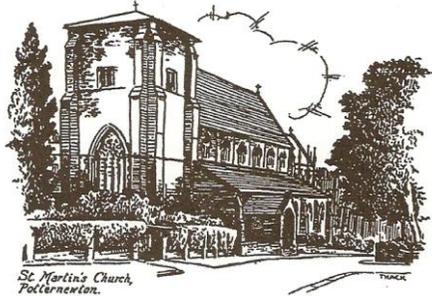


# Reach Out

## St Martin's Church Magazine

 THE CHURCH  
OF ENGLAND  
Diocese of Leeds



## February 2021



£ 1

**Services:** Sunday Eucharist at 10am via Zoom  
Morning Prayer Wednesdays at 10am on Zoom  
Evening Prayer Wednesdays at 5.00pm via  
Facebook



<https://www.facebook.com/StMartinPotternewton/>

[www.stmartinleeds.org.uk](http://www.stmartinleeds.org.uk)



@FrNicholasLP

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# Reach Out

*St Martin's Church welcomes you to praise God and serve our  
diverse community together*

## *Editor's Comment:*

So January threw at us some interesting weather – hope those of you who like the snow enjoyed some time in it, and those of you who don't like the snow stayed wrapped up safe and warm! Heading into February always brings some hope of spring – perhaps snowdrops or crocuses raising their heads and braving the elements. As we continue to endure the pandemic may we look forwards, just one month at a time, mindful of those who didn't make it with us. Stay safe and well, and warm and dry.

## **Contents**

Pastoral letter	pages 4-5
Calendar	pages 6-7
News	pages 8-14
From All Souls	pages 15-16
Mothers' Union	pages 16-17
Articles	pages 18-19
Thought for the Month	page 19
Advertisements	pages 20-22
Readings	page 23
From the Registers	page 23
Eco top tips	page 23
Information about St Martin's	page 24

# **Pastoral Letter**

## ***Pray without ceasing!***

The Bible encourages us to be conscious of God and what he is doing in our lives, and to be people that always prays regardless of the situation or circumstances that we find ourselves in (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18). However, sometimes it is easy to avoid the problem instead of facing it. I wonder what goes through our minds when we are presented with a challenging situation. What do we do?

Perhaps as children of God, this is a no-brainer, the answer will be that we just need to pray.

Whilst this might seem like an obvious question with an obvious answer, let's take a moment to reflect how the challenges we have encountered in this pandemic has led us to question our idea of what is "normal". Therefore, though we know how to pray, the question sometimes has been about identifying what to pray for and when?

Let me share some reflections on prayer, based on few minutes spent browsing my Facebook account:

I recently came across a prayer which was written by Rev Richard Bott, of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, which we might find useful (in our armour) when wearing a mask and it goes like this..:

Creator God, as I prepare to go into the world,  
help me to see the sacramental nature of wearing this cloth.  
Let it be a tangible and visible way of living love for my  
neighbours as I love myself.

The prayer continues, but I have just taken the first part of it. I honestly thought that this was creative and thoughtful, and I suppose it also shows our need to depend on God, as the ultimate protector and defender of us all. I was challenged by the simplicity of including God, even when putting on a mask! But then, I also thought should I also pray when I am doing my daily routines, like washing the dishes? The answer is: it will be good to be conscious of God in all that we do, and for the pandemic at least, the wearing of mask is something that is new, which some of us might find a challenge and uncomfortable. Some of us as well will not wear masks due to medical conditions, this will also be okay, since God is our protector and our mask. Let us be encouraged in knowing that all other man-made protection methods and devices will help us to a

point (and we should not stop using them), but ultimately God is the one who watches over us. To show such a scenario in the Bible, let's look at Proverbs, it says: "*The horse is made ready for the day of battle, but the victory belongs to the Lord*" ( Proverbs 21:31).

In other words, we can indeed be prepared by training and ensuring that our horses can run and so forth, but at the end of it all, it's God who gives us the victory. Hence, as I encourage myself and us all, let us continue praying for God's presence to be with us, and also talking to God about the details about our lives. Here I mean being open to express our joys and sorrow, our fears and then when we do this, we will know that indeed God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble (Psalm 46:1).

