

St Mark's Parish Magazine October 2025



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#### **Your Views & Contributions**

Next issue will be available from 30 October 2025 All contributions to the editor by Thursday 16 October 2025

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#### LETTER FROM THE VICAR

#### Dear Friends

As the seasons shift and autumn colours begin to brighten our hedgerows and gardens, October brings with it a spirit of thankfulness and reflection. The harvest season reminds us of God's generosity and our call to share that abundance with



others. Thank you to everyone who contributes so generously to our Harvest Festival – whether through decorations, gifts for the foodbank, or helping to prepare the church.

October is often a month of contrasts. The warmth of summer has faded, and the days grow shorter, yet the beauty of autumn surrounds us in rich colours and fruitful harvests. It is a time when creation seems to remind us both of God's abundant generosity and of the cycles of change that are woven into all our lives.

On the First Sunday this month 5<sup>th</sup> October, we give thanks for the harvest. As we share with those in need – through foodbanks, charitable giving, and acts of kindness – we live out the truth that all good gifts come from God and are entrusted to us for the good of all.

Later in the month, we turn our thoughts towards remembrance. The festivals of All Saints' and All Souls' invite us to reflect on the great cloud of witnesses who have gone before us – the saints who inspire us, and the loved ones we hold in our hearts. In these services, joy and sorrow sit alongside one another, as faith reminds us that death does not have the final word, and that God's love holds us all. Just as autumn prepares the earth for spring, loss can prepare the heart for hope. Death is never the end – God turns every ending into a beginning.

As the evenings draw in, let's not look back with longing for the warmer, brighter days of summer, but remember that every season has its purpose — God works through them all. May this season be for each of us a time of prayer, reflection, and quiet trust. May we learn from the beauty of autumn to let go of what has passed, to give thanks for the present, and to look with hope towards what is to come.

With every blessing

Monto



#### **CHURCH NEWS**

On Sunday 28 September, St. Mark's gathered to celebrate and give thanks for the remarkable service of our organist, Terrence Hancock, who retired after many years of faithful dedication. Terrence played his final service at 10am, filling the church one last time with the music that has enriched our worship for over 49 years.

Following the service, the congregation joined together in the hall for refreshments, where there was time to share memories, express our gratitude and acknowledgment the invaluable role Terrence has played in the life of our church community. His commitment and talent have blessed countless services and occasions, and his presence at the organ will be greatly missed.

We wish Terrence every happiness in his retirement and thank him most warmly for the gift of music he has so generously shared with us.



Terrence Hancock
49 years service as
Organist of this Church
from 1976 to 2025



#### **Generosity Week 5 – 12 October 2025**

The Church of England Generosity Week takes place during Harvest season so that as we thank God for his generosity to us, we also have the opportunity to think about how we might respond to that generosity. At St Mark's we rejoice in all the different ways we are able to gather together – at Sunday services, Messy Church, Iona, SMART, Community Lunch, Home Group. God is with us as we meet in his name in our beautiful church that was built in 1860 and our church hall with its well-equipped kitchen which benefits not only our congregation but the wider community.

To sustain this life, in 2025 we are spending £17,760 per month on average:

- £1,045 on worship and ministry
- £4,259 to keep our buildings safe, warm and welcoming
- £2,217 on administration
- £236 on outreach and mission
- £10,003 on our share of clergy costs for our parish pledge

We are currently receiving only £16,954 each month on average:

- £4,792 from planned giving from 62 donors
- £2,527 from collections at services & other donations including Annual Giving
- £1,527 from Gift Aid recovered
- £8,108 from hall lettings and other income

St Mark's does not receive national funding or government support but is sustained by your generous giving.

In this generosity week we are hoping to increase our planned giving by around £2,500 per month to cover not only this shortfall but to continue to build up reserves to replace ageing boilers and carry out work on the foyer and hall. Please consider the options below as we ask you to review your giving prayerfully.

