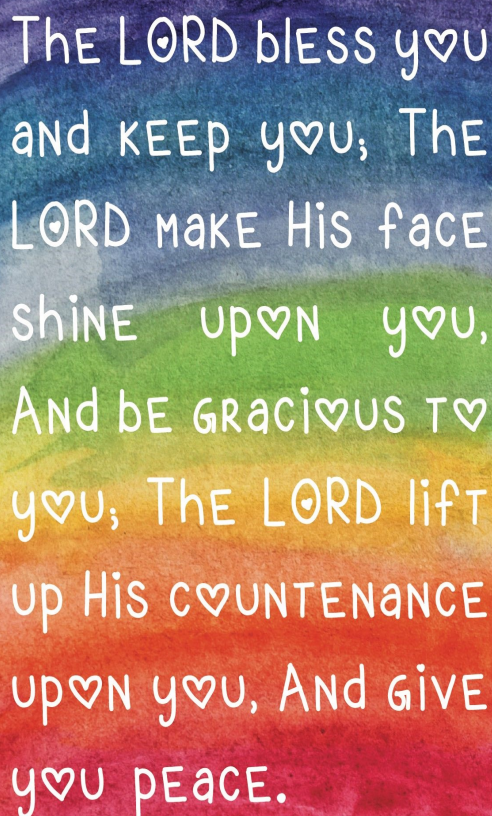


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MENSTON
PARISH CHURCH
St John the Divine

A vertical rainbow brushstroke background, with colors transitioning from purple at the top, through blue, green, yellow, orange, and red at the bottom. The text is overlaid on this background.

THE LORD bless you
and KEEP you; The
LORD make His face
shine upON you,
And be GRACIOUS TO
you; The LORD lift
up His COUNTENANCE
upON you, And GIVE
you PEACE.

ROOF APPEAL ~ What's happening!

Our target ~ £102,000

Income to 26/6/2020

Congregational giving £22,929

Fundraising Events £1,191

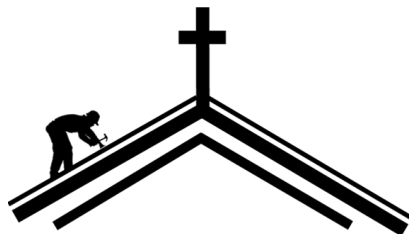
TOTAL **£29,007 with Gift Aid**

We are still short of our fundraising target so it is not too late to donate either by

- BACS to: Menston PCC 40-22-28 A/C 40572640
Reference (most imp) : Roof + surname
- or cheque payable to Menston PCC. Send to the Treasurer, Hillcrest, Kelcliffe Lane, Guiseley, Leeds LS20 9DE or post through the Parish Office letterbox. If you are a taxpayer please consider Gift Aid. A gift aid declaration form is available from the Treasurer if he does not already hold your details.

FUNDRAISING

Most fundraising events have been cancelled due to the ongoing issues associated with Covid-19. Definite events will be notified in good time via the Parish Notes and magazine.



From the Editor

A bumper edition this month covering July and August. My thanks as ever to all the contributors. The next edition will be published at the beginning of September and it may be possible to print it and distribute as per usual - we'll see what becomes possible as lockdown continues to be gently eased. The deadline for copy will be 16 August.

By the time you read this, the first steps towards a return to worship will have begun with the opening of St John's for private prayer on Wednesday and Sunday afternoons - *see p13*.

I realise I have come to value some of the opportunities that the new 'normal' has presented. So, a challenge going forward will be how many will I strive to maintain - will the old patterns of 'normal life' simply be quickly re-established? Perhaps some of you would be willing to share your thoughts and resolutions in the next magazine?

Good wishes to you all and continue to keep safe.

Jan



This month

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P22 Children's pages

Dear Friends

As lockdown eases, many have voiced their concerns and anxieties about how we come out of lockdown, how we know it is the right time, and what life will look.