*God bless you!*

Fr. Ericcson



## **Links to services on Facebook / Zoom**

The Sunday Eucharist is streamed live if the service is in church; this is the link to view it at your leisure, as well as to follow live a sung Evening Prayer every Wednesday at 5:00 pm:  
<https://www.facebook.com/StMartinPotternewton/>

Join Morning Prayer on Zoom, Wednesdays at 10:00 am, or Sunday Eucharist if it is not held in church. Please ask a member of the clergy or congregation for the meeting ID and passcode. If you know of people who do not have a computer or a smartphone, they can listen to the Zoom services by dialling this number: 0330 088 5830 (cost of a local call; not a premium number). They will then be asked to enter the meeting ID (please ask a member of the clergy or congregation for this) then when asked for Participant ID they should just press the hash button: #

*Fr Nicholas*

# Calendar



## February

- Mon 1<sup>st</sup>** 6.00 pm "The Psalms" – Group on Zoom (see Revd Jane for details)
- Tues 2<sup>nd</sup>** **Presentation of Christ in the Temple Candlemas)**  
6.00 pm PCC on Zoom
- Weds 3<sup>rd</sup>** 9.00 am Community Kitchen  
10.00 am Morning Prayer on Zoom  
5.00 pm Sung Evening Prayer (also streamed on our Facebook page)
- Fri 5<sup>th</sup>** 9.00 am Community Kitchen until 2.00 pm
- Sun 7<sup>th</sup>** **The 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday before Lent**  
10:00 am Parish Eucharist on Zoom
- Mon 8<sup>th</sup>** 6.00 pm "The Psalms" – Group on Zoom (see Revd Jane for details)
- Weds 10<sup>th</sup>** 9.00 am Community Kitchen  
10:00 am Morning Prayer on Zoom  
5.00 pm Sung Evening Prayer (also streamed on our Facebook page)
- Fri 12<sup>th</sup>** 9.00 am Community Kitchen
- Sun 14<sup>th</sup>** **Racial Justice Sunday (next before Lent)**  
10:00 am Parish Eucharist on Zoom
- Mon 15<sup>th</sup>** 6.00 pm "The Psalms" – Group on Zoom (see Revd Jane for details)
- Weds 17<sup>th</sup>** 9.00 am Community Kitchen  
10:00 am Morning Prayer on Zoom  
5.00 pm Evening Prayer in church with imposition of Ashes (also streamed on our Facebook page)

<b>Thurs 18<sup>th</sup></b>	7.30 pm	Churches Together Community Prayers led by Wesleyan Holiness Church on zoom (Contact Rev Jane for Meeting ID and passcode)
<b>Fri 19<sup>th</sup></b>	9.00 am 2.30 pm 7.30 pm	Community Kitchen Stations of the Cross on Zoom Quiz on Zoom – all welcome (Contact Rev Jane for Meeting ID and passcode)
<b>Sun 21<sup>st</sup></b>	<b><u>The First Sunday of Lent</u></b>	
	10:00 am	Parish Eucharist on Zoom
<b>Mon 22<sup>nd</sup></b>	6.00 pm	#LiveLent Group on Zoom (see Revd Jane for details)
<b>Tues 23<sup>rd</sup></b>	6:00 pm	Standing Committee on Zoom
<b>Weds 24<sup>th</sup></b>	9.00 am 10:00 am 5.00 pm	Community Kitchen until 2.00 pm Morning Prayer on Zoom Sung Evening Prayer (also streamed on our Facebook page)
<b>Fri 26<sup>th</sup></b>	9.00 am 2.30 pm	Community Kitchen Stations of the Cross on Zoom
<b>Sun 28<sup>th</sup></b>	<b><u>The Second Sunday of Lent</u></b>	
	10.00 am	Parish Eucharist on Zoom



## **100 Club winners**

November  
1st Prize £60 - Fr Nicholas  
2nd prize £20 - Jesse  
3rd Prize £10 - Emily

December  
1st Prize £60 - Sandra D  
2nd prize £20 - Lilleth W  
3rd Prize £10 - Doreen B