#### How much shall I give?

The bible teaches proportional giving – giving back to God a percentage of your income. The Church of England challenges us to give 5% to our church and 5% to charity. (Around £40 per month for an income of £10,000) The average amount given by our current donors is over £75 a month and this table shows how we could increase our monthly income by £2,700 before gift aid if for example 10 people set up a new gift of £50 (£500), 10 increased giving by £10 (£100) etc.

230 (2300),	TO Increased giving t	<i>y</i> 210 (2100) ctc.	
No of	Setting up a new	Increasing	Extra Monthly Income for St
people	monthly gift of	monthly gift by	Mark's
10	£50		£500
10	£75		£750
10	£100		£1,000
10		£10	£100
10		£15	£150
10		£20	£200
TOTAL			£2,700

#### What steps can you take?

If you currently give via the collection or card machine could you move to regular giving with the Parish Giving Scheme (PGS)? This is administered outside of the church so reduces administration for our volunteers and St Mark's receives 100% of your donation plus any eligible gift aid promptly.

Please scan the QR code to access the PGS page for St Mark's Reigate



If you are already a regular giver could you increase your gift by 5% or 10%. Or could you consider making a one-off gift or leaving a legacy in your will?

Please speak to Mel Crighton (<u>treasurer@stmarksreigate.co.uk</u>) or any of the PCC members if you need any more information.



#### **NEWS FROM THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND**

The Bishop of Southwark, The Rt Revd Christopher Chessun, has announced the appointment of The Revd Dr Geoff Dumbreck as the next Archdeacon of Reigate.

Geoff is currently Vicar of the South Croydon Benefice and Area Dean of Croydon Central. In early 2025, he served as Acting Archdeacon of Croydon. He will take up this role in January 2026, succeeding the Rt Revd Moira Astin, who was appointed as Bishop of Crediton in the Diocese of Exeter in July.

"Geoff is a person of great pastoral skill and tremendous theological insight — and I am delighted to make this appointment," Bishop Christopher said. "The Reigate



Archdeaconry is one of the most distinctive parts of our diocese, with areas of rural beauty as well as urban and suburban communities. It's a place of great contrasts, great beauty – and great opportunity for mission and ministry. I have no doubt that Geoff will be a blessing to us all in his new role."

Geoff grew up in Surrey and studied theology at the University of Cambridge, where he studied for his PhD before training for ordained ministry at Ripon College Cuddesdon. He served his curacy at the Parish of the Ascension, Cambridge, before becoming Assistant Chaplain at Peterhouse, the oldest college in Cambridge University. As a parish priest, he has sought to build strong links with his local community, serving as governor of a primary school and as trustee of the South Croydon Day Centre.

"It's a great privilege to have been appointed as the next Archdeacon of Reigate," said Geoff. "I'm excited to get to know the parishes and communities of East Surrey and Sutton and look forward to working in partnership with them as we share the love of God, making Christ known in our towns and villages. I have loved my time in South Croydon and will miss the community here – but I'm delighted to be staying in the Croydon Episcopal Area, ministering alongside Bishop Rosemarie, Archdeacon Greg, and the rest of the Area team."

"As Acting Archdeacon, Geoff has already demonstrated a deep commitment to our parishes and to working collaboratively with our clergy and lay people," said The Rt Revd Dr Rosemarie Mallett, Bishop of Croydon. "I'm delighted that he'll be staying in the Croydon Episcopal Area and look forward to working with him."

In his spare time, Geoff enjoys cooking for friends, spending time with his dog (a two-year-old Jack Russell called Edna), and enjoying music. He is currently trying to teach himself the ukulele. Geoff owns a narrowboat, which he keeps in Surrey. He says, "I find slowing down to 4 mph gives me space to think and to notice the wonders of God's creation."



#### **GUIDE DOGS**

Please come along on Saturday 25 October from 12pm to the Guide Dogs Fundraising Sale at St Mark's Hall. There are still some tables available – please contact Kim:

kim.nicholls@guidedogs.org.uk

Did you know that it costs over £100,000 to support a Guide Dog throughout its life?

Come and see Guide Dog Puppies and support this worthy charity.



