

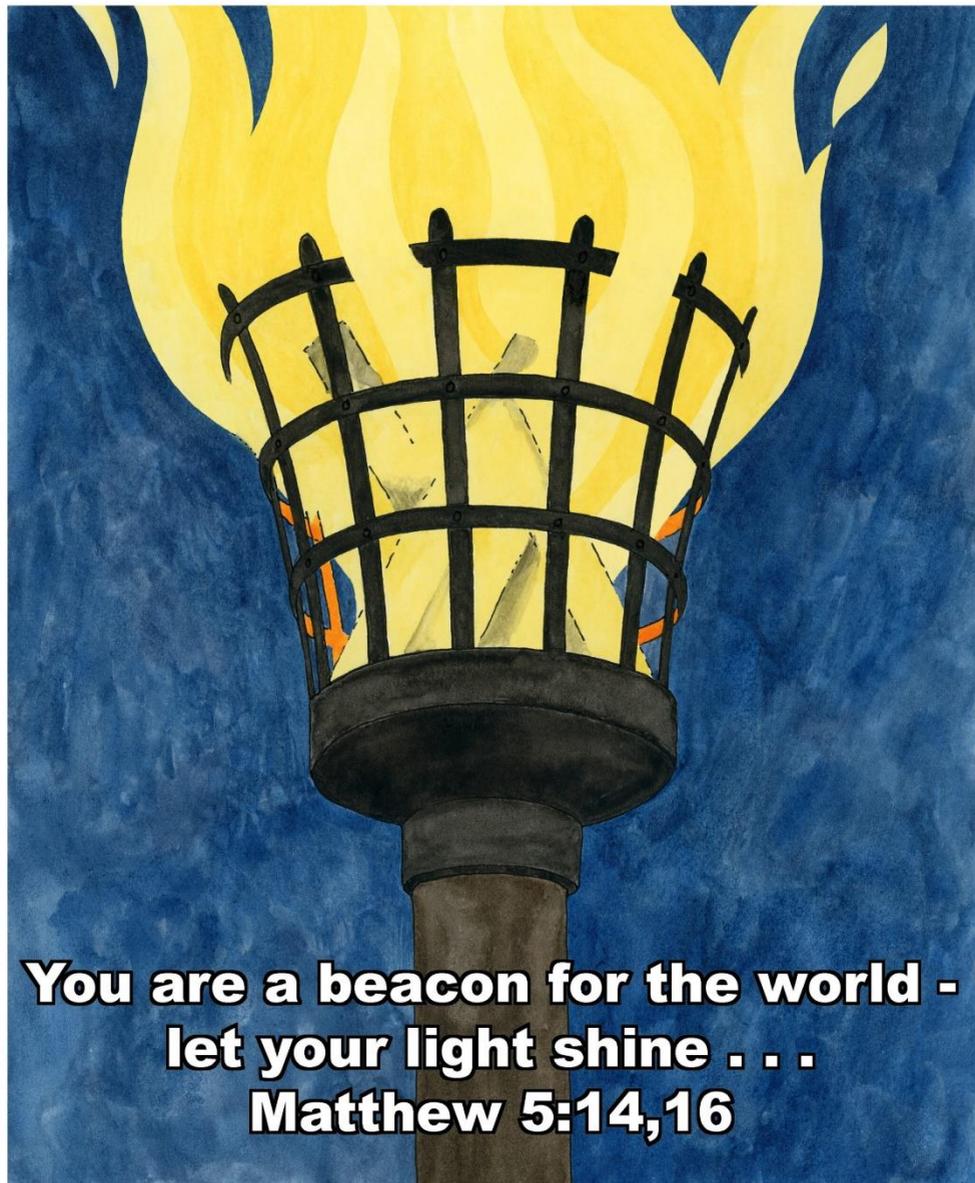


CROSS*Bridges*

Magazine for the Parishes of SS Philip and James, Whitton
with St Stephen's, Hounslow

No.8

November – mid-December 2021



**You are a beacon for the world -
let your light shine . . .
Matthew 5:14,16**

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COMMUNITY GARDEN UPDATE



On Saturday 16th October, a group of plucky volunteers braved wind and rain (and some sun!) to begin tackling the grounds at St Stephen's.

