

April  
2023

**Stratton Team Ministry**  
***Seeking, Sharing, and Serving God Together***  
**[www.strattonteamministry.co.uk](http://www.strattonteamministry.co.uk)**

CROWNED WITH THORNS  
THE HEAD THAT  
ONCE WAS

IS CROWNED WITH  
GLORY  
NOW

THOMAS KELLY

**STRATTON TEAM MINISTRY**

Priest in Charge: Reverend Elveen Mead [Usual Day off Friday]

Lay Minister: Lisa Lodwick  
Alison Burston  
Dan Read

Church Administrator Georgina Martin 826505  
Email: stmargaretsoffice2@btconnect.com

**CHURCHWARDENS**

**St. Margaret's Church and St Mary Magdalene Church**

Mrs June Lewis 822954  
Mr Richard Pflieger 828367  
Mrs Diane Whitford 824339

**Deputy Wardens**

Mr David Horne 724776  
Mr Ian Jones 07769703385

**St Leonards Church**

Mrs Liz Hillman 762935  
Mr Chris Pope

**Joint Parish Safeguarding Officers & DBS Lead Recruiters**

Dr Mike Boshier 07799835437  
Mrs Mary Boshier

**PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL for St. Margaret's and St Mary Magdalene**

Mrs Rosalind Mitchell (Secretary) 764146  
Mrs Diane Whitford  
(Deputy Secretary of St Mary Magdalene) 824339

**St Leonards**

Mr Michael Curtis  
(PCC secretary St Leonards)

**LOCAL CHURCH CONTACTS**

Stratton Methodist Church, 829335  
St Mary's R C Church, The Presbytery, Swindon 535089

Dear Friends,

The beginning of April, this year, marks the beginning of Holy Week, the culmination of the previous five weeks of preparation that is Lent. During Holy Week we re-enact the highs and lows of the key events in the last days of the

life of Jesus. We ride into Jerusalem on a donkey whilst the crowds gather and wave their palm branches and shout Hosanna. We gather around the Passover table as Jesus washes the feet of his disciples and shares with them the very first bread and wine. We sit and wait with Jesus in the garden as he prays to his Father one last time. Then we gather at the foot of the cross to watch as Jesus is put to death. On Holy Saturday we wait- as Jesus' disciples waited for the chance to serve the body of Jesus in the tomb, we wait. Then on Easter morning we gather and witness the empty tomb and celebrate our encounter with the risen Christ.

Each of these acts takes us deeper into the story and experience of Jesus and His disciples and each time we rehearse it we learn and experience something new. It also stands in somewhat stark contrast with the Easter celebrated by the world. As with Christmas where we wait for Christmas day to celebrate and keep going until February, the world will have begun their celebrations as early as November and some even before that.



The rest of society will be eating hot cross buns and munching on their chocolate eggs long before Easter Sunday dawns. I have learnt from bitter experience that waiting until Easter to buy your Easter eggs and chocolate means that you are more than likely to be limited in your choice- being left with only the most weird and wonderful and frankly disgusting combinations to choose from. And of course, by Easter Monday it is all gone, and the shelves will be full of something else- this year probably coronation flags and union flag decorated cakes.

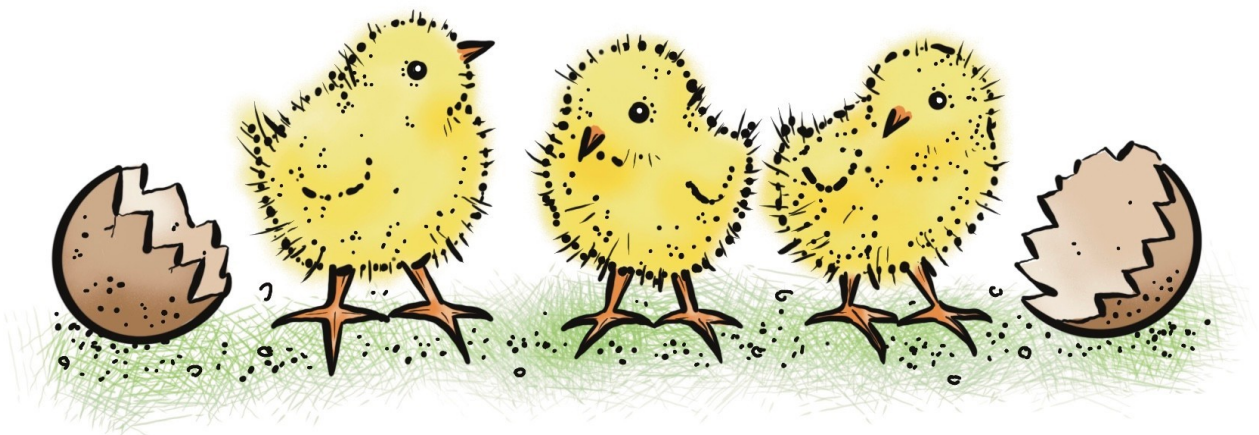
This can make those of us who keep Easter feel disconnected from the culture in which we live. This disconnection is an increasingly familiar feeling. There have always been generational divides, but the fast-ever-changing technological world can make these divides seem deeper and wider. We recently watched the first Mission Impossible movie, filmed in 1996. At the time of release, we marvelled at the amazing tech: watches that could take a phone call, ear buds that fitted in your ears with no wires, phones that could track someone's every movement. Imagine that! Well- we don't need to as we use all of those things every day. What was pure fantasy just a few years ago has become our everyday reality.