#### **Post Globalisation**

I recall taking my car in for repair some years ago. I was told it could not be done till the next day. That may seem to be unsatisfactory, but it was a distinct improvement on the past when spares had to come from somewhere in England. I was further told that the spares would come from Germany and would arrive during the night for certain. I later I heard that there was a large central warehouse which resulted in lower costs of holding stock in every garage.

The merits of Globalisation towards the end of the twentieth century were sung largely on the basis that specialisation and international competition would enhance and cheapen total output to the benefit of all, and it was even claimed that this interdependence would make war between most countries much less likely. Some in this country were concerned at our already considerable dependence on imports of food and basics requirements and found it difficult to envisage that expansion of trade would benefit us. However, there was a significantly increase in financial services.

Our concerns came to nothing. Trade did flourish. The only snag was that it was implicit in such change that those more adaptable and with raw materials would benefit the most.

It all came to an end in the early twenty first century. China had steamed ahead and more of the western world found it difficult to compete. So, what the UK had suffered with the breakdown of empire after the world wars was now experienced elsewhere with consequential loss of jobs, which was ignored by governments. So now labour depended on poor jobs in service industries directed mainly towards the better off.

Subsequently quantitative easing directed towards improving bank reserves against runs, when it should have been directed to improving investment in the real economy, funded share dealing helping the rise in share prices which left the real economies struggled with lack of capital and real wages deteriorating. Larger companies took the opportunity of inflation to widen their holdings in the market and supply chains. Such quasi monopolies realised there was more profit in manipulating prices than spending on efficiency.

In the East more went towards improving standards of living. Cars replaced bicycles. Asset values rose and those engaged in share markets prospered so that wealth grew rapidly whilst economies foundered through lack of real investment. (Most stock exchange deals are on second hand goods, issued shares, so do not generate real and rewards only those buying and selling).

So, we reach the present day. China has its economic problems but real wages there and in other eastern countries have risen creating demand for products previously

bound for Europe and the States. Competition for essential goods further increased inflation along with wars.

#### Who to blame?

In some parts of the world economic reverses together with the effects there of climate change which in turn led to unrest and wars, also displaced many citizens some of whom had committed themselves to the wrong winners as the West retired. Meanwhile in the West, with ageing populations giving rise to shortages of labour, immigrants were welcome by governments and even encouraged by granting more work-based visas to both maintain health requirements cheaply and support labour shortages elsewhere.

These conditions provided a ready-made area of particular use to populists to decorate their shop. At first governments responded to illegal "boat People" but enhanced the issue of visas. When this finally hit the news the needs of the populists were generously fed.

Belatedly governments responded by accepting the premise that numbers of migrants were too high to be sustained and began to tighten the rules. However, the background and lack of trust did not defer the new activists. Wars for historic reasons complicated the issues and enhanced immigration further. Western society began to change. The principles enshrined in the ECHR were now an obstacle to current requirements for controlling immigration. With trust low to negligible the old values of shielding victims of oppression fell on deaf ears. Nothing except a complete halt to immigration would do and recently, following the lead in the States, strong deportation policies are promised so that even of those who have been in countries for many years and who are absorbed with families and contributing to the economy and paying tax, are to go.

#### What next?

It seems probable that populist minorities controlling government will emerge in many countries. The rise of Hitler from his one election gives a play book now for the guidance of would-be dictators and even supported by many who are opposed to such authoritarian rule. However, the lesson of history is that dictatorship rarely arise by elected support. Often, they are significant but vocal minorities.

Once in power, as we are witnessing across the pond, gradualism is the key with the usual targets of controlling the legal system, (as attempted in Israel) ,the ending of immigration; even the encouragement of a higher birth rate amongst the conformists; the purging of holders of contrary views in the armed services; the reduction of freedom of the press; the encouragement of similar movements in other countries and so on. The conversion of followers for which Hitler formed the brown shirts and Hitler Youth helped his persecution of the Jews, is too late.

But instead, it is sufficient to employ, at cost greater than the military budgets of most nations, recruits to carry through the arrest and deportation of suspect immigrants. Such a force would be useful later in wider repressions. Attempts will be made to cause other countries to follow a similar the pattern. In fact, I was surprised to see that worldwide, already other forms of government than true democracy well outnumber those with proper democracies. At some point the strength of the populist is finally recognised. Too late to act then.

