

## Who to contact:

### Rector:

Rev. David Lake 01788-822147

## St. Margaret of Antioch Church St.Crick, NN6 7TP

### Church Wardens:

Mr. Dave Milne 01788 824670

Mr Patrick Mulcahy 01788 822393

## All Saints' Church, Church Hill, Yelvertoft NN6 LF

### Church Wardens :

Mr M. Larder 01788 824237

Mr N. Robertson 01788 822794

## All Saints' Church, Station Rd, Lilbourne. CV23 0SX

### Church Wardens:

Mr. G. Le Flem 01788 860126

Mrs L. Collins 01788 860451

## Church websites

<http://www.crick.org.uk/church>

**Website :** [www.allsaintschurchlilbourne.wordpress.com](http://www.allsaintschurchlilbourne.wordpress.com)

**Website :** [www.lilbournebells.wordpress.com](http://www.lilbournebells.wordpress.com)

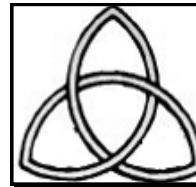
**ACNY - Lilbourne :** [www.achurchnearyou.com/lilbourne-all-saints/](http://www.achurchnearyou.com/lilbourne-all-saints/)

**Facebook, Twitter & Google + Pages.**

**Tower Captain : Rob Palmer, Tel : 07926 15 18 11,**

**e-mail : [lilbourne.towercontact@gmail.com](mailto:lilbourne.towercontact@gmail.com)**

**Ringling Practice : 1st. & 3rd. Thursday each month 7.15pm. to 9.00pm.**



## Three Churches Newsletter

Harvest 2016

United Benefice of Crick,  
Yelvertoft & Lilbourne

Welcome to this Harvest edition of:

### Three Churches Newsletter.

This edition contains the following articles:

- A reflection on change. David Lake
- Thoughts on Prayer. Brian Hemming
- Book review : Ian Mackintosh
- FOSM
- News from Lilbourne
- Books for Autumn
- From the diocese
- Preparation for Advent
- Dates for your diary

I would welcome any articles of inspiration, reflections which you think will enable others in their faith journey.

Items for the Advent edition should be with me by 3rd November 2016. Please email word documents to:

[patrick.mulcahy123@btinternet.com](mailto:patrick.mulcahy123@btinternet.com)

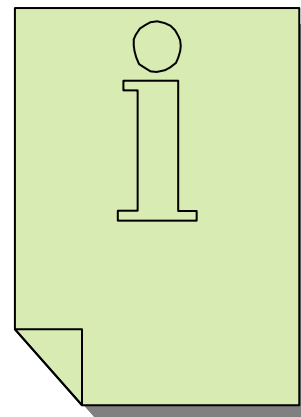
Patrick Mulcahy



*David preached this sermon during the summer about Change and at Harvest time I thought it worth reflecting on the whole concept of change and growth when so much about us is changing and we give thanks to God for the produce which is wrought of physical change!*

The Antiques Roadshow has been at the top of the BBC's most popular programmes list for 38 years now. First broadcast in 1979, in the days when Arthur Negus held court, it continues to this day with Fiona Bruce. But why is the Antiques Roadshow so popular? Perhaps the most edifying reason for its popularity is the expert descriptions which art dealers provide of the different items that the public bring along; the history of the object and identity of its maker are often fascinating. Then there's the wonderment at just how wide and varied the antique world is. But part of the popularity of the programmes is undoubtedly that moment when we wait with baited breath for object's valuation to be declared. And over the years viewers haven't been disappointed. One of my favourites is the couple in 1986 who decided to redecorate their sitting room. They were about to move an old watercolour to their shed, where no doubt it would have languished for years, when they had a change of mind. The Antiques Roadshow was coming to their town, so they decided to take their watercolour along. It was discovered to be a painting by the artist Richard Dadd, which had been missing since 1857 called *'The Halt in the Desert'* and it was valued at a jaw-dropping £100,000. Just a year after the programme the British Museum bought it for that exact amount: - £100,000.

