

CHRIST CHURCH *in* April 2023



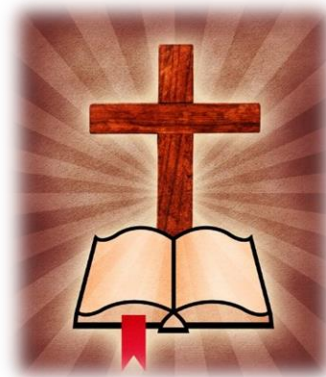
VOLUME 7 ISSUE 4 - APRIL 2023

Registered Charity no: 1152846

Parochial Church Council of Worthing Christ Church

Website: www.christchurchworthing.org.uk

Worship in April at Christ Church



- 2nd 10.30am Holy Communion for Palm Sunday**
with The Venerable Luke Irvine-Capel
6pm Evensong with The Revd Roger Walker
- 6th 7pm Holy Communion for Maundy Thursday**
with The Revd Maurice Slattery
- 7th 2.30pm Good Friday** with
The Right Revd Ruth Bushyager, Bishop of Horsham
and The Revd Nancy Ford
- 9th 10.30am Holy Communion for Easter Day**
with The Venerable Chris Skilton
- 13th 10.30am BCP Holy Communion**
with The Revd Roger Walker
- 16th 10.30am Holy Communion and Baptism**
with The Revd Andrew Cunnington
6pm Evensong with The Revd Maurice Slattery
- 23rd 10.30am Morning Prayer** with Derek Hansen
- 27th 10.30am BCP Holy Communion**
with The Revd Roger Walker
- 30th 10.30am Holy Communion**
with The Revd Roger Walker

Contact us....

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Hours: Tuesday & Wednesday 10.30 – 12 noon

Thursday 2.30 – 4pm

Sermon of the Month

with grateful thanks to Derek Hansen

Jeremiah 18:1-11* and *Luke 18: 9-14

In our first reading God invites Jeremiah into the potting shed. He has to leave the familiar spaces, step away from the scriptures and the sanctuaries, bypass the committee meetings and instead learn about God and God's people by watching an artist at work.

Other scriptures invite us to imagine God as ruler and judge, writer and teacher, farmer and builder, father, mother, and lover. Jeremiah invites us to see God as an artisan and artist who, because he doesn't fire the clay, is able to both shape us and reshape us. To see our strengths and our weaknesses, build up our strengths, and, when flaws are found in us, work to remould us to become the people, the community, he would have us be.

God cannot *make* us do anything. He cannot *make* us use our gifts or choose the good. Nor can God effect our conversion or direct our lives to a new path if we don't choose to do so. How will we hear, in the words of first hymn those echoes of mercy, those whispers of love – how do we learn, how do we hear those messages, the invitations, from God?

The invitation to us is, in many ways, exactly the same as God's invitation to Jeremiah. Sometimes we need to step away from the scriptures avoid the committee meetings and learn about God and God's people by watching others. It doesn't need to be a potter. In a parish nearby, we have somebody who my wife calls a light bulb. He simply radiates faith. You will have you own light bulbs here – indeed you may be one! Watching faith in action can so easily be an encouragement, an example, and an inspiration to help us on our way.

On the face of it there's an easy lesson from our second reading. The moral of this story is so clear it's hard to miss: *Don't think too highly of yourself like this hypocritical Pharisee; rather, be like the self-abasing tax collector.* Or, to make it even simpler, "be humble." But, if we're not going to trip up, we need to look at this a bit more carefully...

First, the Pharisee. He speaks the truth: he *is* righteous. He leads a life blameless according to the law. He fasts and gives alms and indeed bears no resemblance to the unsavoury characters with which he compares himself. But his prayer has shifted from thanks to pride - He is no longer praying; he is comparing. He's right about the

kind of life he should live but, while he prays to God, his prayer is simply about himself. He ignores love and despises the very people God loves. He ticks some of the right boxes but misses out on the two that really matter. 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul. And 'Love your neighbour as yourself'. He leaves the Temple as righteous, according to the law, as he was when he entered it – but he's not justified or called righteous by God.

And now the tax collector. There's no hint of repentance in the tax collector's speech. No pledge to change his job or give money back to those he has cheated, no promises of a new and better life. What "justifies" the tax collector is not remorse or guilt - he is **NOT** confessing specific sins. What justifies him is his deep recognition of his need for God's grace and forgiveness.. The tax collector knows the one thing the Pharisee does not: — his past, present, and future is entirely dependent on God's grace and mercy but, actually he's doesn't seem to be doing anything about it.