Such governments will have new targets probably mainly directed to the interests of the dictator, and maintaining him in power. Traditional counters such as market forces and interest rates will be supplanted by the needs of the executive. What we can be sure of is that power will replace principles and whims substituted for policy. All will be directed towards sustaining those in power and serving their interests.

In Hitler's case his conquest of surrounding nations was successful to a point, but his ultimate fall was due to the inability to deal with the remnants of freedom and the rise of Communism in Russia. Such alternatives are not on the horizon. The future must remain most uncertain.

**Harry Ingram** 



#### **Prayer for October 2025**

Dear Lord,

In this autumn season, when the harvest is gathered, we thank You for Your provision for us. We have so much, and yet we see terrible images of starving children on our televisions and smartphones and in our newspapers.

Lord, prompt us to do what we can to change things, whether that is by writing a letter or email to someone with influence, or by contributing in some way to aid agencies.

Lord, we ask You to touch the hearts of those leaders of nations whose decisions cause such hunger and suffering. Soften those hard hearts, Lord.

Fill them with Your compassion. May there be a new harvest of love – and a kinder world.

In Jesus' name, Amen.

**Daphne Kitching** 

#### **CALENDAR FOR OCTOBER 2025**

Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> October 9.00am Prayer Meeting

3.25pm T-Time Tales

Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> October 12.45pm Holy Communion (Iona) in Church

2.00pm SMART

**Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> October** Harvest Festival

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) – in Church 10.00am Sung Eucharist – in Church and Online

4.00pm All-age Harvest Service

5.00pm Harvest Supper

Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> October 9.00am Prayer Meeting

3.25pm T-Time Tales

Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> October 12.45pm Holy Communion (Iona) in Church

**Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> October** 17<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) – in Church 10.00 am Sung Eucharist – in Church and Online

1.00pm Community Lunch

Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> October 9.00am Prayer Meeting

3.25pm T-Time Tales

Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> October 12.45pm Holy Communion (Iona) in Church

Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> October St Luke the Evangelist

8.00pm Social Dance in the Hall

**Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> October 18<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity** 

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) – in Church 10.00am Sung Eucharist – in Church and Online

4.00pm Messy Church

6.30pm Confirmation Service

Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> October 9.00am Prayer Meeting

3.25pm T-Time Tales

Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> October 12.45pm Holy Communion (Iona) in Church

**Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> October Bible Sunday** 

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) – in Church 10.00am Sung Eucharist – in Church and Online

4.00pm Taizé Prayer

Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> October 9.00am Prayer Meeting

Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> October 12.45pm Holy Communion (Iona) in Church

Please remember that planned services are subject to change at short notice so please check the details on our website or with the Parish Office.

#### **CALENDAR FOR NOVEMBER 2025**

**Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> November** All Saints' Sunday

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) – in Church 10.00am Sung Eucharist – in Church and Online

4.00pm Family Service – in Church 6.00pm All Souls' Memorial Service

Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> November 9.00am Prayer Meeting

Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> November 12.45pm Holy Communion (Iona) in Church

2.00pm SMART

**Sunday 9th November 3rd Sunday before Advent – Remembrance** 

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) – in Church

9.45am Sung Eucharist – in Church and Online

10.55am Act of Remembrance at the War Memorial

1.00pm Community Lunch

Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> November 9.00am Prayer Meeting

3.25pm T-Time Tales

Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> November 12.45pm Holy Communion (Iona) in Church Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> November 8.00pm Social Ballroom and Latin Dance

**Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> November 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday before Advent** 

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) – in Church 10.00 am Sung Eucharist – in Church and Online

4.00pm Messy Church

Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> November 9.00am Prayer Meeting

3.25pm T-Time Tales

Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> November 12.45pm Holy Communion (Iona) in Church

Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> November Christ the King

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) – in Church 10.00am Sung Eucharist – in Church and Online

4.00pm Taizé Prayer

Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> November 9.00am Prayer Meeting

3.25pm T-Time Tales

Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> November 12.45pm Holy Communion (Iona) in Church

Sunday 30th November 1st Sunday of Advent

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) – in Church 10.00am Sung Eucharist – in Church and Online

Please remember that planned services are subject to change at short notice so please check the details on our website or with the Parish Office.