# News

## St Martin's Update

Presumably as for everyone else and for every household in most of the world, at St Martin's as well our Christmas celebrations felt very different this year. However, we did manage to hold in church - beautifully decorated by Sue, Jennie and Carrie, with a magnificent tree procured by Jason and Sue's traditional crib under the high altar - a number of services: a Tots' Service with children from one of our local nurseries and a Crib Service with some other children and their families (both services led by Fr Ericsson); an atmospheric Carol Service, with carols beautifully sung by six invited skillful singers and Matthew at the organ, as reliable as always (Matthew, as well as the organ...); a candlelight emotional Midnight Christmas Mass with carols sung by Matthew and Sara; finally the Christmas Day service. All these services were characterized not only by a great number of empty pews, as expected, but also by a heightened sense of purpose, as we all felt more than ever that we were praying not just by ourselves, but in communion and on behalf of many, members of our congregation isolating or ill at home, people everywhere missing their loved ones, professionals engaging in a challenging effort to save lives, patients in hospital poorly and alone.

Although not connected to church attendance, no less than 6 people from St Martin's contracted the virus between April 2020 and January 2021, with one fatality in January, our dear Daphne. We will miss her. I will miss her, and I know she was a good friend to some of you in particular.

To assist the city's and the country's fight against the virus St Martin's PCC and All Souls' DCC decided to close again our two churches from Sundays 10<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> January respectively, suspending most of public worship in person. However, our prayer has continued with Sunday Communion services and Wednesday Morning Prayer on Zoom, as well as sung Evening Prayer at St Martin's church and on our Facebook page. On Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> January, at a combined Zoom Eucharistic service presided by Bp Paul, Revd Lynne Grey was licensed to All Souls'. Best wishes, Revd Lynne, on this new chapter of your ministry, and thank you.

In the meantime, Black Health Initiative and St Martin's Parish Church have joined forces to provide two hot meals per week to

people in need. Thus the over six year long ministry of St Martin's Parish Church to some of the most vulnerable people in town, carries on after the well-deserved retirement of Emily and her dedicated team of volunteers. If you would like to volunteer packing the takeaway bags or distributing the bags by car as by the new arrangements, please contact me on 0113 262 4271.

Finally, we are grateful to Ioanna who from London where she is working has accepted to take over as voluntary webmaster of our parish website, which is now up to date again after a long interval: [www.stmartinleeds.org.uk](http://www.stmartinleeds.org.uk)

The Lord says, "Be assured, I am with you always, to the end of time" (Matthew 28:20b)

*Fr Nicholas*

## **St Martin's Community Kitchen – final letter from Emily Forbes**

With sad news, I had to inform Fr Nicholas of my intention to resign in the New Year 2021, due to some health problems.

This decision was not made lightly, but with a lot of heartache and soul searching I had to make my decision.

I was intending to work until the end of February 2021 but Fr Nicholas managed to secure the involvement of Black Health Initiative from January 2021

However, that did not dampen my duties or spirit to cater for our clients, in making it a memorable Christmas for all of them.

Even though they could not enter the Institute, Christmas dinners were provided for them on two different weekends. On 26th December they had a three course meal to take away, a goody bag full of wonderful gifts, and most surprising to them was to receive a Christmas parcel both on 19th & 26th December 2020 which was well appreciated by all the clients, which contains a fleece, underwear, hat, gloves, scarf, socks and toiletries. We said our gratitude of thanks and goodbyes.

It was quite emotional for me to say goodbye after 6.5yrs of being a co-ordinator / head cook and working alongside so many volunteers from different walks of life, who came and offered their time in helping a good cause. It became a family united, treating each other with respect and unity and having a laugh.

My great delight was when we received our first hygiene certificate of a 4 star, then the second year a 5 star. I made it my duty to

thank each and every one of my volunteers that we had achieved such high ratings for their hard work had paid off.

I gave thanks to Revd David Stevens for setting up this project, so we could do the good work of God. I know he will be disappointed that our Saturday kitchen had to close, but I'm sure he will understand the reason why.

In the past years we had two celebrations of the community kitchen and having the community supporting our cause.

I would like to thank, Sarah at Asda for our huge turkeys each year, Paula at Morrison's for their donation of money or vouchers to spend in store, Steven, John & Peter at Fareshare for their weekly donation upon placing the order, a big thanks to David at St George's Crypt during our early years. And a big wonderful thank you to David & Sandra for their yearly gifts of new clothing for our clients. And last but not least to St Martin's congregation for their donations of, hats, gloves, scarves, and socks for the clients. Also a big thank you to Revd Jane de Gay for offering her support when needed, before the arrival of Fr Nicholas.

