

Christ Church Ainsworth Parish Magazine



Artwork courtesy of 12th Radcliffe Brownies
From top left clockwise – Eloise, Poppy, Polly Anne, Lucy

Serving the Community

www.ainsworthparish.org.uk

March 2022

In This Issue ...

- Front cover ... Artwork courtesy of 12th Radcliffe Brownies
- Page 2 In This Issue
- Page 3 Worship With Us
- Page 4 Parish Diary March 2022
- Page 5 Planning To Attend Our Church Building For Worship?
- Page 6 A Few Words From The Vicar
- Page 8 Editor's Spot
- Page 9 ... Front Cover Artwork
From The Registers
Lent Study, Building Officer,
- Page 10 ... Bible Reading Fellowship
Coffee And Conversation
Mission Community News
- Page 11 ... Fairtrade Fortnight
- Page 12 ... Fundraising Coach Trip To Scarborough
News From The Diocese
- Page 13 ... Coffee And Conversation
- Page 14 ... Notices, Acknowledgements & Announcements
- Page 15 ... Around The Organisations – Beavers, Cubs
- Page 16 ... Scouts
- Page 17 ... 12th Radcliffe Brownies
- Page 18 ... Mothers' Union,
- Page 19 ... Ainsworth History Society, Ainsworth Social Club
- Page 20 ... Just A Thought, From The Archives
- Page 21 ... Words Of Comfort
- Page 22 ... Hidden Gems – Yarrow Valley Country Park
- Page 23 ... Poems From The Parish (And Beyond ...) Hints And Tips
- Page 24 ... The Queen's Platinum Jubilee
Simnel Cake
- Page 25 ... Cook's Corner
- Page 26 ... On Reflection
- Page 27 ... High Days And Holidays
- Page 28 ... Space To Share A Prayer
- Page 29 ... Strap Lines, Time For A Smile
- Page 30 ... The Parish Puzzler
- Page 31 ... Who's Who
- Page 32 ... Who's Who For Church Organisations
- Page 33 - 36 ... Little Fishes
- Page 37 – 41 ... Advertisements



Our church building is COVID-secure, so you can either attend worship physically or worship with us on Facebook:

Sundays

- 8am 2nd & 4th Sundays in church for COVID-secure BCP Communion
- 10.30am in church for COVID-secure Communion
- 12 Noon for live-streamed midday worship on our Facebook Page
- 6.30pm 1st Sundays in church for COVID-secure BCP Evening Prayer

Wednesdays

- 6.30pm in church for Mid-Week Praise, recording posted later on Facebook

To join us on Facebook, follow this link:

<https://www.facebook.com/ChristChurchAinsworth/>

NB: If you are not on Facebook, you can still watch the service – when it says “Log in” “Create New Account” simply click “Not Now” (which is below these two options)

If you missed any of our livestreamed services, some of them can be found on our website <https://www.ainsworthparish.org.uk/online-worship.html> or our YouTube Channel <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC1kRCPBlymPoDSyhH9CZYrw>

The Prayer Book Society also lists some churches livestreaming BCP services: <https://www.pbs.org.uk/churches-and-services/-1>



Parish Diary March 2022

(Subject to any current covid restrictions)

Wed. 2 nd Mar		ASH WEDNESDAY
	6:30pm	Mid-Week Praise (in Church)
	7:30pm	COVID-secure Communion (in Church)
Thu. 3 rd	7.30pm	Lent Course (Zoom)
Sun. 6 th		THE FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT
	10:30am	COVID-secure Communion (in Church)
	12 Noon	Midday worship (Facebook page)
	6:30pm	COVID-secure BCP Evening Prayer
Wed. 9 th	6:30pm	Mid-Week Praise (in Church)
Thu. 10 th	7.30pm	Lent Course (Zoom)
Sat 12 th	11:00am	Wedding
Sun. 13 th		THE SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT
	8:00am	COVID-secure BCP Communion (in Church)
	10:30am	Parade & Family Service (in Church)
	12 Noon	Midday worship (Facebook page)
Tue. 15 th	7.30pm	Lent Devotional
Wed. 16 th	6:30pm	Mid-Week Praise (in Church)
Thu. 17 th	7.30pm	Lent Course (Zoom)
Sun. 20 th		THE THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT
	10:30am	COVID-secure Communion (in Church)
	12 Noon	Midday worship (Facebook page)
Wed. 23 rd	6:30pm	Mid-Week Praise (in Church)
Thu. 24 th	7.30pm	Lent Course (Zoom)
Sun. 27 th		MOTHERING SUNDAY
	8:00am	COVID-secure BCP Communion (in Church)
	10:30am	COVID-secure Communion (in Church)

Followed by refreshments in Church

	12 Noon	Midday worship (Facebook page)
Tue. 29 th	7.30pm	Lent Devotional
Wed. 30 th	6:30pm	Mid-Week Praise (in Church)
Thu. 31 st	7.30pm	Lent Course (Zoom)
Sun. 3 rd Apr		THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT
	10:30am	COVID-secure Communion (in Church)
	12 Noon	Midday worship (Facebook page)

Planning to attend our church building for worship?

The following COVID-19 Secure restrictions apply:

We are moving from a pandemic to endemic situation where restrictions will no longer be required. Although most people now have a degree of immunity to COVID-19, levels of immunity vary, and some people continue to be significantly vulnerable to the virus and its long-term effects. Personal risk assessments also vary. Mindful that everyone has a right to attend worship and not wishing to place barriers in anyone's way, we will continue to operate three zones, offering different levels of security. The Zone you choose to sit in depends upon YOUR assessment of personal risk. For example, if you have few concerns and are not bothered about being pinged by NHS Test & Trace app, then sit in Zone 1. **If you are clinically extremely vulnerable, you might prefer Zone 3.**

Zone 1 (right hand side of the aisle and first 4 rows at the front on the left): There is no requirement to remain socially distant and no expectation that you will wear a mask.

Zone 2 (remaining pews on left hand side of the aisle – 1m⁺ social distance): Please use the designated pews, sitting in the space indicated by arrows, and, for the protection of others, please wear a mask unless medically exempt.

Zone 3 (upstairs left & centre pews, rear of left-hand choir pews - 2m⁺ social distance): Please sit in the designated pews, sitting in the space indicated by arrows. If you choose to sit in this area, please wear a mask unless medically exempt.

NB ZONES 2 & 3 DO NOT OPERATE DURING CHURCH PARADE.

Singing: There is no need to join in and, if you wish, you may wear a mask when singing

Communion:

- Clergy will continue to preside in a COVID Secure manner.

- For now, we will not be sharing the Common Cup. Instead, after gelling their hands, clergy will carefully dip your wafer in the wine before safely dropping it in your hands (this is known as Simultaneous Communion).
- Clergy will mask and distribute to you from the Sanctuary Steps. Please line up as directed, if wearing one, temporarily removing your mask to consume the wafer.
- Zones 2 & 3 – If you wish, you may remain seated, and clergy will come to you.