Now comes a second problem - the minute you decide to take this parable to heart and "be humble" like the Pharisee, it's pretty hard not to also be grateful you're not like him. The focus then is on you rather than on God and what God is doing. The minute you hear the tax collector's confession as an example that we also ought to live your life fully and entirely aware of your status as a sinner, you shift your attention away from God's activity to you and your own status. If you really are dependent on God are you prepared to be remoulded by him?

This parable is an attempt to shift our attention from ourselves — our piety or our passions, our faith or our failure, our glory or our shame — to God, the God who delights in justifying the ungodly, welcoming the outcast, and healing all who are in need. The God who invites all of us - Pharisees and tax collectors, righteous and sinful, disciples and ne'er-do-wells alike with those echoes of mercy and whispers of love into a world of unimaginable and unexpected grace, mercy and joy. Quite simply it's an invitation to let your God love you. One delightful monk from Worth Abbey told me "God made me how I am because he wanted me to be the way I am" It's an attractive approach, but I think that, whilst he loves us as we are and accepts us as we are, his love is such that, liberated by his love and forgiveness, we are invited to be moulded by his Spirit, and to become the person he would have us be. Amen

Within my earthly temple there's a crowd

There's one of us that's humble, and one that's proud

There's one that's broken-hearted for his sins

and one who, unrepentant, sits and grins.

There's one who loves his neighbour as himself

and one who cares for naught but fame and pelf

From such corroding care I should be free

If I could once determine which is me

Edward Sanford Martin 1856-1939 / USA

CHRISTCHURCH FOODBANK

If you are able, please would you donate **anything from the list by the collection baskets in church** so the volunteers can assemble identical packages. Also please check everything is “in date”. Baskets are either side of the cross aisle in the middle of the church. **THANK YOU!**

Why not join us through the week?

We're open for coffee and a chat every Tuesday and Wednesday morning from 10.30 till 1pm

All donations for coffee are divided equally between all our missions

On Thursday afternoons between 2.30 and 4pm,
we open for “The Crafty Club’s” coffee and natter sessions, when you can bring anything you love doing, knitting, crochet, sewing, drawing, colouring... anything.

Enjoy chatting over a cuppa, or you can just pop in to talk with friends old and new, have a tea or coffee and biscuits and catch up.

Councillor Hazel Thorpe holds a residents' surgery and is available from 3pm until 4pm on the second Thursday in every month.

Maybe you would just appreciate sitting in the church in quiet reflection... whatever you like, you are always welcome!



Poet's Corner

Good Friday!

Three roods upon the distant mound,
Outlined against the dark'ning sky,
Three homes of shame the world confound,
Disgrace for ages to decry.

Villains attend on either side,
Securely roped to wooden trees,
Sweet innocence in midst abide,
Nailed bleeding hands true love decrees.

Three maidens fair their vigil keep,
In mournful silence at his feet;
Each in her heart bears anguish deep,
Their worlds with dire despair replete!



Within the bowels of emptiness,
Ferment the seeds of chaste redress!

© Elliott Allison

Contrition!

Attired in the doleful cloak of loss,
Occasioned by a glimpse of wooden cross,
The penitent relents
Past wrongdoings laments,
Intent his life with kindness to emboss.

© Elliott Allison.



For Lent.....and beyond.....

Fast from judging others;

Feast on Christ dwelling in them.

Fast from emphasis on differences;

Feast on the unity of all life.

Fast from apparent darkness;

Fest on the reality of all light.

Fast from thoughts of illness;

Feast on the healing power of God.

Fast from words that pollute;

Feast on phrases that purify.

Fast from discontent;

Feast on gratitude.

Fast from anger;

Feast on patience.

Fast from pessimism;

Feast on optimism.

Fast from worry;

Feast on God's providence.

Fast from complaining;

Feast on appreciation.

Fast from negatives;

Feast on affirmatives.

Fast from unrelenting pressures;

Feast on unceasing prayer.



MY WORTHING

**Life at Davison Church of England School,
Chapel Road, Worthing
1954 – 1960**

I started at Davison School in September 1954 after leaving Broadwater Church of England School. My friends and I sat an entrance examination and were placed in the top stream. There were 100 entrants that year, so the school was overcrowded. We had lessons in an upstairs room of the Christchurch Road Baptist Church, and other classes were held in 'Heathcote', a house on the corner of Stoke Abbott Road and Christchurch Road.

