

# *The churches of St Modwen, St Aidan and St Paul Burton upon Trent*



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**NOVEMBER 2020  
NEWSLETTER**

<b><u>ST MODWEN'S</u></b>	WEDNESDAY	10.45am	Holy Communion
	SATURDAY	10.00am – 12 noon	Church open for personal prayer
	SUNDAY	11.00am	Service
<b><u>ST PAUL'S</u></b>	FRIDAY	12.30pm	Holy Communion
	SUNDAY	9.30am	Holy Communion Followed by social distancing coffee meet
<b><u>ST AIDAN'S</u></b>	SUNDAY	11.00am	Service

## **Parish Notes**

Good news all round – St Aidan's and St Paul's Churches are now able to open due to the Covid restrictions being lifted. The weekday Mass at St Paul's has resumed and will be on Fridays at 12.30pm.

Congratulations to Peter and Valerie, they are now great grandparents to Reggie James.

The Bishop of Lichfield, the Rt Rev Michael Iprgrave will be joining St Paul's on Advent Sunday, 29<sup>th</sup> November. St Aidan's are invited to join St Paul's at 9.30am or St Modwen's at 11.00am. There will not be a service at St Aidan's on that Sunday.

**CHRISTMAS SHOE BOXES** – deadline for the boxes is Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> November. For more information please see either Margaret Merry or Tom Foster.

## **Interim Minister's Report for the 2020 APCM**

### **St Aidan with St Paul, Burton-on-Trent**

Firstly, I would like to say a heartfelt thank you to you all for the warmth in which you received me at the beginning of March. From the moment I arrived, you have welcomed me into the Christian family here and I have felt most affirmed and comfortable in my role.

As you know, I came with some firm ideas of how I might best help you look to the future; how disastrous has been the COVID-19 pandemic with respect to this! My intention of getting groups of people together in order to work through some structured development exercises has not been possible. Nonetheless, faced with the given situation we have pulled together and coped well by being innovative whilst ensuring everyone's safety. We owe a special debt of gratitude to those who took a visible lead on so many practicalities in both churches not forgetting those whose valuable contributions were performed behind the scenes during this difficult time. Of course, at this time of an APCM, a general and corporate, BIG thank you is offered to everyone who has contributed so generously of their time and energy in keeping the churches going so effectively. Under the circumstances, I would be likely to miss out individuals if I tried to offer thanks by naming individuals so perhaps it is safer for me to keep this thank you general but by no means less genuine. I must add that it has been (and continues to be) a real delight working with the ministry team with which you are blessed; they have so much experience, commitment and grace.

My time in Burton will be extended to the end of the year by which time we shall hopefully have some better idea of the way ahead. Alas, this may not be as definitive as I had hoped nor as complete as you will have wished. At the beginning of October, a new diocesan programme, viz. 'Shaping for Mission' commenced. This programme has an anticipated duration of ten months. 'Shaping for Mission' is being offered as opportunity for the whole diocese, at deanery level, to suggest new structures which focus on mission and sustainability. In our case, the deanery of Tutbury is invited to be radical in its thinking on how its benefices might serve their people by bringing together more holistically its parishes, chaplaincies, schools, fresh expressions and partnerships. In view of the financial implications of the COVID-19 situation, most vacant benefices within each Episcopal Area have been placed on hold until the right way forward is clearer to see. Frustratingly, the Burton Three is caught up in this situation. The Lichfield Diocesan Board of Finance will take a hit of about £6 million over the next two years. This shortfall of income will be made up from diocesan reserves to give time for a new, leaner, structure to be

implemented. Across the whole diocese, the equivalent of some 30 stipendiary posts will have to be lost to balance the books by 2023. Savings will have to come from the central sector as well as parish deployment to achieve this target. It has to be stressed that the 'Shaping for Mission' programme is primarily about just that - mission: the financial savings, though necessary, are not the only driver. In reality, the shape and missional focus of deaneries has long needed addressing. COVID-19 has accelerated this need.

A timely and theological parallel can perhaps be found within Jesus' first miracle at Cana of Galilee. Our Lord's intervention was sought when the wine ran out but the party was far from finished. Mary demonstrated real faith in her son's ability to provide a solution and he did not disappoint. In fact, the wine they ultimately had to work with was not only copious enough but of a higher quality than what they started with. We are in need of our Lord to work a miracle for us in our situation but we will have to work with him in being faithful and without losing hope and confidence.

