders are very welcome.



### BAPTISM

We were delighted to celebrate the baptism of Esme Smith recently.

Baptism (otherwise known as christening) is available to everyone who lives in our parish.

If this is something you are interested in please contact Revd Frances on 07754 240762.

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## REGULAR CHURCH ACTIVITIES

### Activities at Holy Trinity Church:

#### WEEKLY

#### **Monday**

3.00-9.00pm: **Jayne Roy School of Dance.** Contact Jayne: [jayneroy1@gmail.com](mailto:jayneroy1@gmail.com)

**Bell Ringing** Practice from 7.00pm -8.00pm **at St James Taxal.**

All ages, but must be 4ft 10in tall or ten years old. We are a friendly bunch and welcome newbies, but as we have few teachers it's always good to let me know beforehand so I can arrange a lesson.

Contact: Victoria Shelmerdine  
[vshel250@gmail.com](mailto:vshel250@gmail.com) 01663 719430.

#### **Tuesday**

10.00am **Praying Together** at Holy Trinity.

#### **Thursday**

**BKJJA Ju Jitsu Club.** Junior class ages 5+, women's only class ages 11+. No upper age limit. Classes are held upstairs at Holy Trinity Church. Please meet by the rear side entrance to church.

6-7pm Juniors/ 7-8pm Women only.

Contact Emily on 07494 991871 or email [needham955@gmail.com](mailto:needham955@gmail.com)

#### **Friday**

9.30am – 12.30pm: **Trinity Stitches.** Come along and chat while doing your own craft projects.

Contact: Sue Mellor  
[themellors32@gmail.com](mailto:themellors32@gmail.com)

12.45pm-3.30pm: **Warm-hearted Fridays.** Keep warm in a café-style drop-in, with reasonably-priced

home-made soup, hot drinks, table games and crafts available, read a magazine or just enjoy a chat.

3.00pm – 9.00pm: **Jayne Roy School of Dance.** Contact Jayne: [jayneroy1@gmail.com](mailto:jayneroy1@gmail.com)

#### MONTHLY

#### **Saturday (Third)**

10.00am – noon: **Baby & Children's Clothes and Toy Swap.** Contact: Sue Mellor 01663 732005.

**CATS Pre-school Praise** on the first Wednesday of the month. For pre-school age children and their carers. Contact: Beryl Axcell 01663 732612.

#### **Churches Together Lunch Club**

Once a month on the second Thursday of the month at 12 o'clock **at the Uniting Church.**

Contact Stella Whitehurst 01663 732132 or Marion Lacey 01663 733717. Tickets £5.00.

If you would like information about the **Mothers' Union** please contact Eveline Hughes on 01663 733597.

**Messy Church** at Holy Trinity is about families having fun creating crafts on our Bible story theme and sharing a meal together. Lasts about an hour and a half.

Contact Revd Frances on 01663 732724 for further details.

**Please visit our website for the latest dates and updates on all events:**

[www.whaleybridgecofeparish.org](http://www.whaleybridgecofeparish.org)

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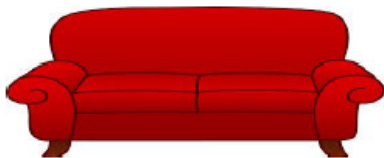
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