#### **Autumn Leaves**

We can take joy in the beauty of the trees in Autumn, arrayed in such lovely leaves. But are the trees sad to lose their beautiful leaves or can they see there will be new ones to come? Even with autumn showers we can glory in the occasional rainbow, as I did just recently.

But these wonders of nature also remind us of Winter to come. The end of the year can be bleak with rain, wind and storms, when we wrap up and so often keep inside our houses.

However, just as we can look back to the glorious days of Summer, so we can look back that bit further this year to think of the Spring which is to come next year with all its magic of new leaves, flowers and joy.

Are our individual lives following a similar pattern?

In the Autumn of our lives are we seeing the reality of our strengths and abilities waning, our hair changing color or reducing, and our skin wrinkling. If we can spread joy to others, we can still be positive and beautiful in our own way.

However ultimately, we all will come to the winter of our lives, ill health and to us all, eventually, death.

However, as Christians, like those trees in the wood, we can have the hope and expectation of new life in the "Spring" following our Resurrection from the dead. At the first Easter the disciples did not believe Jesus would rise from the dead. However, to their enormous surprise he did, a Spring after his Winter death.

At first, he was able then to spend some time with them physically whereas now we can only spend time with him in our thoughts and prayers in this life. What joy can we all look forward to thereafter to be in his kingdom, a new life?

**Ian Archer** 



#### **Cards**

Many of us play cards with family or friends. I was in trouble at school when some friends and I were trying to play bridge and card playing was banned at school in case we were betting.

On most occasions when playing cards, we have to pay attention to the suit – Spades, Hearts, Diamonds or Clubs.

If we had to be linked to just one of these suits in life, which would it be? I expect all four of these apply to everyone of us at some time or other. Most of us have to do a job to survive in life and so spades, which are necessary for hard work in a garden, might point to whatever that work is, or was.

Diamonds are said to be "a girl's best friend" and we might all seek for more wealth at some time in our lives, although, if obtained, we hope that wealth will be shared with others.

Clubs, whether for football, tennis or other reasons may draw us to them, but hopefully not the sort of clubs that can be seen as aggressive such as weapons. Hopefully in life we are most drawn to hearts, love for all being the major aim.

But if we had to choose from these four what would it be? If it were Clubs we might be spending our life isolated from others or even violent. If it was Diamonds it might indicate we are in life for whatever riches we can obtain. If it was Spades it might indicate we are hard workers, perhaps loving the garden and countryside. But if we go for Hearts it might mean our aims and joys in life are love, hopefully for God and all our fellow creatures.

Of course, we could vote for "No Trumps" leaving it to others to lead us in so many important decisions in life. I am not being political in thinking "No Trumps" might have been what we might have wished for in the USA elections.

It isn't Clubs that we can join that we are worried about in our world, but perhaps we are more worried about knives, guns and bombs rather than clubs as weapons. We are right to try to eliminate violence using these.

Diamonds are a sign of wealth and at least are long lasting. But none of us should seek wealth as our main aim in life being prepared, if necessary, to live frugally enough to be able to help our poorer neighbours throughout the world.

Spades are necessary in digging a garden and indicate a willingness to work hard to enable us to survive and share such wealth as we thereby obtain.

Hearts may be our best choice of a suit for life. We must love God and Love, in its very different forms, is so very important in giving to another person all we can, and supporting our family, our friends, and our neighbours throughout the world.

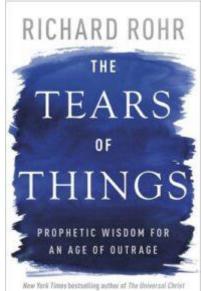
Yes, let us all aim to be Aces of Hearts for the rest of our lives.

My wife's maiden name was Bridge and even if we don't play Bridge perhaps, we can also try to be a bridge to help others be more united with one another, whoever they are.