Recognising that the Burton Three have been in vacancy for more than twelve months already, one of my targets will be to use the remainder of my time with you in trying to get some early focus on this particular benefice but naturally it cannot be considered in isolation of the bigger picture. Let's see what can be achieved in an equitable way where strengths help weaknesses so that those we're called to serve are offered nothing less than they need. The prospect of yet more change is unsettling especially when financial savings on the same agenda as mission. Naturally, we are not alone in facing this reality; organisations within the wider community are very much in the same boat. The changes required to bring about sustainability and a church focused on its primary task, that is to make disciples, will demand sacrifices. These will, I'm sure, seem quite unequal and unfair to those who are asked to make them. It transpires that my sermon, preached on Trinity 17 addressing biblical justice, set some principles with which all of us comprising the deanery must work. I mentioned 'radical generosity', 'universal equality', 'life-giving advocacy' and 'responsibility proportional to ability and resource'. These concepts which underpin biblical justice will have to be reiterated many times I feel during the process on which we are now embarking.

Please be assured of my best intentions for you, the people of St Aidan and St Paul. You will have my prayers and good wishes long after I have moved to my next post.

**Prebendary Terence B Bloor**  
**Interim Minister**

**REPORTS FROM THE ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING OF ST AIDAN & ST PAUL**  
**21<sup>ST</sup> OCTOBER in ST PAUL'S CHURCH HALL**

**St Paul's Report -**

The PCC meet six times during the year to discuss various matters, make decisions and be updated on new guidelines.

In readiness the Parish Financial Accounts were presented and adopted. The treasurer informed us that despite a deficit in our finances the Parish Share had been paid.

We learnt of Stanley's intension to retire later in the year allowing five months for us to make preparations for the impending interregnum. Discussions with the Archdeacon took place in early December outlining the needs of the three churches. He also informed us of the decision to appoint an interim minister for six months for help and guidance producing a Mission Action Plan and a new Parish Profile.

Fund raising activities were scaled back to accommodate two important events. One being the ordination of Father Robin Trotter in June and Father Stanley's leaving celebrations. A group of the Burton Three traveled to Stoke Minster to offer support and on Sunday a gift was presented to Robin to mark the occasion. Father Stanley's retirement commenced with a Solemn Mass on the Feast of S Michael and All Angels. There followed a gathering of family, friends and members of the three congregations in St Pauls hall. A wonderful service and a great after party.

Some much needed church funds were raised with an impromptu Autumn Fair and an Advent breakfast after the Sunday service which proved very popular.

[From the 1st of December](#) onwards the Night Shelter took up residence for the third year to provide help and a secure place for the homeless to sleep during the winter months.

Safeguarding is given the highest priority. At every meeting Safeguarding appears on the agenda with a report from the Safeguarding officer about any incidents and new updates. Two of the three church wardens have completed their level three training with the other warden still waiting. PCC members will have to undertake the basic awareness course.

Our submitted Faculty application was approved for work improving the kitchen, hall and the west end of the church. Further grant applications are currently on hold due to the COVID 19 situation. Our thanks go to Chris Hill for all his tireless work in putting this application together; it is very much appreciated .

On the musical side our Corpus Christi service was greatly enhanced by the visiting Rolleston Choral Society. We were joined by the Tutbury Band at our annual service of Nine Lessons and Carols. A traditional start to Christmas for many who otherwise are infrequent churchgoers.

During the year we try to keep the church open on a regular basis to allow members of the local community to use the church for personal prayer, with volunteers supervising.

I'd like to thank everyone in whatever capacity you help whether it's with your time, money, support, attending PCCs and especially the supporting clergy for their ministry to our parish.

What the future holds for the Burton Three is unknown as yet but I encourage everyone to think positively and embrace any new decisions made that move our churches forward into the future.

Sue Ganley  
Church warden

## **Fabric report 2019 – St Paul's**

The church building is in quite reasonable condition but there are some growing concerns.

The cellar has been flooded several times this year to varying degrees; and water has damaged the base of the boilers and burners. We have a new flood water pump but still need manual work to clear the cellar of any flood. For the first time this damp has affected the north entry area as well as the cellar with mould growth on doors etc.