I write this in June, necessarily, because of editorial timescales, but as it stands there is a phased approach which is flexible depending on the mystical 'R' number (the reproduction number based on the average people infected by each infectious person). All this is complicated, and a really difficult judgement call for those in power.

With all this going on you can imagine how I sat up suddenly when reading in Genesis 8 the other day with my kids, a passage which describes how Noah came out of his flood lockdown. The flood started in the second month and it rained for 40 days solid complete with springs bursting from subterranean stores, and the water covered the earth for 150 days – that's 5 months stuck in a boat with only Noah's family and a load of pet animals for company!

In the seventh month, the boat rested on the mountains but the tops of many of these remained covered for another three months (until the tenth month – that's 8 months of lockdown). Noah waited another 40 days and then released a raven as he tentatively began to explore where breaking lockdown was possible. He sent out a dove as well, which returned without success. After waiting another week, the dove was released again and returned with an olive leaf - there were signs of life outside of lockdown! Still Noah waited another week before releasing the dove again, and this time it didn't return. Noah opened the door of the ark and saw dry ground; but even then, he didn't venture out.

Instead, after a full year of lockdown, stuck in a boat with his family and pets – and after being able to see the dry ground for quite a while but choosing not to venture out for whatever reason – Noah finally hears from God that they can leave the ark. The first thing he does after leaving the ark is to burn offerings in worship of God.

I enjoyed reading the story in view of our own current experiences. I'd never thought about Noah's story like this before.

But what can we take from this story?

I suppose Noah was in charge as captain of the ship, and I wonder whether there were 'interesting' conversations about when to disembark, especially when it was obvious that dry land had appeared, trees were growing and the dove had finally jumped ship. You can imagine there might have been disagreements. There might have been talk of a phased approach (where they slept on board but spent time outside during the day). Maybe there were internal pressures too: cabin fever, a growing water shortage, food and bedding issues. There were probably concerns too about what this brave new world might be like – would it even be hospitable again?

For me, I wonder if we can take a couple of things away from it. Firstly, that whatever we think of the policies being put in place, we need to pray for our leaders. Noah needed to hear from God, and be led by God. For us, we want our leaders to be given the divine wisdom they need to navigate this situation, not for any political party reason, but just for the welfare and flourishing of our neighbours and ourselves. Let's commit to praying for them.

Secondly, Noah's first response to lockdown lifting was to worship God, building an altar and presenting burnt offerings upon it. What is our first response to each phase of lockdown easing? Noah probably had lots to worry about too (like keeping the snakes and lions 'socially distanced'), but first and foremost he acknowledged that if it wasn't for God, he'd have been a dead man.

Maybe this is our challenge: to embrace the gradual return to normality as a gift, praying for wisdom for our leaders, and thanking God for all that he has given us.

Steve



A View from The Pews by Dominic Hall

A week ago last Thursday my computer, understandably bored by my lockdown routine of looking for dog videos on You Tube and watching old sitcom episodes, came to a puttering, juddering stop. My technical skills, which amount to turning the thing off and on again, had no effect. Neither did filling the air around the machine with what can best be described as unparliamentary language! Anyhow, going to virtual PC World on my phone, parting with £500 and waiting while the delivery man took a photo of the parcel on my doorstep means I now have a shiny new computer!

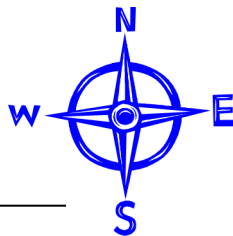
All of this got me thinking about how we cope in a crisis. We have developed strategies for dealing with the current situation – learning a new skill, reading more books, locking ourselves away, day trips to places of interest (I hear Barnard Castle comes highly recommended!). These are helpful for our physical and mental well-being but are they just short-term fixes or will they survive when life returns to something approaching normal? Clearly, when the worst of this is over for many of us the daily grind will kick back in. How much can we salvage?