We had no facilities for sport so went to Beach House Park for tennis or netball, and Homefield Park for Rounders. PE was held in a hall which is now Methold House. Lunch was also served there. Sadly, the meals were awful because they were cooked elsewhere and then re-heated at the hall. I persuaded my Mum to let me have lunch at home with Dad who worked at the Town Hall.

If you look at the old school in Chapel Road, you can still see a cabin behind the front wall, which is where we had Art and Needlework classes. There used to be another cabin which was the School Library and where we had English lessons. Later this was used for Shorthand and Typing classes, which was a new undertaking for the school.

During this time, the Rivoli Cinema caught fire (I think it was in 1959) which was very serious, and the building was still smouldering when we returned to school the next morning.

I stayed on to take my 'O' levels plus Shorthand and Typing examinations. Eventually I left school in April 1960 and obtained my first job with Worthing Borough Council in the Education Office. While I was there, I carried on with my studies for 'A' level English Language and English Literature. I missed the new school by one term because the school moved to East Worthing in May 1960. I have visited the new school many times. They were very happy times at Davison.

The Education Office was in Stoke Abbott Road together with the Housing, Health, Chartered Surveyors and Births, Deaths and Marriages departments. These were demolished and replaced with a large car park for the Assembly Hall on the south side and flats on the north side.

Worthing Town Hall has a lovely foyer which in the past was full of flowers for the mayor-making service, which does not happen anymore!

We are lucky to have a very good Hospital and lovely seafront in Worthing too; and a most interesting museum which I have visited with friends which has recently been refurbished.

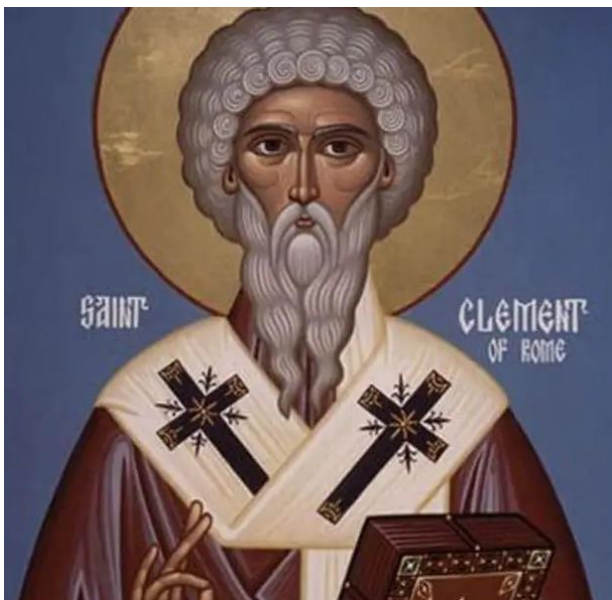
S.C.

Footnote: The school was founded in 1812 by the Reverend William Davison, the priest in charge of the Chapel-of-Ease, which was St Paul's Church, now converted into a Community Centre. Initially, the school was for the poor, male children of the Parish and it was intended that they would receive a Christian education and have instruction in reading, writing and arithmetic. The principle that inspired Davison to create the country's first free school in Worthing remains as important today as it has ever been.

If you have any memories of growing up in Worthing, or your first impressions of coming to live in Worthing, please do let the magazine editor know. You can put your name to it, or remain anonymous, your choice!

QUESTION

What is the oldest Christian prayer outside the Bible?



This is the Prayer for All Needs by St. Clement of Rome, the fourth Pope. He held the office from 88-99 and is said to have been consecrated as a bishop by St. Peter.

Near the end of his letter to the church in Corinth is a deep, passionate and wide-ranging prayer that is rich in symbolism and rooted

in the Gospel message.

This is the most famous passage: *‘We beg you Lord to help and defend us. Deliver the oppressed, pity the insignificant, raise the fallen, show yourself to the needy, heal the sick, bring back those of your people who have gone astray, feed the hungry, lift up the weak, take off the prisoners’ chains.*

‘May every nation come to know that you alone are God, that Jesus Christ is your child, that we are your people, the sheep that you pasture.’

Archaeology/history walks in Worthing for 2023

I am again running a series of archaeology/history walks for Christ Church in Worthing once a month between May and July. These will take place in the morning on the second Wednesday of the month.

If rained out, then the walk will take place on the next Wednesday. We start at 10.00 AM and end up at Christ Church for the Coffee Morning. The walks for this year are listed below.

10th May. “Village pumps in Worthing”.
Meet outside The Guildbourne Centre.