The lack of reliable heating is a continuing problem. There is a water leak somewhere in the system which has not been found. The specialist heating engineer visited and rediscovered some poor pipework but not the location of the leak. His recommendation was to replace the entire system.

While most roof areas are in good condition the tower roof is leaking due to failed leadwork, and this is a risk to the tower roof timbers. We have had a visit from the specialist contractor, but he has not given a quote for the work yet. The north low roof in the nave is uneven and probably needs clearing of moss.

The organ has been tuned and minor repairs as usual; damp and lack of heat will be an on-going issue.

Work to replace the kitchen is likely to be somewhat in the future; so we have tidied up the area by removing old wall cupboards and shelves, and reorganising the furniture. This is a great improvement at no cost. The hall, kitchen and windows have been thoroughly cleaned. The kitchen cupboard doors have been refreshed paintwork. The YMCA helped pay for a new sink in the toilet, new taps in the kitchen hand wash basin and changes to the plumbing to give us hot water on all these sinks.

Most maintenance work continues to be by volunteers, who routinely clear gutters and drains, fix flooring and do other minor jobs. The garden grass is mowed professionally, but other garden work is by volunteers as well. Many thanks to those who help in any way. It could be a challenging year or two.

JWW Mar 2020

## **ST AIDAN'S REPORT**

We continue to have our Sunday Services and thanks to Father Philip, Father Hamish and Father Robin we are still able to have our regular Sunday Mass. We do appreciate all that they have done for us since the Reverend Monkhouse's retirement.

We continue to have our monthly Coffee Morning (1st Saturday on each Month), which seem to go from strength to strength. We have a regular band of people who man the stalls. Many, many thanks to them all, it is a good social time and out reach to many. In the last year we raised about £2,500. Thank you to everyone who gave and bought it back again!

We have commenced our training for Safe Guarding, with two courses carried out on line and will be attending the next course at Lichfield.

## **Church Building**

This last year we had the cellar cleaned out and drained of water, but the damp in the Church on the south side of the building is still a problem. We had a leak under the sink in the Vestry, that was repaired in February. We try to maintain the gardens to a satisfactory level, with the help from a local gardener, and Tom Foster for mowing the grass. We appreciate the work they do and would like to thank them for their help. Our aim is still to have a Toilet at St. Aidan's and possibly a facility to be able to make a hot drink.

Lynda Cooper      Church Warden      March 2020

## **DEANERY SYNOD REPORT by courtesy of the Deanery Synod Secretary**

The Deanery Synod consists of clergy and elected lay representatives from each church in Tutbury Deanery, which includes all the Anglican churches in an area stretching from Barton under Needwood to Tutbury, Hanbury, Draycott and Hoar Cross as well as the churches within Burton, other than those in Stapenhill and Winshill which are in Derby Diocese. The Deanery Synod meets four times per year at different locations around the Deanery.

Following discussions in the latter part of 2018 about how Deanery Synod could be more effective, a new format for meetings has been adopted; routine business items have been streamlined and one meeting each year will focus on each of Discipleship, Vocation and Evangelism, plus one primarily for worship and fellowship.

The first meeting of 2019 was held at St Saviour's in February and focussed on Vocation with a presentation from a member of the Diocesan Vocations Team on how the Diocese is developing lay ministry, the revised Reader training programme and future plans for training and authorisation for a variety of other lay ministries.

The June meeting was held at Rangemore and focussed on Evangelism. We considered how it is not about giving a detailed explanation of Christian doctrine, but rather about living out our Christian faith in our daily lives, loving people as God's children and bringing them to a place where God can speak to them. We shared suggestions for helping newcomers and visitors for baptisms etc feel welcomed and how we might build on existing connections.

At this meeting we also had a collection of food for the YMCA Food Bank, who had recently put out an urgent appeal for supplies.

In September we met at Newborough, for a service of Evening Prayer followed by a bring and share meal, giving an opportunity to get to know other members and find out more about what other churches are doing.

In November, the focus was on Discipleship at a special meeting at St Paul's with the Bishop of Lichfield, Rt Rev Michael Iprgrave and Dr Lindsey Hall, who led a session on 'How can deaneries grow disciples?' looking at ways we can learn together, share together as a wider fellowship, and work together in practical service.

