

CHRIST CHURCH ín Apríl

2022

VOLUME 6 ISSUE 4 - APRIL 2022

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Registered Charity No. 1152846 Parochial Church Council of Worthing Christ Church Website: <u>www.christchurchworthing.org.uk</u>



Worship in April at Christ Church



3rd 10.30am Holy Communion with The Revd Maurice Slattery

6pm BCP Evensong

with The Revd George Butterworth

- 10th 10.30am Holy Communion for Palm Sunday with The Venerable Chris Skilton
- 14th 7pm Holy Communion for Maundy Thursday with The Venerable Luke Irvine-Capel
- 15th Good Friday Service An hour at the Cross with The Venerable Luke Irvine-Capel
- 17th 10.30am Holy Communion for Easter Sunday with Bishop Ruth Bushyager
- 24th 10.30am Morning Prayer with Derek Hansen
- 28th 10.30am BCP Holy Communion with The Revd George Butterworth

Contact us....

Church Wardens: Kenneth Hobbs email: christchurchfinance@btinternet.com Steve Davis email: christchurchvolunteers@btinternet.com Parish Administrator & Editor Janine Hobbs email: christchurchadmin@btinternet.com Parish Office 01903 215343 Hours: Tuesday & Wednesday 10.30 – 12 noon Thursday 2.30 – 4pm

Sermon of the Month

In Genesis we hear that God told Abraham that he would be the father of many nations. This not just included the gentiles in the early Christian Church but others including those who would later follow Mohammed. Jews, Christian and Moslems all share the same Abrahamic inheritance.

Paul tells that because of Israel's rejection of the Messiah, God has brought salvation to the Gentiles. But that's just the start of the story. He says that God's blessings have come to the Gentiles to make Israel jealous and to draw them back to Him. He says that he is making the most of his ministry in order that some Jews might become envious of the relationship we believers enjoy with God and that "some might be saved."

We have a rich heritage rooted in the Hebrew faith and it's purely by God's grace that we have been included (or grafted into) what God has been doing for generations through Israel. So we are grafted in and, as a result draw all the strength of that inheritance. Some of the old branches are broken off because of unbelief. In John 15 Jesus tells us *I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. Every branch in me that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit.*

Paul uses an illustration of an olive tree to support this point.

He says that natural branches can be broken off of the cultivated tree, while wild branches can be "grafted in" to enjoy the nourishment of the root. I'm not much of a gardener but my dad was



a brilliant one and I remember he had huge success with grafting beautiful new roses onto old root stock. If the graft wasn't properly attached to the root stock it withered and died. And, if we are not careful, not prayerful, that can happen to us.

We, as Christians, cannot bear fruit by ourselves unless we remain connected to Jesus. If we try to manufacture fruit on our own it simply won't work. It's Jesus who produces fruit through us. Without him, we will wither and won't produce anything. But don't let's get too gloomy – we haven't got to do the work.



Olive trees don't try to make olives, and grape vines don't worry about making grapes. They just remain rooted in solid ground, draw up water and reach for the Sun.

When all those things are in place, Fruit happens.

As Paul was hoping that the way these new Gentiles would live was such that would attract the Jews back to their historic faith – back to their roots. Can we share the hope, the task, to which we are called; to, as St Matthew's Gospel tells, go and make disciples of all nations. Can we, as Bishop Lindsay used to say, gossip the Gospel – tell the Good News of Jesus? Can we, do we, live in a way that would make unbelievers curious or even envious? Would they want what we have? – would they recognise it?

And to be fair, do we recognise it? Do we, in our turn, recognize the value of what we have received? We sing **Be still for the power of the Lord is moving in this place.** Do we recognise it.

He comes to cleanse and heal to minister his grace. Do we believe it?

Lent is a good time to do a bit of thinking. To reflect on God's promises and to realise, to accept the fact that, he comes to each one of us to cleanse and heal and receive his grace. To remember that we are connected to something bigger. God has grafted us into a root system that runs deep. He's done this so that we will be nourished, but also that we will invigorate the old tree with new fruit.