When we feel disconnected from the culture around us it can be tempting to batten down the hatches and reject the changes, by doing this though, we risk pushing away connection and people. As society changes we have to hold firm to what is true and important but keep ourselves open to new opportunities, to seek for what is real and can enrich our lives.

Please know that you are welcome to join us as we walk through the story of Easter and you can find the details in the magazine, on Facebook [@strattonteamministry](https://www.facebook.com/strattonteamministry) and our website [www.strattonteamministry.co.uk](http://www.strattonteamministry.co.uk)

Blessings

Elveen



## **THE KNOT PRAYER**

Dear God

Please untie the knots that are in my mind, my heart and my life.

Remove the have nots, the can nots and the do nots that I have in my mind.

Erase the will nots, may nots, might nots that may find a home in my heart.

Release me from the could nots, would nots and should nots that obstruct my life.

And most of all, Dear God, I ask that you remove from my mind, my heart and my life all of the 'am nots' that I have allowed to hold me back, especially the thought that I am not good enough.

**AMEN**

Author: Unkown



## Down country lanes and tracks

A week ago I went on a walk from Kelston on the outskirts of Bath on a nine mile circular walk which took me up to the Cotswold way and with views over to Bristol and sights of the Severn bridges. In that view was the famous Fry's Chocolate Factory at Keynsham which was built in 1923. Production gradually moved from the centre of Bristol and was completed in 1935.

After the first world war Cadbury Brothers undertook a merger with J.S Fry and Sons and set about building the factory with social facilities. Then It had rail links with Keysham and Somerdale station and at it's height had 5000 workforce.

I remember going on 3 trips to the Fry's Factory when walking from the station to the factory during the 1960's to see the manufacture of Fry's Chocolate Cream, Double Deckers, Dairy Milk, Crunchie Bars and during the summer selection boxes ready for Christmas and in the winter Easter eggs.

The work force were locally known as 'Chocolate Welders' and the Crunchie machine made over one million bars a day.

On our visits to the factory after the tour we would have tea in the canteen with sandwiches and cake and come away with a selection tin of chocolates.

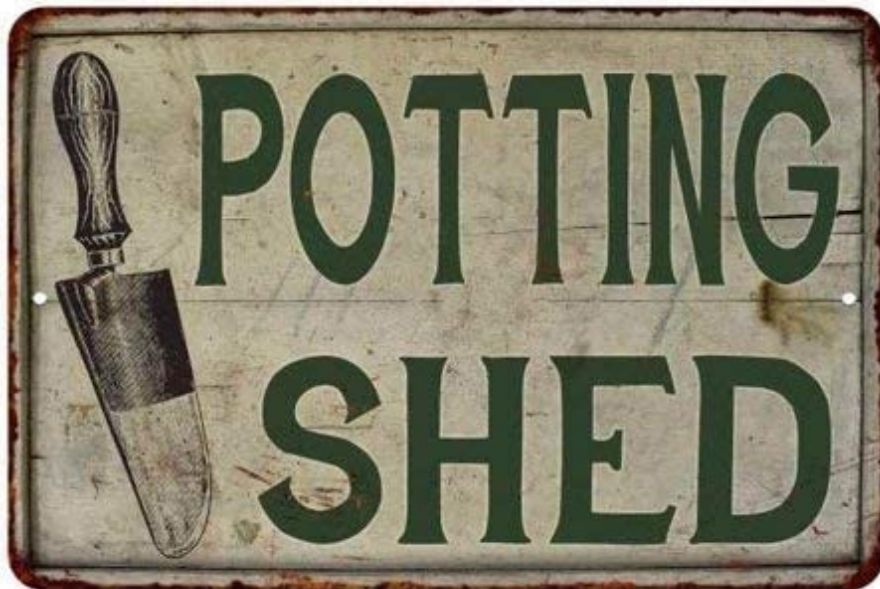
Cadbury announced in 2007 that they would close the factory and it closed in 2011.

The factory has a new lease of life now with a Retirement village, Swimming pool, restaurant, shops and extra housing.