## **TREASURER'S REPORT – Mike Mear & Tracey Pullen**

### **Finances:**

- a. St Paul's – 2019 has seen the deficit from last year turn into a surplus of almost £4000. This has only been achieved by two generous legacies plus generous donations in the church wall safe. Again this year Income from Planned Giving has dropped but is compensated by a rise in cash offerings and donations. Other income - this is mainly contra amounts some of which is due to collections for gifts etc. to be forwarded. We have paid our Parish Share and although it has meant a colder church, services, i.e. Gas, Electricity and water costs are down. A large extra expense was the cost of the faculty at £3600. The rise in organ payments is due to organist payments for which we have, for many years, not made weekly payments.
- b. St Aidan's – Tracey Pullen gave a report – overall expenditure was down compared to 2018 (largely due to the reduction in parish share contribution for 2019); general utilities were slightly less due to a review of the tariff (costs have been reduced enabling a warmer and inviting church); giving and plate contributions combined is down by nearly £400 – fewer planned givers; fundraising continues to be strong – the coffee mornings never fail to generate much needed funds (thanks to Beryl Eaton & Lynda Cooper for their contribution); no major repairs have been carried out; the reviewed parish share has increased to £6,768 (£564 a month), Tracey has written to Lichfield saying that the parish will endeavour to pay the full share but to the predicted budget for 2020 it is unlikely; ended the year in the "black" but funds are still limited and repairs to the church are needed which could lead the parish with little or no money in the bank accounts. Sue Ganley thanked Tracey for her report.

- c. St Aidan & St Paul - The main Parish Account for 2019 looks healthier than last year even though we have paid the Parish Share plus £237 arrears. We will never clear the arrears and for 2020 the actual share has risen, so realistically it may be difficult to clear the required annual Parish amount of £19,921 between the 2 churches. We cannot thank enough all who give most generously through finance and also time. We are a growing Parish but, alas not a growing congregation, so to achieve the 2019 figures is an achievement. Thank you again!

**Reserves:**

The PCC recognises that money should only be kept in reserve for specific reasons – whilst Scripture clearly indicates that we should not hoard it is also clear that sensible planning for known events and responsibly for others is important. The following factors were taken into account in producing the Reserves Policy...

The PCC holds restricted reserves of approximately £97k against which we receive interest. The other investment reserves of £13k are being held for emergency requirements; their use would naturally deplete interest gained. Unrestricted bank accounts contain £20k for which two months standard expenditure (felt reasonable to hold in reserve) would necessitate about £8k.

The present COVID-19 pandemic has seen reduced income and therefore our ability to pay the parish share which, together with utility expenses (gas, electricity and water), insurance & routine maintenance amounts to about £4500 per month.

**Future Vision:**

It is somewhat unfortunate that the Interim Minister's role to help the PCC to develop and plan according to its missional strengths has been severely disrupted by the COVID-19 pandemic. The initial lockdown began within three weeks of Terry's arrival in Burton. The intention in getting groups of people together in order to work through a programme of development exercises has not been possible. Furthermore, at the beginning of October, a new diocesan programme, viz. 'Shaping for Mission' commenced. This programme has a targeted duration of ten months and will afford an opportunity for Tutbury Deanery to suggest a new deanery structure which focuses on mission and sustainability. The deanery is invited to be radical in its thinking on how its benefices might serve their people by bringing together more holistically its parishes, chaplaincies, schools, fresh expressions and partnerships. In view of the financial implications of the COVID-19 situation, most vacant benefices within the Stafford Episcopal Area have been placed on hold until the way forward is clearer to see. Frustratingly, the Burton Three has fallen into this category which means that any statement on its future vision is not so easy to define; there are too many unknowns just now. This doesn't mean that we cannot continue to discern the missional opportunities which apply particularly to the Burton Three due to its setting and given resources. The diocesan programme is intended to move along at a brisk pace and Terry will be pushing for some priority within it to establish the implications (if any) for the Burton Three. Naturally, it is in the interest of the benefice to develop a plan for its future as soon as possible but this must now be done in conjunction with the Area Staff Team (Bishop, Archdeacon and Associate Archdeacon), the Rural Dean and a 'Shaping for Mission' team which the latter will assemble. Terry anticipates remaining with the Burton Three in his interim role until the New Year which will hopefully give sufficient time for some clarity to develop.