14th June. “Worthing’s 18th Century Pubs”.
Meet at the east end of Worthing Pier.

12th July. “Worthing Watch Houses”.
Meet on seafront opposite Heene Road.

Alex Vincent

Any enquiries my telephone number is 07753282714.

Email: alexeklipping@gmail.com



My Worthing....

I think I was very lucky to have been born and bred in Worthing, a fact confirmed once I left the town and met lads from all over the UK. My Worthing school days were all about the outdoors and sports, I was lucky enough to play for the football, cricket, and basketball teams making my time at school bearable. Apart from the sports and games lessons I really didn't like school at all but please..... don't tell my grandchildren I said that!

Football and cricket were played against local school teams after the academic day had ended, and on Saturdays too sometimes. Throughout my years at Downsbrook Junior I had to get used to loss after loss after loss as neither our football nor cricket teams could win a thing or beat anyone, we were useless!

At St Andrews Secondary it was just the opposite as we had decent sports teams and I was lucky enough to play for them. When playing in the under 13, and the under 15 football teams, we won the Schools Cups at Woodside Road, the home of Worthing FC, in front of a large school and family crowd.



I also used to go along with a bunch of mates to play at the newly built ten pin bowling alley as often as could be afforded, while in later years the same gang of us would play squash against one another at the Sports Centre, and at the West Worthing Club.

Other than playing sports I liked to go fishing and enjoyed angling on the pier at all hours of the day and night according to the tide times. I remember climbing over the locked gates at the pier entrance on many occasions to spend the night drowning worms (angling) along with my mates, then we would go home to one of our houses for an early breakfast.

I spent a lot of my young years working on the beach, and at sea, to earn my pocket money so I knew almost all the characters of the shoreline throughout my childhood. The length of the seafront, from boundary to boundary, used to be patrolled by two Beach Inspectors known to us as 'big' Fred, and 'little' Bert. Daily they would push their bikes along the seafront keeping a close eye on the shoreline to ensure it remained clean, neat and tidy.

Fred was a former Army PT Instructor and boxed for his Regiment, he was, as his nickname suggested, a big fella. Nobody messed with 'big' Fred.

Bert was a former War time Royal Navy Officer, he was very sharp witted and had an answer for almost everything. However, if Bert found himself lost for words when dealing with one or more of the old fishermen along the seafront he would revert to Fred.

Nobody messed with 'big' Fred!

When I was 15 going on 16 years of age it became necessary (!) to enter the pub that the fishing fraternity used, namely the Half Brick at the South end of Ham Road. In those days that pub was a two bar affair, the public or fisherman's bar was on the South side with a view out to sea. The Lounge bar was on the North and

East side. I liked the public bar with its dart board and bar billiards table where the old fishermen would sit and play Crib, and various other card games, while the few youngsters like me would play bar billiards or take some of the old boys on at darts.

The pub at that time was being run by a former Royal Navy man who had clearly seen a bit of life. John, I can't recall his surname, was a big, barrel chested man with a full beard, fearsome looking to a youngster like me, and a stickler for rules and regulations. John would stand tall behind the bar glaring down at me and my mates, his big, tattooed arms tightly folded, his thick chest hair popping out of his shirt like a burst sofa, but he always turned a blind eye to us youngsters being brought in by the old fishermen.

One of the old boys of that time was known as 'Brummie' (you'll probably never guess why) and he introduced me to his regular snifter that he called "a pint of rough". In the real world it was called Mild Stout. I took my first mouthful, as he assured me I would like it, then almost threw up! When he suggested that I try a drop of Whitbread Trophy Bitter instead, I thought it was another trap but it turned out to be a beer I could handle, just about. It would be many years before I discovered the glorious produce of Mr Arthur Guinness.....

After fishing expeditions I often met up with mates for a cuppa and a bacon roll in the Rendezvous Café next to the Dome Cinema, and sometimes Vernons Café just a few doors further West. In the evenings after work my mates and I would venture into town to visit such places as The Woods (the bar in the bowling alley) the Marine (a pub opposite the pier where a block of flats is located now) the Fountain (now the Slug and Lettuce)

while on a Saturday night we might go to the Assembly Hall dance, after the Friday night Pier Pavilion disco.

From time to time we would visit the Frog Pond (a bar in the basement of the Warnes Hotel, now a block of flats). Other regular watering holes were the Thieves Kitchen in Warwick Street and the Tirola Bar in the Guildbourne Centre both of which were especially busy on Sunday nights. A Café/Bar restaurant called the Waldorf Buttery was located on the South East corner of Bath Place, it eventually became Gian Mario's restaurant. When working as a professional fisherman I would sell prime fish to Mario who was very fussy about the quality of food he offered his customers. Mario happily paid top prices for the very best Dover Soles and Turbot.