It brought back memories of the 60's to see the factory from the walk. I managed to finish the walk just before the rain came down sheltering in the Old Crown pub in Kelston.

*Richard Pflieger*





### **Warden's Potting Shed**

April is here again and preparations are under way with seeds sown and now potting on.

The potting shed is under heat and seedlings are growing quickly and I need to keep up with the potting up to bring the plants on for May and June. This year there will be a stall at the Community Fete on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> June at the St Margaret's Church, Centre and Gardens.

Look out for the plant stall after church in May and June.

Please try to buy from the Wardens Potting Shed as the money goes to St Margaret's Church

*Richard Pflieger*



## Weekly Prayers for April - Encounters with Jesus

### Monday: The betrayal of Judas

**In this moment, in our hearts, may we encounter afresh our loving Saviour.**

Jesus asked him, "Judas, are you betraying the Son of Man with a kiss?" *Luke 22:48*

Lord, how could you bear the hate of betrayal expressed through a symbol of love? We weep at the deed of a faithless friend.

And yet...

Daily we betray you afresh in deeds and words and silence. We sully the gift of your friendship through our kiss of faithlessness.

We marvel at your love for us; constant despite our weaknesses and the poverty of our discipleship.

Forgive us, loving Saviour. Accept our thanksgiving and strengthen us to live our lives in total devotion to you. Amen

**May our lives bear witness to an encounter with our loving Saviour. Amen**

### Tuesday: The abdication of Pilate

**In this moment, in our hearts, may we encounter afresh our loving Saviour.**

Pilate took water and washed his hands in front of the crowd. "I am innocent of this man's blood," he said. "It is your responsibility!" *Matthew 27:24*

When we wash our hands of your commission to us; when we turn aside from your people in need. When we pass the buck, when we close our eyes, we mirror the past; we shun you afresh.

**Forgive us, dear Saviour, and renew our hearts.**

May we stand before you with hands open wide, ready to embrace your precious commission. For your burden is easy, your load is light, and your presence gives rest to our souls.

**Inspire us, dear Saviour, and renew our hearts.**

**May our lives bear witness to an encounter with our loving Saviour. Amen**



## Wednesday: The revelation of the Soldier

**In this moment, in our hearts, may we encounter afresh our loving Saviour.**

When the centurion, who stood there in front of Jesus, saw how he died, he said, "Surely this man was the Son of God!"  
*Mark 15:39*

Let our eyes behold the truth; let our lips declare the truth; **this man is the Son of God.**

Let our actions arise from the truth; let our lives bear witness to the truth; **this man is the Son of God.**

Open the eyes of those blinded to the truth; soften the hearts of those hardened to the truth; that together we may proclaim, throughout heaven and on earth: **this man is the Son of God.**

**May our lives bear witness to an encounter with our loving Saviour. Amen**

## Thursday: The joy of Mary

**In this moment, in our hearts, may we encounter afresh our risen Lord.**

Mary Magdalene went to the disciples with the news: "I have seen the Lord!" *John 20:18*

Risen Lord, open our eyes. Give us a glimpse of your resurrection glory.

Wipe away our tears of mourning; fill us with joy in your presence

Take away our spirit of heaviness; clothe us with a garment of praise.

And send us out to spread the news: the Lord is risen.

Hope has been renewed; joy has been rekindled. Death has been defeated; eternity beckons.

**The Lord is risen. Hallelujah!**  
**Glory to our God.**

**May our lives bear witness to an encounter with our risen Lord. Amen**

## Friday: The doubt of Thomas

**In this moment, in our hearts, may we encounter afresh our risen Lord.**

Jesus told him, "Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."  
*John 20:29*

We pray for those whose faith is tested through trials of life; through challenging times.

**As they struggle to believe, help them in their unbelief.**

We pray for those whose faith is tested through the mysteries of unanswered prayer; **As they struggle to believe, help them in their unbelief.**

We pray for those whose faith is tested in the face of suffering and pain. **As they struggle to believe, help them in their unbelief.**

When doubts fill our hearts; when faith dims and certainty fades; **Lord we believe; help us in our unbelief.**

**May our lives bear witness to an encounter with our risen Lord. Amen**

## Saturday: The restoration of Peter

**In this moment, in our hearts, may we encounter afresh our risen Lord.**

Jesus said, "Simon son of John, do you truly love me?" He answered, "Yes, Lord, you know that I love you." Jesus said, "Take care of my sheep."  
*John 21:16*

We hide in the shadow of our faithlessness and sin; we whisper  
our love for our Lord.

We bathe in the light of forgiveness and mercy; we speak  
out our love for our Lord.

We revel in the glow of restoration; we shout out  
our love for our Lord.

Anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!  
*2 Corinthians 5:17*

**May our lives bear witness to an encounter with our risen Lord. Amen**

# Jokes

## April Foolery.



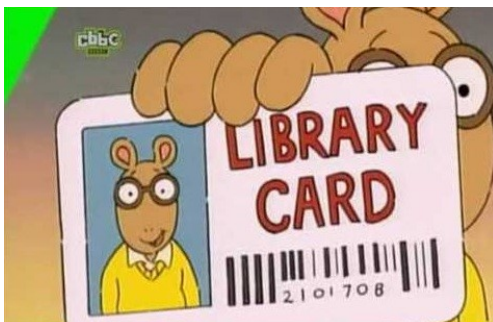
According to unofficial sources, a new simplified income-tax form contains only four lines:

1. What was your income for the year?
2. What were your expenses?
3. How much have you left?
4. Send it.



At a party a young wife admonished her husband, "That's the fourth time you've gone back for ice-cream and cake. Doesn't it embarrass you"?

"Why should it?" answered her spouse, "I keep telling them it's for you."



In the public library a man with his new library card questioned the pretty librarian.

"Do you mean to say," he asked, "that with this card I may take out any book I want?" "Yes," she answered.

"And may I take out record albums, too?"

"Yes you may." She answered. "May I take you out?" he ventured.

Drawing herself up to her full height, she replied, "The libraries are for reference only."



Restaurant Patron: "Waiter, I'd like a bottle of wine."

Waiter: "What year, sir?"

Patron: "Well I would like it now."

Mrs. Smythe was making final arrangements for an elaborate reception. "Nora", she said to her veteran servant, "for the first half an hour I want you to stand at the drawing door and call the guests' names as they arrive." Nora's face lit up. "Thank you ma'am," she replied, "I've been wanting to do that to some of your friends for the last twenty years."

It seems I have spent a lifetime of mouthing mechanically, "Say thank you, Sit up straight, Use your napkin, Close your mouth when you chew, Don't lean back in your chair." Just when I finally got my husband sorted out, the children came along.



A woman answered the phone one day and the voice on the other end said, "This is Daybury School, I'm afraid I have to tell you that your son has been telling lies." The woman replied, "Well tell him he is very good at it because I haven't got any children."

A few words of wisdom.

- ☺ Wrestlers don't like to be put on hold
- ☺ If we do not conserve water, we could go from one extreme to another.
- ☺ Be true to your teeth or they will be false to you
- ☺ Statistically six out of seven dwarfs are not happy
- ☺ Humpty Dumpty had a great fall -and a pretty good spring and summer too
- ☺ Life not only begins at forty it begins to slow.
- ☺ Those who like to do the ironing find their pleasure in creases.
- ☺ When the wheel was invented it caused a revolution.
- ☺ Did you hear about the chap, who swapped the labels on the petrol pumps. It was an April Fools Joke.
- ☺ Who needs a day for the fools? I'm surrounded by them all year

Bye



**FREE  
ENTRY**

**STRATTON**

**COMMUNITY**

**FETE**

**SATURDAY 24<sup>TH</sup> JUNE**

**ST MARGARET'S CHURCH CENTRE, SN3 4NY**  
**DOG SHOW | FANCY DRESS | RAZAMATAZZ | & MORE**

*Further details coming soon...*

Stratton Team Ministry  
Celebrates the Kings Coronation at

# St Mary Magdalene Church

6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> May

# Flower Festival



**Refreshments** available on the  
Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> from 2pm to 4pm

# April

## **April 2<sup>nd</sup> - Palm Sunday**

**9:30am** St Margaret's Church  
**9:30am** St Leonards Church  
**10am** St Mary Magdalene Church

Holy Communion Service  
Sunday Morning Worship  
All Age Worship

## **Maundy Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> April**

**7pm** St Margaret's Church

Holy Communion Service  
Followed by Taize Service

## **Good Friday 7<sup>th</sup> April**

**10am** St Margaret's Church  
**2pm** St Leonard's Church

Good Friday Service  
Stations of the Cross

## **April 9<sup>th</sup> - Easter Sunday**

**8am** St Mary Magdalene Church  
**9:30am** St Margaret's Church  
**11am** St Leonards Church

Holy Communion Service  
Holy Communion Service  
Holy Communion Service

## **April 16<sup>th</sup> - Second Sunday of Easter**

**11am** St Leonards Church

Family Team Service

## **April 23<sup>rd</sup> - Third Sunday of Easter**

**9:30am** St Margaret's Church  
**9:30am** St Leonards Church  
**11am** Coleview

Sunday Morning Worship  
Holy Communion Service  
Sunday Morning Worship

## **April 30<sup>th</sup> - Fourth Sunday of Easter**

**10am** St Margaret's

Sunday Morning Team Worship



**St Mary Magdalene Church  
South Marston**

**MEETING POINT**

**The 'drop in' is for all members of  
our community**

**Come and Join Us for Coffee  
In the Village Hall**

**10:00 - 12:00**

**Saturday  
15<sup>th</sup> April**

**Every Third Saturday in the month**

**Enquiries or for table reservations  
please call 01793 831473**

*stm*





# St Leonard's Church Stanton

Hosts Coffee Morning now at  
Stanton House Hotel

10:15am - noon

On Wednesday

19<sup>th</sup> of April 2023

*Everyone Welcome*



# Bumps & Babes

ARE YOU A NEW  
OR EXPECTANT PARENT?