One thing this crisis has taught me is that we need to make time for ourselves. It almost goes against the grain and seems ‘selfish’ to prioritise self-care, but I bring to mind the quote from Matthew (Ch.7, v.4), “...how can you say... ‘Let me take the speck out of your eye’, while the log is in your own eye?” We are better people and better for other people when we take care of ourselves. There is nothing to be gained by self-sacrifice if by doing so we inflict long-term damage on ourselves.

One of the ways I have been coping is to run a weekly online quiz for my colleagues just to stay in touch with the people I am used to seeing every day. Everyone who attends seems to enjoy the challenge, but it is secondary to interacting with colleagues and friends. It has become a highlight of our week. When the weather allows, I have been able to pop over to Menston and enjoy a cuppa in the garden with family.

It is important to find ways to stay in touch. We are social beings and the contact we can create will be immeasurably valuable to us all. Whatever you have been doing or continue to do, I hope you remain safe and that you make time to indulge in a little self-care every day.

Prayer Points



None of the usual summer holiday prayers seemed quite right at this time so instead I share the words of a hymn that I often use to guide my prayers.

Father, I place into your hands the things I cannot do.
Father, I place into your hands the things that I've been through.
Father, I place into your hands the way that I should go,
For I know I always can trust you.

~ ~ ~ ~

Father, I place into your hands my friends and family.
Father I place into your hands the things that trouble me.
Father I place into your hands the person I would be,
For I know I always can trust you.

~ ~ ~ ~

Father, we love to see your face, we love to hear your voice.
Father, we love to sing your praise and in your name rejoice.
Father, we love to walk with you and in your presence rest,
For we know we always can trust you.

~ ~ ~ ~

Father, I want to be with you and do the things you do.
Father I want to speak the words that you are speaking too.
Father I want to love the ones that you will draw to you,
For I know that I am one with you.

With thanks to Hilary Feathers for this month's Prayer Points

RAE BARKER 1928 - 2020

In these strange times, we are unable to mark someone's passing by getting together for a funeral service. We are unable to formally remember them. So I was delighted to be asked to put together a few memories of his life.

Rae was the last of his generation of the Barker family. His four siblings were born before WW1, and their mother died of TB near the end of that war. Seven years later my grandfather married again, moved into Langlands in Victoria Avenue, and soon after, Rae was born. He was educated at Giggleswick School, and then at Downing College, Cambridge. He was sixteen when I was born, so I grew up knowing Rae more as a favourite older cousin.

He was obviously sporty, as I know that at Cambridge he earned a Half Blue for Fives. I don't know if he found his love of the stage at university, but he certainly took to the stage back in Menston, where he was a pillar of Menston Thespians. He was not the only Barker on the stage, as his enthusiasm brought me and my wife, Val, and in later years our children, to the Menston stage.

Rae was an accountant, and worked for most of his working life for Hickson Welch. He met and married Paddy Oldfield, and moved to Burley where they had two children, Malcom and Julie. Both Paddy and Malcom died many years ago, but Julie lived with Rae and cared for him in his old age.

Another of Rae's keen interests was walking. He once walked the Three Peaks twice in 24 hours (I think just to prove it could be done). On retirement, he set out to conquer the Monroes in Scotland, and almost succeeded before the knees complained too much. The late John Howell accompanied him on many of these expeditions.

Rae was a much loved member of the family. He had a very sharp wit, and a great sense of humour. We will miss him greatly.

David Barker

Emily Dickinson: 'Hope' is the thing with feathers

In these weeks of seclusion one poet who beckons is Emily Dickinson (1830-1886). 'Miss Dickinson of Amherst, Massachusetts', the reclusive lady in white, a Miss Havisham without the cobwebbed wedding cake, wrote poems in rapid quatrains, based on the hymn metres devised by Isaac Watts. Her poems reflect intense inner events.

'Hope' is the thing with feathers -
That perches in the soul -
And sings the tune without the words -
And never stops - at all -

And sweetest - in the Gale - is heard -
And sore must be the storm -
That could abash the little Bird
That kept so many warm -

I've heard it in the chilliest land -
And on the strangest Sea -
Yet - never - in Extremity,
It asked a crumb - of me.