The word Lent comes from an old English word meaning Spring or Springtime. A time of new growth and new life. Our job is not to bear fruit. It happens naturally when we remain connected to the True Vine - Fruit comes through faith, not works. It just happens naturally when we remain connected to the True Vine. I wish you all a very fruitful Lent. **Amen**

Walking With Nana

I like walking with Nana, Her steps are short like mine. She doesn't say "now hurry up" She always takes her time.

I like to walk with Nana, Her eyes see things like mine do, Wee pebbles bright, a funny cloud, Half hidden drops of dew.

Most people have to hurry, They do not stop to see. I'm glad that God made Nana Unrushed and young like me!

Come into the Garden, Maud

(Apologies to Lord Tennyson!)

Trish and I have twice visited London for the annual Open Garden Squares Weekend and discovered quirky hidden



corners; stood in conservation gardens at the top of City financial office blocks; looked at parks from a different perspective; wandered round normally locked private gardens in the middle of exclusive London squares; sat on

nursery chairs surrounded by wellies and climbed school rooftops to admire herb planters and taste homemade cookies.



Run by the London Gardens Trust this year's event is 11 and 12 June and ticketing details can be found on their website. Their guidebook lists the gardens which are grouped in areas (about 17 in all), and each has a paragraph describing its features, accessibility and which bus route best serves. If you've ever peeked over the garden railings in Belgravia and wondered what the garden looks like from inside this is your chance and this contrasts wonderfully with the garden on top of Eversheds office block where volunteer gardeners enthusiastically describe their wildlife-themed garden as the resident bees work industriously around their hives.

We were able to plot our routes to take in a range of gardens and squares with refreshment stops either in the tiny courtyard garden of a coffee shop, or in a city office canteen, lounging in deckchairs listening to a jazz combo or watching a Punch and Judy show. Alternatively, we could take our picnic into somewhere like Postman's Park near St Pauls or St Joseph's Garden and sit and reflect.

Many of the gardens visited resulted in chance encounters and memorable cameos. We found Collingham Gardens Nursery by mistake and what a treasure. As we were sat in



the schoolroom with a cup of tea and reading their posters one of the children came in "Mum, I've run out of mud!" And that was the theme, mud, a foxes' den, trees to climb, water play using recycled plumbing fittings and overall, an atmosphere of exploration. I must add, if you have never been to the nearby Foundling Museum then add that to your bucket list and take plenty of tissues.

Something for every taste!

JTH

Poet's Corner

'Must' and 'Ought'.

Two little monsters, Must and Ought, Command the worlds of one and all: Havoc to many liveshave brought, Responding to their beck and call. Fine feathered 'Must', highly appraised, Offers attractive personal gain; Our trusty loyal standards raised, Enslavement treated with disdain. 'Ought', is the subtle slave-driver, Thrives on all emotional needs; To former favours he'll refer, Till he becomes your living creed. Exquisite charmers are these clones, Master craftsmen of disguise; Floating in and out like drones, To the end with life's demise. © (Elliott Allison)

In 2022 there are several composers of organ music whose anniversaries can be commemorated, of whom a few are listed below. I shall be playing pieces by them during the year.

Jakob Hassler c.1569-1622 Younger brother of Hans Leo Hassler and Imperial court organist to Archduke Rudolph in Prague, seven of his compositions survive, including three Ricercars, a Toccata, a Fantasia, a Canzon and a Fuga.

Thomas Tomkins 1572-1656 Born in St. Davids, he became organist of Worcester cathedral. His keyboard works amount to some 76 include three Preludes, 17 plainsong settings (Clarifica me Pater, eight In Nomines, and eight Misereres), an Offertory, three Verses, six Fancies, three Voluntaries, four Hexachord settings an Ut, re, Mi, two Grounds, 10 Pavan-Galliard pairs, 10 unconnected Pavans and Galliards, four variation sets, four miscellaneous pieces and four doubtful and four incomplete pieces.

Freancesco Bianciardi c.1572-1607 Organist and maestro di cappella at Siena cathedral from 1596, he published sacred and secular vocal music. Ten keyboard pieces were copied into the Turin tablatures including six Ricercars, and four Fantasias.

José Jiménez ca 1600-72 Succeeded Aguilera de Heredia as organist at La Seo, Zaragoza in 1627. He left 25 keyboard works in mss, including 13 liturgical compositions, two Batallas, two Obras for undivided keyboard, two pieces for treble solos, three for bass solo, one for two basses and two sets of variations on Folías.