If you would like to get involved, put **Saturday 20th November** in your diary. All you need to do is turn up between 9:30am and midday, ideally bringing some gardening tools with you. There are some smaller tools available for the younger budding horticulturalists! So age is no barrier!

Nathan is coordinating so please contact him for further details. He'll also be providing breakfast, teas and coffees etc! You can email Nathan at: nbarrettsspjssh@gmail.com

REGULAR SERVICE TIMES

All services listed are in person with some being live-streamed in addition.

Sundays 9:30am - Eucharist at Ss Philip & James + Live-stream
Sundays 11:00am - Eucharist at St Stephen's
Mondays 9:30am – Morning Prayer – Live stream on Facebook
Tuesdays 9:30am - Holy Communion at St Stephen's + Live-stream
Wednesdays 9.30am – Morning Prayer – Live stream on Facebook
Thursdays 9:30am – Holy Communion at Ss Philip & James + Live stream

First Sunday in each month **All Age Service** at each church ie. 09:30am at SSPJ and 11:00am at SSH.

Sunday 8am: BCP Holy Communion on odd-numbered weeks and CW Said Eucharist on even-numbered weeks (please note that there will no sermon at this service). These will take place at Ss Philip & James Church and will not be streamed.

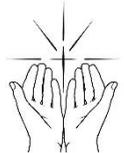
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/philipjamesstephen>

There have a been a few technical issues with cameras and live-streaming of late. Please bear with us whilst we work to resolve these and get you back online asap!

INTERCESSIONS – NOVEMBER – MID-DECEMBER 2021

For daily prayer intentions, please see the [calenda](#) on the Ss Philip & James website.

7 th November	Expectant and new parents
14 th November	Prisoners of War
21 st November	The Metropolitan Police
28 th November	Our halls users
5 th December	Our children
12 th December	Women's refugees
19 th December	Shooting Star Hospice



READINGS FOR NOVEMBER – MID-DECEMBER 2021

7 th Nov	3 Before Advent Jonah 3.1-5,10 ; Hebrews 9.24-28 ; Mark 1.14-20
14 th Nov	2 Before Advent – Remembrance Daniel 12.1-3 ; Hebrews 10.11-14(15-18)19-25 ; Mark 13.1-8
21 st Nov	Christ the King Daniel 7.9-10,13-14 ; Revelation 1.4b-8 ; John 18.33-37
28 th Nov	Advent 1 Jeremiah 33.14-16 ; 1 Thessalonians 3.9-13 ; Luke 21.25-36
5 th Dec	Advent 2 Malachi 3.1-4 ; Philippians 1.3-11 ; Luke 3.1-6
12 th Dec	Advent 3 Zephaniah 3.14-20 ; Philippians 4.4-7 ; Luke 3.7-18
19 th Dec	Advent 4 Micah 5.2-5a ; Hebrews 10.5-10 ; Luke 1.39-45(46-55)

HILDA OF WHITBY – 19th NOVEMBER

Hilda played a key role in the early English Christian church, and she may even have been the first to encourage the writing of Christian poetry. She was born a princess, into the Deiran (Northumbrian) dynasty, and her sister became Queen of the East Angles, with whom the Deiran had connections.

In those days East Anglia had close ties with the Gallic Church, and because of her sister, Hilda came under that influence. She was actually on her way to take her monastic vows near Paris when the Bishop of Lindisfarne, Aidan, called her back to Northumbria. Back home, she went into seclusion for a time, before being sent to be abbess of a religious house in Hartlepool in 649.

Eight years later, Hilda felt moved to establish a religious community at Streasnaeshalch (later renamed Whitby). Her community was a royal establishment, a double monastery (both men and women) and became famous for its learning, with even five bishops trained there.