**Ian Archer** 



#### **Book Reviews**



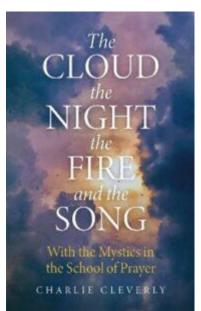
#### The Tears of Things - Prophetic Wisdom for an Age of Outrage **By Richard Rohr**

Richard Rohr's much-anticipated memoir offers teaching of profound importance for our fractured world.

How do we live compassionately in a time of violence and despair? What can we do with the anger we feel over an unjust world? Rohr turns to the writings of the Jewish prophets, showing how some of the lesser-read books of the Bible offer us a path forward today.

The prophets' writings carry a profound lamentation about our shared human condition and the pain of the world. They embody what Rohr calls holy disorder - a distinct approach to confronting malevolence and recognizing the wholeness of every living being.

Written in the warm, pastoral voice that has endeared millions to Rohr, this book breathes paves a path of enlightenment for anyone seeking a wholehearted way of living in a hurting world.



#### The Cloud, The Night, The Fire and the Song – With the Mystics in the School of Prayer **By Charlie Cleverly**

From climate upheaval and plagues to war and persecution, the great Christian mystics - John of the Cross, Julian of Norwich, Teresa of Avila, Francis of Assisi, and others – lived through deeply turbulent times. Yet out of these crucibles emerged profound spiritual insight and rich traditions of prayer.

This book draws on the vivid imagery these mystics used to navigate their spiritual landscapes – symbols that continue to

speak into the confusion and weariness of our own day. It offers spiritual companionship for the journey of faith in our uncertain times.

Have you recently read a good book? Tell us about it. Email office@stmarksreigate.co.uk with your book review.



#### A Lasting Gift for St Mark's Church

#### **Leaving a legacy**

Legacy gifts can make a huge difference to churches. Each year, gifts in wills, ranging from £100s to £100,000s are received. Faithful witnesses leaving generous legacies have enabled churches to invest in their buildings, pioneer new ministries, and sustain a welcoming presence in their communities.

#### Why should you write a will?

Writing a will means you choose:

- · How you would like to share your property and possessions;
- Who you would like to look after any children under the age of 18;
- How to support any charities or churches that are important to you.

Without a will, these decisions will be made according to pre-ordained rules, and by the courts, which may be different from your wishes. Leaving a will gives you peace of mind and lifts a burden from loved ones after you are gone.

To make it easier the Church of England has partnered with Farewill, the UK's favourite will-writer, so anyone can write a simple will online for free, in as little as 30 minutes. You can find out more by visiting <a href="https://farewill.com/southwarkdiocese">https://farewill.com/southwarkdiocese</a>.

We strongly advise seeing a solicitor for more complicated wills, or for people wishing to review their existing will or add a codicil.