In this definition poem Dickinson offsets hope; her words redefine, making the abstract visible, the theological audible, and thus connect the personal and psychological with the universal. Her quiet intensity is potent; she enfolds the universe within a lyric, and yet avoids constricting meaning to the rigidity of a dictionary definition. Note how strategically she places that one sonorous, dignified Latinate word, 'Extremity', against the contrasted Anglo-Saxon words that make you see the courage, feel the immense spirit of a small bird braving the gales that lash the sea. The poem enacts the shudder of immediate experience, the lyrical stab of hope, the gift that delves into our dark places.

'Nevertheless, my soul, wait thou still upon God: for my hope is in him.' Psalm 62:5.

Joyce Simpson

CHURCH of ENGLAND has been ‘astonishingly present’

During the coronavirus crisis, the Church of England has been accused of ‘vacating the public square or of being absent.’ So wrote Bishop Stephen Cottrell, Archbishop of York Designate, in the Daily Telegraph on 12 May 2020. But he goes on: *‘I simply do not recognise (this). The Church of England has been astonishingly present, albeit in many new and remarkable ways.’*

The Bishop gave many examples of various local churches who have reacted with positive action during the crisis. Some have started food banks, helped refugees and asylum seekers, set up telephone prayer services, started zoom Bible groups, or organised children and youth events online.

‘These stories are being replicated up and down the country,’ he continued. ‘Most astonishing of all, plenty of churches report very large numbers of people joining their streamed services. Of course, we long for our church buildings to reopen. But when they do, it won’t be business as usual – partly because we are discovering new ways of serving our communities. When we do return to the sacred, beautiful space of our church buildings, with all their vital and much-missed resonances of continuity, I believe the Church of England will emerge from this stronger than it has been for a long while.’

Postscript from Steve:

It has been a privilege to see first hand how our church community has adapted to support Menston and beyond during lockdown. We have found new ways of ‘doing’ church services, on the phone or online, and have felt a renewed impetus to pastoral care by telephone. Many of our members have been involved in continuing to collect for the homeless, or volunteer with the community support scheme run by the Parish Council, as well as being committed to praying for others.

The continuing financial generosity of our church means that through the Parish Share we support other churches in their social action that wouldn’t be possible without us. We have engaged our young people, those who are without internet access, cared for the bereaved, helped with issues of stockpiling early in lockdown, supported charities, prayed and continued personal discipleship, mission and evangelism, and all of this in lockdown.

I am proud of the church family at St John’s and trust we will continue as lockdown eases.

NEW ARCHBISHOP of YORK

Bishop Stephen Geoffrey Cottrell will be confirmed as the 98th Archbishop of York this month. The service, at 11am on Thursday 9 July, will be broadcast entirely via video conference due to the Coronavirus restrictions.

The service, which had been due to take place in York Minster, will be in two parts. A legal ceremony with readings, prayers and music, will be followed by a film marking the start of Bishop Stephen's ministry as Archbishop of York.

Bishop Stephen Cottrell says: 'I am looking forward to beginning my ministry as the 98th Archbishop of York. This isn't quite how I imagined it would begin. It is certainly the first time an Archbishop's election will have been confirmed via video conference. But we're all having to re-imagine how we live our lives and how we inhabit the world. These are difficult times. My hope is that through this service the love of God that is given us in Jesus Christ will shine out, perhaps even to those who while never attending a service in York Minster, might have a look online.

Following in the footsteps of my many predecessors, I look forward to serving our nation and bringing the love and peace of Christ to our world, especially here in the north.'

The service will be available on the Church of England website. Arrangements for Bishop Stephen's enthronement service will be announced later in the year.