## Register Now

[forms.gle/fM4NesmSPYWTNuiC7](https://forms.gle/fM4NesmSPYWTNuiC7)

### Come and join Stratton Team Ministry for our Bumps and Babes group on Tuesdays.

Bumps & Babes is a place for expectant parents and parents with babies (up to one year old\*) to meet and chat over a coffee – sharing in the experiences of pregnancy and the joys and challenges of the early months of parenthood.

Mats and toys are available for you to play with your babies, as well as time for a few songs!

We are joined by guests each a month to share with us about subjects from weaning to breastfeeding; faith to reusable nappies!

Register for your place now via the link or complete a form on arrival – we look forward to welcoming you!

**When:** Tuesdays 11.15-12.15  
(term time only)

**Where:** St Margaret's Centre,  
Kenwin Close, SN3 4NY

**Cost:** Free

### Contact Us & Useful Links



[Bumpsandbabes9@gmail.com](mailto:Bumpsandbabes9@gmail.com)



[www.strattonteamministry.co.uk/explore/kids-and-youth/bumps-babes/](http://www.strattonteamministry.co.uk/explore/kids-and-youth/bumps-babes/)



Register for your place now  
<https://forms.gle/fM4NesmSPYWTNuiC7>



Bumps and Babes St Margaret's Swindon



# GIVING

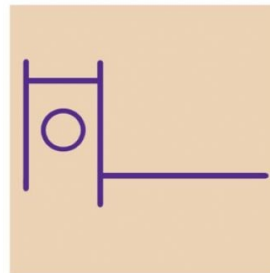
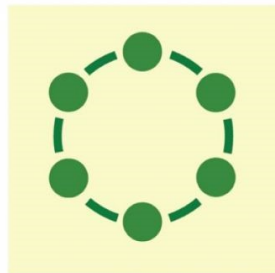
You may be aware that many charities and organisations are struggling at this time, this includes churches.

Great News! You can now sign up to join the Parish Giving Scheme (PGS) online. There is a link for this on the Giving page of our website:

<https://www.strattonteamministry.co.uk/giving/>

If you haven't considered the PGS before, we would ask you to prayerfully consider doing so. It's very easy to sign up and it works in a similar way to a Direct Debit (that it is intended to replace), in that a regular payment authorised by you goes out either weekly, monthly or yearly straight to the church. It is perfectly safe and can be stopped or changed at any time.

PGS is a great way to give to the work and mission of St Margaret's Church. Donations given through PGS come straight to the Church, there are no admin fees or bank charges for us to pay. 41 people have now signed up to do this - Thank you



