

St Nicholas News

July/August 2019

Price £1



Church Diary

Date	Time	Event
July		
Tuesday 2 nd	7.30 pm	Taize Evening Prayer
Wednesday 3 rd	10.00 am	Eucharist
Sunday 7 th	8.30 am 10.30 am	Trinity 3 Holy Communion (BCP) Parish Communion Welcome service for our new curate, Andrew Bennison
Wednesday 10 th	10.00 am	Eucharist
Sunday 14 th	10.30 am	Trinity 4 Parish Communion
Wednesday 17 th	10.00 am	Eucharist
Saturday 20 th	10.30-12.00	Saturday Café, breakfast, craft activities, gardening, music, all welcome, Dementia Friendly
Sunday 21 st	10.30 am	Trinity 5 Parish Communion
Wednesday 24 th	10.00 am	Eucharist
Sunday 28 th	10.30 am	Trinity 6 Parish Communion
Wednesday 31 st	10.00 am	Eucharist
August		
Sunday 4 th	8.30 am 10.30 am	Trinity 7 Holy Communion (BCP) Parish Communion
Tuesday 6 th	7.30 pm	Taize Evening Prayer
Wednesday 7 th	10.00 am	Eucharist
Sunday 11 th	10.30 am	Trinity 8 Parish Communion
Wednesday 14 th	10.00 am	Eucharist
Sunday 18 th	10.30 am	Trinity 9 Parish Communion
Wednesday 21 st	10.00 am	Eucharist
Sunday 25 th	10.30 am	Trinity 10 Parish Communion
Wednesday 28 th	10.00 am	Eucharist



Deadline for September/October: 15th August!

Cover image, article about Clare of Assisi, and Crossword from www.parishpump.co.uk, used with permission. Images of Lincoln Cathedral and York Minster by Brenda and Colin Macleese, Cartoon by David Walker used under licence from cartoonchurch.com

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Rachel writes...

Summer is usually a time for relaxing and kicking back. That is certainly how it is presented in the popular mind. Think of all those images of beach holidays and people relaxing in their gardens whilst barbecues are tended in the background. Those of us who live in Britain also know, of course, that such is the changeable nature of the weather that often those holidays and barbecues are a wash-out.

I do hope we all get some space to enjoy some sunny and pleasant weather this summer. As many of you will know, I generally hope that – for me at least – August is usually a quieter and more reflective time when I can enjoy creation. Let's hope we have some pleasant weather!

At the same time, this summer is an exciting one for St Nick's. I'm delighted that the Rev'd Andrew Bennison shall be joining us in July as our new stipendiary curate. He shall introduce himself to you in due course I'm sure, but a few headlines: he knows the northwest well, having grown up in Wilmslow, but has spent much of his adult life down south, either up at Oxford or in London. He is a very gifted young man who will stimulate our community in all sorts of ways. Fr Alan will remain part of our team, moving in due course to become an Associate Priest rather than Assistant Curate.

In my conversations with Andrew ahead of his arrival, I tried to impress on him that ministry, just like wider church life, is a marathon and not a sprint. Despite our relatively small size, St Nick's can be a very busy place and I'm keen that all of us – Rector, Curates, Church Wardens and the wider laity – never lose sight of the need for space, relaxation and prayerful reflection.

'Spaciousness' is a key concept in biblical thought. The Hebrew word for salvation includes 'spaciousness' as one of its key meanings. Salvation is, in biblical thought, often a place where one can breathe. Thus, the importance of The Promised Land. It is a land of milk and honey where people have space and can breathe.

For those of us who live in cities, the air can sometimes be so polluted it can be a struggle to gain one's breath! Sometimes we simply have to get out of the city. Of course, that's not always easy. We have to find other ways to find 'holiday' (which itself derives from 'holy day'). One of the key ways which all of us can practice 'holy day' is through prayer. Please pray for Andrew as he settles in with us, and for me as his training incumbent. Pray for Alan as he becomes Associate Priest. Pray for the parish as we discern the way ahead together. Pray for each other, especially those who you might struggle to get along with. Jesus asks us to do so. Thereby, God will refresh and renew us in prayer.