#### A gift for future generations

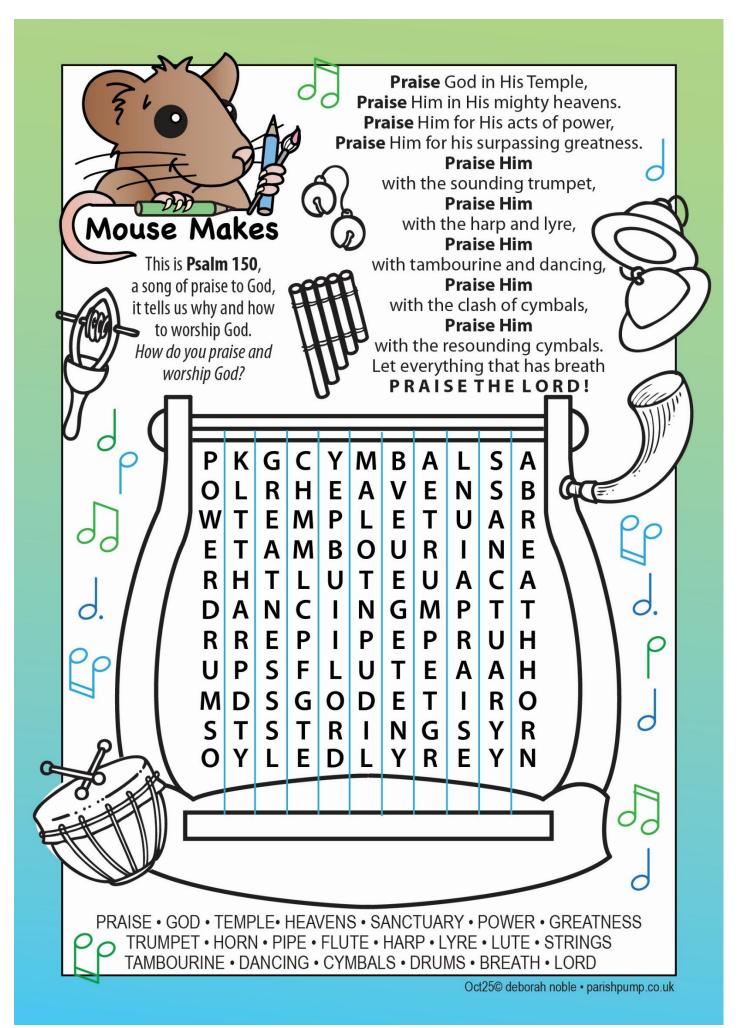
After you have made provision for your family and friends, we hope you'll also consider leaving a gift in your will to St Mark's. A legacy is a valuable expression of how meaningful a church has been during your time there. It's a way to give thanks - a lasting testimony to the faithfulness, goodness and generosity of God.

The policy of the PCC is to use legacies to help fund additional mission or development projects in the parish, whether buildings, equipment or staff. Circumstances change over the years, so church members are encouraged to leave legacies for the general purposes of the parish. The PCC will discuss the most appropriate use of the legacy in the light of current projects and the donor's known areas of interest in the church (for example, children and youth, music, buildings).

You may also receive tax benefits for including a gift to St Mark's in your will. A gift in your will to a charity is free of inheritance tax and may also reduce the amount of tax payable on the rest of your will. <a href="https://www.gov.uk/donating-to-charity/leaving-gifts-to-charity-in-your-will">https://www.gov.uk/donating-to-charity/leaving-gifts-to-charity-in-your-will</a>

Please consider leaving a legacy to St Mark's.

**Mel Crighton, PCC Treasurer** 

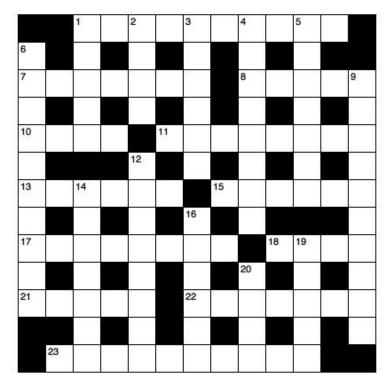


#### **October Crossword**

Biblical references are from the New International Version

#### **Across**

- 1 He was replaced as king of Judah by his uncle Mattaniah (2 Kings 24:17) (10)
- 7 'Let us fix our eyes on Jesus... who for the joy set before him the cross' (Hebrews 12:2) (7)
- 8 Relieved (5)
- 10 Impetuous (Acts 19:36) (4)
- 11 Surprised and alarmed (Luke 24:37) (8)
- 13 'It is for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for the rich to enter the kingdom of God' (Mark 10:25) (6)
- 15 Directions for the conduct of a church service (6)
- 17 One of the acts of the sinful nature (Galatians 5:19) (8)
- 18 and 20 Down 'She began to wet his with her tears. Then she wiped them with her ' (Luke 7:38) (4,4)



- 21 'We will all be changed, in a flash, in the twinkling of an -, the last trumpet' (1 Corinthians 15:51–52) (3,2)
- 22 'But he replied, "Lord, I am — go with you to prison and to death" (Luke 22:33) (5,2)
- 23 Third person of the Trinity (2 Corinthians 13:14) (4,6)