TM

PARISH  
GIVING  
SCHEME



# Recycling @ St Margaret's Centre

**RECYCLE YOUR  
CRISP PACKETS HERE!**



**RECYCLE FOR**



**WILTSHIRE  
AIR AMBULANCE**



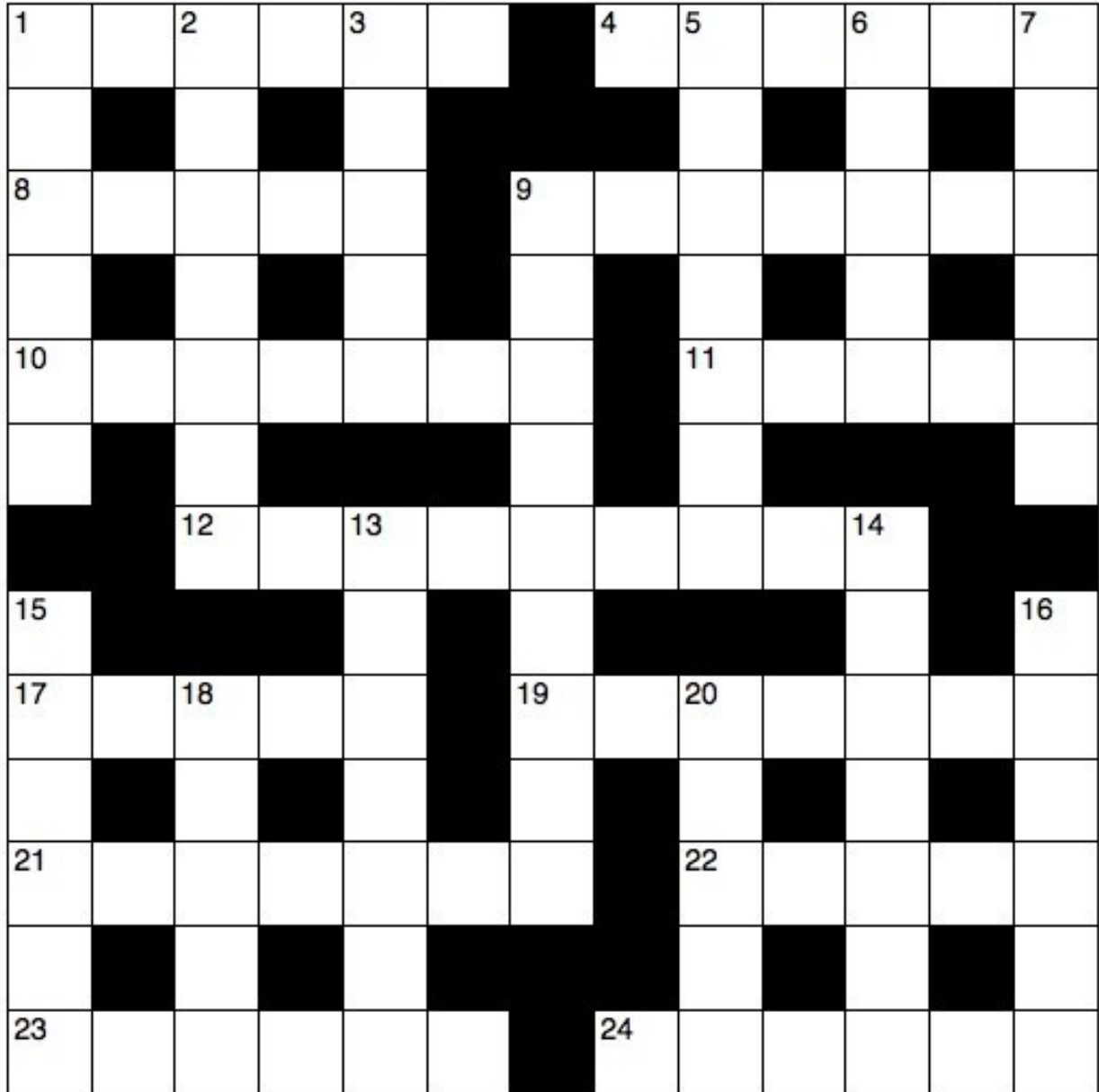
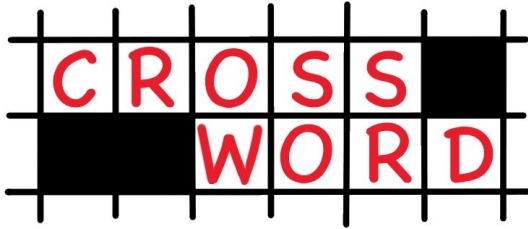
**In support of**

**WE ARE  
MACMILLAN.  
CANCER SUPPORT**

**ACCEPTED WASTE**



Any brand of EMPTY medicine blister packets



**Across**

- 1 Relating to the whole universe (6)
- 4 The disciple who made the remark in 8 Across (John 20:24) (6)
- 8 'Unless I see the nail marks — — hands, I will not believe it' (John 20:25) (2,3)
- 9 He urged King Jehoiakim not to burn the scroll containing Jeremiah's message (Jeremiah 36:25) (7)

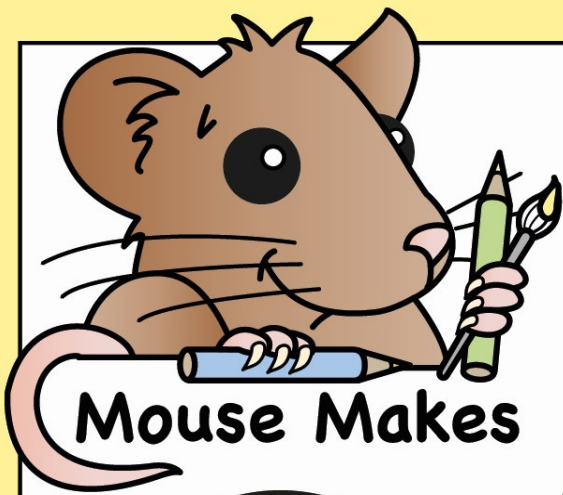
## Across

- 10 Baptist minister and controversial founder of America's Moral Majority, Jerry — (7)
- 11 'Look, here is — . Why shouldn't I be baptized?' (Acts 8:36) (5)
- 12 Repossessed (Genesis 14:16) (9)
- 17 Port from which Paul sailed on his last journey to Rome (Acts 27:3–4) (5)
- 19 'Moses was not aware that his face was — because he had spoken with the Lord' (Exodus 34:29) (7)
- 21 Roonwit, C.S. Lewis's half-man, half-horse (7)
- 22 Grill (Luke 24:42) (5)
- 23 'The lot fell to Matthias; so he was added to the — apostles' (Acts 1:26) (6)
- 24 'I was sick and you looked after me, I was in — and you came to visit me' (Matthew 25:36) (6)