ELECTION OF CHURCHWARDENS: John Woolley, Sue Ganley & Lynda Cooper

ELECTION OF PCC: Peter & Valerie Cammack, Maureen Woolley, Margaret Hall & Beryl Eaton

ELECTION OF DEANERY SYNOD REPRESENTATIVES: Tom Foster, Chris Hill & Yasmin Johnson



From Stanley, November 2020

## **Take responsibility**

You might remember Terry Waite, adviser to a former Archbishop of Canterbury, who was captured and kept in solitary confinement for over three years in Lebanon. He speaks with some authority about how to survive in difficult times.

He has in no uncertain terms told us to stop being so pathetically wuss (my words not his) about dealing with the privations arising from governments' efforts to stop the spread of covid. We should stop moaning and be constructive about organising our lives. We could read more, be creative, use technology to chat to people. However bad we think it might be, it has to get a lot worse before it compares with being holed up in solitary confinement in Beirut for years. In short, we should take responsibility for ourselves and not expect someone else to come along and sort us out.

Amen, amen. It applies to every aspect of life, not least health.

Actions have consequences. If you stuff your face with cream cakes from the rising of the sun unto the going down of the same, don't be surprised if you get fat, develop diabetes, have a heart attack, and suffer from joint disease because your joints weren't expecting to have to support a ten ton truck.

Part of the blame lies with the NHS—or rather the way we have allowed it to develop. Having it as a safety net is one thing—and a very good thing. But now we expect it to deal with the consequences of our stupidity. We think that we have a right to feel as good at 70 as we did at 30. We refuse to take responsibility for ourselves in the expectation that the NHS will sort it out for us. It's a bit like praying to a sky-pixie to sort out problems that we have caused. Indeed, it is exactly like that. The Dalai Lama has pointed out how silly it is to pray that God would sort out our problems: "humans have created this problem, and now we are asking God to solve it. It is illogical. God would say, solve it yourself because you created it in the first place."

And so with health.

Make a weekend visit to a casualty department (after covid, if it ever ends). Wade through the vomit on the floor caused by alcohol overconsumption. Is this what the NHS is for? Why should doctors be non-judgmental? When I was a teenager, my GP told me I was too fat and should do something about it. He was right – and I did.

None of this is easy to manage. Some of us eat to make us feel temporarily better about ourselves. At least the food loves us even if nobody else does. Some of us have genetic predispositions to certain conditions and there is little we can do other than manage them. Life is difficult. We are at the mercy of our obsessions and addictions – and don't kid yourself that you don't have any because we all do. Here's a list.

Nicotine/tobacco. Alcohol. Exercise, Porn. Golf (I'm not old enough to play golf, but I'm told that it's popular amongst the brain dead). Recreational drugs (cannabis is less dangerous than alcohol; cannabis rice krispie cakes are delicious). Religion: ecstatic trances of mystics are comparable to orgasm, and for some people religion is merely a prop like smoking or drugs or booze to help them get through the day. Some people are addicted to money, power, controlling others, pleasing people, wanting to change people, gambling, internet, social media, books, buying stuff you don't need, gossiping, criticizing, moaning, being miserable. We're all addicted to something—several things in my case. Look at your addictions. If you think you haven't any, you deceive yourself. We are all in recovery from something.

You hear people compare themselves to others: "if she can eat it, why can't I?" The sad truth is that as with everything else, our bodies and our metabolisms are unpredictable. We are not all the same. Swallow a handful of paracetamol and see what happens. Some of you will have no detectable symptoms; some of you will die. Or covid: some people have mild or no symptoms, some have serious symptoms that last ages; some die.

And all of you will die sooner or later. The longer you live, the more likely you are to die. Life is not fair. Life is uncertain. Get over it.

One of the first things that medical students do is study a dead body. It is one of the rituals that defines them as trainee doctors. All their patients will die, and so will they. As a priest, at every funeral I took I pointed to the coffin and said “every single one of you is going to go in a box like that, and it might be later today, so get your affairs in order, make peace with those you need to, and if there’s something you need to do, do it now. And stop moaning”. I had more complimentary remarks as a result of that stark advice than ever I expected.