Parish Pump News Service

Thoughts for this month

Christianity can be condensed to four words: admit, submit, commit, transmit. – *Bishop Samuel Wilberforce.*

Let us endeavour so to live that when we die even the undertaker is sorry - *Mark Twain.*

BUTTERCUPS – treasure in our countryside

Buttercup! What a delicious name! Rumour has it that, as they were frequently to be found in meadows where cows grazed, they were responsible for butter's yellow colouring. So the name was an obvious choice.



However, since buttercups are poisonous and therefore are avoided as far as possible by our four-footed friends, this is somewhat unlikely. But surely, we all remember having a buttercup held under our chin to see whether the reflection proved that we liked butter! The shiny surface of the petals actually has two real purposes. Firstly, to help attract insects and secondly to act as a kind of mirror to aid the temperature regulation of the plant's reproductive organs.

We are fortunate that buttercups do not suffer from the same unpopularity as other poisonous plants, because if eaten, not only do they taste nasty, but the poison will also cause blisters in the mouth of the consumer. Extensive handling can also damage the skin, but presumably the size of bunch that many of us picked as children did not count as 'extensive'. Fortunately, Health and Safety experts do not yet seem to have forbidden this source of pleasure for little people. Incidentally, the poison is reduced as the plant dries, and hay that includes buttercups is safe for cows and horses to eat.

Buttercups help form the traditional view of the British countryside. Differing varieties range in height from small to quite tall and although at their peak in early summer, the golden blooms can often still be seen in mid-autumn. Jan Struther, who wrote 'Lord of all hopefulness' also wrote a children's hymn entitled 'Treasure' It starts:

*Daisies are our silver, buttercups our gold:
This is all the treasure we can have or hold.*

Parish Pump News Service

St John's open for private prayer on Wednesdays and Sundays from 2pm to 5pm.

This represents a first step in opening the church for private prayer and will be the pattern of opening times (Wednesday and Sunday afternoons) until this is reviewed in a few weeks. There will be various restrictions in place on the use of the building, such as a maximum of 16 people within the building at one time, and seating only on specified pews in order to protect all those who use the building. Visitors are asked to make use of the hand sanitizer provided on entry and exit.

PCC UPDATE

The PCC met, via Zoom, and agreed to submit a faculty to make permanent the current temporary reordering measure of the pews within the church on the North side. This will involve some carpeting and quotes are being sought prior to the submission of the faculty application.

It also discussed the results of the recent tree survey which indicated one of the trees in the churchyard will need to be removed because of fungal damage. A faculty application will be prepared for this too.

The PCC then discussed how we best support the congregation during lockdown, and recommended that we attempt to launch a dial-a-service phone system for those who are unable to access our website resources. This has since been done.

The PCC also engaged in an exercise considering what had been gained and lost during lockdown and which of those losses should be recovered and which should be left. Similarly, they discussed which new initiatives should continue after lockdown and which should be dropped. This discussion is ongoing.

PCC was determined that pastoral care must remain key during lockdown and beyond, and that the church building should be reopened when possible.

The Standing Committee

has also had two Zoom meetings largely concentrating on the measures that will need to be taken to ensure the safe re-opening of the church for private prayer and for small funerals. See the website Home page for latest news.

THIS MONTH from Andrew

Having been caught up in this global pandemic for so long, many of us will have experienced a whole gambit of emotions. We started with the True British Grit response *'this is weird...but we can do this'* to be followed swiftly by the recognition of local heroes keeping us safe, and who deserve a round of applause. Last month I joked about loosing sense of what day is it, as many of us found ourselves stumbling along - still trying to 'do this' but wondering when it will end?

At the same time, there has been a growing sense of unease in the wider world, sociologists will tell you that when pressure is applied to any group of people, and then added to again and again, eventually something erupts often from an unexpected place. At home it might have been an angry word, or judgemental comment that has been brewing for weeks, but nationally we have seen an incredible burst of fear and anger, sparked firstly in the United States, by the unlawful killing of George Floyd by a white police officer, and then turning into a wave of protest and grief. Cries of *'how long oh Lord, how long'* as the Black Community came together to declare that Black Lives Matter. That was all the Far Right needed, to erupt into fearful clashes with the police, as they misled their supporters with a shout of *'White Lives Matter too'*. This was never in doubt, but under pressure it has led to outbursts of hate and crime.

