



Holy Trinity WATERHEAD

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50p

August 2019
holytrinitywaterhead.co.uk

Services at Holy Trinity Church

Sunday 11:00 am Parish Worship
Wednesday 7:00 pm Family Communion
Thursday 9:30 am Morning prayer in the vestry
Baptisms and marriages by arrangement with the Vicar.

Please submit items for the September magazine by 15 August. You can e-mail files to paulmonk111@gmail.com

People at Holy Trinity Church

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Rainbows

Sarah Wilson and Natalie Morris

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Karen and Lisa Cannon

Beavers and Cubs

Lee Thompson (07907) 907 354

Scouts

Mark Dickinson (07976) 666 512

Letter from the Vicar

It rained just now but a moment later the sun reappeared. The sunlight refracted and reflected on each tiny droplet of rain that now covered everything and each glistened like a priceless diamond.

Later, people fondly recalled the sunshine and the diamonds of light but complained about the rain. Yet the glittering droplets could only be a direct consequence of the rain they disliked. Sunlight without the raindrops would have looked very different and probably less lovely.

Often we remember to look for God in all the obvious places — in Church and through joy — but forget to look for Him elsewhere. That ‘elsewhere’ could include the fortitude when we suffer or the joy that comes from relinquishing treasures we previously thought were indispensable.

In fact, it’s a sure sign that we’re growing in faith when we realise that God is everywhere and is active in everything. We can then start looking for Him in new places and serving Him in new ways. God becomes bigger in these ways, and so does our faith.

Wishing you great love, joy and peace as you grow into a bigger faith:

PAUL

**Our work is the love of God.
Our satisfaction lies in submission
to the Divine Embrace.**

John Ruysbroeck

Bible Anagrams

All these jumbled words relate somehow to the Bible, and most relate to the New Testament. Can you write them out correctly?

SCAT

IT SLEEPS

SEAL POTS

PEG LOSS

STRIVE ALONE

OK. SOB

STEAM TENT

MET WHAT

PET CHAR

SERVE

If you are stuck, the first letters are:-

1 A

2 E

3 A

4 G

5 R

6 B

7 T

8 M

9 C

If we praise God merely for the sake of obtaining something from Him, then our praise would be contingent upon a gift of His. It would depend upon an uncertainty, for although He will never fail to answer all our prayers, He will not automatically give us precisely the thing we ask of Him. If our praise depends, then, on an uncertainty, it is bound by a restriction.

And if it is restricted, the heart with which we pray to God will also be narrowed and limited by the restriction imposed upon us by our own desire, which is centred upon less than the infinite God. Therefore our praise will not be perfectly 'free'. It will be fettered, it will be imprisoned by the limitations of our own heart.

But we cannot give God perfect praise and sacrifice if we remain captives of our own insignificance. 'How shall we sing the song of the Lord in a strange land' (Psalm 137:4).

Bread in the Wilderness, by Thomas Merton

2019 dates for your diary

Thurs 12-Sun 15 Sept	National Heritage weekend.
Sunday 13 October	9:30 am: Harvest Festival followed by a Faith Lunch .
Sunday 3 November	4:00 pm: Commemoration of the Faithful Departed , (commonly called All Souls' Day).
Sunday 10 November	11:30 am: Service of Remembrance (please note the later starting time).
Sunday 15 December	12:30 pm Christmas Faith Lunch (to be confirmed)
Wednesday 18 December	7:00 pm: Annual Carol Service
Wednesday 25 December	9:30 service for Christmas Day in St Barnabas Church.