My reading of Scripture tells me that we are to be responsible for ourselves. You are no good to your neighbour if you don’t look after yourself. The NHS encourages some of us NOT to take responsibility for ourselves, instead remaining as infants expecting mammy or daddy (NHS staff) to deal with the consequences of our idiocy. You could say that the NHS has become UNChristian in tolerating irresponsibility.



#### AN UPDATE FROM YMCA

I just wanted to provide you with an update on the YMCAs position with the Night Shelter. Can you please advise any further friends at St Paul’s and we are writing to all the volunteers next week.

Following the latest Government guidelines, a night shelter, as operated in previous years, will not take place locally this winter. Provision to assist those who are homeless is now being managed under the government’s Next Steps Accommodation Programme.

YMCA Burton will continue to provide its immediate needs and ongoing support services to those who are street homeless and to individuals who are threatened with homelessness. We will continue to provide the Housing Navigator Service, and the Homelessness Outreach Service, in partnership with East Staffordshire Borough Council. Please contact us on the Outreach hotline number if you see someone who you think may be homeless and in need of help – 0800 130 3415.

If you would still like to volunteer this year for us here at YMCA Burton, we are seeking volunteer help in our retail shops and our food bank. Please contact us for further information if you are interested.’

Thank you very much for your continued support during these difficult times.

Many thanks

Paul Laffey



*"They shall not grow old, as we that are left grow old,  
Age shall not weary them nor the years condemn,  
At the going down of the sun and in the morning,  
We shall remember them"*

## A Prayer for Remembrance

Ever-living God,  
We remember those whom you have  
gathered from the storm of war  
into the peace of your presence;  
may that same peace calm our fears,  
bring justice to all peoples  
and establish harmony among the nations,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.



## THE RUSSIAN CONTAKION OF THE DEPARTED

Give rest, O Christ,  
To thy servants with thy Saints  
Where sorrow and pain are no more  
Neither sighing but life everlasting.  
Thou only art immortal,  
The Creator and Maker of man  
And we are mortal, formed of the earth  
And unto death shall we return  
For so thou didst ordain  
When thou createdst me saying  
Dust thou art and unto dust shalt thou return  
All we go down to the dust  
And weeping o'er the grave  
We make our song  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

## Not just a name....

Your country needs you Lord Kitchener said  
We need brave men to defend our land  
For active service in Belgium and France  
For missions that have been strategically planned!

John Albert Cotton just wanted to serve  
To fight for his country with honour and pride  
He had little concept of what lay ahead  
The thousands of young men, like him, who had died.

The recruiting Sarge bellowed "are you 18 lad"?  
John replied "yes sir". No proof ever seen  
He'd given his name as James Victor Marsh  
Because John Albert Cotton had just turned sixteen.

John was conscripted with no further questions  
No-one at home would know what he had done  
There were no goodbyes with parcels of fruit cake  
No thoughts of a mother crying out for her son.

As grey mists lifted across the horizon  
The shores of Belgium became bold and clear  
Some men said prayers for all they'd left behind  
Whilst others used silence to cover their fear.

The train filled quickly with newly trained soldiers  
Going to war for the very first time  
To join fellow comrade in long narrow trenches  
That stretched on for miles across the front line.

Hour upon hour and day after day  
Just constant bombardment of enemy fire  
Men who were weakened by fever and sickness  
Meant risks to the healthy were all the more higher

Then as the messenger filed through the trenches  
Delivering the news that made every heart stop  
In twenty four hours on the sound of the bugle  
Half of the troops would go over the top.

John put himself to be first into action  
This is the moment his war had begun  
The man to his left was shaking and weeping  
And clutching a picture of his wife and son

The noise of the gunfire and shrill cries of pain  
As men fell in hundreds their bodies entwined  
The smell of explosives, burning and death  
This wasn't the glory that John hoped he'd find

The name on his headstone reads John Victor Marsh  
Aged 19 years of whom no-one had known  
The boy laid to rest there was John Albert Cotton  
Aged 16 years and had not yet full grown.