General:

- We will leave the doors open to enhance air circulation.
- Please gel your hands as you enter and leave the building.
- There is a collection plate on the font, but this will not be passed around.
- Although we shall now stand at various points in the service (e.g., for the Gospel), you are at liberty to remain seated throughout if you wish.
- To avoid handling service books, a PowerPoint version of the order of service is projected in church. However, if you struggle with this, there are a few printed orders of service available on request (please take them home with you afterwards).
- If you are in Zone 1, please allow those in Zones 2 and 3 to exit first as they wish to maintain social distance.

Whether you attend worship in church with others, or prefer to join with us on Facebook, is entirely your decision. Our responsibility is to ensure you have the choice.

Anyone showing symptoms of COVID-19 (a new continuous cough, a high temperature or a loss of, or change in, their normal sense of taste or smell) should not join us in church due to the risk to others; they should self-isolate at home immediately and arrange a PCR test. Likewise, please stay at home if you have been instructed to do so by Test & Trace.

A few words from the Vicar

“Education, education, education!” I’m showing my age here, but I still remember Tony Blair’s mantra from the 2001 General Election.

This leads me on to some very welcome news locally on the education front. Our village school was inspected in January by OFSTED, and their report has just been issued. They conclude that, *“Christ Church Ainsworth Church of England Primary School continues to be a good school.”* Superb news!

Given the disruption caused to our children’s education by the recent pandemic, this outcome is testament to the hard work and dedication of the whole of the school community. So, a big well done is in order, especially to the Head and the staff.

So, onto Lent as we prepare spiritually for Easter.

On Ash Wednesday we have two services during which there will be an opportunity to receive the imposition of ashes; Mid-Week Praise at 6.30pm and a traditional service at 7.30pm.

I always find the imposition of ashes spiritually moving, especially when, as the Priest, I utter the words of invitation, *‘Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return. Turn away from sin and be faithful to Christ.’* A reminder of our mortality, and that all of us are called to penitence and faith through Jesus Christ.

With only a few days to go (Ash Wednesday is on 2nd March), now is a good time to decide what to give up for Lent. In my case it’s biscuits. What do you plan to give up?

I remember several years ago, during a school assembly, asking the children what they were giving up for Lent. Their replies included the usual - biscuits, cakes, sweets etc. So far, so good. But one lad said he was giving up lettuce. *“Why?”*, I queried. *“Because I don’t like lettuce!”* came the reply! We all laughed but, seriously, there is no point giving up something you have no intention of doing or eating anyway. Where’s the sacrifice in that?

Why do we give up something during Lent? Well, as we look forward to the Easter celebration, it is to commemorate Jesus’ 40-day fast in the wilderness. In years gone by Lent was a time of real fasting for Christians, a beneficial spiritual discipline. These days, the Lenten fast is less rigorous and, if we are not careful, can become tokenistic.

For this reason, it is good to take on an additional spiritual discipline for the duration. In my case I plan to read *‘The Humble Church’* by Martyn Percy, an antidote to the growing managerialism within the Church of England.

What about you? What are you planning to take on during Lent?

To help you, as always, I shall be leading Lenten devotionals in Church at 7.30pm on most Tuesday evenings (see the Parish Diary for details).

Also, on Zoom, from 3rd March, at 7.30pm on Thursday evenings we have this year's Lent course, '*Walking the Way of the Cross.*' Based upon the traditional Stations of the Cross, the course is a series of Bible based devotional reflections. Please email me for a zoom link.

Finally, a bonus offering for you this year. On Zoom at 6pm each weekday evening for about 10 – 15 minutes, we have Lenten prayer. This is a joint venture for our Mission Community, which will be led by various people from each of the churches within our group.

May you enjoy a blessed and spiritually fruitful Lent.

Dave

Editor's Spot ...

Welcome to the March 2022 edition of Christ Church Ainsworth Parish Magazine, which is, as always, packed with useful information and interesting articles.

As the Covid-19 restrictions continue to ease, our various groups and uniformed organisations are well and truly back into the swing of face to face meetings, and as always I am in awe of the enthusiasm and creativity of those who are planning and leading the various programmes. The fact that most sections of the uniformed organisations are fully subscribed is a reflection of how much the hard work and commitment of our leaders is appreciated by their members.

As we move into Lent there are a number of initiatives available to help us all to focus on the real 'reason for the season'; Lenten Devotional Services, a Lent Bible Study course and daily prayers in conjunction with other members of our Mission Community, are just some of your options, along with publications and study notes available from the Bible Reading Fellowship

As 2022 marks the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, it's great to see a number of community events being planned; the first Ainsworth Village Day was held in 1977 as part of the Queen's Silver Jubilee celebrations – it's great to see this event back on the agenda for the summer months, a fun dog show and community picnic are also being planned – make sure you check out the village noticeboards and various facebook pages to keep up to date with progress..

Enjoy this month's magazine - As always, please keep your reports and articles coming in by the second Sunday in the month, to ainsworthmagazine@gmail.com. *Alison*

Front Cover Artwork

In recent weeks, the younger members of our uniformed organisations have been hard at work producing some fabulous artwork for the front covers of our Parish Magazine. Group members were provided with a basic outline and challenged to design a stained glass window.

A big thank you must go to Brown Owl and 12th Radcliffe Brownies for this month's front cover artwork – all of which are of a very high standard. Eloise, Poppy, Polly Anne and Lucy are this month's cover artists.

From The Registers

HOLY BAPTISM	We welcome into the family of God
January 2 nd	Ace Williams
9 th	Violet Elodie Hull
16 th	George Andre Norman Sproson
23 rd	Henry John Sage
30 th	Annabelle Cooper-Whittle

FUNERALS	We commend to God's keeping
January 26 th	Susan Lorraine Craven

Lent Study

'Walking the Way of the Cross' is our Lent course for this year. Like the traditional Stations of the Cross, the course comprises a series of scripture-based devotions focusing upon the biblical narrative of the passion, death, and resurrection of Jesus. Beginning on Thursday (3rd March), weekly sessions are on Zoom at 7.30pm each Thursday during Lent. Please email Revd Dave for a Zoom link.

Building Officer

We still urgently need a volunteer to take on the role of Building Officer; this role is crucial to the mission of our Church. The Building Officer's role is more about overseeing projects, organising work and liaising with other members of the team, rather than physically

undertaking jobs. If you think that you may be able to help with this role, please contact Revd Dave to discuss.

Bible Reading Fellowship

Although Easter is a little later than usual this year, we are now fast approaching Ash Wednesday and Lent. As we consider our approach to Lent, the Bible Reading Fellowship offers several books to help us focus on this profound period in the Church's year. The BRF Lenten book "Sharing the Easter Story" (£2.50) examines different aspects of this time, for example repenting, hoping and trusting in the resurrection, and is helpful for parents, grandparents and carers.