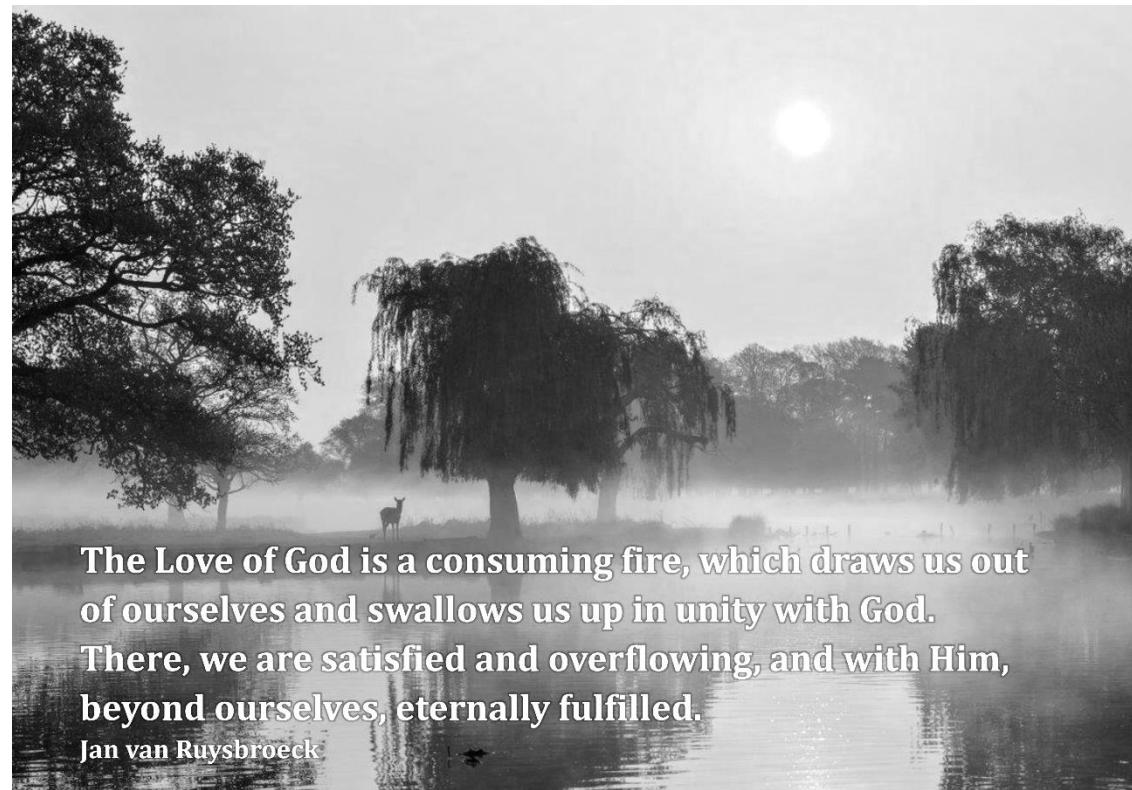


'I think we need to set up a spam filter
to catch Lottery prayer requests.'

Bible readings for August

Sunday 4 August Seventh Sunday of Trinity First: Eccles 1:2, 12-14, 2:18-23 Epistle: Colossians 3:1-11 Gospel: Luke 12:13-21	Sunday 11 August Eighth Sunday of Trinity First: Isaiah 1:1,10-20 Epistle: Hebrews 11:1-3,8-16 Gospel: Luke 12:32-40
Sunday 18 August Ninth Sunday of Trinity First: Jeremiah 23:23-29 Epistle: Hebrews 12:1-2 Gospel: Luke 12:49-56	Sunday 25 August Tenth Sunday of Trinity First: Isaiah 58:9b-14 Epistle: Hebrews 12:18-29 Gospel: Luke 13:10-17

These readings come from the Revised Common Lectionary.



The Love of God is a consuming fire, which draws us out of ourselves and swallows us up in unity with God. There, we are satisfied and overflowing, and with Him, beyond ourselves, eternally fulfilled.

Jan van Ruysbroeck

The book of Psalms in the Old Testament is the longest book in all the Bible. It comprises 150 chapters, each of which is a single song or poem. These songs are called ‘psalms’ from a Greek word meaning ‘instrumental music’ or, by extension, ‘the words accompanying such music’. That’s why so many psalms start with instructions concerning musical accompaniment.

The Psalms are songs of prayer expressed in poetry, written to complement the Torah (the Law of Moses in the first five books of the Old Testament). For that reason, the Book of Psalms is arranged into five books that correspond loosely to the five books of the Law.

From early times, psalms were used as a kind of prayer book. They convey three important themes of Hebrew Scripture: that God is active in history; the necessity of human response to God through praise and prayer; and the beginning of wisdom is to trust in God. This last feature is regularly called ‘fear of the Lord’. These themes entwine and reappear, and the ideas meander and sometimes seem to get lost.

The five ‘books’ within the Book of Psalms are as follows:

- **Book 1** comprises psalms 1–41, and are attributed to David. They focus on the Hebrew Bible and remind us to remain faithful to God’s covenant, and look forward to the coming of the Messiah.