I would like to thank all the volunteers past & present for their time & hard work to let our project work.

On 26th of December 2020 our last day at the kitchen, Revd Colin came to the kitchen to offer out mobile phones to the homeless so they could be contacted by B H I. but unfortunately none of the homeless came which we were very disappointed & concerned about them not being able to be contacted. However, BHI now have a list of contact details for the clients so they should be able to continue to get these warm meals. At the end of the day Colin called us together, thanking us all and prayed for all of us, which was heartfelt & touching. Fr Nicholas also came over & said thank you to us.

I will miss all of my volunteers, but will keep in touch with them from time to time. And especially under these uncertain times we are facing.

God's blessing to you all.  
Happy new year  
Love Emily



Emily has chosen this piece of scripture to leave you with as she signs off from the Community Kitchen

**Psalm 91**

- <sup>1</sup> You who live in the shelter of the Most High,  
who abide in the shadow of the Almighty,
- <sup>2</sup> will say to the Lord, 'My refuge and my fortress;  
my God, in whom I trust.'
- <sup>3</sup> For he will deliver you from the snare of the fowler  
and from the deadly pestilence;
- <sup>4</sup> he will cover you with his pinions,  
and under his wings you will find refuge;  
his faithfulness is a shield and buckler.
- <sup>5</sup> You will not fear the terror of the night,  
or the arrow that flies by day,
- <sup>6</sup> or the pestilence that stalks in darkness,  
or the destruction that wastes at noonday.
- <sup>7</sup> A thousand may fall at your side,  
ten thousand at your right hand,  
but it will not come near you.
- <sup>8</sup> You will only look with your eyes  
and see the punishment of the wicked.
- <sup>9</sup> Because you have made the Lord your refuge,\*  
the Most High your dwelling-place,
- <sup>10</sup> no evil shall befall you,  
no scourge come near your tent.
- <sup>11</sup> For he will command his angels concerning you  
to guard you in all your ways.
- <sup>12</sup> On their hands they will bear you up,  
so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.
- <sup>13</sup> You will tread on the lion and the adder,  
the young lion and the serpent you will trample under foot.
- <sup>14</sup> Those who love me, I will deliver;  
I will protect those who know my name.
- <sup>15</sup> When they call to me, I will answer them;  
I will be with them in trouble,  
I will rescue them and honour them.
- <sup>16</sup> With long life I will satisfy them,  
and show them my salvation.

*Editor* – God bless Emily and her volunteers for their ministry to those in need in our community over the years. Amen.

## **Churches Together in Chapeltown and Harehills**

Chapeltown and Harehills is one of the most interesting and diverse areas of Leeds, if not the whole of Yorkshire. It is home to people of all faiths and none, but its Christian community is equally diverse. These churches worship one God in many different styles and traditions; Churches Together, a national organisation with local branches throughout the land, gives Christians a chance to gather to worship, to share news and support one another in prayer and social action. A prominent recent success has been the Knife Bin Campaign – Words for Weapons – led by Fr Nicholas.

Many local churches take part: Church of God of Prophecy, Church of Jesus Christ Apostolic, Harehills Lane Baptist Church, Holy Rosary, Jordan Healing Ministries, New Testament Church of God, Roscoe and Trinity Methodists, St Aidan's, St Augustine's, and St Martin's. Roles are shared across the churches, so the current Chair is Pastor Garry Graham from CoGoP, the Treasurer is Rod Levene from HLBC, and I am Secretary.

Community Prayers takes place at 7.30pm on the third Thursday of the month, and the churches take turns in leading these, in their own distinctive styles. These have been taking place on Zoom, of course, though we hope and pray that one day we will be able to resume our practice of different churches hosting the prayers and providing refreshments afterwards. Churches Together also organizes a Walk of Witness and outdoor service in a local park on Good Friday: it is too early to know what sort of event this will be in 2021, but we will certainly mark the day somehow or another. Please see the Calendar in this magazine, or the weekly sheets, for notices of events, or drop me a line (Jane.Degay@leeds.anglican.org) if you'd like to be on the mailing-list.

Community Prayers have been a great source of support for many people during the pandemic. Indeed, on one memorable occasion, we prayed for keyworkers, then paused at 8pm for the Thursday Clap for Carers, before returning to our computers to continue the service. Over the past few months, many people have told me, 'Well, we can only pray'; my answer is always, 'Yes, we can pray.'