There are several other publications for families or for private devotions and these are available on the website www.brf.org.uk or through Jane Lord (07786 071708). Cards for all occasions, including Easter, are also available.

The 23 January broadcast of Songs of Praise which featured BRF can still be viewed on iPlayer for a short while, using the link <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/m0013vs5>

The centenary service for the Bible Reading Fellowship will be available on Sunday 24 April on YouTube.

Coffee And Conversation

The next Ainsworth Community Coffee and Conversation will be held on Tuesday 8th of March. Coffee and Conversation is held in Ainsworth Church and Community Hall on the 2nd Tuesday of each month from 10.30 – 12 noon; "A cup of coffee shared with others is happiness tasted and time well spent" – why not come along and join us.

Mission Community News

On Zoom at 6pm each weekday evening during Lent, for about 10 to 15 minutes, we have Lenten prayer. This is a joint venture for our Mission Community, which will be led by various people from each of the churches within our group. Here's the Zoom link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88510585974?pwd=QUdYYjN6bDFoakxpZnBoY2ZDMUJFoZz09>

Fairtrade Fortnight – 21/02/22 – 06/03/22

Fairtrade is a system of certification that aims to ensure a set of standards are met in the production and supply of a product or ingredient. For farmers and workers, Fairtrade means workers' rights, safer working conditions and fairer pay. For shoppers it means high quality, ethically produced products.

Choosing Fairtrade means standing with farmers for fairness and equality, against some of the biggest challenges the world faces. It means farmers creating change; from investing in climate friendly farming techniques to developing women in leadership.

Fairtrade sets social, economic and environmental standards - for the companies and farmers involved in the supply chain. For farmers and workers, the standards include protection of workers' rights and the environment; for companies they include the payment of the Fairtrade Minimum Price safety net and an additional Fairtrade Premium.

Fairtrade certifies products and ingredients - FLOCERT, an independent organisation, checks that the Fairtrade Standards have been met by the farmers, workers and companies that are part of the product supply chains. In order to reassure consumers that this has happened, Fairtrade licenses the use of the FAIRTRADE Mark on products and packaging to signal the standards have been met. When all the ingredients that can be Fairtrade are, the product carries this mark:

Fairtrade lobbies Government - to demand fairer trade deals for farmers who supply us with so much of our food.

Fairtrade drives awareness of the general public - through Fairtrade Towns, Schools and Faith groups, and through campaigns, increasing the awareness of the issues of unfair trade and encouraging the public to choose Fairtrade.

There are a number of events and initiatives on offer throughout the remainder of Fairtrade fortnight – for more info visit <https://action.fairtrade.org.uk> or follow the link at www.manchester.anglican.org



Fundraising Coach Trip To Scarborough

2023 is the 25th World Scout Jamboree in South Korea. One of our Scouts, Dylan, has been successful going through a rigorous selection process to be chosen to attend, representing our Group, District, County and the UK. As part of his journey Dylan needs to raise £4,000, therefore, as a group, we are planning several events to help him along his way. Among these events is one our much loved "Coach Trips" - we are having a day out to Scarborough! We will be leaving from the bus turnaround in Ainsworth at 0800 on Saturday 2nd July, returning to the same place around 1830. The cost for tickets for the trip are: Adult ticket (aged 14 and over) £25.00; Child ticket (aged 13 and under) £15.00; Family ticket (2 Adults and 2 children) £65.00. We always have a great day out - to book your seats and join us simply follow the link below:

<https://www.cognitofirms.com/AinsworthScoutGroup1/FundraisingCoachTripScarboroughSaturday2ndJuly2022>

News From The Diocese

The Diocese are offering some training courses for lay people, beginning in April. These aim to *'.... empower, enable and equip all lay people to become courageous whole life disciples, capable of ministering effectively and collaboratively in our shared mission of growing, nurturing and serving our local churches, parishes and communities.'* Currently 10 courses are offered:

- Mission and Evangelism
- Community Outreach and Social Action
- New: Digital Church and Online Media
- Ecology and Creation
- Youth Work + Specialism
- Children and Families
- Parish Admin, Finance and Governance (great for new Churchwardens)
- Pastoral Outreach and Listening
- Prayer and Spirituality
- Worship and Liturgy

If interested, please speak to Revd Dave. The application deadline is 6th March.



Coffee and Conversation

Tuesday 8th March

10.30 – 12 noon

Ainsworth Church and Community Hall

*"A cup of coffee shared with others
is happiness shared and time well spent."*



Notices, Acknowledgements & Announcements Ainsworth History Society Meeting

Tuesday 8th March

7.30pm, Ainsworth Church & Community Hall

Everyone welcome.

Coffee & Conversation

Tuesday 8th March

10.30 – 12 noon Ainsworth Church & Community Hall

‘A cup of coffee shared with others is happiness tasted & time well spent’

Everyone welcome

Ainsworth Social Club

Tuesday 1st March & Tuesday 15th March

7.30 – 9pm, Ainsworth Church & Community Hall

We are an independent social club for the over 50’s, our motto is ‘Challenge yourself’. Want to know more? Check out our facebook page ‘Ainsworth

Social Club’, or e-mail ainsworthsc@outlook.com

Save The Date!!

Fun Dog Show

Sunday 1st May - The Delph, Church Street, Ainsworth

Fun Dog Show to be held in conjunction with the Delph Gardening Team. Join in the fun classes whilst enjoying refreshments provided by Friends of The Delph. Registration from 12pm. Further details to follow.

Save The Date

Queen’s Platinum Jubilee - Ainsworth Community Picnic

Sunday 5th June – The Delph, Church Street, Ainsworth

Watch this space for more info.

Save The Date

Ainsworth Village Day

Saturday 16th July – Ainsworth Recreation Ground

Ainsworth Village Day is back for 2022, bigger and better than ever!! Watch this space for more info.

Around The Organisations ...

Beavers

We welcome Kyran, Stanley and Sebastian to Beavers and hope that they enjoy their time with us.

We were very pleased to see the work that the Beavers did in colouring pictures for the cover of the Church Magazine.

The Beavers gained their Air Activities badge by making paper aeroplanes, talking about different aeroplanes and their holiday flights. We were also shown a fifth scale model of a WW 2 Spitfire which was radio controlled. The Beavers were shown how all the flying surfaces moved, and also heard the sound of a Merlin engine that was fitted to the Spitfire.

The Beavers have learnt how to tie their shoe laces and, apart from getting themselves all tied up, they all managed to be able to tie a reef knot.

At Church Parade the flag was carried by Nathaniel.

Rikki

Cubs

What an interesting few weeks! New cubs invested older cubs achieving Chief Scout Silver Awards, cubs with covid, stomach troubles running through some sections of the pack - what fun for us all! Restrictions lifted, then back and now being lifted again!!