Parish Pump

BENCHMARK: A LASTING LEGACY FOR OUR COMMUNITY

The COVID-19 pandemic has affected us all in one way or another – some of us have lost loved ones, our jobs, been isolated from family and friends or suffered from physical or mental health problems. However, despite all the difficulties we have faced there have been many positives too – enjoying more exercise, a greater sense of community spirit, getting to know our own neighbourhood and green spaces better and enjoying fresh air and hearing the bird song that had once been blotted out by aircraft noise.

Here at St Philip & St James Church, Whitton and St Stephen's, Hounslow we want to create a lasting legacy to commemorate the impact of the pandemic on our community. We have therefore launched a fundraising campaign to purchase 3 memorial benches and sensory plants for our grounds which will enable more people to enjoy the lovely green spaces surrounding our churches, allowing people to sit, relax and remember.

We are delighted to report that to date we have raised **£991.25** so a BIG THANK YOU to all those who have donated so far. However, we still have a way to go to reach our target of £3,000 by the end of the year so that we can install them in the Spring marking two years since the start of the pandemic.

There are a number of ways you can donate;

- <https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/BenchMarkCovid19>
- You can use the QR code below to link directly to the JustGiving site
- Text SSPJSSH give to 07380 307800
- If you are registered on the electoral role make an online donation via ChurchSuite – <https://sspjssh.churchsuite.com/donate/>
- Send a cheque made payable to St Philip & St James Church (write BenchMark on the back of the cheque)
- Give cash in an envelope marked 'BenchMark' in the offertory tray at any service;



This is a project for our communities and not just the churches so please feel free to share the website link and/or QR code widely with friends, neighbours, local businesses and social media sites.

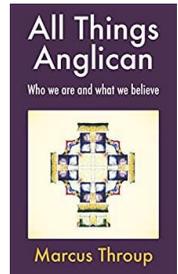
Jane Lewis

BOOK REVIEW

'All Things Anglican – Who We are and What we Believe',

Marcus Throup (Canterbury Press: 2021)

ISBN 978-1-78622-067-7



The thing about being an Anglican is that very few of us really know what it really means. In fact, it is more likely that an Anglican is able to describe the distinctive characteristics of a Methodist or a Roman Catholic, and that includes many clergy.

Marcus Throup is a priest and Vocations Advisor based in the Diocese of Winchester and his book is among the works on the reading list given to many an aspirant clergy-person testing their calling to public ministry in the Church of England. The content of this book is based around a number of questions: 'what do we mean ...', 'why does ...', 'what happens ...' and so on. Working through eight such questions, each chapter examines its central question and provides a level of anecdote, a selection of primary sources, but more importantly a vital window into all things 'Anglican'. Each of the eight chapters concludes with a helpful summary followed by some questions that can nourish a personal or group reflection.

Even as an experienced Anglican priest and life-long Anglican worshipping Christian I found this book enlightening. I was reminded of much that I had forgotten and learned a great deal that was new or what had, hitherto, remained unexplained to me and taken on trust. It is written in a way that doesn't 'lean' one way or the other (in terms of tradition or 'tribe') so successfully negotiates some of the questions some Anglicans feel too ill-equipped to ask.

Much in books of religion or theology (or even those rare entities that combine the two) is expressed in jargon-heavy prose often in a style that lends itself to an audience of an earlier century (or a doctorate, or both). Throup's book is both accessible to a teenager (I tested this), to an experienced parish priest and to a doctor of theology without over-simplification, dumbing-down or vanity-pleasing terminology. That it is a 'must-read' for ordinands also speaks highly to its capacity to teach and impart a wisdom many books in my experience have failed to offer. Good for individual Christians seeking to understand their identity as Anglicans, or else for group study for those preparing for confirmation (as well as ordination), or as a set of sessions for a knowledge-hungry Home Group, this book is open to all. I enjoyed this book, was enlightened by it and would recommend it to any Anglican who doesn't really know that name means!