Narciso da Milano 1672-1727 Real name Giuseppe Burocco, he was a cleric at Sant'Angelo Franciscan Convent, Milan, and left a collection of Versetti, Sonatas and a Pastorale in manuscript.

Gaudenzio Battistini 1722-1800 Organist in Novara, he wrote numerous sacred works. Five sonatas and two sets of three versets for organ survive.

William Herschel 1738-1822 Better known as an astronomer, he was also an organist working in Halifax and Bath, and a composer. His organ works, preserved in autograph manuscripts in Edinburgh, and comprise 32 Voluntaries and Full Pieces, two sets of Full Organ Pieces, Sonatas, Six Fugues and two Concertos.

Gaetano Valerj 1760-1822 Maestro di Cappella and organist of the Duomo, Padua, he composed sacred music, chamber music, operas, organ or piano concertos, sonatas for harpsichord or fortepiano as well as many organ works.

Domenico Puccini 1772-1815 Grandfather of the far betterknown opera composer, he was organist at Luca and left a sizeable corpus of organ music in manuscripts.

John Collins

Being British...

For every Brit who says "Isn't the weather lovely!" there's another to balance it out with "It's meant to get colder next week!"

Resurrection!

Celebrating the Queen of Festivals!

The unexpected always surprises; when the unexpected is something entirely new and unprecedented, it startles and even shocks. It is often met with incredulity if it were beyond the bounds of personal experience. The resuscitation of a body, previously well and truly vandalised, physically nailed to a roughly hewn wooden cross and then duly certified as devoid of life, is sure to meet with scepticism, if not downright disbelief, in our modern science-dominated world.

What chance of any more acceptance two thousand years ago? Three women - so it would appear - taking in the early morning air, doing what would have come most naturally to mourners those days - indeed, a practice in some parts of the world even today - visit the final resting place of a 'loved one'.

There was a time when close relatives, or friends, would have visited the 'resting place' of the beloved; they would have entered therein and anoint the body with rare and precious aromatic oils. The likeliest reason would have been the preservation of the body. There was nothing sinister, bizarre or macabre about such a visit; there was certainly no reason to be afraid of the 'dead'. There is probably more reason to be afraid of the living, then as now.

Everything seemed perfectly normal; no reason to expect otherwise. In fact, there was probably more concern about moving the large stone which usually closed the entrance to the cave-tomb; this was an extra-ordinarily large one, insisted upon by some of the persecutors of the hapless victim.

Moving it would be no easy task - unless one of the women had Amazonian powers. Surprise!!! The boulder had already been rolled away. Perhaps someone had already been. There would have been dismay, startled disappointment.

Then, when they ventured inside, their dismay was instantaneously transformed into stupefaction and disbelief. Their feelings were of no consequence. What mattered was that the body was not there; they had come to the place where they expected to find the body; they knew it to be there, but it was not! Understandably, but quite superfluously, they exclaimed, **"He is not here!"**

That remark is pregnant with meaning, not least for the reference to a person. Indeed, how dismayed, even perplexed people become when they finally discover that, "He is not here!"; there, where they had always believed him to be; there, where they thought they had good reason for him to be; there, where they always been told, grew up to believe and still doggedly maintain him to be; but "He is not there!"

Resurrection - New Life - is like that. It cannot be commercialised; bottled, corked and sealed ready to be promoted like another privatisation enterprise. It can only truly be known when it is experienced; like those three women 'knew' from their experience and went away from the empty tomb very much shaken... probably quietly, 'because they were afraid'. The shockingly pleasant surprise of a Mary Magdalen, when she heard her name mentioned, can leave the best among us spellbound. Perhaps many, many people are still in that state of shock and disbelief when they are reminded of the experience of those women of the Resurrection. The truth and reality of resurrection DOES take a long time to filter through into people's lives; but, when it does get through - when the Queen of Festivals does make her presence 'felt'

- resurrection, as an experienced fact, becomes a reality.