- **Book 2** comprises psalms 42–72, and are authored by the Sons of Korah, Asaph, David, and Solomon. They continue the momentum of prophecy and prayer, and encourage the Jews to look towards a future King and New Jerusalem for all believers.

- **Book 3** comprises psalms 73–81, and were composed primarily by Asaph and the Sons of Korah, with Psalm 86 by David and Psalm 89 by Ethan. They harken back to Israel’s Exile, teaching readers the dangers of rebellion and the benefits of obedience. God’s mercy and judgment are also key themes.

- **Book 4** comprises psalms 90–106. Most are unattributed except Psalm 90 (Moses) and Psalms 101 and 103 (David). They reiterate Israel’s history and paint a picture of creation worshipping God as King. They aim to show our past and future.

- **Book 5** comprises psalms 107–150. Psalm 110 is by David; Psalms 113–118 are the ‘Hallel’ and were sung during the Passover; Psalms 120–134 are the so-called Songs of Ascents; and 138–145 were composed by David. The unifying themes in the final book include contemplation, prayer, and love. Psalm 119 explores the Torah’s key role in victory over evil and praise from God’s people.

For more information on the Book of Psalms, please see

<https://thebibleproject.com/explore/psalms>

<http://biblescripture.net/Psalms.html>

The Book of Psalms

Jan van Ruysbroeck (pronounced 'ryes-brook) was born in either 1293 or 1294. His 'surname' comes from his birthplace of Ruisbroek in today's Greater Brussels. His mother was extremely devout but we know nothing of his father.

Jan ran away to Brussels at the age of eleven to place himself under the guidance and tuition of his uncle, Jan Hinckaert, who was then a canon of St Gudule's Church there. He sought to become a priest. His education was sparse —he knew no Latin—so his uncle provided for him. Jan was later ordained at the age of 24. His mother later followed him to Brussels.

At St Gudule, Jan led a life of extreme austerity and retirement. He was wise, holy, and devout, but other-worldly. His fame spread and, fearing celebrity, in 1334 he and a small number of friends left to join the Augustinian monastery in the Forest of Soignes, Groenendael. This hermitage also attracted a great many pilgrims, so Jan later created a new community capable of even greater solitude.

This era is generally considered the peak of Christian mysticism with Jan its greatest and safest mystic, hence his nicknames, 'the Admirable Doctor' and 'the Divine Doctor.'

Jan wrote widely and his texts spread throughout Europe. His masterpieces are *The Kingdom of the Lovers of God* and *The Adornment of the Spiritual Marriage*. Some letters also survive as well as a slender book of pithy sayings (as recorded by his disciples). In order to reach more people, he always wrote in the Dutch vernacular rather than in Latin, the language of the Church liturgy.

He was aware that his writings could be difficult to follow because he tried to describe the indescribable. He once said, 'My words are strange, but those who love [God] will understand.' Those words clearly came from personal experience rather than theory.

In common with most contemporary mystics, Ruysbroeck taught a process that started from a knowledge of God. God then works in the human soul, doing work of perfecting and purification. Finally, the soul is lifted God-ward in adoration and contemplation. While rapt in praise, the soul gains authentic