Fr. David Cloake

At the heart of Christmas



But Mary treasured all these words, and pondered them in her heart.
Luke 2.19

In 2020, many of us experienced a Christmas when so many of the ways we traditionally mark the season were suddenly denied to us. This year, of course, we hope and pray that many of the familiar experiences that help Christmas come alive return to our homes, our churches and communities. But whatever else December brings, it will offer us an opportunity to enter more deeply into the joyful mystery that lies at its heart: God becoming human in the birth of Jesus Christ.

Inspired by readings from the Gospels of Luke and John read at so many Christmas services, *At the heart of Christmas* is an invitation to everyone to discover – or rediscover – the good news of God’s saving love as revealed in the birth of Jesus. It is also a challenge to each of us to ponder in our hearts – as Mary did – what the extraordinary events of the first Christmas might mean for us now and in the years ahead.

Reflections

At the heart of Christmas will consist of 12 Stories and Meditations from Justin Welby, Stephen Cottrell and guests where they will share personal stories exploring themes close to the heart of Christmas.

Starting on Christmas Eve and continuing daily (Monday to Saturday) until the Epiphany (6 January), On each of the twelve days, a different contributor will share something that lies close to the heart of Christmas for them, bringing the theme to life through a mixture of personal story, Bible reading, reflection and questions to ponder.

These reflections will also be made available freely via:

- audio
- app with accompanying resources for children and families
- the [Church House Publishing Booklet](#)

Further details on the CofE website:

<https://www.churchofengland.org/resources/advent-and-christmas-2021-resources-heart-christmas>

GARDENER'S PHILOSOPHY

REFLECTION ON SUMMER

by Angela Sharp

It's at this time of year when plants are beginning to die back we reflect on what's worked in the garden and what hasn't over the spring and summer season. We look around and think about the plants that have grown too big, those that didn't thrive, those that did really well. We think philosophically about what we may change in an ideal world – and then perhaps baulk at the effort that might be involved!

Autumn is of course a fine time for planting shrubs and trees and perennial plants that, as the name suggests, come up every year. So if you do want to make a change or add to your plant collection it is a good time to do so. It's also bulb planting season of course and as some bulbs can rot in the soil and others may be eaten by squirrels, it's always worth adding to your collection. It's a relatively easy way to inject colour into a garden, or indeed into a pot which can go anywhere as long as it's outside and at least partly sunny. There are even bulbs you can have indoors such as prepared hyacinths, paperwhite narcissi (a type of daffodil with a strong fragrance), or the impressive trumpet-like flowers of amaryllis.

If you're anything like me, you'll also be reflecting on the success of the annuals you grew. These are plants you sow as seeds or buy as small plants at garden centres in spring. It's like a seed factory in our house from February onwards, my husband and I battling for window space under the excellent even light provided by our loft room's sloping Velux window where we keep our seeds on heated trays to aid germination. Generally my husband is the veg man and I do the flowers. Very traditional I know, but there it is.

As usual my seed-sowing has variable results, with some plants just refusing to germinate and others only producing spindly seedlings. It's certainly fun to try though. It's often said you only need a light windowsill, and that's true but a seed tray with a lid and a heated mat underneath does help. I find it's often finding the time to transplant them once you have all these seedlings lined up that causes the issues! I always tend to sow more than I need and I spend hours transplanting down the line.

You may ask though, why go to all that trouble when garden centres often sell small plants, but there is a satisfaction in bringing up a plant from being a seed. There is some skill involved I suppose but it's a skill worth learning. It's also generally a lot cheaper too.

This year one of my big successes has been heliotrope. With its dark green leaves



Heliotrope

and deep purple, sweetly fragrant flowers it took a while to get them going, but once they did so they've been fantastic, still flowering in October and have surprised me with how easy and trouble free they are to grow. They are very expensive to buy as plants so they're well worth it. The same can be said for thunbergia, often called Black Eyed Susan due to the black centre to the flowers. I raised a type known as 'Salmon Shades' and the mottled orangey yellows have been a delight to behold for a couple of months now on my obelisk.