*Revd Jane*

## **Fond farewells**

### **Letter from Frances Pond – 6<sup>th</sup> January 2021**

Thank you from Frances to St Martins church members

To Ministers and members of St. Martin's church I say thank you. From the very day Franklin brought me here you all welcomed me, during the two and a half years he was sick yours were the faces I saw and the voices I heard over the phone, even onto his passing on the 9<sup>th</sup> September until now I must say I'm overwhelmed by your generosity the out pouring of love towards me and I know those of you I have not seen face to face is due to the pandemic we all face, I thank you for your encouragement even those who remove their mask for a second when we meet just to ask if I'm all right I thank you.

And now it is with a heavy heart I must say goodbye to you all due to circumstances and the lost of Franklin is too heavy on me I am returning home to my country Dominica, although my marriage to Franklin was just a little over three years I am going back with a lifetime of memories.

Remember there is strength in unity.

I am leaving on Saturday

**An update from Fr Nicholas on 15.01.2021** – "Greetings to you all again from Frances Pond. She arrived safely and after a few days of precautionary isolation she will be leaving the hotel where she is staying and see her family there."

### **Letter from Caroline James**

"Well, it has been a bit of a whirl since I sold my house and moved down to Hampshire! I have hardly had time to think and that is probably a good thing as I do miss St Martin's. I wanted to thank everyone, especially Georgette for the lovely book of memories. It really was a work of art and will be a lovely memory to cherish.

When I moved to Leeds, I looked for a local church to join, eventually I chose St Martin's because of the people. I felt that

there was a community spirit and life in the church. I arrived just before Bob Shaw left and Jim arrived. I really enjoyed all the different characters in church and have fond memories of those who are no longer with us, such as John Barnes, who always managed to make me laugh. Of course, there are many more such as our beloved Franklin, Mrs Morgan, and lovely Esther to name but a few.

I will always love my time in Sunday Club and will miss everybody, so special thanks to Georgette, Myrla and Apostol, and I hope you will support them when things get back to normal!! When I think back to when we first started it seems like yesterday, but the children we had then are now in their late 20's! I love to hear how well they are doing how some of them are at university or doing well in their careers. We have been blessed to have such lovely children in Sunday Club and they have been such a pleasure to be with.

My new home is a little village outside of Winchester, I am adjusting to village life which is quite different. It is wonderful to be able to walk into the countryside from my house and the picture shows the lovely scenery. My sister and parents live in nearby villages and it is good to be near them.



Keep safe everyone, I will leave my contact details with Fr Nicholas if anyone wants to get it touch.

Miss you all,  
Caroline"

*Editor* – Again we thank God for Caroline's ministry amongst us here, especially her time with the children in the Sunday Club and on the magazine previously. God bless you in your new home

# From All Souls

I don't suppose for one minute that I'm the only one who's had to think again about what they were going to say or write at the start of this New Year. In some ways it doesn't seem appropriate to start with the usual breezy greeting of *Happy New Year*. When the new year seems just a continuation of the old year. With the return of the lockdown and all the attendant restrictions on our daily lives, as the new strain of Covid is rapidly spreading across our country. With all the uncertainties around schooling, jobs, trade, and Brexit, the fact that our hospitals are almost at capacity, and our NHS staff are working under immense strain and pressure. There is nothing new to celebrate is there?

Yet surely, there is something to celebrate. With the beginning of the roll out of the vaccine to the wider public through our GP surgeries, I find myself hopeful. Hope for the new year that's already unfolding. We are people who are constantly at the beginning of things in our lives. Our lives are full of beginnings from being born up to right now. During our lives we've started and changed schools. Started, changed, and left jobs. Moved houses. We've begun and ended relationships. Started families. We've taken up hobbies and activities.

Beginnings are important, as are endings. Endings allow us to reflect and take stock of what we have learnt. To consider what we need to take forward onto the next stage of our lives and recognising what we need to leave behind. In a few days' time, Covid restrictions allowing, I will be licensed at All Souls, as an associate priest with new duties and responsibilities as we explore together new opportunities and potential for growth and engagement within the parish.