For the full text of Ruysbroeck's *The Adornment of Spiritual Marriage*, see

<https://www.sacred-texts.com/chr/asm/index.htm>

For more information on John of Ruysbroeck, see

<http://www.newadvent.org/cathen/13280c.htm>

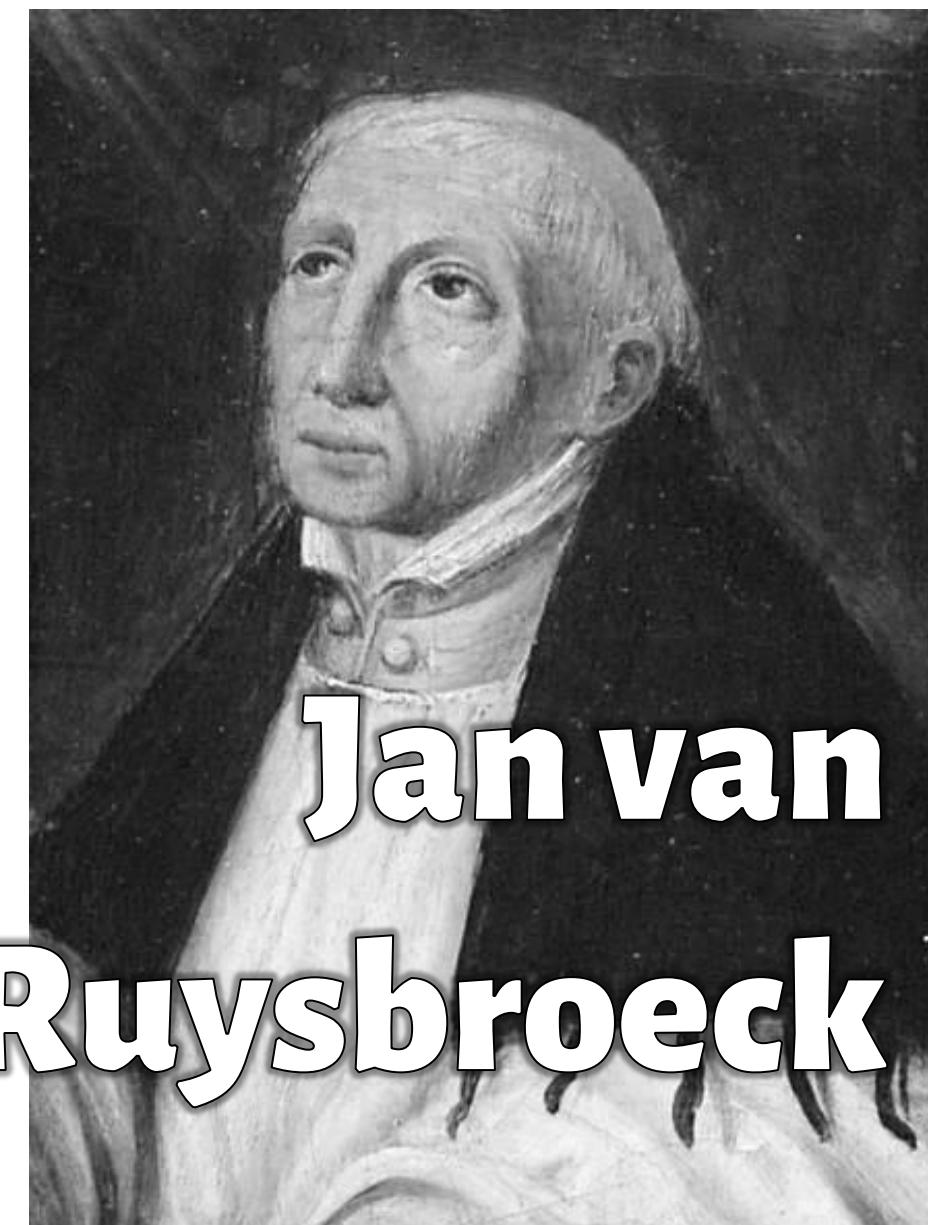
https://focusonbelgium.be/en/Do_you_know_these_Belgians/john-of-ruusbroeck

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_of_Ruusbroeck

first-hand knowledge. That's why his books (as above) use a metaphor of a bridegroom to describe the relationship between the Trinity and a faithful soul.

Jan taught that anyone wanting to know God can only do so by a gradual process of extreme austerity and self denial — his view of 'taking up the cross'. His writings circulated widely during his own lifetime and, within a short time they created an entire school of Christian mysticism—the Rheinish Mystics.

Jan died on 2 December 1381 aged 88. He was beatified more than five centuries later.