I have had other successes too – I love planting zinnias from seed with their zingy bright colours and long-lasting blooms, and cosmos, a few of which have practically grown into trees for some reason this year, only just starting to flower at the beginning of October. Probably a weather related issue. Another type of cosmos – Polidor – looks a bit different and has proved harder to germinate but I love their sunny orange and yellow faces and they have a special place in my heart because of this. I also love the gold yellows of rudbeckias. This year they have given me a lovely display but too much rain can mean they can succumb to fungal rots and I've had a very annoying batch of baby snails munching on the leaves and petals in the last few weeks.



Cosmos - Polidor

You can grow annuals in pots too if your space is tight, especially if it's at least partly sunny but you will still need to start them off inside as most annuals prefer to be warm to thrive when young and have to gradually get used to the outside as they grow bigger. Hardy annuals will be just that – more hardy against cold even when small, so you may prefer to try those as you can probably sow them direct outside – love in a mist, poppies are two popular options in this category.

Whatever your facilities or skill level, I hope I've inspired you to try this in the new year and you too can look back philosophically about how your successes and failures went in autumn next year. Get planning now because indoor sowing can start for many plants like cosmos as early as February.

OUTSIDE THE BACK DOOR REMEMBRANCE IN OUR GARDENS

*Dull November brings the blast,
Now the leaves are falling fast.*

To me, November is the month which brings the fastest change in our trees. Often at the start of the month the autumn colour is at its peak but, within a few days, a cold night, sharp frost or gusty wind can bring them all down in a trice, leaving behind the bare skeletal branches.

November is also the month for Remembrance and so it's interesting to reflect that trees are often planted either in memory of someone or to commemorate a special occasion. Next year we'll see a prime example of this as the [Queen's Green Canopy](#) project gets underway in celebration of the Platinum Jubilee.

I wonder how many of you have planted trees or other plants for similar reasons, perhaps in memory of a loved one, to mark a family event or an anniversary. We have quite a few plants dotted around our garden that are always linked to family or friends in our minds. When we celebrated our Silver Wedding anniversary, two gorgeous white 'Silver Wedding' roses arrived on our doorstep. One thrived but the other was accidentally swamped until we took decisive action and moved it to a much better, more open site, since when it has gone from strength to strength. Not only do the roses remind us of our own anniversary but they remind us of the people who gave them to us on that occasion, particularly poignant since one of them is no longer with us.



A Shropshire Lad

When my Dad died we bought my Mum a 'Shropshire Lad' rose in his memory. This is where a little thinking ahead pays off. When Mum also passed away, I was left with the dilemma of what to do with this rose. There was no way that I was going to leave it behind in their garden and so, with extreme determination and brute force, it was brought to our garden where it delights us every summer with glorious sprays of deliciously scented flowers. The day we moved that rose I learnt just how challenging it is to move an established plant

with a long tap root! So when my mother-in-law had to move out of her home earlier this year and we were faced with a similar dilemma, I knew exactly how hard it was going to be. Like 'A Shropshire Lad', 'Rosa Evelyn', given as a birthday present, proved just as stubborn and was wrestled out of the ground but with inevitable

collateral damage. That said, she subsequently produced a flurry of blooms in her new location so we have great hopes for next year once she's a bit more settled.

This summer I acquired another David Austin rose, 'The Lady Gardener', on what was a bitter-sweet occasion. This was a carefully chosen leaving present from my colleagues as I said farewell to Kingston University after 29 years. It is a peachy pink rose with fabulous scent and is always going to remind me of fantastic colleagues, fun times (and some stressful ones too), and I'm pleased that it smells fresh and lemony and not of dusty old books and journals!