Being young (remember those days?!) we never seemed to want to go home at night, but where was there left to go once the pubs had closed? The Carioca in Eriswell Road was where most people went, though there was also a Private Members Club in a basement in Augusta Place that we tried, and failed, many times to get into. The Carioca was never one of my favourite places but, as there was nowhere else to go..... any port in a storm!

Before it was called the Carioca, in the days when my 2 elder sisters used to go there, it was known as the Mexican Hat Club. One night a regular performer there was picked up and helped to stardom by a writer and producer named David Courtney, that performer was Leo Sayer. Leo later had a hit with a song that mentioned his connections to the Mexican Hat Club and its location in Worthing with lines such as: "He sees her at the same time every night, at the Mexican discotheque".... and "his blue

Morris van is parked in an alley, just by Montague Street”. That record made the Charts in the 1970s and was called “Moonlighting”.

In later years the Connaught Theatre offered some decent films on a Monday morning with tea and biscuits included and a discount if you visited the Denton Lounge Tea Rooms at the North end of the pier. Sadly the Denton is currently closed, such a waste of a perfect location for a food and drinks outlet.

That’s a little bit of ‘My Worthing’, it’s the bit I can share.....

Benefits of serving Green Tea to guests:

1. You look rich
 2. Save money on milk
 3. You don’t need to serve biscuits
 4. They won’t ask for more.
 5. They won’t come again
-



Spot the Connection

The following list are book titles and authors identified by initials – can you fill in the blanks?

Once you've done that, can you spot the connection between these books in today's American schools / libraries and English schools of the 1960s? (I know, the first one's really hard). *Answers on page 27!*

C-22 by J H

O M a M by J S

T K a M by H L

T C i T R by J D S

U T C by H B S

T A o T S by M T

A F by G O

A F: D o a Y G by A F

T G o W by J S

T C o t W by J L

A's A i W by L C

I K W t C B S b M A

B N W by A H

T L o t F by W G

1984 by G O

T L o t F by W G

A Q o t W F by E M R

Be ambitious for the higher gifts..

Navigational skills are precious commodities - anyone, walking, driving, riding, flying or just being on the move somewhere, or anywhere, will know the importance of knowing where we are going. Most of the time, we have come to take our moving through life for granted; most of the time we actually spend little time reflecting on where we are going in our lives.

If it is imperative for us to know where we are physically travelling/going in our day-to-day movements; or travelling in a bus; or flying in a plane or travelling in a train.. then surely, it is just as important for us to know the proper or, more helpful directions for our inner lives.

St Paul was very much aware of the need, indeed, the absolute necessity for directions in our spiritual lives; the kind of lives which impinge on our day-to-day contact and communion with our fellow-human beings.

In his 1st Letter to the Corinthians, Paul devotes an entire two chapters -- 12 & 13 -- commenting on the great diversity of “Gifts” dispensed by the Spirit of God, popularly known as the Holy Spirit....he is referring specifically to “Gifts” operating within the Christian Community....There were apostles, prophets, teachers, miracle workers, gifts of healing, helping, leadership, language and so on....A great diversity of gifts and giftedness, some of which are often seen to take prominence over others.

There is a universal sense in which everything Paul says applies to all of humanity, to all people. Indeed, some people in the world DO seem to have been endowed with immensely eminent and powerful gifts, for which they are often accorded acclaim.....

However, he ends off this powerful and instructive chapter twelve, with these words: Be ambitious for such higher gifts - by all means DO aspire to them...BUT... and in the original Greek, this is a powerful BUT... Paul goes on to say..

"I will show you a more excellent way, better than any of these higher gifts..."

We get this extraordinary chapter 13.... Having any or ALL of these very lofty gifts, without LOVE, is totally useless. In fact, Paul goes so far as to say: Stripping myself of ALL earthly possessions, and even offering my body as a martyr, without LOVE, will do me no good whatsoever.

Then follows all the nuances and implications of LOVE; It pays for us to read this passage from time to time - if only to remind ourselves of what it means to “follow” the way of Jesus of Nazareth.

It will be quite unhelpful, if not a serious error, to read only the bits that start with Love is this, or Love is not that, etc. We need to read the whole of the two chapters..12 and 13. Thus we shall feel the impact of this great ‘Hymn to Love’...