The phrase 'white privilege' is not designed to beat us up, but it does make it hard for us to recognise the experiences of people of colour, as being valid. As a white man I constantly receive unconscious special treatment, freedom to act, and access to much, because I am white , and sometimes because I am male! It does however, make it all the harder to get to the core of how it feels to be outside, or other.

Because we have never been 'on the other side' we find it difficult to recognise the structural access that we enjoy, the trust that we believe we deserve, the assumptions that we always belong and do not have to earn our sense of belonging. All this we take for granted as being normal. But if history teaches us anything, it is that power and privilege are never given up freely without a fight.

If our entire life has been to live unquestioned in our position, through power that was culturally given to us, but we believe we earned, there is no way that we would give it up without major upheaval; but in the midst of all this I was reminded of a very strange story told by Jesus;

In Luke 14, Jesus is dining in the home of a prominent Pharisee. At one point during the meal, Jesus instructed his host not to simply invite people who could pay him back with their own hospitality, instead he should invite people who were outside the ring of privilege, the poor, the lame, the oppressed, those who are different, those who are excluded through no fault of their own - this way the Pharisee would be paid back at the resurrection of the righteous (Luke 14: 12 - 15). Maybe viewing recent events through this lens of Jesus, we might understand better, things beyond our experience?

So perhaps this week, we might find time to pray and lament the ongoing violence in our world, the loss of lives due to violence and racism, the loss of life due to gun crime, and the needs of our whole humanity. Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer. Amen.

With love and prayers,

Andrew



FROM THE REGISTERS

We commend into the hands of Almighty God:

Rae Barker

Valerie Knight

SAINTS THIS MONTH ~ 22 and 30 July

Mary Magdalene

Later this month Christians all over the world will commemorate probably the most unlikely saint in the Bible, Mary Magdalene.

There was something in her background that has always fascinated people. All we are told about her ‘past’ is that Jesus had cast ‘seven devils’ out of her, but on that slender if intriguing evidence she has become the patron saint of ‘fallen women’.

Some see her as the woman ‘who was a sinner’ who washed Christ’s feet with her tears at a respectable dinner party. Of that person Jesus remarked that ‘she had been forgiven much’ and consequently ‘loved much’. Whether she was that woman or not, the description perfectly fits her. No one who has heard or read it could surely fail to be moved by her tearful encounter with the risen Jesus in the garden on Easter morning, the man she had taken to be the gardener revealing Himself in one word, Mary, as her beloved Teacher.

The problem with a good story is that people can’t leave it alone. Down the centuries she has been John the Apostle’s fiancée until he left her to follow Christ. She has gone with Jesus’ mother and the same John to live in Ephesus and died there. In art and literature she has become an alluring, sexual figure, disapproved of by the mother of Jesus. There is no historical evidence whatsoever for any of this. In fact, the Gospels suggest the two Marys were close in their shared devotion to Jesus.

Her popularity is shown in the fact that 187 ancient churches in Britain are dedicated to her, and a college at both Oxford and Cambridge. Whatever the details of her story, we cherish it because it shows that having a ‘past’ is no reason not to have a future.

Slavery is very much in our news at the moment and so it seems appropriate to take a brief look at the lives of three men closely involved in a variety of ways with the anti-slavery campaign - all of whom share the same anniversary - 30 July - this month.

During the 18th century many people in England were involved in the campaign to abolish the slave trade. The Church of England remembers especially Thomas Clarkson, William Wilberforce, and Olaudah Equiano – three very different but all tireless campaigners against the evil practice.

Thomas Clarkson (1760-1846) was an Anglican clergyman and one of the most prominent of the anti-slavery campaigners. In 1787 he helped form the first Abolitionist Committee, and his energy and hatred of injustice made him a ‘moral steam-engine’. He travelled hundreds of miles, gathering evidence from people caught up in the slave trade, from ship captains to doctors.