Another happy occasion plant is our blue Hibiscus which was given to us as a house-warming present over 21 years ago now. It has become an extremely well established, thriving shrub standing at least 5 feet tall and probably as wide. It is also loved by bees who delve deep down into its flowerheads and come out covered all over in its white dusty pollen.

I once read about someone who had decided that their garden would only contain plants that bore the names of family and friends. I think that this could become extremely confusing and potentially awkward. I have confused several people by referring to my crab apple tree as 'Laura' which is actually the variety. Someone once said, 'Oh marvellous, you give your trees names!' which, of course, isn't the case! It's just that it seems nicer to say, 'Laura's blossoming well' or, 'There's fruit beginning on Nancy', rather than just mentioning our Mirabelle tree.

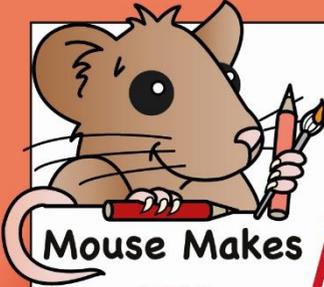
When you do plant something in memory of someone or something, there's always the added pressure of ensuring that it survives well and, of course, ensuring that the consequences of your planting aren't a burden or hindrance to future owners. So if you are thinking about contributing a tree to the Jubilee celebrations next year, think carefully before you plant!

Elizabeth Malone

Read an illustrated version of this article at
<https://outsidethebackdoor.wordpress.com>

NATIONAL TREE WEEK

National Tree Week (Saturday 27th November to Sunday 5th December) is the UK's largest annual celebration of trees. It marks the start of the winter tree planting season, and so aims to encourage anyone with space to consider planting a tree. That includes churches with churchyards. The Conservation Foundation would be happy to advise anyone on which trees might be best for a churchyard. Go to www.conservationfoundation.co.uk/churchyardtrees.



Mouse Makes



I AM
THE

Read John 10:11 and 14



I AM
THE

Read John 15:1 and 35



I AM
THE

Read John 6: 35,51



OF



I AM
THE

Read John 11:25

AND THE



I AM
THE

Read John 10:9

OF THE



I AM

I AM
THE

AND THE

AND THE

Read John 14:6



I AM
THE



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

Look up the Bible references, fill in the missing words then look for them in the word search

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Community Lunch

Saturday 6th November 12 noon – 2.00pm at SSH Church Hall

Join us for nice food and great company

Coffee Morning

Saturday 13th November, 10.00am – 12 noon at SsPJ Parish Hall

All welcome!

Community Garden @ SSH

Saturday 20th November, 9:30am – 12 noon. Breakfast on offer!

HLO's MIKADO FROM SCRATCH in SSH CHURCH

Saturday 20th November

This one day event will enable you to flex your vocal chords on this well-known G&S operetta. Between 9.30am and 3.30pm you'll learn the choruses and practice with the soloists and then from 4.00pm there'll be a concert for family and friends. More details at: www.hlo.org.uk

Community Lunch

Saturday 4th December, 12 noon – 2.00pm at SSH Church Hall

Join us for nice food and great company

Winter Warmer

Saturday 4th December, 7:45pm, St Stephen's

HLO Musical Company present an evening of music and readings to reflect the season. They promise that it won't be too Christmassy, given that it's only the 4th December! There will be mulled wine and refreshments too. Ticket details to follow on the HLO website: www.hlo.org.uk

Coffee Morning

Saturday 11th December, 10.00am – 12 noon at SsPJ Parish Hall

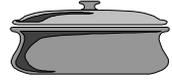
All welcome!

More events for both parishes are now on the [online calendar](#).