Despite all of these problems, we have continued to work hard and many of the Cubs have achieved at least one Challenge Award, most got two, and are well on their way to a proficiency badge as well. We have welcomed Alex, Theo, Sonny and Scarlet, and we congratulate Sam and George Smith on achieving their Chief Scout Silver Awards; they have now moved on to Scouts.

Cubs are now organised into new sixes with many promotions – Sixers – Leo, Tristan, Jack, William and Henri, Seconds – Noah, Fraser, Harvey, Oscar, and Arthur – well done all of you.

We are looking forward to completing many of the outdoor activities together that have not been possible for a couple of years. Here's to a much better year with camps, fun visits, and lots of fun activities.

We are still looking for a committed person to take the lead as Akela to run the pack – we have a number of dedicated leaders but due to a variety of circumstances they are unable to take on leadership – can you help? If so, give Bill a ring – his number is in ‘Who’s Who’ elsewhere in the magazine.

Gwen - Baloo

Scouts

Well, Scouts have been very busy. We had a camp in November, December and January.

For our January camp we went back to Christmas. Secret Santa, Christmas crafts, Christmas Dinner for 33!!! Breakfast in our Christmas PJ'S, watching Christmas films; what more could you want ... oooh chocolate, sweets, cake and biscuits and lots of party games. A great time was had by all.

At the end of the camp, we said goodbye to the older Scouts who have now moved into Explorers. I would say we will miss them, but we can't get rid of them. 4 are staying as Young Leaders in Scouts and Max has gone to Cubs as a Young Leader (we must be doing something right).

December and January also saw the start of the selection process for the World Scout Jamboree in South Korea 2023. Two of our Scouts applied and went through a very tough selection process alongside 65 others. There were only 36 places available. None of the leaders here at Ainsworth had anything to do with the selection process. Following a day at Ashworth Valley where they undertook a variety of tasks, we found out we were in the horrible position of only one of them being successful. (There were no tears shed by me honestly... NOT).

Congratulations go to Dylan who was successful, and we are sorry that Callum missed out. Having spoken to the team who ran the selection we know they both did well, and the leadership team said that if they could, they would take them all.

Dylan now has the difficult task of raising £4,000 by June 2023, so please watch out for fundraising events that will be advertised throughout the village, on Facebook pages and here in the Magazine.

There will be coffee mornings, coach trips, race night to name but a few.

Stacey, Mollie, George, Ben and Aled

12th Radcliffe Brownies

The girls have been working on a variety of badges since Christmas. Erin, Hattie and Sofia gained their collecting badge and Sofia and Polly gained their baking badge. Erin, Eloise, Izzy, Lucy, Rose, Scarlett and Sofia completed their Innovate skills builder. This meant that Erin, Sofia, Scarlett and Polly were awarded the Express yourself theme badge, and Erin was presented with her Brownie Silver Award. We were also very pleased to be able to present Izzy with the Brownie Gold Award at the February Church Parade; where Lily May, Polly and Sofia did the reading and Eloise carried the flag. Well Done to all the girls!



This term we have been focussing on the skills that will help us in the future, with the girls doing a variety of different activities. One group have learned about road safety (and decorated traffic light biscuits); recognised tools; knocked in nails and screwed in screws; and seen how much things cost; whilst the other group considered jobs that might be needed to make a book or a chocolate bar (which obviously meant tasting the product!) - and many of the girls seemed quite keen to be graphic designers; they tasted chocolate rolls, crisps and cola to see if the most expensive actually

tasted better and they have done some sewing - making and decorating a pencil case.

We have explored pointillism as a form of art - first by doing individual pictures, then by working in our sixes to make a bigger picture and for Chinese New Year we made a scratch art dragon.

Polly, Brown Owl

Transformation - Now!



Our AGM was held on the 1st February, when the accounts were approved and the following members were elected to the committee: Andrew Lowe, Moira Gilmore, Hilary Lowe, Mavis Rimmer, June Hayes and Jennifer White. Barbara Standing will remain as treasurer until she moves from the area and Jean Eddleston will stay as the named branch contact (non-committee).

We are now urgently looking for a new voluntary Branch Treasurer to take over from Barbara. If anyone feels called to help, please can you contact Barbara on 07521 000468, Andrew on 07443 631725 or me on 07964 587694. It isn't essential that you be a member for this post, but it would help if you could attend committee meetings, about 3/4 times a year.

Our first 'get together' this month is on Shrove Tuesday, 1st March at 2.30pm when we will hold a Beetle Drive followed by a pancake afternoon tea. All are welcome for this afternoon of fun.

The day afterwards is the Ash Wednesday service in church and the Lenten Devotional Services follow on Tuesday 15th and 29th March at 7.30pm. All members are encouraged to attend if able. There is also a Lenten study course on Thursday evenings on Zoom for those of us with internet access. Contact Revd. Dave for details and a Zoom link.

Also, on the 15th March, we will meet at the Rose and Crown at 10.30am for coffee and toast, etc ... Whatever takes your fancy! Another good time of faith and fellowship is promised.

Friday the 25th March is Lady Day, an important date in the MU calendar. Revd. Dave has kindly agreed to have a Holy Communion Service at 2.30pm and other members from our Mission Community will be invited. Please make every effort to come too.

Mothering Sunday is the 27th March. The Mothers' Union banner will be blessed at the Mothering Sunday 10.30am Holy Communion Service. There will also be refreshments after the Service. Now that

there are minimal Covid restrictions, it will hopefully be easier for members to attend.

Jennifer White (Hon. Secretary)

Ainsworth History Society www.ainsworthhistorysociety.org

We again meet on the Second Tuesday of each month from 7:30pm in the upstairs room of Ainsworth Church and Community Hall (on the corner of Bury Old Road and Ainsworth Hall Road). The next meeting is Tuesday 8th March, when we will look at photos and the history of some of the buildings and areas in the village. All are welcome.

February Meeting: As there were problems with the gazebo due to the storms, we met inside the Duke this time. We had a fun quiz trying to work out where places were from photographic clues – and also saw some photos of what they looked like in the past. As the room at the Duke is a little too small to meet comfortably, we decided to revert back to our original meeting pattern of the second Tuesday in the month and to meet at the Church Hall.

Where is it? - notice the spelling!



It's on the side of the sexton's shed in the churchyard of Christ Church

Ainsworth Social Club

Ainsworth Social Club is an independent social club for the over 50's, where older people can get together on a regular basis to keep fit in mind and body as well as enjoy each other's company.

Our motto is "Challenge Yourself". We offer members various games and activities (table tennis, carpet bowls, pool, board games and jigsaws) as well as visiting speakers and demonstrations. We organise trips out - for meals, the theatre and walks – why not have a look at our Facebook page to see the sort of things we get up to – 'Ainsworth Social Club'

The Club meets on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays in the month at Ainsworth Church and Community Hall from 7.30 to 9.00pm.