Rachel x

Know Your Church Building:

Items not on view at present!

19th October 1931 – the new church

An interesting little internal ceremony took place on 19th October. Mrs Barnett, accompanied by the Rector, placed a 'receptacle' containing a newspaper cutting of the stone laying ceremony, 4th October 1931, a parish magazine, and some coins of the realm, in a space behind the foundation stone (north side of the main entrance on Kingsway).

9th March 1964 – Extension to the west end of church building

During the execution of this contract a 'bottle' containing details of the contract, together with a copy of 'The link' (parish magazine) was cast in the foundation of the north detached brick column (on the line of the present folding partition)

4th February 2001 – conservation and continuity project

Following the 10:30 eucharist a 'capsule' containing various items was placed in a small pit at the bottom of the present choir stall to mark this work

Bevan Taylor, 4th June 2019

11th August St Clare of Assisi

Assisi, a beautiful town in the Italian province of Umbria, was the birth-place in the twelfth century of two of that country's greatest saints, Francis and Clare. Francis first, and then Clare, discovered the liberating effect of release from the burden of wealth.

For them simplicity, a godly poverty, was the way to blessing. Their followers – Francis's monks, the Franciscans, and Clare's nuns, the 'Poor Clares' as they were known, set themselves to live without any kind of luxury. This freed them, they believed, for a life of prayer and service, to care for the poor around them without distraction. They built no elaborate basilicas, though one was erected after the death of Francis, strictly against his wishes, to surround the simple chapel (his 'hovel') where he and his followers were based. The present-day house of the Poor Clares is a perfect example of the sheer beauty of simplicity.

Their life-style, their message, their simplicity of life and love of the Creation and its creatures, offered a striking alternative to the society around them, where wealth (which Francis had enjoyed but rejected at his conversion) and poverty and sickness lived side by side. It has to be said, too, that their message is on collision course with the values and goals of much of the western world today. Simplicity of life and affluence don't sit easily together.

G'Day from Far North Queensland!



Once again we are lucky enough to be in Far North Queensland, Australia - visiting family. The weather is quite cool at the moment. The Cassowary coast where are staying enjoys a warm tropical climate with temperatures up around 26 degrees in the Australian winter (the dry season of May to October) and 30 degrees

in the wet season (November to April).

Mission Beach is part of the Cassowary coast region and is home to the endangered southern cassowary, a large and majestic bird living in the surrounding world heritage rainforest. Dolphins and whales have been spotted out in the bay. And perhaps not so attractive - 6 foot pythons try to cross the local highway with disastrous results!



Giant model of a Cassowary outside the local supermarket!

Queensland is vast – 7 times the size of Great Britain and has a coastline of more than 7400 km. 2000km of this coast boasts part of the Great Barrier Reef – the largest living thing on earth and visible from space. At one of the

beaches locally it is possible, very occasionally, to paddle out to the reef when the tide is very low. We haven't had a chance to do this yet as the weather has been too stormy when the tide has been low.

While we are here we take the grandchildren to school and attend the parade (assembly) on Mondays. This is always led by the children and they start by reciting,

“We pay our respects to the Djiru people on whose land our school is built. We honour the Djiru ancestors, and elders, past, present and emerging.”

The relationship between Australia's European settlers and native peoples has been difficult in the past. The four small local settlements - with a resident population of about 4000 - comprise of Bingil Bay, North Mission, Wongaling and South Mission and were built on aboriginal land. (Mission means settlement.) The native population were moved away or forced to work for the new settlers. Some were kept in shackles if they tried to escape and families were often split. Here and there by the roadside are memorials displayed in aboriginal shelters with artefacts, plaques and photos of some of the local population.