COOKERY CORNER

BLACK BEAN PASTA SALAD



Ingredients:

- * 200 - 250g dried pasta (radiatore works well, as does fusilli, or macaroni, but any robust shorter pasta will do)
- * 1 tin black beans, drained and rinsed
- * 200g fresh salsa
- * 25g sun dried tomatoes, finely chopped
- * 1 small tin of sweet corn, drained and rinsed

Optional toppings

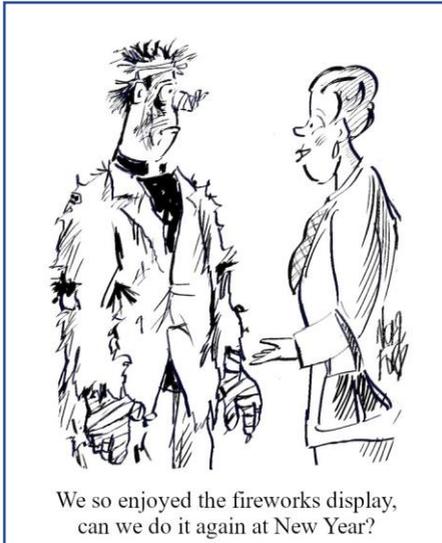
- * 1/2 avocado cut into small dice
- * 2 tbs or so sour cream
- * 40g diced feta
- * fresh coriander leaves

Method:

Cook the pasta until al dente, according to the packet instructions, drain and rinse well with cold water. Mix in the sweet corn, sun dried tomatoes and fresh salsa. Stir through half the black beans, and then add the remainder, so you can see the shiny black beauties on top.

Add any of the toppings you fancy, try two or three!

Genna Martinez



FARM WORDSEARCH

This month's wordsearch contains 40 things you might find on a farm. The 3 unused letters give the name of something produced by the birds on the farm. Solution next month.

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

SOLUTION TO HERBS AND SPICES WORDSEARCH

ANISE, BALM, BASIL, BAY, BERGAMOT, BETONY, CAPER, CARAWAY, CHERVIL, CHILLI, CINNAMON, CLARY, CLOVE, COMFREY, CUMIN, CURRY, DILL, ELDER, FENUGREEK, GARLIC, GINGER, HOP, HORSERADISH, LOVAGE, MACE, MARJORAM, MINT, ROSEMARY, RUE, SAFFRON, SAGE, SESAME, THYME, TURMERIC. The 8 unused letters formed ANGELICA.

John Barnes

MILLIONTH DOWNLOAD

Hundreds of thousands of people have discovered the ancient monastic cycle of daily prayer through a Church of England podcast which has received more than a million downloads in just six months. The Daily Prayer podcast, which is integrated into the free Daily Prayer app, brings listeners together twice a day for short traditional services of Morning and Evening. The services follow the pattern of the C of E's Common Worship services, The podcast, which was launched in March 2021, has around 8,000 people listening each day. Find it at:

<https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/join-us-service-daily-prayer/daily-prayer-app-and-podcast>

SS PHILIP & JAMES CHURCH

The Heart of Christ in the Heart of Whitton

Hounslow Road, Whitton, Twickenham, TW2 7DY

with

St Stephen Hounslow

Know God's Love and Believe

Parkside Road, Hounslow, TW3 2BP

Vicar: **The Revd David Cloake** **Email: vicarssh@gmail.com**

Correspondence to :

The Vicarage, 205 Kneller Road, Whitton, Twickenham, TW2 7DY

Parishes Administrator - Helen Bott

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Please contact the office for all hall, general enquiries and to arrange a Wedding, Baptism or Funeral.

Safeguarding Officer: Mrs. Angela Bowman 020 8893 4918

Keep in touch:



Websites: <https://www.whittonchurch.com/>

<http://www.saintstephenhounslow.church/>



Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/philipjamesstephen>

CROSSBridges Deadline

The edition of CROSSBridges will be our Christmas issue covering mid-December 2021 – January 2022 issue. Items for inclusion should be emailed to the editor – elizabethmalone@blueyonder.co.uk

Please forward your contribution by **Friday 26 November 2021 at the latest!** This will be an **absolute deadline** as we hope to bring back a print edition for Christmas and the printers will need our copy in plenty of time! Thank you.