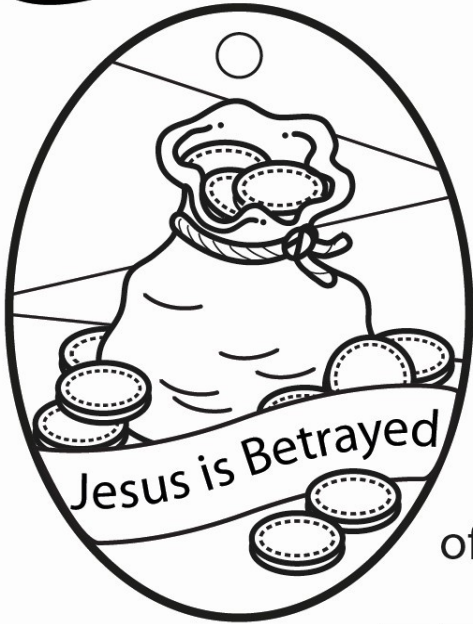
## Down

- 1 Coastal rockfaces (Psalm 141:6) (6)
- 2 Academic (1 Corinthians 1:20) (7)
- 3 Publish (Daniel 6:26) (5)
- 5 For example, the Crusades (4,3)
- 6 11 Across is certainly this (5)
- 7 He reps (anag.) (6)
- 9 Liberator (Psalm 18:2) (9)
- 13 Man who asked the question in 11 Across was in charge of all her treasury (Acts 8:27) (7)
- 14 They must be 'worthy of respect, sincere, not indulging in much wine' (1 Timothy 3:8) (7)
- 15 The human mind or soul (6)
- 16 'O Lord, while precious children starve, the tools of war increase; their bread is — ' (Graham Kendrick) (6)
- 18 'We played the flute for you, and you did not — ' (Matthew 11:17) (5)
- 20 Bared (anag.) (5)

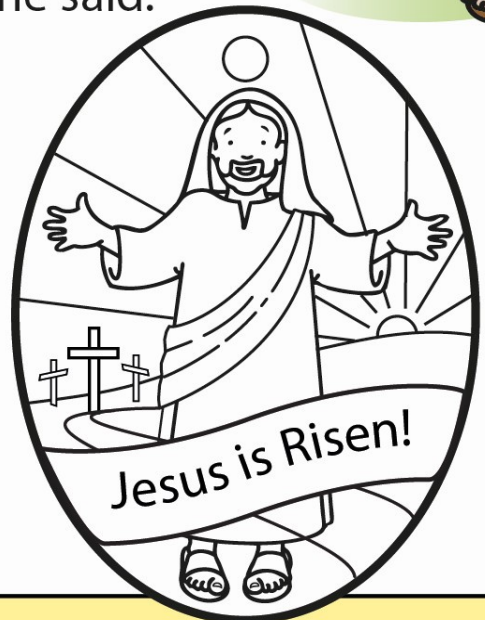
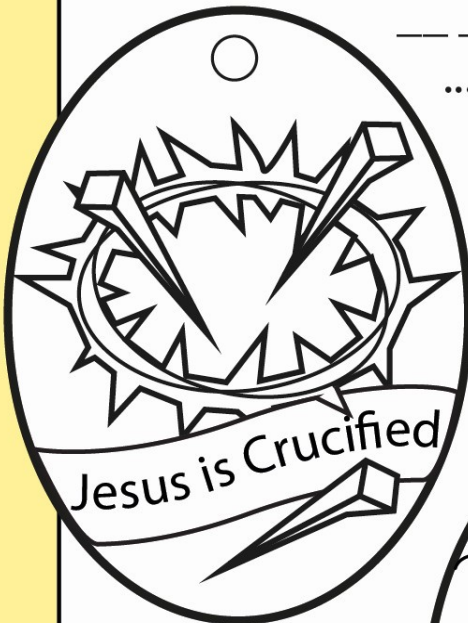
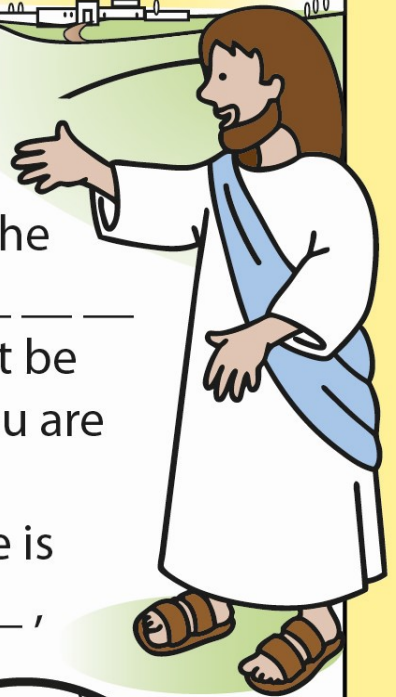