*Fenella Richardson*

## For all the hours

Tune: Sine Nomine (For all the Saints)

For all the hours, we've been in Covid mode;  
Learnt all the rules, of which there's been a load;  
We've struggled onwards, such an uphill road;  
*When will we be normal? Let us please be normal!*

For all the weeks, we've listened to the flack;  
Made one step forward, and then made two more back;  
Live like true Britons – have we lost the knack?  
*When will we be normal? Let us please be normal!*

For all the months, our lives have been on hold;  
Through weeks of summer, now through weeks of cold;  
Let's hope for better, let's be brave and bold.  
*When will we be normal? Let us please be normal!*

Next year is looming, let us hope and pray;  
Boldly go forward is the only way;  
We struggle onward, to a better day;  
*When will we be normal? Let us please be normal!*

Colin Dawson

## A NEW QUIZ SHEET FOR 2020

# Water under the Bridge

Thanks to St John Skelton and family for compiling the new quiz sheet for 2020. Due to the Covid situation, the quiz will take a different format this year. Not wanting to disappoint people and to carry on with our tradition it has been decided that the quiz will be available by email and on paper copies. We are relying on people to make a donation to the church for the sheet. Payments can either be by cheque or directly into our bank account. Unfortunately there will not be any prizes this year, but you can still enjoy the challenge. More details to follow.



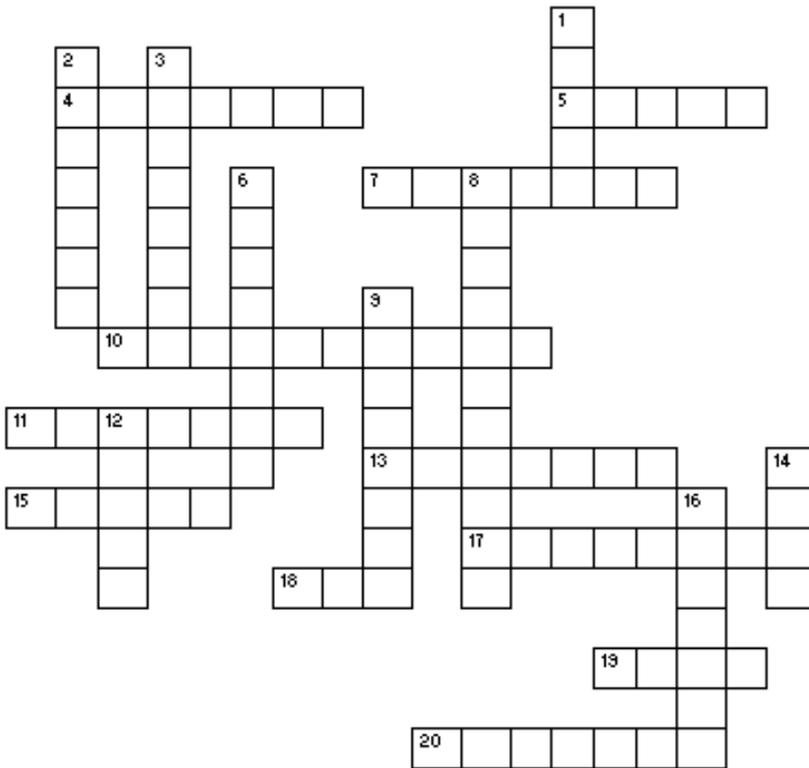
**Puzzle time...**

**Answers to October's Saints crossword**

- Across:** 1. Agatha      4. Justina      6. Ursula      8. George      9. Michael      11. Christopher  
 12. Matthias      13. Bernard      14. Sebastian      16. Cecilia      17. Vincent      18. Clement  
**Down:** 2. Ambrose      3. Laurence      5. Hugh      7. Peter      10. Dominic      11. Catherine  
 13. Beatrix      15. John

**SANCTUARY CROSSWORD by John Woolley**

All the answers are connected to the Sanctuary. Answers next month.



**Across**

- 4      saints galore on the wall  
 5      emblem of Christianity  
 7      book stand  
 10      house or tent  
 11      cup  
 13      painting or decoration at the back  
 15      plate  
 17      covered cup  
 18      contains sanctified wafers  
 19      covering for the house  
 20      place to sit

**Down**

- 1      recess for a saint  
 2      decorative textile  
 3      shelf or step  
 6      south side table  
 8      light holder  
 9      contains breads  
 12      surface for sacrifice  
 14      white or red for the reserved sacrament  
 16      washbasin

THANKS TO ALL WHO CONTRIBUTED TO THE NEWSLETTER