William Wilberforce (1759 – 1833) became the main figurehead in Parliament. He came from a wealthy family in Kingston-upon-Hull, and represented the town in Parliament. He was recruited by Thomas Clarkson, who saw the need for a brilliant advocate within Parliament. Wilberforce was an inspired choice: not only wealthy and well- connected, but a gifted orator with a social conscience, especially after his conversion in 1785. He made his first speech in Parliament against slavery in 1789, but it was not until 1807, after a debate that raged for many years, that the Abolition Act was finally passed.

Olaudah Equiano (1745 – 1797) had been kidnapped in Nigeria, sold into slavery and sent to the West Indies. When he finally escaped, he made his way to London and became one of the most prominent black campaigners. His brutal autobiography of 1789 ran to nine reprints, and was translated into many languages, bringing home to people the horrors of the slave trade.

Parish Pump News Service

The reasons for going to church

Strange times we are living through. The future consequences of coronavirus are going to be challenging, to say the least. How will our churches fare when our buildings are allowed to re-open?

One could say that the reasons for churchgoing can be put into three slots, 'Culture', 'Faith' and 'Community'. Many churchgoers would probably recognise in themselves elements of more than one.

Culture is for those who feel comfortable in church. They like the history, the language, the buildings, the liturgy and the music, which have probably been a part of their lives since they were children. All hold comforting memories.

Faith is a link with the meaning of life and its eternal promise, somewhere to seek guidance through worship and sacrament, and on which to lean in times of trouble. A belief in the words of Jesus that they are not on their own, even if sometimes it feels like it in this world.

Community is for those who like coming to church or being associated with it as a flying buttress (a phrase of Winston Churchill, who described himself as someone who supports the church

from the outside). They don't have to have a commitment to the faith of the Church but are sympathetic and don't mind being with those who do.

It is likely that the 'old normality' will not be the 'new normality' and this provokes a few thoughts:

- *How many people, now out of the habit of regular community worship, will wish to return?*
- *How many people on the periphery of church life, will come back to it, at least in the short term?*
- *How many of those who have had a regular commitment to the church, for example by serving at the altar or in its refectories, singing in choirs, doing flowers, ringing bells and polishing brasses will feel that this is a good time to make a break and do something different?*

As the most severe period of lockdown is passed, it seems a good time to assess how churchgoers have responded to the experience, and what they think the future might hold.

York St John University have developed a survey over the last few weeks in discussion with bishops, clergy and lay people which they hope will enable churchgoers to record their experience of the pandemic, the ministry given or received, and

(Continued from page 18)

what they think will happen to churches in a post-pandemic world.

In an article to launch the survey in the *Church Times*, the Bishop of Manchester, David Walker, wrote: 'This survey is an attempt to go beyond anecdote... It will capture evidence of both excitement and fears for the future, of where stress levels have changed, and whether personal faith has weakened or grown.'

This is an online survey, which will take you about 20-30 minutes to complete. Most of the questions are simple tick boxes, though

there are options to specify your particular circumstances, and an opportunity at the end for you to recount your views in your own words. Alongside questions about the pandemic and ministry there are sections which ask about the individual: important because they will show how the lockdown is affecting different sorts of people in different contexts.

The survey can be completed on mobile phones, though it is more quickly completed on devices with larger screens such as tablets or computers. You can access using the following link: <https://tinyurl.com/yqsq9fy2>

Parish Pump News Service

A LIGHTER LOOK @ COVID-19



- **Covid-10** - The 10lbs in weight that we're all gaining from comfort-eating and comfort-drinking. Also known as 'fattening the curve'.
- ... and one sentence to sum up 2020, so far: At one point 1 loo roll was worth more than a barrel of crude oil!

Jan Alexander

Drawdown - The Most Comprehensive Plan Ever Proposed to Reverse Global Warming

BOOK REVIEW by Margaret Bailey

This is one thing that puts Covid-19 into perspective – Climate Warming, potentially a fat bigger killer in our lifetime.