All are welcome; we ask for a minimum donation of £2, which includes refreshments.

For more information e-mail: ainsworthsc@outlook.com

Just A Thought

Everyone is worth understanding

From the Archives – March 1997

In 'The Vicar's Letter' in the March 1997 Parish Magazine, Father Alan chose as his theme the subject of 'failure', and the need for us all to recognise that everyone fails at some point in their lives, the important thing is to learn from and move on from that failure, rather than letting it define us, "...*look upwards not inwards when you fail...*". He used as an example King David, Peter and Paul – all strong and pivotal characters within Christianity; each of these people at some point failed in their duty to God; BUT each of them went on to ask God's forgiveness, and from there grew in faith ... the rest, as they say, is history. An interesting and thought provoking message, and still entirely relevant 25 years later.

Easter in 1997 fell at the end of March and various additions to the regular services were listed in the Parish Diary; alongside the Lenten Devotional Services were an Easter Eve Vigil and Service of Light, and 3 Communion Services to be celebrated on Easter Sunday.

The Easter Vestry and AGM were also listed in the Parish Diary that month, with a reminder that all church members were invited to attend, but to vote or be elected to the PCC, members must be on the Church Electoral Roll.

Elsewhere in the magazine there was a whole ream of thankyou's and acknowledgements from various individuals, plus a request for anyone willing to volunteer to help with grass cutting and other maintenance jobs within the churchyard, to please get in touch.

The PCC had agreed the purchase of extra Hymn Books and also set a date for a Parish Weekend to be held at Whalley Abbey; the Social Committee were well underway with plans for the Spring Fair – the theme for which would be daffodils; School reported huge success in their football league, where they had finished runners up – their best ever result! They also had teams playing in a netball league and were holding cross country training sessions.

Guides reported 'a big reorganisation' – then Guide Captain, Ann Rule, had stepped down as a result of ill health, prompting the formation of a 'Seniors Patrol' with older girls hopefully mentoring some of the younger members; scouts were also looking for helpers –

their request though was due to the expansion of all units and the need for extra bodies to help out.

In March 1997, the 'Face To Face' interview was with Hilary Gibbins, the Rainbow Leader at that time; the Holiday Church featured was Teguisse Church, Lanzarote. This article had been sent in by George Parker and provided not only information about the church, but a detailed account of the restoration of the church and its organ (the last of its kind in Lanzarote), which was being painstakingly carried out by a friend and British ex-pat, Joe Mann. A note following the article advised that there would be a video showing of the full restoration story, later that month in the Village Centre – all welcome.

In March 1997 there were 4 Baptisms, 1 Wedding and 2 Funerals recorded from the previous month. The number of Communicants for the previous month was listed as 357 and the collections totalled £957.

Words Of Comfort

Many of us have a 'go to' passage or verse from the bible that gives us particular comfort in times of difficulty or need. According to the website www.christianitytoday.com since the start of the Covid-19 pandemic, online Bible searches have soared, and a record number of people have turned to online scripture for passages addressing fear, healing and justice.

At number 9 in the 'Top 10 most searched for bible quotes' in 2021:

“Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.” Philippians 4:6

Some Thoughts ... To put this passage into context, Paul was appealing to Philippian Christians regarding the way in which they should handle disagreements within the church; Paul's advice was that by focusing on rejoicing in their fellowship with Christ, an attitude of 'reasonableness' would prevail.

Paul's suggestion *“Do not be anxious about anything ...”* doesn't imply a lack of concern or endorse carelessness, it means that those who believe should not be fearful or uneasy. Instead, believers should humbly and gratefully take whatever is on their minds to God through prayer. This doesn't mean that all of our problems and worries will be instantly solved, but it does remind us that addressing problems within our lives should begin with prayer.

If you have a favourite Bible verse which others may also find helpful, why not get in touch: ainsworthmagazine@gmail.com

Hidden Gems

Yarrow Valley Country Park

Yarrow Valley Country Park is a 700 acre site situated off Birkacre Road, between Chorley and Coppull, and managed by Chorley Council.

The Country Park was first established in 1987 on land previously used for bleaching, dyeing, calico printing and mining. Once industrial activity had ended, the site lay derelict for some 30 years until the late 1980's when Chorley Council acquired the site. With sensitive restoration and management, water courses and mill lodges have been restored, and footpaths, picnic areas and a visitor centre have been developed. The site is now both of local historical importance, and also constitutes an important wildlife resource both within the district and county.

Access to the main site is off Birkacre Road, where the main car park has recently been resurfaced, parking is free with no time limits. From the car park and visitor centre there are lots of options for walking and exploring. Big Lodge is home to a whole range of water birds, the varieties changing throughout the seasons; swans, geese, ducks, herons, cormorants and many more are regular visitors, the breeding season brings the opportunity to spot a huge variety of chicks, goslings and cygnets. The paths around Big Lodge are largely accessible to all abilities – but beware – if the geese think you have food, they may not let you pass!

Small Lodge is situated behind the visitor centre and offers a shorter circuit, smaller (and gentler) birdlife plus a variety of seating opportunities for those who prefer to sit quietly.

For those wanting a longer walk, there is plenty of space to stretch your legs and while away a few hours walking along the tranquil woodland pathways. Highlights include Duxbury Woods, Big Wood and Copperworks Wood as well as exploring the riot of wildflower colour that grows in Lower Burgh Meadow in the summer months. At the top end of Big Lodge there are a number of bird hides and viewing platforms facing out over the wetland and smaller ponds – the Kingfishers that live here must surely be the most photographed birds in the area! Carry on up the path towards Lower Burgh Meadow and you'll pick up the river path which eventually leads to the Weir, which

features a recently installed 'fish ladder' to the side, a purpose built viewing platform, and is at its spectacular best following periods of heavy rain.

For those with younger family members, "Yarrow Rocks" is an essential part of your visit. Situated near to the car park and featuring a natural climbing wall, rock stacks, an embankment slide and giant rope swing, this "eco-friendly" play space has been designed to encourage children of all ages to have fun and challenge themselves. And after all that? A visit to the 'Treeface Café' rounds off your visit nicely!

For more information about Yarrow Valley Country Park, visit www.chorley.gov.uk

Poems From The Parish (And Beyond ...)

Psalm 23 - For Busy People

The Lord is my pace setter, I shall not rush.
He makes me stop and rest for quiet intervals.
He provides me with images of stillness, which restore my sanity.
He leads me in the way of efficiency, through calmness of mind. And His guidance is peace.
Even though I have a great many things to accomplish each day I will not fret, for His presence is here.
His timelessness, His all importance will keep me in balance.
He prepares refreshment and renewal in the midst of activity.
By anointing my mind with His oils of tranquillity, my cup of joyous energy overflows.
Surely harmony and effectiveness will be the fruits of my hours.
For I shall walk in the pace of my Lord, and dwell in His house forever.
(Anon)

Hints And Tips From Yesteryear

These nuggets of information first appeared in the Parish Magazines of 1997:

- Doorsteps will not freeze in frosty weather if an aspirin tablet is crushed and dissolved in a cup of warm water.