What is often forgotten is that the Queen of Festivals (Resurrection of Christ) is celebrated every 'First Day of the Week' – SUNDAY! Alleluia! EA



TOO OFTEN WE UNDERESTIMATE THE POWER OF A TOUCH, A SMILE, A KIND WORD, A LISTENING EAR, AN HONEST COMPLIMENT, OR THE SMALLEST ACT OF CARING, ALL OF WHICH HAVE THE POTENTIAL TO TURN A LIFE AROUND.

By Royal Command

An ancient seafarers' tradition has been to pay tribute to King Neptune when crossing the Equator. The ship will 'hove to' (stop in the water) and receive on board King Neptune and his court who will hear the charges against first timers who haven't yet appeared before him. There will be absolutely no chance of being found not guilty and sentence will be delivered. This inevitably results in prisoners being put in a dunking stool, shaved with a threefoot wooden razor using obnoxious (even noxious) substances as shaving foam and then, helped by Neptune's bears, rinsed off by total immersion in a makeshift swimming pool full of liquid also of dubious origin.

In 1984, after a lively two years in HMS Glamorgan, I was relaxing and enjoying the "Intermediate Staff Course" at the Greenwich Royal Naval College (now University of Greenwich). It was during one of our lectures on a warm and sleepy summer afternoon when I found myself putting my hand up – should have known better at my age! Yes, I'd join the cast for a re-enactment of the "Crossing the Line Ceremony" for the Greenwich Meridian Celebrations.

"What?" (pause for a second or two), "OK, as no-one else volunteers, I'll play the part of Queen Amphitrite."

"What? In public? A Royal Performance?"

I then had the weekend to find a costume (not being a Bootie I didn't have one to hand) – dress, wig, shoes. The

first two items were easily procured but I spent quite some time on Saturday trawling the charity shops of Albert Road, Southsea, looking for size 8, gold colour, high-heeled shoes. When in desperation I plucked up courage to ask I was told "Oh, most of my men buy plain ones and spray paint them."



So it was the next week I wobbled across Romney Road to Greenwich Park where I found myself sharing a stage with not only King Neptune but also

Prince Philip. Before we began, King Neptune, as host, graciously addressed the Prince – "Fancy a beer, Sir?" Psssst, "Thank you."

Fortunately for me there was quite a distance between me and the nearest camera and I am unidentifiable in the only photo I've found – much to the relief of my granddaughter.

Chippy

Whipping Boy!

Defenceless scapegoats Draw attention from ourselves; Culpable walk free.

© (Elliott Allison.)

CHRISTCHURCH FOODBANK RELAUNCH, 10th APRIL

We at Christchurch are about to begin a working relationship with Worthing Foodbank. This is run by volunteers at The Redeemer Church and is affiliated to the Trussell Trust. It is one of more than 1,200 foodbanks, staffed by volunteers, and working with the Trust to tackle food poverty and hunger in local communities across the UK.

In the past 6 months, an average of more than 5,000 emergency food parcels were provided across the network affiliated to the Trussell Trust every day, and almost 2000 of these were for children.

Non-perishable, in-date food is donated by the public at a range of places, such as schools, churches and businesses, as well as supermarket collection points. It is then sorted into emergency food parcels by more than 28,000 volunteers, to be given to people in crisis.

Worthing Foodbank is not a drop-in centre. All the recipients are referred by outside agencies - care professionals such as health visitors, staff at schools and social workers; they identify people in crisis, and issue them with a food bank voucher entitling them to receive a food bank parcel of three days' nutritionally balanced, non-perishable food from their local food bank. This support is seen as a stop gap to provide support until a long-term plan is established by care agencies. As a network, the Trussell Trust wants to see more people helped out of crisis and fewer people needing foodbanks in the future. To this end the Trust works to develop ways to help people out of crisis through programmes like "More than food." You can find out more about this by visiting their website: <u>www.trusselltrust.org</u>

In this time of Lent when I have been cutting out excess consumption in little ways like not snacking, I find it disturbing to know that currently, after paying rent, families referred to food banks have on average just £50 per week for all other essential costs like food, heating, travel, clothing and bills.

Of course, some of us reading this may similarly be struggling to manage. Then we read Luke 21: v1-4 and recall how well Jesus knows us and how he notices and values the smallest of our offerings at times when we have little.