Jan van
Ruysbroeck

From the Parish Registers

Baptisms

7 July Cathryn Russell and Scott Russell

14 July Adyson John Banham

21 July Eliza Stacy Ann McKinley and Daniel Lee McKinley

Alfie Leonard

Dean Stephan

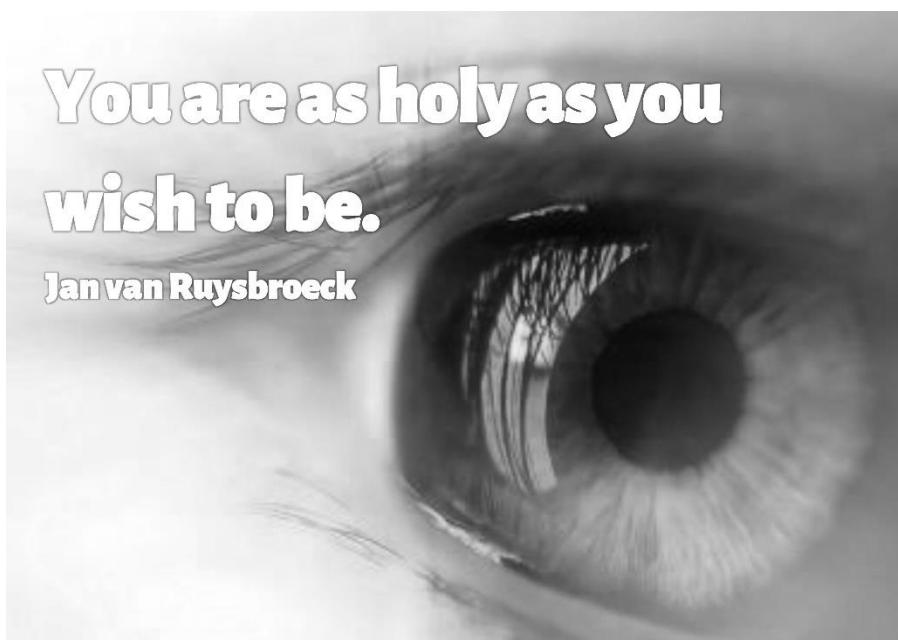
Funerals

Thomas Fielding in the Church, on Tuesday 23 July.

Ronald Worthington in Waterhead Church, on 25 July.

Thank you

A big thank you to everyone who gave generously at our Annual Gift Day in early June. To date



Transfiguration

For that one moment, 'in and out of time',
On that one mountain where all moments meet,
The daily veil that covers the sublime
In darkling glass fell dazzled at his feet.
There were no angels full of eyes and wings
Just living glory full of truth and grace.
The Love that dances at the heart of things
Shone out upon us from a human face
And to that light the light in us leaped up,
We felt it quicken somewhere deep within,
A sudden blaze of long-extinguished hope
Trembled and tingled through the tender skin.
Nor can this blackened sky, this darkened scar
Eclipse that glimpse of how things really are.

Malcolm Guite

© Revd Dr Malcolm Guite.
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<https://malcolmguite.wordpress.com>



How do we see things?

This unusual image shows Gloucester Cathedral and the Cathedral Close. It was photographed with a camera having a so-called 'fish-eye lens'. Every feature of the image looks distorted and requires us to look more closely than we would normally choose.

Representing the Cathedral in this way is also useful *because* it teaches us to look in a different way. We see different aspects than before.

It's frequently useful to look at God and our relationship to Him through different lenses because, like the image above, we see things that were always present but were maybe obscured, or we took them for granted.

So read a different translation of the Bible, pick up a different type of book, look at different websites, and notice things you've never seen before!

How do you see Jesus?

This image shows the actor Robert Powell when he played Jesus in a film called, 'Jesus of Nazareth.'

This image is wrong because:

- Jesus was a Palestinian Jew.
- It is not at all likely that he had a pale skin or blue eyes.
- Jewish men never wore their hair long. That hair would have been very dark.

In-CRED-ible—the Creeds

Creeds are statements that describe what we believe. The word 'creed' comes from the Latin word credo which means 'I believe.' The same word root explains why something believable is 'credible' and something we cannot believe is 'incredible'.

Since the earliest days of Christianity, the leaders of the Church sought to keep their beliefs pure, so they wrote lists to protect people from ideas that are unhelpful or untrue. The two most important Creeds are:-

- The **Nicene Creed** is probably the most familiar. We read it in Church most Sundays during services of Holy Communion.
- The **Apostles Creed** is usually said during other service such as Morning Prayer.

My creed

Write a short creed here, saying what you believe about Jesus.