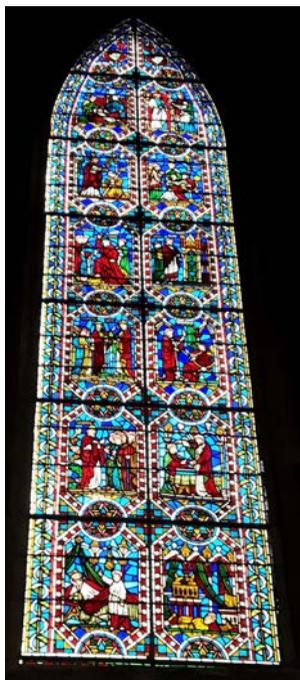
The children at school also sing the national anthem – here is the first verse:

“Australians let us rejoice
For we are young and free
We've golden soil and wealth for toil,
Our home is girt by the sea
Our land abounds in nature's gifts
Of beauty rich and, rare;
In history's page, let every stage
Advance Australia Fair ...”

“O Lord, how manifold are your works! In wisdom you have made them all;
The earth is full of your creatures.
Yonder is the sea, great and wide,
Creeping things innumerable are there,
Living things both small and great.
There go ships, and Leviathan that you formed to sport in it.

These all look to you to give them their food in due season;
When you give to them, they gather it up;
When you open your hand, they are filled with good things." Psalm 104
Jill Lomas

Lincoln Cathedral and York Minster



On a wet & windy day. Colin & I set off for a trip to Lincoln & York for two days. Saturday 8th couldn't have been any worse for weather. We had a very warm welcome from the ladies & gentlemen in the Cathedral. It is a lovely Cathedral to visit. We had a very nice lunch.

On the Sunday the sun came out. We went to York

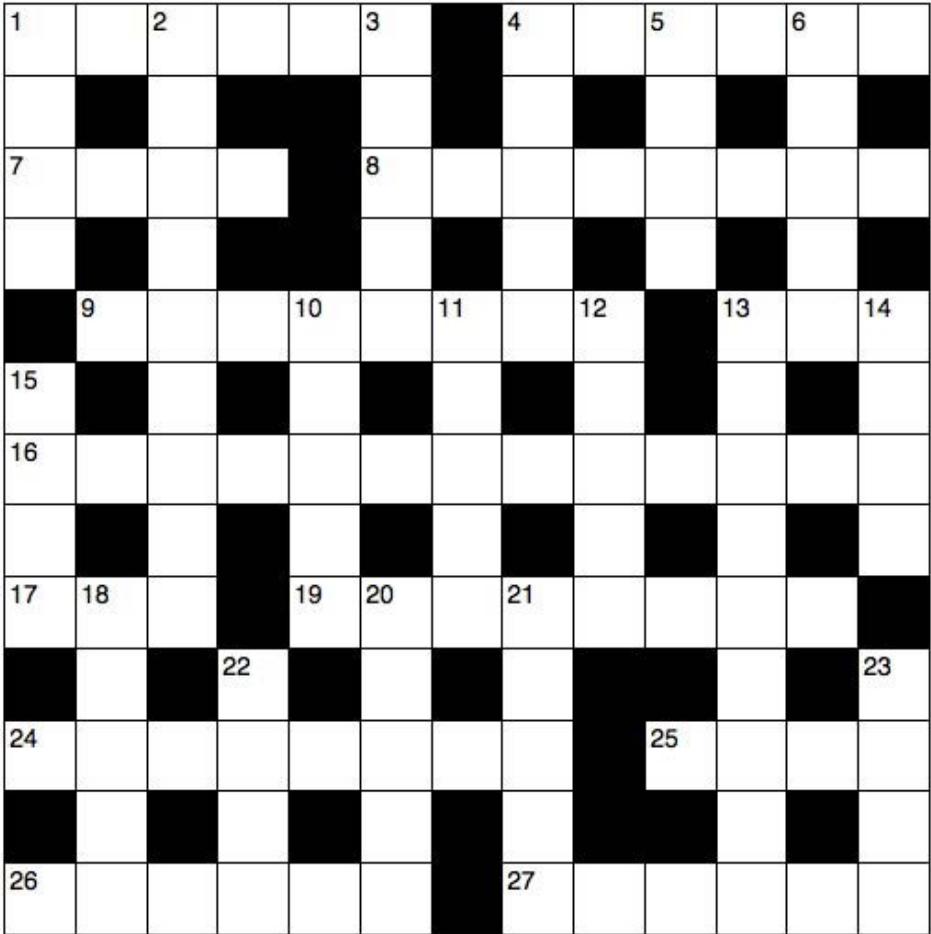


Minster for Eucharist again we was made very welcome by Revd Canon Dr Christopher Moger.