At this moment we are caught up the middle of the disruption and devastation of living during the Covid pandemic. Perhaps experiencing a sense of helplessness, hopelessness, and loss. In all this we need to hang onto the fact that God is right here in the middle of it, with us. Continuing to hold out to us hope and promise for the future. The prophet Jeremiah, also writing from a time of trouble and unrest, told this promise from God to his people: *For surely, I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope.*

In Jesus, God creates anew and again. Pouring out God's love from the cross. A love that is stronger than anything this world can dish out.

One of my favourite prayers for uncertain times and new beginnings by David Adams is this one:

*Circle us, Lord. Keep protection near and danger afar.*

*Circle us, Lord. Keep hope within, keep doubt without.*

*Circle us, Lord. Keep light near and darkness afar.*

*Circle us, Lord. Keep peace within, keep evil out.*

*Rev Lynne Grey, Associate Priest*

*'Every week I record a short video reflection called Manna Moments on my Facebook page Lynne Grey. To access just send a friends request. I'm going to upload these to You Tube shortly.'*

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## **Regulars – Mothers' Union**



### **The Wave of Prayer.**

#### ***The Wave***

*Stretching as far as the eye can see  
A blue ocean reflects the heavens  
Still and calm, it brings peace and tranquillity.  
The wind of the spirit moves over the deep  
And waves begin to form  
They stretch beyond the horizon  
Across all the seas and oceans covering the world  
Each wave made of millions of drops in motion.  
Our prayers, like each drop in the ocean,  
Cover the world;  
Driven by the spirit, they become waves  
Touching the very fabric of God's creation,  
Bringing peace and tranquillity to situations, to  
conflict,  
To our souls.*



***Revd Terry Roberts.***

In Mothers' Union, prayer and worship are central to our work. We believe that prayer can transform our lives as individuals and as communities. Every day at midday, Mothers' Union members pray. Our Wave of Prayer around the world is a continuous expression of this commitment to each other in. At some point, each and every area in which Mothers' Union work is active, is prayed for.

On Friday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2021, Mothers' Union members in the diocese of Leeds received the Wave of Prayer from members in Norwich and around the world. We prayed not only for members and volunteers in the Leeds diocese but also for members and volunteers in our linked dioceses of Lesotho in Southern Africa, Kibungo in Rwanda, Etche and Ogbomoso in Nigeria and Hanuato in the Solomon Islands.

We prayed that relationships within families and communities would be restored and that independence for those in need, for example, those with disabilities and with illnesses such as HIV/Aids would also be restored. We prayed that the raising of our awareness of the interdependence and fragility of the world would result in our recognition of the disastrous aspects of climate change and encourage us to become responsible custodians of our world. We prayed for world peace and for our brothers and sisters who are affected by racial discrimination and injustice. The COVID-19 pandemic has brought much fear, anxiety, sadness and death. We prayed for the rebuilding of hope and confidence in our lives.

We gave thanks for the technological advances that have allowed Mothers' Union members across the world to join together in worship, prayer, celebration and fellowship.

After the 10<sup>th</sup> January 2021, the Wave of Prayer passed from the diocese of Leeds and its linked dioceses to other dioceses in the United Kingdom and around the world.

### ***Prayer***

*Lord of the years, we ask your blessing on this new year.*

*Increase the sense of community which binds us one to another*

*Bless the work of the Mothers' Union throughout the world*

*Give us energy to seize opportunities you lay before us*

*Help us to build hope and confidence in those we meet in our daily life.*

***Amen.***

*Article provided by Jennie Collins*

# Articles

## SAINT OF THE MONTH

**George Herbert**

**27th February**

Those readers who have been following the "Saint of the Month" articles through the last year will be aware that those "Heroes of the Faith" I have selected from our Church Calendar were a very mixed lot. They were all different from each other but they did all have one thing in common. They all believed that God was a living presence in their lives and they all tried to centre their lives on Him by serving other people whoever they might be.

There is no doubt that George Herbert, our Saint for February, possessed this quality of life to the full even though he is different in almost every other way from the others on our list., He made no spectacular act of self sacrifice, he was never persecuted, he never travelled very far and he never created any new movements of faith. In fact when he was finally ordained priest in the Church of England in his mid-thirties he only served two little country churches for three years before he died of consumption at the tender age of 39.

**And yet** - his memory is still revered and his example of Christian living is still admired to this day - nearly four hundred years after his death in 1633.