So please, when you are able to, would you think of contributing an item from the list below. Just bring it to church and leave it in the basket provided. Perhaps think of adding an extra can to your shopping list to donate from time to time. I will take our contributions to the foodbank regularly. Please stick to the list below so the volunteers can assemble identical packages (I was once told that if I haven't eaten last year's jar of pickled onions it's unlikely anyone else will want to either!) Also please check everything is "in date".



You'll find a reminder in your service sheet, but for now please get ready for our launch on Sunday 10th April while Lent is still fresh in our minds. They would be grateful for:

Long life milk, Long life fruit juice Tinned meat or fish Tinned vegetables or fruit Cans or packets of soup Cans of rice pudding Small or medium boxes of cereal Biscuits Instant mash 40s or 80s boxes of tea bags Pasta or rice (500g)

[When available extras like these are included in the parcels: Shampoo, shower



gel, toothpaste, toothbrushes, razors, handwash, washing up liquid, feminine hygiene].



Thank You! Sally

CHRIST CHURCH WORTHING

Services and Events...

Saturday 9th April 12 noon – 1.30pm



Lent Lunches – Soup, a roll and fruit

Wednesday 1st June 12.30pm – 1.30pm Yoko Ono Concert Pianist

Wednesday 22nd June 12.30pm to 1.30pm Paul Gregory Classical guitarist/Cellist

> **Sea Sunday 10th July** Morning Prayer with Derek Hansen Donations for Mission to Seafarers

Wednesday 27th July 12.30pm to 1.30pm Richard Bowen Classical and Jazz Guitarist

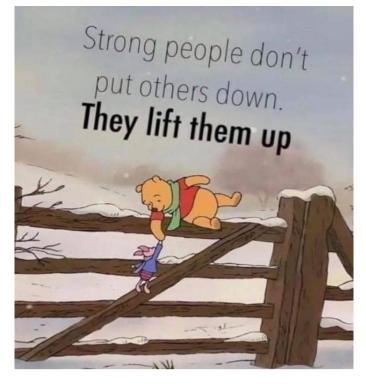
Christ Church Jubilee Market-Saturday 3rd September more details to follow!

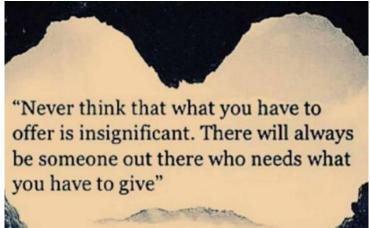
Wednesday 21st September 12.30pm to 1.30pm John Collins' Organ Recital as part of the celebrations for Christ Church's 179th Anniversary

Wednesday 19th October 12.30pm to 1.30pm A Barbershop Quartet

Sunday 4th December 10.30am

A service of Holy Communion with the start of the Christmas Tree festival - Let there be light!







Being British...

The Brit's natural 'warning signal' procedure to alert everyone in the vicinity that they're about to do something:

- 1. Slaps thighs/claps hands
- 2. Says "right then!"

Things said by nearly all Brits about the weather this weekend:

- 1. "I can't believe how nice it is!"
- 2. "There's people outside in shorts!"
- 3. "It makes such a difference doesn't it?"
- 4. "We could eat outside"
- 5. "Actually it's not that warm"
- 6. "Shall we go in?"

Being told "You've caught the sun!" after going outside for 20 minutes in March.

Outrage. Memories. Sir Galahad.

Outrage.....

The current situation in Ukraine is as tragic as it is an outrage. As I write this, TV and Radio News is telling us there is a Russian Military convoy, many miles long, trundling slowly into Ukraine. The invaders are a Superpower, so the Ukrainians have few Military options available to them but it's clear that the Ukrainian spirit will not easily be broken. I believe the Russians will find that armed resistance will be very hard to control once this first phase of the War is over.

In what feels like a different lifetime almost 50 years ago, during the Cold War days of the 1970s, Military Intelligence briefed our Unit on a similar scenario, but in connection with Norway rather than Ukraine. Norway shares a border with Russia and, with high tension between Russia and NATO countries there was concern for the Norwegians.