Notice, too, how Paul ends off his ‘Praise of Love’...he actually sums it up for us: In short, he says, ‘...there are three enduring

things in life...Faith, Hope and Love.. but the greatest of these, is LOVE!

The word Paul uses for love is the very distinctive, AGAPE!

Unconditional, positive regard; an acceptance of one's person, warts and all; no ifs and buts.. No provided this or provided that.. The kind of LOVE of which Paul speaks here is total and unconditional acceptance. A tall order? Is that not how God loves each and every one of us? How come, we so often want to tag on pre-conditions for LOVING? EA

Struggle.

A man found a cocoon of a butterfly. He sat and watched the butterfly for several hours as it struggled to force its body through the little hole at the end.

Eventually, the butterfly stopped making progress. It appeared as if it had gotten as far as it could and it could go no farther. The man decided to help the butterfly, so he took a pair of scissors and snipped off the remaining bit of the cocoon. The butterfly then emerged easily, but it had a swollen body and small, shrivelled wings.

The man continued to watch the butterfly because he expected that, at any moment, the wings would enlarge and

expand to be able to support the body, which would contract in time.

Neither happened! In fact, the butterfly spent the rest of its life crawling around with a swollen body and shrivelled wings. It never was able to fly.

What the man in his kindness and haste did not understand was that the restricting cocoon and the struggle required for the butterfly to get through the tiny opening were nature's way of forcing fluid from the body of the butterfly into its wings so that it would be ready for flight once it achieved its freedom from the cocoon.

Sometimes struggles are exactly what we need in our life. If nature allowed us to go through our life without any obstacles, it would cripple us. We would not be as strong as what we could have been. And we could never fly...





Don't carry your mistakes around with you.

Instead, place them under your feet and use them as stepping stones to rise above them.



**LET US MAKE A JOYFUL NOISE
UNTO THE LORD**

“Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all ye lands. Serve the Lord with gladness; come before his presence with singing.” I have always liked these opening words from Psalm 100, because for me both that we sing together and what we sing together are a vitally important elements of our services. I was one of the many for whom the proscription of singing at services during the Covid restrictions represented a very serious loss.

Why am I so attached to hymns? First, they are something in which we all necessarily participate. They unite us; it's difficult to switch off during a hymn. And it is claimed that congregations pick up most of their theology, good or bad, from

the hymns that they sing, rather than the preachers they listen to, so their role is clearly important in educating us.

Although the singing of hymns can be traced back into antiquity, hymn singing was not an integral part of Orders of Service in the Church of England until the early 19th century. We have the Nonconformist tradition to thank for popularising the use of hymns in formal worship. Many hymn collections were published in the first half of that century, and tunes in those days were published separately from words; any tune might be used that fitted the metrical pattern of the words. 'Hymns Ancient and Modern' was first published in 1861, and contained both words and tunes in a single volume. Its popularity stemmed from the fact that the compilers drew from a very wide range of sources and traditions, both from this country and abroad, while at the same time reflecting its Anglican provenance. It has been revised and updated on several occasions, and remains a very popular hymnal to this day.

And I think part of the appeal of hymns is that they draw on such rich and varied traditions. We regularly use hymns that are translations of ancient texts, the Advent favourite 'O come, O come, Emmanuel', for example, dates back to a 12th century Latin text. But we also regularly sing relatively recently written hymns such as 'Will you come and follow me', the authors of which are still both living.

One of the other endearing characteristics of many hymns is their ability to evolve. True, many hymns are long-forgotten,

but others are born survivors. 'Hark the herald angels sing' was originally written in 1739 by Charles Wesley with the opening line, "Hark how all the Welkin (sky) rings". This was soon changed by another author to the opening line we sing today, but the current familiar tune is an 1855 adaptation of music by Mendelssohn. And one of the most popular hymns in the world, 'Guide me O thou great Redeemer', also of 18th century origin, soared in popularity after it was set to the tune 'Cwm Rhondda', composed just over a century ago.

Another important feature of hymns is their capacity to combine the sacred with the secular. Many popular secular tunes are used for hymns. 'Will you come and follow me', which I have already mentioned, is sung to a traditional Scottish melody, and Eric Coates' stirring 1957 Dambusters' March is the music for 'God is our strength and refuge'.

Our hymns are indeed a wonderful resource!