It is not a falling-to-sleep novel, but it is easy and uplifting reading. It is a 'do-able' plan, not just for halting 'Climate Warming', but for 'Climate Reversal'. I have read it (on Kindle) cover to cover and found it both hugely interesting and a good antidote to the Lockdown

It is not just vaguely optimistic. It is practical, convincing and, above all, fully numerate. It gives 80 suggestions for reducing the CO2 in our atmosphere, each one resulting in a calculated sum of reduction with calculated costs for achieving it and the number of years of payback. At the end, it puts them all in order of efficacy and cost and amongst the leaders there are some surprising results.

Obviously, when looking to the future, there have to be estimates. The future is taken as 2050 for the purpose of these calculations, in our or our children's lifetime. The assumptions are not impossible but prudent and detailed.

Chapters are written by specialists in their areas of research and grouped into sections: energy, transport, health, agriculture, buildings, It is a book for dipping in to the areas that interest you and where active support might be given.

Of course, it is one thing to know it can be done, quite another to achieve the necessary political cooperation; but this book is a good basis for working at that.

He's Been at it Again!

Published during the lockdown, two new booklets by David Machin for sale at £5 per copy, every penny to the church roof fund. As usual you're sure to find plenty to amuse you - and to give you pause to think.

- 'Let the Rafter's Ring' - verses fresh off the pen (with a few of your old favourites included by request).
- 'Ding Dong Merrily' - tasty tales to make you smile.

David will also take orders for any of his previous '*Verses for Funny Folk*' (children and the young at heart); '*Verse on the Wing*' - (our friends the birds); '*Machinations*' - (his first volume of short stories) or indeed any of his earlier booklets of verse.

He'll be around once we're all together again, or you can get in touch at david@machdv.plus.com or by ringing 872228.

Appeal on behalf of St Stephen's Church of England Primary School, Bradford

A Bradford inner city school, committed to providing excellent education to overcome barriers and open opportunities, seeks your contributions to fund the development of additional learning opportunities to support children during reintegration and into the future, by securing scope for effective learning beyond normal school hours. The period of lockdown has shown very clearly that all children need safe internet access at home if educational inequality is to be overcome. St Stephen's wants to use the skills of our staff and children to develop our TV channel and radio station to support learning beyond the classroom.

For this vision to be realised we want every child at St Stephen's to be able to access the internet through the 4G/5G network. We shall need to loan each child their own device. The outcome will be a growing library of resources that can be accessed via the internet, nurturing the children of our central Bradford community, and a contribution to children's education in the wider world.

Our plea is for you to help us achieve this. Every donation takes us towards our target of £100,000. The fundraising is through the GoFundMe website: <https://www.gofundme.com/f/internet-4-all-children-at-st-stephen039s-school> Thank you so much for any support you can give.

Joyce Simpson, Chair of Governors, St Stephen's Primary School

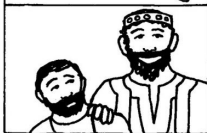
Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in
1 Samuel 24

God chose Saul to be the King of Israel, but Saul chose to disobey Him. God said that the next king would not be Saul's son.

Saul didn't know that God had chosen David to be the next king.



David was very successful as a fighter and very popular.



David had to go on the run and hide.



One day, Saul and his army were in En-Gedi. Saul needed to pee, so he went into a sheep fold built next to a cave...

David and his men were hiding at the back of the cave!



David crept over and cut a piece off Saul's robe.



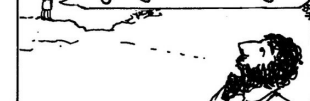
Then David felt bad.



David waited until Saul was far enough away then he shouted to him.



Your majesty, I could have killed you today, but I knew it was wrong. I want to prove to you I'm not trying to harm you.



David, you are better than me. I would have killed you but you were kind.



Now I know you will be the next king, but please look after my family.

David promised, and Saul and his army went home.





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