(left: stained glass window from Lincoln Cathedral
right: west end of York Minster)

Brenda Maclese

Crossword



Across

- 1 'I pray that out of his glorious — he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being' (Ephesians 3:16) (6)
- 4 'Saul's father Kish and — father Ner were sons of Abiel' (1 Samuel 14:51) (6)
- 7 'Praise the Lord, O my — ' (Psalm 103:1) (4)
- 8 See 5 Down

- 9 Laws (1 Kings 11:33) (8)
- 13 'Who of you by worrying can — a single hour to his life?' (Luke 12:25) (3)
- 16 Artistry (Exodus 31:5) (13)
- 17 'Your young men will see visions, your — men will dream dreams' (Acts 2:17) (3)
- 19 How David described his Lord (Psalm 19:14) (8)
- 24 'If this city is built and its — — restored, you will be left with nothing in Trans-Euphrates' (Ezra 4:16) (5,3)
- 25 'The holy Scriptures, which are able to make you — for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus' (2 Timothy 3:15) (4)
- 26 Intended destination of arrows (Lamentations 3:12) (6)
- 27 Eve hit (anag.) (6)

Down

- 1 'For I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find — for your souls' (Matthew 11:29) (4)
- 2 Where Peter was when he denied Christ three times (Luke 22:55) (9)
- 3 Remarkable early 20th-century Indian evangelist, a convert from Hinduism, — Sundar Singh (5)
- 4 'Now the king had put the officer on whose — — leaned in charge of the gate' (2 Kings 7:17) (3,2)
- 5 and 8 Across The Lover describes this facial feature of the Beloved thus: 'Your — is like the tower of Lebanon looking towards — ' (Song of Songs 7:4) (4,8)
- 6 'Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled — your waist' (Ephesians 6:14) (5)
- 10 Trout (anag.) (5)
- 11 Easily frightened (1 Thessalonians 5:14) (5)
- 12 The ability to perceive (Ecclesiastes 10:3) (5)
- 13 One of the clans descended from Benjamin (Numbers 26:38) (9)
- 14 "It is one of the Twelve," he replied, "one who — bread into the bowl with me" (Mark 14:20) (4)
- 15 Resound (Zephaniah 2:14) (4)
- 18 Traditional seat of the Dalai Lama (5)
- 20 Precise (John 4:53) (5)
- 21 Build (Ezekiel 4:2) (5)
- 22 Beat harshly (Acts 22:25) (4)

23 Darius, who succeeded Belshazzar as king of the Babylonians, was one (Daniel 5:31) (4)

ACROSS: 1, Riches. 4, Abner's. 7, Soul. 8, Damascus. 9, Statutes. 13, Add. 16, Craftsmanship. 17, Old. 19, Redeemer. 24, Walls are. 25, Wise. 26, Target. 27, Thief.

DOWN: 1, Rest. 2, Courtyard. 3, Sadhu. 4, Arm he. 5, Nose. 6, Round. 10, Tutor. 11, Timid. 12, Sense. 13, Ashbelite. 14, Dips. 15, Echo. 18, Lhasa. 20, Exact. 21, Erect. 22, Flog. 23, Mede.

(solutions page 14)

In Camera': Rachel's Favourite Films

'Four Weddings and a Funeral' Dir: Mike Newell, 1994)

Four Weddings and a Funeral was an absolute sensation when it was released in 1994. It cost about two million dollars to make and made over two hundred and fifty million at the Box-Office. In many ways it reinvigorated a whole genre, the 'Romantic Comedy' or 'Rom-Com'. It also ensured that its central star, Hugh Grant, would become one of the most bankable actors of the next two decades. While it is not a film without fault (more on that shortly), it is easily one of scriptwriter Richard Curtis's funniest and most consistent scripts. The ensemble cast is also pretty much pitch-perfect, bringing together some of the UK's finest character comedians with new talent.