If you can imagine what that moment felt like you will have some idea of the joy Jesus describes for us in today's two parables: *the Parable of the Hidden Treasure and the Parable of the Pearl of Great Value*. In the first of those two parables we may assume the man is/was not a wealthy man, rather the reverse; he was a hired hand, ploughing the same field, season after season. Then one day the blade of his plough suddenly struck something in the earth. So he stops to see what it is and stoops down to move the earth away. And he comes across it; as sudden and unexpected as that. *Treasure!* Hidden all the time in the field of his own experience. In his eagerness and joy goes off and he spends whatever it costs in order to buy that field outright,



**St. Margaret of  
Antioch**

Crick

4th December

**Light for a loved  
one**

4.30

**Special Events**

**All Saints' Yelvertoft**

**Details to be announced in  
Church**

**All Saints' Lilbourne**

**Christmas events**

**9th December**

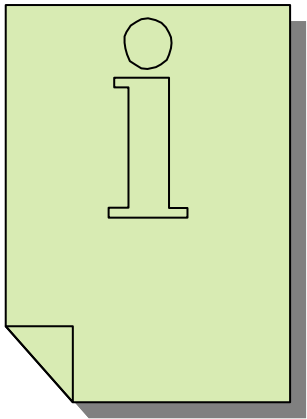
**6pm**

**Hall**

**11th December**

**6pm**

**Carols**



## Remembrance Day Special Services

### All Saints' Yelvertoft

13th November

10.50

at War memorial then at  
All Saint's

### St. Margaret of Antioch

Crick

13th November

3 pm

### All Saints' Lilbourne and Chapel

On the green

13th November

10.50

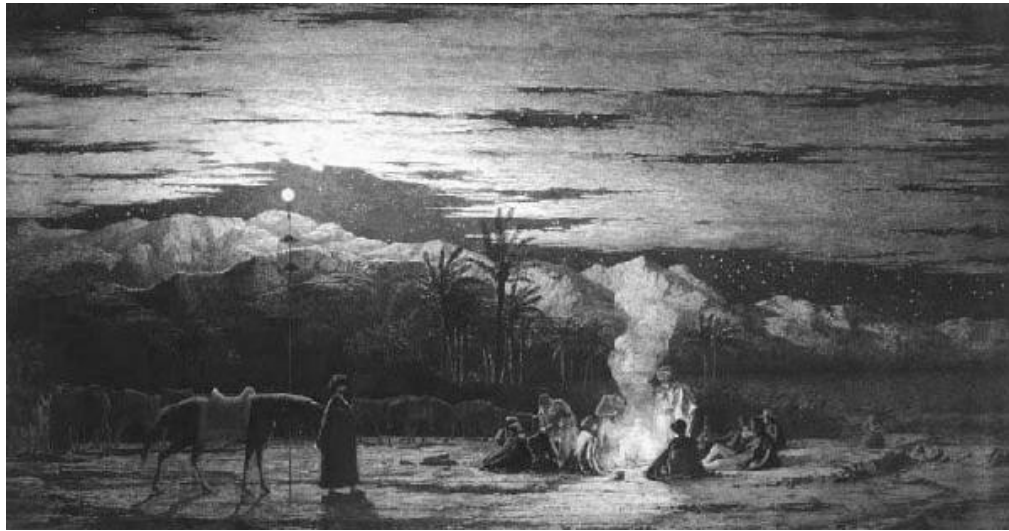
so that the treasure can be his.

In contrast to the first parable the second parable is about a wealthy merchant, a collector of pearls. One day he comes across the most flawless and beautiful pearl he has ever seen. So he sells his whole collection in order to be able to buy it outright.

So what's the message? The first parable, I think, might best be described like this... All of us, from time to time, may recognise that feeling that we've been ploughing the same old furrow, season after season, year after year. Our daily round is pretty fixed and there's nothing new of any note anymore. We may even lose our sense of adventure, as we make our way through life. *"I'm too old to change now,"* a parishioner said to me once, and my heart just sank for them at that moment. *"To live is to change,"* John Henry Newman wrote, *"and to be perfect is to have changed often."* I remember something else I read – many summers ago, now, which Ray Bradbury, one of my favourite writers, wrote: *"Many years later, when Father Malley was a very old man indeed and full of sleep, a final thing happened to fill out his life. Late one afternoon, dozing in the confessional, listening to rain fall out beyond the church, he smelled a strange and familiar smell and opened his eyes..."*

The sudden and surprising things of God which steal upon us; the seeking after God when we sense there has to be more than this. And in our different way are we not all seekers? *Do we not always long for a fairer pearl?* In that sense our restlessness or dissatisfaction may be viewed as a positive force. There is such a thing as divine dissatisfaction, which makes us go after the things of God. *"I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection,"* Paul wrote in his final letter. What, hadn't he had enough of Christ by then? Have you? Have I? Has anyone ever come to end of God? Can we thank God enough that there is no end – and there never will be an end – to God's mercy, forgiveness and love; if there were things would end badly for all of us.