Norway was then, and is now, a member of NATO so NATO Forces would always be prepared to respond. It's not generally known but thousands of European troops meet each Winter in the Norwegian Arctic to train together to learn to work as a cohesive Military Unit defending the Northern Flank of NATO. Between January and April each year since 1971 my former Unit has deployed around 1,500 troops to practice survival, and battle techniques in one of the most inhospitable environments on the planet. We trained in the bitterly cold weather sometimes in 4-man teams and sometimes in Regimental Units of over 1,000 men backed up by a complete range of NATO Military assets.

That training continues today and as I write my former Unit are doing their bit as usual hundreds of miles inside the Arctic Circle in the frozen wastes of Northern Norway, along with troops from Europe and North America. This year the NATO exercise involves over 30,000 troops from more than 25 countries (but it has no connection to the current events in Ukraine).

Memories

When first deployed to the Arctic we would be taught to ski, then to survive outdoors in temperatures regularly below minus 30, then to fight in the hostile conditions. As part of the learning process we had to do it all in total darkness too because Intelligence told us our enemy did 80% of their training in darkness so we had to match them.

On the first deployment to Norway the laughter, early on at least, was nonstop as we first set foot (or ski) on the side of the nearest mountain. The word 'YETI' became the word of the day, the week, and indeed the month, as Royal Marines strapped on what were known as 'Pussers Planks' (RM issue skis) and started to learn from our Ski Instructors how to cross country ski, including the Herringbone, the Stem Christie, the Diagonal Gate, the Snowplough, and many more skiing skills, none of which seemed to come easy to any of us!

Why the word 'YETI'? It became popular because Royal Marines on 'planks' spent more time flat out on the deck buried in snow than they did upright on their planks.... for the first little while at least.... and each time they crashed into the deck, then hauled themselves back up onto their skis, they were covered in thick, powdery snow from head to foot, they were five times bigger, and resembled....... A Yeti.

When learning to ski, it was quite normal to see Bootnecks (Royal Marines) travelling at break-neck speed down a steep slope, bobbing and weaving as if in the ring with Mike Tyson, yet all they were really trying to do was to get their balance and stay upright! When they finally realised they had lost control while travelling at high speed and thought they might disappear into the mountains never to be seen again, the only option remaining was to crash themselves into the snowcovered deck. As they were going down they would loudly shout "YETTTIIII" to warn anyone nearby that they were about to disappear into a big puff of snow.

Once we could all ski like pros, the instructors gave us large very heavy back packs thus immediately causing the old balance problems... "YETI"!..... A few days later that little problem was cracked and so a heavy weapon was added to our shoulders "YETI"!...... but soon that was sorted too and we were all skiing with packs and weapons as if we had been doing it all our lives.

After the first few weeks in the Norwegian Arctic the fun and games were over and the serious stuff began. Although we were based in accommodation high up in the mountains we spent the week miles away from barracks living outdoors in the bitter cold. We learnt to construct various natural shelters to enable us to survive and learnt the special Military skills necessary to fight, often in total darkness, in the cold conditions. Each year the Arctic was hard work but fun and enlightening.

Sir Galahad...... For some of our Winter deployments we travelled to Norway on board the RFA (Royal Fleet Auxiliary) ship Sir Galahad. The Sir Galahad was an LSL (Landing Ship Logistics) and one Company from our Unit, along with all necessary backup, weaponry, vehicles and ammunition, fitted nicely on board. The claustrophobic troop decks we inhabited were deep down below inside the bowels of the ship which came hard to Royal Marines who are more used to being outside in the fresh air. Usually it took around 4 days to sail from Rosyth in Scotland to our first base in Norway. We sometimes came home on the same ship too at the end of our deployment.

Sir Galahad

Fast forward to 1982 and the Falklands Campaign which I must say right away is not my story to tell because I was not there. I had been medically discharged from HM Royal Marines having copped a significant injury in an earlier deployment elsewhere. However, 2022 is the 40th anniversary of the Falklands Campaign so I want to mention the part that the RFA Sir Galahad played in the Campaign.

Sir Galahad was loaded with equipment, ammunition, and troops from various Army Regiments but mainly Welsh Guards. She was anchored in Bluff Cove, East Falklands, waiting to disembark the men onto the Islands when she was bombed by the enemy.