He was actually born in Wales in 1593 into a very rich and powerful family. Like many rich sons he went to university in Cambridge with the idea of becoming a clergyman in the Church of England.

However he proved to be a clever Latin scholar. He caught the attention of the King (James 1) and seemed destined to become a diplomat in the King's service. But when the King died George renewed his great desire to be ordained. He left the court and, after a period of illness, he became a priest and was appointed Vicar of the village of Bemerton close to Salisbury in Wiltshire.

The contrast with his life at court must have been tremendous but he and his wife opened their doors in love for their parishioners and he is still fondly remembered for the unfailing care he and his wife lavished on them.

But, of course, it is for his poetry that George is chiefly remembered and rightly famed for. He expressed his faith so powerfully and beautifully in the hundreds of poems he wrote. In the year he died

he asked a friend to have them published "if," he said "they might help people find and serve God on their pilgrimage."

Well, so many people have been helped on their pilgrimage that 400 years later his poems are still published and available in bookshops or on the internet. What is more, many of George's poems are among our most frequently sung hymns in church right now. That would have pleased George greatly for he loved music and was actually an accomplished lute player himself.

I believe his words can resonate with us especially at this time of pandemic and lockdown. For he taught that no trouble is so bad that we cannot offer it to God. He is close to us in everything we do and He will support us through it. Perhaps we might remember George and his constant faith when we're able to sing again in church his simple but lovely hymns especially.....

*Teach me my God and King  
In all things Thee to see  
And what I do in anything  
To do it as for Thee*

*Brian Pearmain*

## **Did you know?**

It was George Herbert who wrote the words for this well-known hymn:

*“Let all the world in every corner sing: my God and King!  
The heavens are not too high, his praise may thither fly;  
the earth is not too low, his praises there may grow.  
Let all the world in every corner sing: my God and King!*

*Let all the world in every corner sing: my God and King!  
The church with psalms must shout, no door can keep them out;  
but, more than all, the heart must bear the longest part.  
Let all the world in every corner sing: my God and King!*

## **THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH**

From the book: *Peace of Heart in All Things*, by Brother Roger Shutz, founder of the ecumenical community of Taizé, GIA Publications

He asks us, just as he asked his disciples, “Will you stay with me to keep watch and pray?” (Matthew 26:40-41)

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# Readings



<b>February 7<sup>th</sup></b>	Proverbs 8:1, 22-31 John 1:1-14
<b>February 14<sup>th</sup></b>	2 Kings 2:1-12 Mark 9:2-9
<b>February 21<sup>st</sup></b>	Genesis 9:8-17 Mark 1:9-15
<b>February 28<sup>th</sup></b>	Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16 Mark 8:31-end

## From the Registers

### **Funerals:**

13/01/2021 - Roderick Leader

## Eco top tips

### **February – Be informed**

1. Are you responsible for more or less than the average UK carbon footprint of 12 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>e (carbon dioxide equivalent)? Challenge yourself to reduce by 1 tonne this year. Climate Stewards have an easy to use carbon calculator [www.climatestewards.org](http://www.climatestewards.org)
2. Find out how to reduce your carbon footprint: listen to the New Year's Solutions 15 minute guides on Radio 4's. Go to BBC Sounds and search *New Year's Solutions*
3. Read a book to become more "carbon literate" and understand the greenhouse gas cost of your choices. Try "*How Bad are Bananas? The Carbon Footprint of Everything*" Mike Burners-Lee
4. Do your own internet research to become more "carbon literate": choose one item a day this week to find out what its carbon "cost" is. For example a kg of rice produces 4kg of CO<sub>2</sub>e in production or a kg of potatoes is 0.37kg CO<sub>2</sub>e.

*Jemima Parker, Diocesan Environment Officer*



## Transport

Would you like to come to Church services when they start up again but cannot get there by yourself? Please let us know and we will try to come up with a way of getting you here to worship with us.

## Community Kitchen

"For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in" (Matthew 25:35)

Started in July 2014, The Community Kitchen is now being supported by Black Health Initiative and will provide 2 hot meals per week on Wednesdays and Fridays. If you would like to volunteer packing the takeaway bags or distributing the bags by car as by the new arrangements, please contact Fr Nicholas on 0113 262 4271.



## St Martin's Institute

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