Christopher W Reader



Answers to the quiz on page 19

Catch-22 by Joseph Heller

Of Mice and Men by John Steinbeck

To Kill a Mockingbird by Harper Lee

The Catcher in the Rye by J.D. Salinger

Uncle Tom's Cabin by Harriet Beecher Stowe

The Adventures of Tom Sawyer by Mark Twain

Animal Farm by George Orwell

Anne Frank: Diary of a Young Girl by Anne Frank

The Grapes of Wrath by John Steinbeck

The Call of the Wild by Jack London

Alice's Adventures in Wonderland by Lewis Carroll

I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings by Maya Angelou

Brave New World by Aldous Huxley

The Lord of the Flies by William Golding

1984 by George Orwell

The Lord of the Flies by William Golding

All Quiet on the Western Front by Erich Maria Remarque

Alice's Adventures in Wonderland by Lewis Carroll

And the connection? All (or certainly most of these) were recommended reading for the CSE English Literature Exam in 1967/68 and they are all on various “Banned Book” lists in USA schools or libraries. Now if students in my day had been told a book was banned, what better incentive to go and look for it!

However, if Dorothy Kazer, the town librarian (and Sunday School teacher), had spotted me trying to sneak one through she would have looked at me over her glasses and asked if I was sure this was the book I intended to withdraw!

Philautia.

The writer Maya Angelou said, 'I do not trust people who do not love themselves and yet tell me, I love you! There is an African saying which is: Be careful when a naked person offers you a shirt.

Philautia is the Love we give to ourselves. This is not vanity, like narcissism, but our joy in having self-respect and being true to our own values. If we have the strength to care for ourselves, we can in turn care for others.

It's Philautia that makes the cabin crew on an airline tell us that, in the event of an emergency, we should fit our own oxygen masks first so that we are then in a position to help more vulnerable people.





World Day of Prayer 3rd March 2023

Report from Jenny C

*This year's service was
prepared by the*

Christian Women of

Taiwan, a country that has for many years been caught in a superpower struggle. China continues to claim Taiwan as its sovereign territory, although a large number of Taiwanese reject reunification with China. The service held at Offington Park Methodist Church was very well attended, with representatives of many local churches present. This year's service was prepared under the shadow of the Covid 19 pandemic in 2020. The theme this year is the duty of all Christians to pray for and encourage others to hold firm to their faith in difficult times.....



I Have Heard About Your Faith

Program written by the

World Day of Prayer Committee of Taiwan for WDP 2023

Ephesians 1:15-19

Through the “Voices of Taiwan” we heard of women’s heartfelt concerns and difficulties. Issues such as the need to achieve equality in education, fairness in the workplace, the urgency in protecting the environment and the safe way of dealing with victims of abuse; in all these areas, the women’s faith in God shines through!

“Letters of encouragement” followed for these and every other woman who faces similar suffering and injustice.

Finally, it is made clear that in all circumstances – each one of us has a duty and a responsibility to be an encourager of others.

With God’s help, we will be exactly that!

The sisters thank God for the natural resources of the island and pray for wisdom in face of the political isolation of Taiwan in the international community. They ask for our prayers.

More “Cooking in a microwave” tips!

Having just returned from holidaying in a self-catering accommodation, where the saucepans were unusable, I could have done with the following tip...