It's hard to believe that people don't know the premise of Four Weddings, but just in case: Charlie (Hugh Grant) is a 'serial monogamist' unable to commit to marriage. He spends a year, with his friends, attending four weddings and a funeral, and that's pretty much it. Herein lies one of the film's issues: it is quite soapy, plot-less, and the weddings Charlie and his

friends attend take place within the higher echelons of British society. However, this basic scenario provides the space for the immensely gifted Curtis – who also wrote *Blackadder*, *The Vicar of Dibley* and new film, *Yesterday* – to tear at both our heartstrings and deliver some huge belly-laughs. At the film's centre is a genuinely charming performance by the stumbling, delightful Grant with key support from Simon Callow, Rowan Atkinson and Charlotte Coleman, who died tragically young.

Four Weddings was – for many in middle England – an unexpectedly ground-breaking film. It was the first time many encountered a disabled character in a key role as witnessing a tender and successful relationship between a same-sex couple on screen. Twenty-five years on, these characters look less impressive, but Curtis's attempts to change the cultural representations of marginalised characters still broke ground.

Grant, himself, paid a significant price for success. He ended up being stereotyped for decades because of *Four Weddings*. This is a shame. As his recent TV performance as Liberal leader Jeremy Thorpe shows, he was and is a fine actor. The closing scene of the film has also been lambasted, not least because the key female love interest Carrie, played by an insipid Andie MacDowell, cannot hold a candle to the British talent on show.

Nonetheless, *Four Weddings* remains one of my go-to 'chill-out' films. It reminds me of all that I love and struggle with when I'm a guest at 'big' weddings. It also has one of the defining funeral scenes in any movie, one that has been studied by vicars interested in 'funeral culture'. There are also genius levels of comedy-swearing and a warm-heartedness that means it still charms. Its cultural impact has been such that, in 2019, Comic Relief produced a 25th Anniversary update which reunited most of the original cast. This time the wedding scene involved two women getting hitched in a church. Who knows if this scene will be played out in a Church of England church, one day. I, for one, hope so.

Rachel x

Parish Registers - April-May 2019

Date	Attendance	Cash	Envelopes	Total
7 th April	54	35.50	201.00	236.50
14 th April	37	13.50	200.70	214.20
21 st April	131	206.40	336.04	542.44
28 th April	35	0.00	145.00	145.00
5 th May	46	119.80	262.00	381.80
12 th May	57	56.50	185.50	242.00
19 th May	44	76.00	194.50	270.50
26 th May	36	105.00	267.50	372.50
Total		612.70	1792.24	2404.94

St Nicholas Club Draw

April 1st Prize: 55 (Emily Crossley)

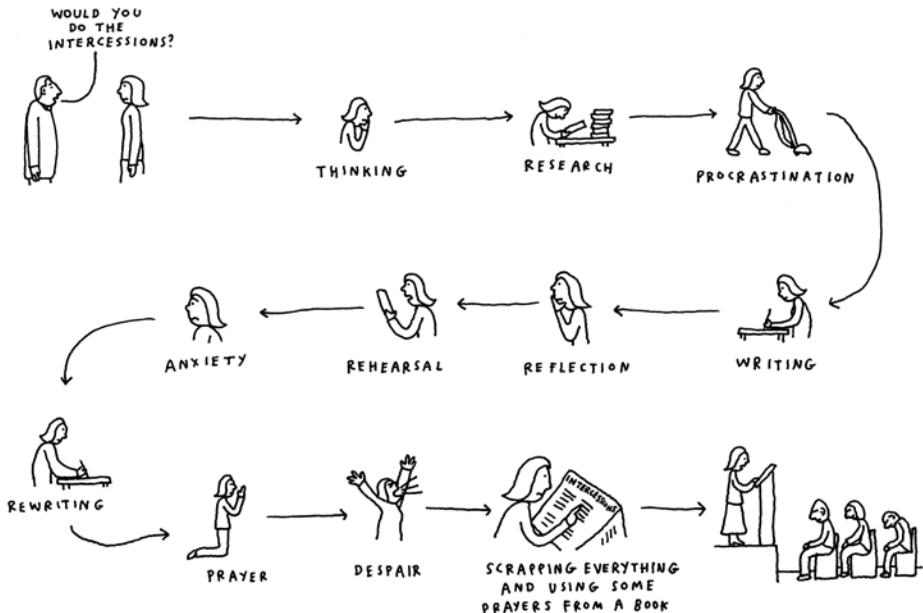
April 2nd Prize: 63 (Alison Cullen)