If you have any interesting 'hints or tips' that others may be able to benefit from please get in touch via ainsworthmagazine@gmail.com

The Queen's Platinum Jubilee



Don't forget there are a number of long term initiatives underway as part of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations:

The Queens Green Canopy encourages individuals, groups and businesses to 'plant a tree for the jubilee'.

Whilst the official tree planting season is from October until March, there's no reason why you can't crack on and plant a small tree or even a shrub in your own garden or outdoor space – there's lots of information about how to choose the best type of tree for the space you have available, and also how to go about choosing and preparing the plot and planting the tree at

www.queensgreencanopy.org Don't forget to visit

platinumjubilee.gov.uk for event listings in most areas, and don't forget, if you have fond memories (and / or pictures) of previous Jubilee celebrations, memories of the Queen's Coronation, or any other royal encounter or occasion, why not consider sharing it with others – e-mail your piece to ainsworthmagazine@gmail.com

Simnel Cake

Simnel Cake is a form of fruit cake, most often associated with Mothering Sunday and Easter time. Although there is much speculation about the true origins of Simnel Cakes, they are thought to date back to mediaeval times – the Simnel Cake was then more of a yeast leavened bread, which may or may not have been enriched with dried fruit. The thing that differentiated this from other breads at the time was that it was made using the highest quality white flour – *simila*.

By the mid 17th century, this traditional bread based recipe had morphed into something resembling a pudding batter that was enriched with dried fruit, spices and almonds. It was boiled like a pudding and then, once cooked, wrapped in pastry, glazed with egg and then baked until a good, hard crust formed.

By the end of the 19th century, the Simnel Cake had started to look much more 'cake-like', but it wasn't until the 20th century that the familiar marzipan layers and marzipan balls began to make an appearance – traditionally there would be 11 marzipan balls placed on the top of the cake; 1 to represent each of Jesus's disciples, omitting the traitor, Judas Iscariot.

Cook's Corner



Simnel Cake

You will need – for the cake:

- 6 oz soft butter or margarine
- 6 oz light soft brown sugar
- 6 oz self-raising flour
- 3 eggs
- 6 oz sultanas
- 6 oz currants
- 3 oz glacé cherries, quartered, rinsed and dried.
- 1 oz candied peel, roughly chopped
- Grated zest of 1 large lemon
- 1 teaspoon mixed spice

For the filling:

- 1 lb almond paste / marzipan
- 2 tablespoons apricot jam
- 1 egg white

- 1 - Grease and line a 7" round loose-bottomed cake tin.
- 2 - Roll out one-third of the almond paste to make a 7 inch round.
- 3 - Combine all the cake ingredients together. Beat well until thoroughly blended.
- 4 - Spoon half the cake mixture into the prepared tin and smooth the surface. Place the almond paste round on top. Spoon over the remaining cake mix and level the surface.
- 5 - Bake in pre-heated oven at 150°C (130°C fan, gas mark 2) for 2¼ hours until golden brown and firm to touch.
- 6 – if the cake starts to brown too quickly, cover the top with greaseproof paper.
- 7 - Leave to cool for 10 minutes than remove from tin and leave to cool completely.
- 8 – once completely cool, warm the jam and brush the top of the cake.
- 9 - Roll out half of the remaining almond paste to a 7 inch round and place on top of cake.
- 10 - Roll the remaining almond paste into 11 even sized balls. Place around the cake, brushing with a little egg white to secure them.
- 11 - Brush the tops of the balls and the almond paste with egg white, then place under a hot grill for a couple of minutes until the balls are golden.
- 12 – Enjoy!

On Reflection

Reflection 10 – Deuteronomy, Exodus, Numbers (Elizabeth Spiers)

In Deuteronomy 1:1 we are told that it takes 11 days to go from Horeb to Kadesh Barnea by the Mount Seir road. So, from Egypt to the Promised Land, it's an 11 day journey. But it took the Hebrews escaping from slavery in Egypt 40 years. Why would a journey of a few days or months have taken years?

Well first, they didn't take the direct route. That would have taken them too close to the Egyptians and they certainly weren't ready for any kind of fight. So, God took them on an indirect route and the Israelites didn't like it. Some two years later, God led them to Kadesh-Barnea, at the edge of the Promised Land. The land 'flowing with milk and honey'. The land God was giving to them forever that would provide all they needed for life.

The trouble was, that after being slaves for so long, the Israelites no longer had confidence in either themselves or in God. Despite the plagues, despite their escape with gold and silver, the parting of the Red Sea, and being led by the pillar of fire by night and the cloud by day, they couldn't realise their position or appreciate what God had done for them. Rather than obey God and go straight into the Promised Land, they sent spies on ahead first. And only two of the 12 spies returned with a confident report that God would help them conquer the land.

At this point, the Israelites rebelled by refusing to enter the land and turned away from God, and they even longed for the 'good old days' of poverty and slavery in Egypt. What a tragedy! They still had so much of Egypt in their thinking and behaviour that they thought going back to slavery would be better than pressing on through adversity into freedom and a new life.

And it's just like that for us today. We become Christians, but there's so much of our old lives in our thinking and our behaviour that we often yearn for those days when we did what we liked without reference to God. He has a unique plan for each of us that he doesn't want us to miss. He wants us to enjoy the richness of our relationship with him. But it depends on our willingness to do things his way. So often, we end up in our own wilderness, wondering how on earth we got there. And unless we return to God and confess our rebellion and our sin, we may be there a long time. If you find yourself in the wilderness today, ask yourself if it's worth it. Is the dry and dusty place you're in better than living in the will of God? I can't promise you it's

easier being in God's will – you may have to make some sacrifices - but I can promise you it's far more rewarding.

High Days And Holidays

March – Commonwealth Day – 14th March 2022

Commonwealth Day, formerly Empire Day, is the annual celebration of the Commonwealth of Nations and is observed on the second Monday in March. Although it is not a public holiday, Commonwealth Day is usually marked by an Anglican service at Westminster Abbey, which is attended by the Queen, as Head of the Commonwealth, the Commonwealth Secretary General and Commonwealth High Commissioners. The Queen also delivers a special broadcast to the Commonwealth.

Most of the 54 countries which make up the Commonwealth, were previously governed by Britain as part of the British Empire – hence the origins of this occasion date back to 'Empire Day'.

The idea of having a day that would “remind children that they formed a part of the British Empire”, was conceived in Canada in 1897, and in 1898 schools in Ontario, Canada held their first day of 'Empire celebrations' on the last school day before 24th May, Queen Victoria's birthday, with many other countries following their example in later years.