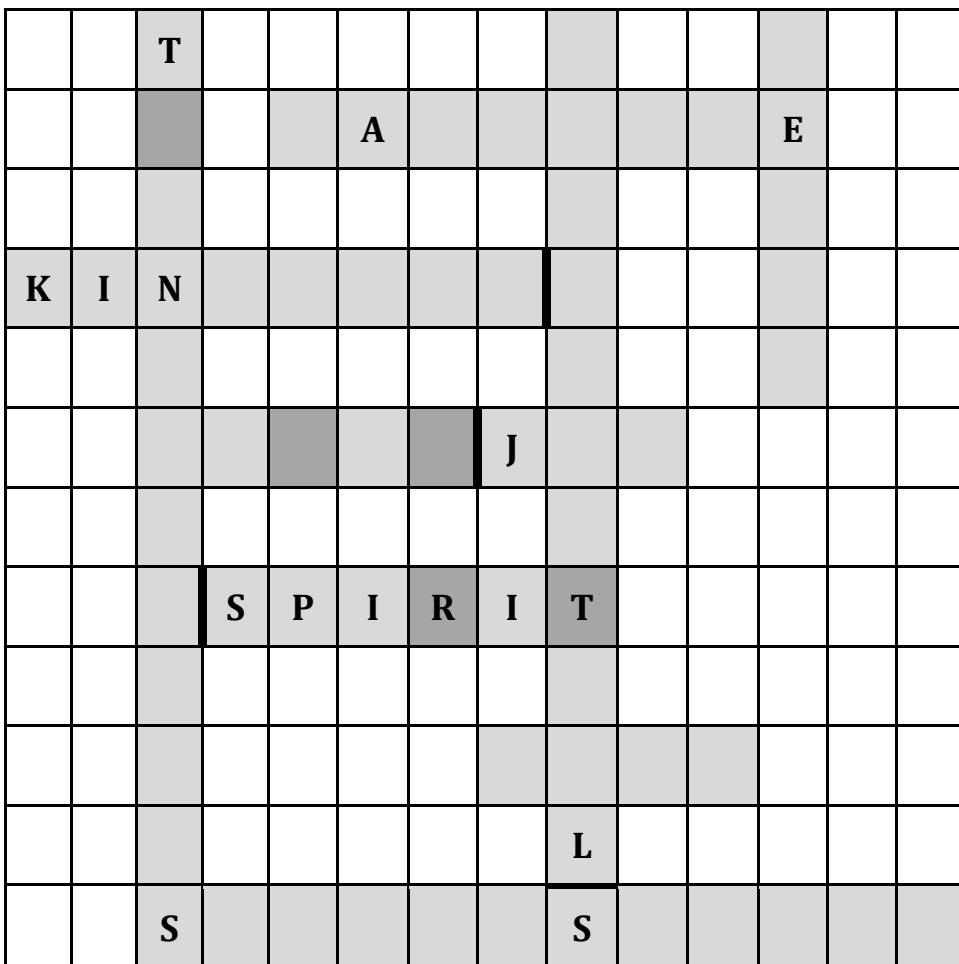
I believe ...

The FRUITS of the Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit helps us to become more like Jesus.

Fill the grid below using the words in Galatians that are printed in **BOLD**.

The fruit of the Spirit is **love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, thankfulness, selflessness, and self-control'** (Galatians 5:22)



The GIFTS of the Spirit

The Holy Spirit helps build a church: each of the missing words occurs in the quote below from St Paul's Letter to the Romans.

Helping to keep order

G -----

The ability to respond to people's material needs

G ---

Believing in God

F A I T H

The ability to motivate

E -----

Speaking words given by God

P -----

Helping people

S -----

Helping people to learn

T -----

Holy
Spirit

The Holy Spirit enables many different gifts. If a person's gift is **prophesying**, let him use it in proportion to his **faith**. If it is **serving**, let him serve; if it is **teaching**, let him teach; if it is encouraging, let him **encourage**; if it is contributing to the needs of others, let him **give** generously; if it is leadership, let him **govern** carefully; if it is **showing mercy**, let him do it cheerfully.

Curate's Corner

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

Find the following words in the grid above. All relate to special days in August

Aidan; Assumption of the Virgin Mary; Augustine; Bartholomew; Bernard; Dominic; John Bunyan; Lammas Day; Laurence; Mary Sumner; Monica; Oswald; Trinity

'What a silly thing to have happened ...' says 'Doris' (played beautifully by the late Thora Hird) in Alan Bennett's monologue *A cream cracker under the settee*. While Doris was attempting to dust a photograph, using a buffet to do so, she fell off and found herself unable to get up off the floor and raise help. My 'silly thing' happened as I was coming downstairs in the early hours of the day I was due to leave for my ordination retreat: I missed the bottom step and (to cut a long story short) broke my leg. So no retreat for me and, I feared, no ordination! Fortunately, the powers that be decided that I could still be ordained as planned, so the Bishop of Bolton came to my home to give me the same 'charge' (things I must hold onto) that he had given earlier to my fellow ordinands on retreat.