May 1st Prize: (Fred Murphy)

May 2nd Prize: (Flowers (donated by Margaret Vessey))

THE INTERCESSIONS

HOW TO PREPARE THEM



Church Duty Rota

Date	Warden 8.30am	Warden 10.30am	Altar Server	Lay Assistants	Sides- people
July					
7 th	Fred Murphy	Jill Lomas	Jane Cawley	Jane C Lyn R	Margaret V Michael V
14 th	Fred Murphy	Grace Manley	Louise Hollings- worth	Louise H Cliff S	Lyn R Ann A
21 th	Fred Murphy	Julie Crossley	Nikki Naylor	Nikki N Alison M	Brenda M Freda E
28 th	Fred Murphy	Louise Hollings- worth	Steven Nightingale -Holt	Steven N-H Margaret V	Giles E Julie B
August					
4 th	Fred Murphy	Jill Lomas	Brenda Maclese	Brenda M Cliff S	Margaret V Michael V
11 th	Fred Murphy	Alison Mills	Steven Nightingale -Holt	Steven N-H Margaret V	Lyn R Ann A
18 th	Fred Murphy	Grace Manley	Jane Cawley	Jane C Claire C	Brenda M Freda E
25 th	Fred Murphy	Louise Hollings- worth	Nikki Naylor	Nikki N Lyn R	Giles E Julie B

Solutions

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Organisations

Women's Fellowship

Chairman: Mrs Ann Holmes (0161 434 2245)

Second and Fourth Wednesdays at 2.30 pm

Confirmation Classes

For young people and adults by arrangement with the Minister.

Rainbows

For girls aged 5 to 7 years.

Wednesday evening, 6 pm to 7 pm, in the church hall

Church Hall Bookings

Church Hall and Glass Room are available for hire.

Details are on our website:
www.st-nicholas-church.org.uk

For bookings please contact:

Alison Mills (0793 207 1977)
alison@glensidemills.co.uk

The Parish Church of St Nicholas Burnage

Sunday Services

8.30 a.m. Eucharist (BCP)
10.30 a.m. Family Service and Eucharist

For Saints and other weekday Services, please see the Diary page inside the magazine.
Holy Baptism on 3rd Sunday of each month at 10.30 a.m.
Holy Communion is taken to the housebound by arrangement with the Minister.

Minister	Rev'd Canon Rachel Mann 0161 432 7009		
Curate	Rev'd Alan Simpson		
Churchwardens	Mrs Alison Mills (07932071977) Ms Jane Cawley (07745 392 374)	Organists	Mr Oliver Mills (07786 337087) Ms Elizabeth Bray
Assistant Wardens	Mr Fred Murphy Mrs Grace Manley Ms Jill Lomas Mrs Julie Crossley Mrs Louise Hollingsworth	Hon. Treasurer	Mr Andrew Mills (07802403991)
		Minutes Secretary	Mrs Ann Ackerman
		Deanery Synod	Mrs Grace Manley Mrs Christine Price
Elected on PCC	Mrs Lyn Rimmer, (electoral Roll Officer) Mrs Margaret Witty Mr Tony Witty Mrs Alison Cullen Ms Michaila Roberts Mrs Julie Bodgers Ms Nicola Naylor Mr Giles Elliott	Magazine Distribution	Mrs Brenda Maclese
		Missionary Secretary	Mrs Margaret Vessey

www.st-nicholas-church.org.uk
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