#### **Down**

- 1 He betrayed Jesus (Matthew 27:3) (5)
- 2 Paul's assurance to the Philippian jailer: 'Don't yourself! We are all here!' (Acts 16:28) (4)
- 3 'Fear God and keep his commandments, for this the whole of man' (Ecclesiastes 12:13) (2,4)
- 4 The sort of giver God loves (2 Corinthians 9:7) (8)
- 5 Sun rail (anaq.) (7)
- 6 Naboth, the ill-fated vineyard owner, was one (1 Kings 21:1) (10)
- 9 Paul said of young widows, 'When their sensual desires overcome their to Christ, they want to marry' (1 Timothy 5:11) (10)
- 12 This was how Joseph of Arimathea practised his discipleship 'because he feared the Jews' (John 19:38) (8)
- 14 Mop ruse (anag.) (7)
- 16 Foment (Philippians 1:17) (4,2)
- 19 Where Joseph and Mary escaped to with the baby Jesus (Matthew 2:14) (5)
- 20 See 18 Across

#### September answers

**ACROSS**: 1. Also 3. Offering 9. The Magi 10. Rules 11. Soper 12. Help me 14. Isaac and Jacob 17. Scorch 19. In man 22. Loads 23. Inertia 24. Vicinity 25. Belt

**DOWN:** 1. Artistic 2. Sleep 4. Faith in Christ 5. Enrol 6. Islamic 7. Gasp 8. Fabric 13. Abundant 15. Archaic 16. Jailer 18. Resin 20. Mitre 21. Slav

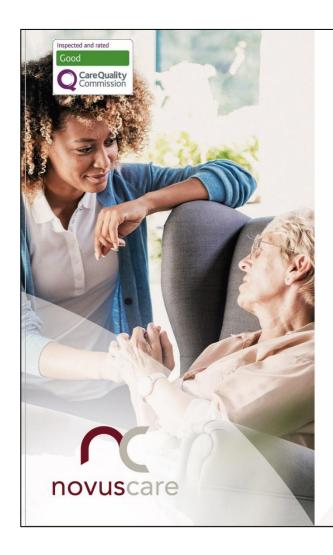
#### **Puzzles**

#### **October Sudoku**

5	2				4			7
	3	9		8				
4	8	7	6					
7			2		6		4	1
9		1				3		2
8	4		3		1			
					2	7	1	8
				1		4	9	
6			9				3	5

#### **September Solution**

2       8       7       9       3       1       5       4       6         6       3       9       5       4       2       8       7       1         5       1       4       8       7       6       9       2       3         1       9       8       3       2       7       4       6       5         7       4       6       1       9       5       3       8       2         3       2       5       6       8       4       1       9       7         8       7       3       2       1       9       6       5       4         9       5       2       4       6       3       7       1       8         4       6       1       7       5       8       2       3       9									
5       1       4       8       7       6       9       2       3         1       9       8       3       2       7       4       6       5         7       4       6       1       9       5       3       8       2         3       2       5       6       8       4       1       9       7         8       7       3       2       1       9       6       5       4         9       5       2       4       6       3       7       1       8	2	8	7	9	3	1	5	4	6
1       9       8       3       2       7       4       6       5         7       4       6       1       9       5       3       8       2         3       2       5       6       8       4       1       9       7         8       7       3       2       1       9       6       5       4         9       5       2       4       6       3       7       1       8	6	3	9	5	4	2	8	7	1
7       4       6       1       9       5       3       8       2         3       2       5       6       8       4       1       9       7         8       7       3       2       1       9       6       5       4         9       5       2       4       6       3       7       1       8	5	1	4	8	7	6	9	2	3
3     2     5     6     8     4     1     9     7       8     7     3     2     1     9     6     5     4       9     5     2     4     6     3     7     1     8	1	9	8	3	2	7	4	6	5
8     7     3     2     1     9     6     5     4       9     5     2     4     6     3     7     1     8	7	4	6	1	9	5	3	8	2
9 5 2 4 6 3 7 1 8	3	2	5	6	8	4	1	9	7
	8	7	3	2	1	9	6	5	4
4 6 1 7 5 8 2 3 9	9	5	2	4	6	3	7	1	8
1 3 1 7 3 0 2 0 0	4	6	1	7	5	8	2	3	9



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