**HE IS RISEN!**  
Read the story of  
The Resurrection in  
*Matthew 28:1-20*



An \_\_\_\_\_  
of the Lord came down from  
\_\_\_\_\_ and going to the  
\_\_\_\_\_ rolled back the \_\_\_\_\_  
... the \_\_\_\_\_ said, "Do not be  
\_\_\_\_\_, for I know you are  
looking for Jesus who was  
\_\_\_\_\_, He is  
not here; he has \_\_\_\_\_,  
just as he said."



Glue this page onto  
card. Cut out the  
ovals then colour in.  
Punch a hole at the  
top and hang up  
for Easter



# PEARCE FUNERAL SERVICES



## Our Family Service Caring For You

**John Pearce DipFD MBIE**  
92 Ermin Street  
Stratton St Margaret  
SN3 4NN  
**01793 832072**  
[www.pearcefuneralservices.co.uk](http://www.pearcefuneralservices.co.uk)

### Crossword Solutions

#### ACROSS:

1, Cosmic. 4, Thomas. 8, In his. 9, Delaiah. 10, Falwell. 11, Water. 12, Recovered. 17, Sidon. 19, Radiant. 21, Centaur. 22, Broil. 23, Eleven. 24, Prison.

#### DOWN:

1, Cliffs. 2, Scholar. 3, Issue. 5, Holy war. 6, Moist. 7, Sphere. 9, Deliverer. 13, Candace. 14, Deacons. 15, Psyche. 16, Stolen. 18, Dance. 20, Debar.

### STRATTON TEAM MINISTRY NEWS - NEXT EDITION DEADLINE

**for Articles and Information anytime before 15<sup>th</sup> April 2023**

Georgina Martin: Church Office,  
Tel: 826505 St Margaret's Centre  
Email: [stmargaretsoffice2@btconnect.com](mailto:stmargaretsoffice2@btconnect.com)

Also, by hand or call Georgina Martin on 07768 243675

**Errors and omissions** — while we do try to ensure that all details are correct, some things may slip through and we apologise for that.



## PARISH DIRECTORY & CENTRE USERS

### ORGANISATIONS

Babies & Toddlers	Georgina Martin	07768 243675
Bell Ringers	Wendy Sears	07769 788821
Boys' Brigade	Teresa Daghish	07796 925621
Brownies - Mon	Yvette Webster-May	825398
Bumps and Babes	Bekki	bumbsandbabes9@gmail.com
Cadley Dance	Maria Howse	824446
Centre Bookings	c/o Church Office	826505
Choir	Geoff Walters	822006
Church Cleaning Rota	Pat England	822786
Coleview	Church Office	826505
Church Flowers	Richard Pflieger	828367
Evening Fellowship Group	Anne Pope	07790 730 685
	email eannepope@gmail .com	
FWO Envelopes	Ray England	822786
Gift Aid Sec.	David Horne	724776
Guide-Brownie Commissioner	Zoe Smith	831190
Music Group	Rob South	822811
Organists	Rob South	822811
	Geoff Walters	822006
Preschool	Hayley Woods, Supervisor	07816 547752
Wl. Stratton St Margaret	Mrs Covell	829900



Foot Health Care by  
Lisa Bailey

# Foot Health Care

by Lisa Bailey Dip MCFHP MAFHP

I am a fully qualified and insured Foot Health Professional and a member of the British Association of Foot Health Professionals- Insured and DBS checked.

I offer a mobile service to patients in the comfort of their own homes, residential/ nursing homes. In the Swindon area and surrounding villages.

## Appointment Includes

- Full neurovascular assessment (then yearly or more frequent check-ups for high risk clients).
- Full medical history taken, including allergies and a current list of your medications. Discuss any concerns you may have.
- Full assessment of your feet to help provide an individual treatment plan.

Appointment will include routine footcare as discussed in treatment plan such as:

- Toenail cutting + filing
- Diabetic foot management
- Ingrown toenails
- Corns and calluses
- Thickened and fungal nails
- Athletes foot
- Fingernail cutting + filing (additional cost of £8)

Advice will be given to maintain good foot health until your next treatment.

Standard Charge Per Visit: £35

☎ phone - 07762700558

✉ email - baileylcbhome@icloud.com

📘 Facebook - Foot Health Care by Lisa Bailey

# Golden Charter

## Funeral Plans



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