After the death of Queen Victoria in 1901, her birthday, 24th May, became the official 'Empire Day'; schools and local communities organised events and celebrations, a practise which continued up until the end of World War I, when Empire Day became more of a sombre reflection and commemoration of the effects of war on the members of the British Empire. Over subsequent years there was much political discussion around the celebration, with various protests and accusations being made over the form and purpose of the event; after World War II the event fell into rapid decline, and in 1958, Prime Minister Harold Macmillan bowed to the inevitable and in December of that year announced in Parliament that the name 'Empire Day' would be changed with immediate effect to become 'Commonwealth Day'.

The concept of the Commonwealth dates back to the first half of the 20th century with the decolonisation of the British Empire through increased self-governance of its territories. The Commonwealth was originally created as “The British Commonwealth of Nations”, through the Balfour Declaration at the 1926 Imperial Conference, and

formalised by the UK through the Statute of Westminster in 1931. The current Commonwealth of Nations was formally constituted by the London Declaration in 1949, this brought significant modernisation to the community and established the member states as "free and equal".

Today's Commonwealth of Nations is a very different picture to that of the original concept of 'Empire'; as head of the Commonwealth, HRH Queen Elizabeth II is the head of state of 15 member states, known as the Commonwealth Realms – these member states recognise the Queen as their monarch. 34 other members are republics and 5 others have monarchs of their own royal houses.

In today's Commonwealth of Nations, member states are considered as a 'family' that can work together to help and support each other, but individual member states have no legal obligations to one another, their connections are formed through their use of the English language and historical ties. Member states have stated shared values of democracy, human rights and the rule of law, which are enshrined in the Commonwealth Charter and promoted by the Commonwealth Games.

Each year a theme is chosen for Commonwealth Day, for 2022 the theme is "delivering a common future: connecting, innovating and transforming"; a whole programme of actual and virtual events will be available with the aim of encouraging the countries of the Commonwealth to work together, achieve common goals, protect our natural resources, and boost trade.

So now you know!

The information for this article was taken from www.thecommonwealth.org www.twinkl.co.uk and Wikipedia

Space To Share A Prayer

Lord God, heavenly Father,
You know that we are set in the midst of so many and great dangers, that by reason of the frailty of our nature we cannot always stand upright; grant us strength and protection to support us in all danger and carry us through all temptations.

I ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, *Amen*.

Strap Lines

A rumour may not have a leg to stand on, but it will get around in spite of this.

An atheist is someone who has no invisible means of support.

A negative mind and attitude will never allow you to lead a positive and constructive life.

We should all swap problems – people are generally very good at solving those of others.

A person without money is poor, but a person with nothing but money is poorer still.

Time for A Smile

During a game in a church football league the coach asked one of his young players, “Do you understand what cooperation is?” The boy nodded. “Do you understand that what matters is winning as a team?” The boy nodded. “Do you also understand that when the referee makes a decision, you don’t argue, curse or threaten to attack him?” Again, the boy nodded. “Right,” said the coach, “now go over there and explain it all to your mother.”

Three members of clergy in a small town were all born the same year, had grown up together and decided to go to lunch together to celebrate turning 50. They went to a local Italian restaurant because they had pretty waitresses.

When it came to celebrating turning 60, they decided to go to the same Italian restaurant because the food was good.

The next time they decided to celebrate was when they were turning 70; they decided to go once again to the same restaurant, this time because there were no steps, making it easy for them all to access. On turning 80 they decided to go to the Italian restaurant because they had never been there before.

The Parish Puzzler

Think Of A Word

How many words can you think of that include the following letters?

L E N T

Bible Quiz 3 – When ...

1. When did Jesus go into the wilderness?
2. When did Peter deny knowing Jesus 3 times?
3. When did Noah and his family enter the Ark?
4. When did Jesus rise from the dead?
5. When did Jesus ascend into heaven?
6. When did God create humankind?
7. When did Joseph's brothers visit Egypt?
8. When did Moses receive the 10 Commandments?
9. When did Paul convert to Christianity?
10. When did Pharaoh allow the Egyptians to leave?

(Answers on page 31)

Village Trivia

Last month's question:

Q. Where would you find Stanley and in which year?

A. Stanley Terrace is the row of houses opposite the church Hall / Methodist Chapel, the date? 1911

This month's question:

Q. There are several 'banks' in Ainsworth, but none of them the monetary type – can you name two of them?

Answer in next month's magazine.

Who's Who

Vicar	Revd Dave Thomson Christ Church Vicarage Ainsworth Hall Road. Ainsworth BL2 5RY vicar@ainsworthparish.org.uk Twitter @Vicar_Dave	01204 398567
OLM	Revd Debra Johnstone	01204 399630
Churchwarden	Alison Hartley	07952 709041
Church Treasurer	Melissa Fogg	
Secretary of the PCC	Vacancy	
Organist	Jenny Johnson	07734976978
Gift Aid & Freewill Offering Secretary	Carole Butler	07379 196608
Safeguarding Officer	Peter Holden	01204 596938
Church Hall Booking	Geoff Hampson	07910817577
Church Lottery	Judith White	07812074776
Magazine Editor	Alison Hartley	ainsworthmagazine@gmail.com
Magazine Secretary	S Varnom	0161 761 5686
Magazine Adverts	June Brooks	01204 527244
Primary School Head	D Gerrard BA(Hons)PGCE	01204 527484

Services

Sunday 8.00am	Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)
10.30am	Family Service, 2 nd Sunday Family & Parade Service
12.00pm	Baptisms (Except 2 nd and last Sunday)

Weds 6.15pm Mid-Week Praise

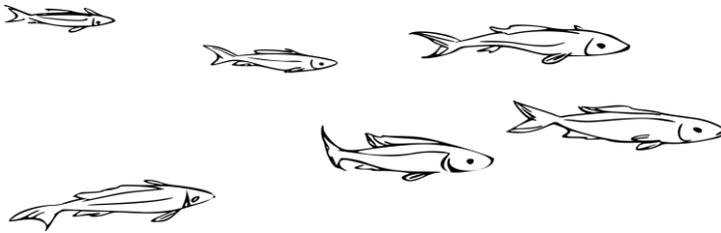
Home Communion is available for anyone unable to attend Church due to illness or frailty

Arrangements for Baptisms, Marriages, Banns of Marriage and Funerals
Contact Revd Dave Thomson.

(Answer to Bible Quiz – When? 1) After being Baptized 2) Before the cock crowed 3 times; 3) As the rains began to fall; 4) Easter Sunday; 5) On the 40th day after the resurrection; 6) On the 6th day; 7) In the 2nd year of the famine; 8) During the 40 days he spent in God's presence on Mount Sinai; 9) Whilst on the road to Damascus; 10) Following the final plague of Egypt.