Of course, the best laid plans for those few days (and now, beyond) all came literally crashing down on that Wednesday morning. I was not able to walk with the others or kneel before the Bishop to be anointed. The 'moment' was, however, still awesome as I felt the weight of the laying on of hands of all who been involved in the years of my discernment, formation and developing ministry. Their hands seemed to impress on me the 'weight' of what I was offering to God, but also all the earthly 'hands' that would be there to support me in the future. Another special moment was when Paul 'adjusted' my stole, placing it as Christ's 'yoke' around my neck ... that was very moving.

My first Holy Communion also had some special moments particularly during the distribution of the consecrated bread to family and friends (i.e. all of you) and being able to pray a blessing on the children. I felt such joy in being able to fulfil, at last, my priestly calling, and the whole weekend, even though it was far from how I'd imagined or planned it, was still wonder filled.

In all this, I give thanks to God, and to those who made it all possible. To Paul, not least, for his solicitous care and for stage managing and adjusting everything; to readers and intercessors; to those who created such beautiful flower displays; to Les the organist and to those who sang heartily; to Canon Ian Stamp for a rousing sermon; to cleaners, sidespeople, welcomers and tea makers and those who contributed to the faith lunch — in fact to all who, whether you were able to be there or not, prayed for me or supported me in any way. Thank you from the bottom of my heart, and ... see you soon.

Revd Jane

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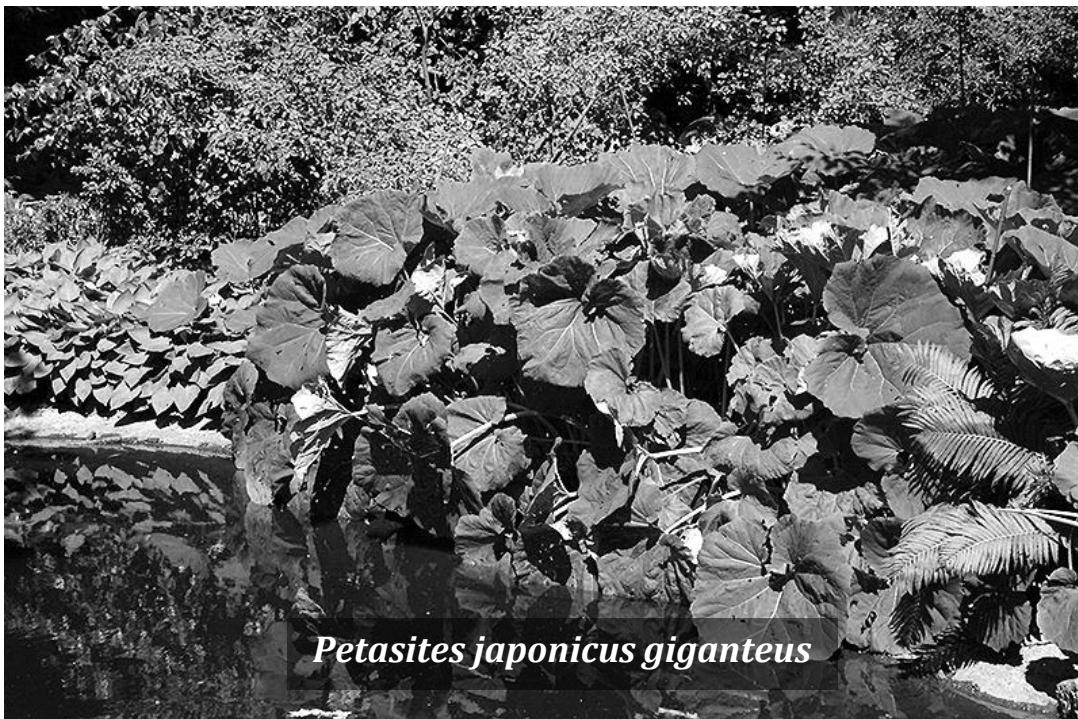
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With a growing realisation that the frantic energy of spring has given way to the slower pace of summer, I took a short walk along the river from Delph towards Denshaw. Although it was late in the afternoon a lot of birds were

active, fluffy and vulnerable looking mallard ducklings on the water and grey

wagtails where the river ran shallow. At a shady spot, a mob of young great tits searched the bushes for insects while a blackcap sang from overhead. Such is the quality of the song that older books sometimes refer to the bird as 'the northern nightingale'. There have been a lot of blackcaps present this year and according to the excellent *British Trust for Ornithology* website (www.bto.org) the reasons for the increase in numbers are complex and not yet understood.