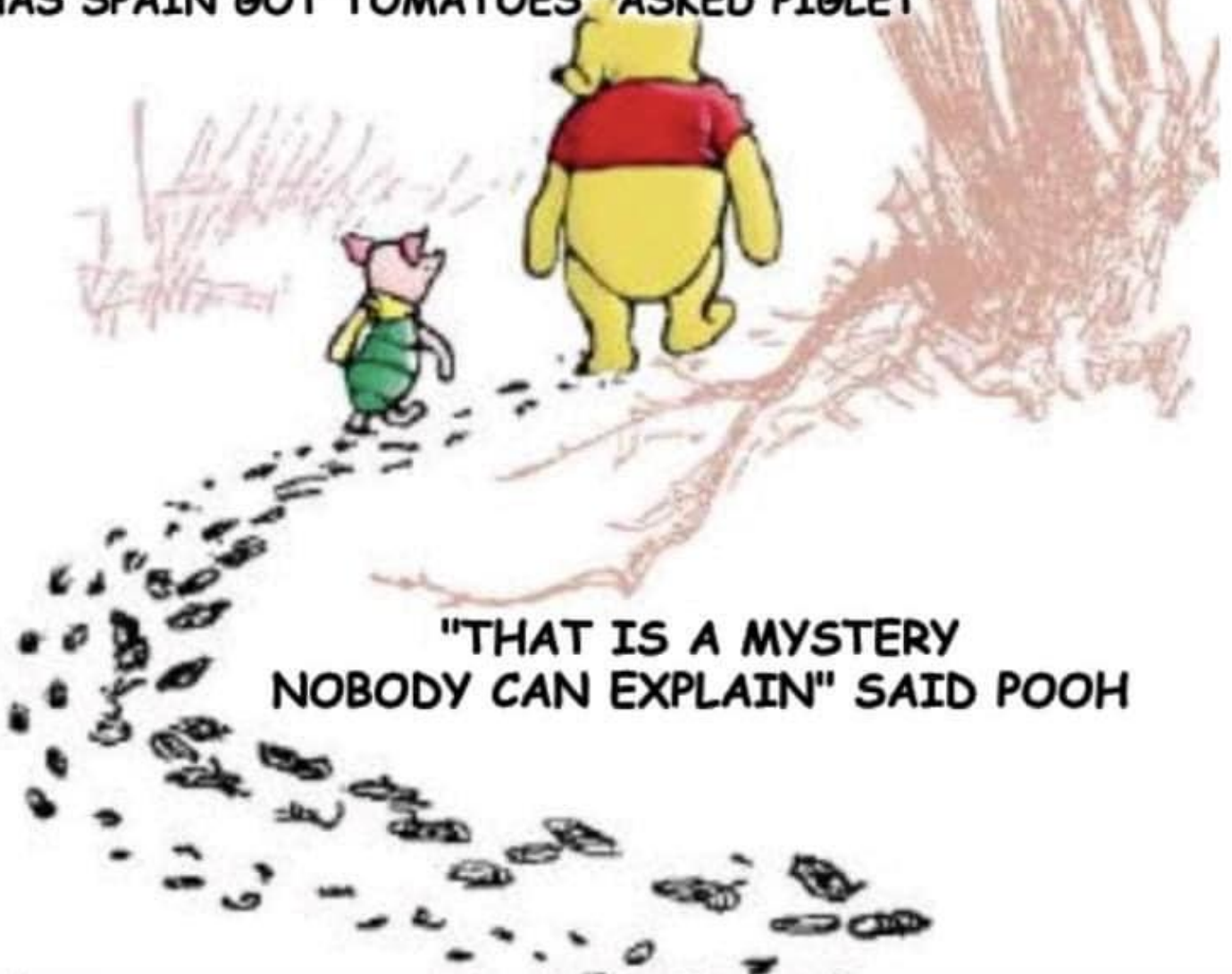
Pasta

A simple, mess-free way to cook pasta.

- Immerse your pasta in salted, boiling water, ensuring you use a heat- and microwave-safe container. You don't need a lid.
- Stir in a splash of oil to stop the pasta from sticking together.
- Add 3–4 minutes to the suggested cooking time – then you can get forget about it and get on with other things!

Well, who knew?!!!

"IF WE CAN'T GET TOMATOES
BECAUSE OF BAD WEATHER IN SPAIN, WHY
HAS SPAIN GOT TOMATOES" ASKED PIGLET



"THAT IS A MYSTERY
NOBODY CAN EXPLAIN" SAID POOH

**If ignorance is bliss,
why aren't a lot more people happy?**

**Some mistakes are too much fun
to make only once!**

**Everyone has a photographic memory.
Some of us just don't have a film.**

If the shoe fits, buy it in every colour!



CHRIST CHURCH Events...

A Lent lunch will be held on Saturday **1st April 2023**
from **12 noon to 1.30pm.**

*Proceeds go to the Christ Church 'Mission Fund' so all
missions that the church supports will benefit.*

Clelia Iruzun Concert pianist will perform on **Wednesday**
10th May, 12.30pm to 1.30pm

A film afternoon with tea and cake to follow
on **13th May** at 2pm

Paul Gregory – classical guitarist will play on **Wednesday**
14th June 2023, 12.30pm to 1.30pm.

***An exhibition of art, banners and sculpture is planned
for 1st July... more details to follow.....***

Yoko Ono concert pianist will perform on **Wednesday 12th**
July from 12.30pm to 1.30pm

Richard Bowen – Classical and Jazz Guitarist
will play on **Wednesday 9th August**
12.30pm to 1.30pm

John Collins – Christ Church resident organist will give a
recital on **Wednesday 20th September**, 12.30 to 1.30pm
to mark the church's 180th Anniversary

Rob Campkin and James Buckham,
[Violinist and Pianist] will perform on **11th October** from
12.30pm to 1.30pm

The 'Inspired Instrumentalists' will perform on **8th**
November from 12.30pm to 1.30pm