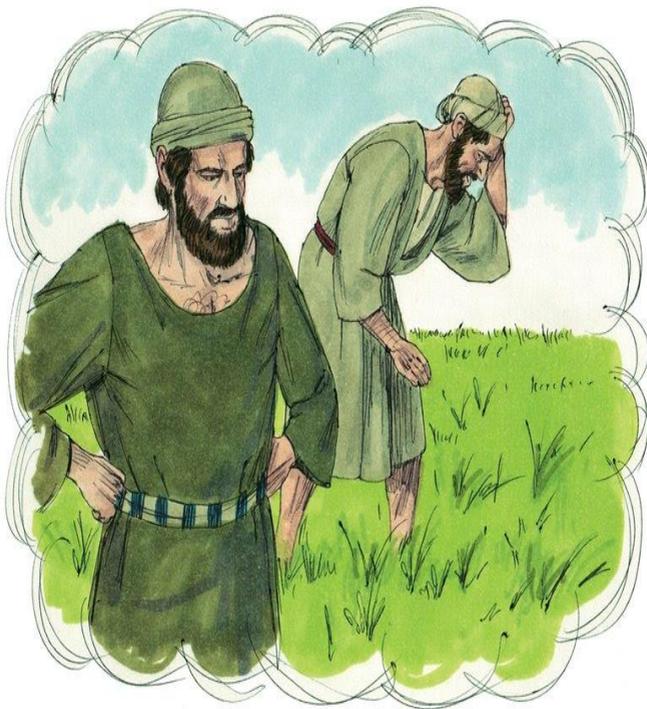
Who's Who For Church Organisations

Mothers Union	1 st & 3 rd Tuesday of the Month at 7.30pm Branch Contact Jean Eddleston	0161 761 2147
Sunday School	Sunday at 10.25am in the Church Hall Jan Burrow Vicky Howcroft Swift	0161 761 1958 07789 432103
Altar Flowers	Kathy Armstrong Rand	07748 020743
ABC First Steps Toddler Group	Fridays 10.00am - 11.30am Church Hall Jennifer White	07964 587694
Group Leader	Bill White group.ainsworth@praws.gmnscouts.org.uk	01204 595378
Beaver Scouts	Friday at 6.00pm in the Church Hall Leader Valerie Watts	01204 398634
Cub Scouts	Friday at 7.00pm in the Church Hall	
Scouts 14 th Radcliffe	Fridays at 7.30pm in the Church Hall Leader Stacey White scouts.ainsworth@praws.gmnscouts.org.uk	07742 610281
Explorers	Monday 7 – 8.30pm; last Wednesday of the month 7.30pm in the Church Hall Leader John Turner	01204 381590
Rainbows 16 th Radcliffe	Thursday at 4.30pm to 6.00pm in the Church Hall Rainbow Guider	
Brownies 12 th Radcliffe	Thursday at 7.00pm to 8.15pm in the Church Hall Brown Owl Polly Ryder	07437 519045
Brownies 16 th Radcliffe	Thursday at 6.15pm to 7.30pm in the Church Hall Sarah McAnulty	07955373623
Guides 12 th Radcliffe	Thursday at 7.45pm in the Church Hall Captain Emma Lee	0161 764 2243



Little Fishes

Parables



Jesus The Teacher

During His lifetime, Jesus told lots of different parables, always with the hope that the people listening to Him would think about what He was saying and learn from it. The parable we're going to look at today is about a farmer sowing seeds to grow crops - you can find this parable in the Gospel of Matthew, chapter 13, the Gospel of Mark, chapter 4 and also in the Gospel of Luke, chapter 8.

The Parable Of The Sower



One bright day in Spring, a farmer went out into his fields with a huge bag of barley seeds, he planned to spend the morning sowing the seeds in the rich, damp soil. The farmer

hoped that by the end of the summer his seeds would have grown strong and tall, giving him a good crop of barley.



As the farmer walked along throwing the seeds, some landed on the path at the side of the field, and straight away the birds flew down and gobbled them up.

As the farmer carried on walking and sowing the seeds, some seeds fell among some stones at the edge of the field; the seeds started to grow, but because there wasn't much soil there, they didn't grow strong roots, so when the sun came out the seeds quickly shrivelled up and wilted.



As the farmer walked along spreading the seeds some fell among some weeds. There was plenty of soil there for the seeds to grow strong roots, but even though they tried their best, the weeds and brambles were so thick and grew so quickly that the seeds couldn't get enough sunlight and were soon choked by the weeds.

The farmer had spent a lot of time raking his fields and loosening the soil ready for sowing his seeds, and as he continued to walk along spreading seeds from his sack, many of those seeds landed on the rich, dark soil and quickly began to grow good strong roots; and as the sun shone and the rain fell and watered them, the seeds that had fallen on the good soil grew into a tall, strong crop of barley.



So, What Does This Parable Mean?

Jesus' stories often have more than one meaning - this story is about a farmer sowing seeds to grow crops, but sometimes Jesus appeared to people as a Gardener who sowed a different type of seed; Jesus sowed seeds of love and the word of God; just as barley seeds can take root and begin to grow in the soil, so too God's love can take root and begin to grow within people.

In this parable, Jesus asked the people who were listening to Him to imagine that they were like the farmer's field. He told them to imagine that the words that He said were like the seeds, and to think about what was happening to their own 'seeds'. There were some people there who heard what Jesus was saying about God's love, but they immediately forgot or didn't really listen properly



because they were too busy thinking of other things. This was like the seeds that fell on the path and were eaten by the birds - when we go to Church or Sunday School or School Assembly and we don't really bother to listen to the message of Jesus, those 'seeds' are wasted - like the seeds that fell on the path and were eaten by the birds.

There were some people in the crowd listening to Jesus, who thought, "Wow! What this man is saying is amazing, I'd really like to know more about God's love!", but then they got busy doing other things again and forgot do anything about it. This was like the seeds that fell among the stones - they tried to grow but there was nothing to keep them going. If we listen and are really interested at the time, but then



go away and forget all about what we heard, those 'seeds' start to grow but then wilt - like the seeds that fell among the stones.

There were some people in the crowd listening to Jesus and they also thought, "Wow! What this man is saying is amazing, I'd really like to know more about God's love!", but then they got really busy doing other things and they never got round to do anything



about it. This was like the seeds that fell among the weeds - if we listen and are really interested, but we get distracted by other things that are going on around us, those 'seeds' try their best to grow, but like the seeds that fell among the weeds, they just can't get through all the other things.

There were lots of people in the crowd listening to Jesus, who were really interested in what He said, they asked Him questions, they went to other meetings and listened to Him some more, they talked to Jesus's



friends, and over time the seeds of God's love grew in them. This was like the seeds that fell in the good rich soil - if we listen and are really interested, so interested that we ask questions and want to find out more, those 'seeds' make really good roots and grow tall and strong - like the seeds that fell onto the good, rich earth.

Can you find 6 words from this parable in the grid below?

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

Here's the things you're looking for!

- Seeds
- Weeds
- Stones
- Birds
- Soil
- Love

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