As I followed the river I came upon foliage you could wear on your head. Some very large leaves, heart shaped and borne on short sturdy stems identified the plant as butterbur. The common name suggests that it might once have been used for wrapping butter, but the scientific name of Petasites is derived from the



Petasites japonicus giganteus

Greek for a large wide-brimmed hat. A truly massive butterbur, rejoicing in the name *Petasites japonicus giganteus*, used to grace our churchyard having been planted there by the Revd Shaw. It was not universally popular.

In common with many other rural plants, butterbur made its way into Culpeper's Herbal; 'The powder of the root doth wonderfully help to dry up the sores that are hard to be cured. It would be well if gentlewomen would keep this root preserved to help their poor neighbours.'

Upon returning to the car park I admired the prodigious fern growth where the wall of the old mill abuts the water. Most of them were lady ferns, joined by a white foxglove which made a fine contrast. Years ago catalogues would promote seeds of 'the rare white foxglove'. In our area at least they grow in equal numbers to the purple form.

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From the memorial book

- 2 **Florence Robinson** loving Wife, Mother and Grandma, died this day 1992. 'In Heavenly Love Abiding.'
- 3 **Irene Smith** died 1990. Devoted Wife and Mother.
- 6 **Irene Maud Norton** died this day 1999. 'Remembered with love.'
- 8 Treasured Memories of **Leslie Smith** who died this day 1972, aged 49 years.
- 10 **Harold Atkinson** died this day 1981. Reunited with Nellie Atkinson who died 6th December 1989.
- 12 **Ronald Douglas Bradbury** beloved husband of Dorothy, died 1994 aged 69 years. 'loved and Remembered every day.'
- 15 **Ethel Dalton** died this day 1983. Departed in body, yet ever present in Spirit.
- 16 **Sidney Robinson** died 1978 aged 74 yrs. 'Loved and Remembered Always.'
- 18 **Jane Shaw** died this day 2011 aged 91. Never to be forgotten. Ever loved.
- 24 **Daniel Richard Cummings** died tragically this day 1997 aged 6 years. A shining light in our church, Daniel touched the hearts of all who knew him, living his life to the full in the short time he had with us. Treasured memories that will never fade of a much loved and greatly missed son to Patricia and godson to George and Diane Nicholson.
- 29 **Emily Preece** nee Robinson died 1957. 'Treasured memories of a very loving Mother.'
- Anthony Norton** died this day 2002. Queen's Scout and family man. Much loved.
- 30 **Sam Robinson** died 1951. For very many years Sidesman & Primary Sunday School Superintendent. 'Thy Will Be Done.'
- Arthur Banks** loving brother and a dear friend, died this day 1997, aged 77. Remembered with affection.

Church diary

August 2019

- Thurs 1 9:30 am: **Morning prayer** in the Vestry.
- Sunday 4 11:00 am: Service for the **Seventh Sunday of Trinity**.
- Tues 6 7:30 pm: **Home group** at 4 Heather Close.
- Weds 7 9:00–10:00 am: **Scripture breakfast** at St Barnabas.
7:00 pm: **Family-friendly Communion**.
- Thurs 8 9:30 am: **Morning prayer** in the Vestry.
- Sunday 11 11:00 am: Service for the **Eighth Sunday of Trinity**.
- Weds 14 9:00–10:00 am: **Scripture breakfast** at St Barnabas.
7:00 pm: **Family-friendly Communion**.
- Thurs 15 9:30 am: **Morning prayer** in the Vestry.
- Sunday 18 11:00 am: Service the **Ninth Sunday of Trinity**.
- Tues 20 7:30 pm: **Home group** at 4 Heather Close.
- Weds 21 9:00–10:00 am: **Scripture breakfast** at St Barnabas.
7:00 pm: **Family-friendly Communion**.
- Thurs 22 9:30 am: **Morning prayer** in the Vestry.
- Sun 25 11:00 am: Service for the **Tenth Sunday of Trinity**.
- Weds 28 9:00–10:00 am: **Scripture breakfast** at St Barnabas.
7:00 pm: **Family-friendly Communion**.
- Thurs 29 9:30 am: **Morning prayer** in the Vestry.

September 2019

- Sunday 1 11:00 am: Service for the **Eleventh Sunday of Trinity**.
- Tuesday 3 7:30 pm: **Home group** at 4 Heather Close.



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