I am sorry to say that I have seen more times than I wish to remember what explosives can do to human beings, to vehicles, to buildings and such like and, having spent time on that ship way down below inside those claustrophobic troop decks, I imagined the horror and the chaos amongst the troops when the bombs hit and ferocious fires started.

I watched the TV News reports showing film of Sir Galahad dead in the water belching huge palls of black smoke from below. Fierce fires burned while heroic Royal Navy helicopter pilots hovered their aircraft in the very midst of the thick black smoke, the vicious flames, and the exploding ammunition, to try to rescue survivors. All I could think of were the lads that were trapped down below in those claustrophobic troop decks surrounded by red hot metal, choking smoke, and fierce fires. My heart sank.

Numbers of casualties do vary but the bombing and the fires took at least 60 souls that day, most of them were Welsh Guardsmen. At least another 97 troops were wounded. There is no number for those who were mentally damaged.

The bombing of the Sir Galahad was the biggest single loss of life amongst British Forces in the Falklands Campaign of 1982. The fires on board were so ferocious they burned for more than a week. At some point later she was towed out to sea and she was sunk.

The RFA Sir Galahad is now designated an Official War Grave.

May they all Rest in Peace.

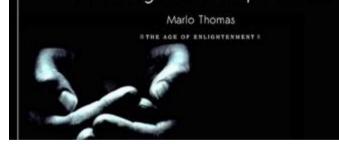
The Veteran

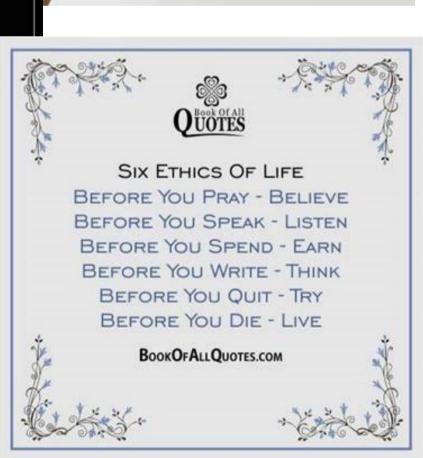
Before you speak, let your words pass through three gates:

> Is it true? Is it necessary? Is it kind?

> > When a flower doesn't bloom you fix the environment in which it grows, not the flower.

"My father said there were two kinds of people in the world: givers and takers. The takers may eat better, but the givers sleep better."







Donating for Ukraine:



The UK Government has announced that it will match all donations made to the **DEC [Disasters Emergency Committee]** up to £25,000,000.

Donations can also be gift aided.

You can do this online at

www.dec.org.uk/appeal/ukraine-humanitarian-appeal

By Post: Please make your donation payable to the DEC Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal, PO Box 999, London EC3A 3AA.

At your local Post Office: Donations can also be made to DEC appeals at your local Post Office branch.

DEC MEMBER CHARITIES:

Action Against Hunger; ActionAid; Age International; British Red Cross; CAFOD; Christian Aid; CARE; Concern; Oxfam; Plan; International Rescue Committee; Save; Tearfund; World Vision; Islamic Relief

May God, in his mercy, answer our prayer, soften the hearts of aggressors, and strengthen those who give aid to the victims of conflict and who work for the recovery of peace and freedom. Amen The Churchwardens have suggested that if you feel so moved, that we all pray for peace in Ukraine each evening at 7pm in our own homes

Praying for the Peace of the World

In peace let us pray to the Lord. We pray for the leaders of the nations, that you will guide them in the ways of freedom, justice and truth.

Lord, in your mercy **hear our prayer**.

We pray for those who bear arms on behalf of the nation, that they may have discipline and discernment, courage and compassion.

Lord, in your mercy **hear our prayer**.

We pray for our enemies, and those who wish us harm, that you will turn the hearts of all to kindness and friendship.

Lord, in your mercy **hear our prayer**.

We pray for the wounded and the captive, the grieving and the homeless, that in all their trials they may know your love and support.

Lord, in your mercy **hear our prayer**.

Most holy God and Father, hear our prayers for all who strive for peace and all who fight for justice and, as we commend to you lives lost in terror and conflict, bring us all, in the end, to the peace of your presence, through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**