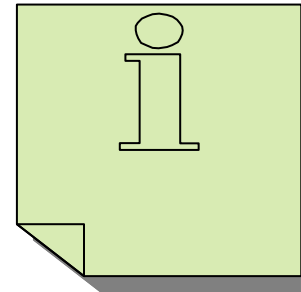
These parables encourage us then to keep a keen eye open for what God is doing in our lives, for He loves to surprise us, often when we think life has gone quiet. And never cease from searching, and never, ever say I am too old to change.



Richard Dadd was a gifted artist but a disturbed man. Spending a large part of his life institutionalised.

Theology is a serious quest for the true knowledge of God, undertaken in response to His self-revelation, illuminated by Christian tradition, manifesting a rational inner coherence, issuing in ethical conduct, resonating with the contemporary world and concerned for the greater glory of God.

John Stott quotes



**St. Margaret of  
Antioch**

Crick

**PCC Meetings**

**7.30pm**

**Church**

**12th September**

**24th October**

## Special Events

**All Saints' Yelvertoft**

**PCC dates:**

**7.45pm in the church.**

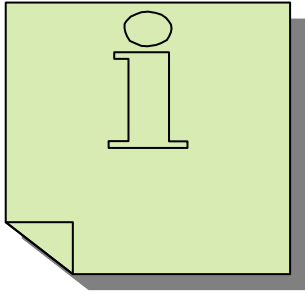
**15th September**

**All Saints' Lilbourne**

**PCC Dates:**

**6th October**

**17th November**



## Special Services

### ***United Benefice services:***

***30th October 2016:***

***11.15***

***St. Margaret of Antioch, Crick.***

***Becky Wills Diocesan Youth Missioner***

***These are not to be missed the last three have been  
spellbinding.***

***Followed by lunch.***

#### ***Benefice Bellringing***

***Have you considered bell ringing ? Join our enthusiastic team of ringers  
Facebook, Twitter & Google + Pages.***

***Tower Captain : Rob Palmer, Tel : 07926 15 18 11,***

***e-mail : [lilbourne.towercontact@gmail.com](mailto:lilbourne.towercontact@gmail.com)***

***Ringling Practice : 1st. & 3rd. Thursday each month 7.15pm. to 9.00pm.***



We hope you agree that the Queen's 90th birthday celebrations in Crick were most enjoyable for the whole village. The Flower Festival was a great example of teamwork and the church looked really wonderful with displays covering many aspects of Her Majesty's life. Between refreshments laid on by FOSM and general donations by visitors, a total of £402 was raised.

It wasn't long before the FOSM team and friends were once again donning their aprons for the Scarecrow Weekend. We thank the Scarecrow committee for once again letting us sell their raffle tickets and keep half the proceeds. Including that sum, the BBQ and the teas, refreshments and stalls in the church, we made £1,420, all towards the restoration. Again, the community spirit in the village over the weekend was lovely and we like to think we played our part in raising the church's profile.

On Saturday, September 10, the Northamptonshire Historic Churches Trust will be holding its annual Ride and Stride. Sponsorship money raised by this event is split

50/50, half going to the participating churches and half going into the pot from which they make grants to churches in the county. We have benefitted from this twice in the last few years and are keen to carry on helping them. **We're not talking marathons here but if you could only find a few people to sponsor you to walk or cycle to Yelvertoft, every little helps.** If you are willing, please contact me for details.

**Sue Milne, 824670/**

**[daveandsuemilne@btinternet.com](mailto:daveandsuemilne@btinternet.com)**



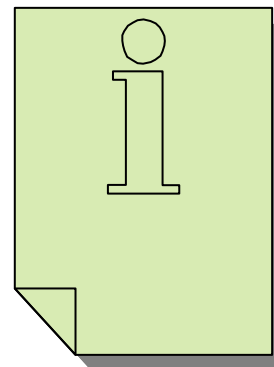
### Luke 11: 1-13 Praying with shameless audacity

It is five years this autumn that I first attended the Alpha course at St. Margaret's. In that course I remember David saying you know Jesus is working in your life, for example, when you begin to watch TV programmes about faith and God that you would have previously switched off. I noticed this when our family were in Boscastle, Cornwall a fortnight ago. Kim and I had gone walking most mornings whilst the children were lying in bed, and on the local map I had seen reference to a historic St. Juliot's Church. Before becoming a Christian walking to a historic church to look around would not have been high on my list of holiday activities!

St. Juliot's is where Sir Thomas Hardy had led restoration work in 1870. Hardy was a young architect in London at the time. Whilst at St. Juliot's he fell in love with the vicar's sister-in-law Emma Gifford and they went on to marry in 1874. Emma was widely credited in encouraging Thomas to leave architecture and to write full-time. The marriage unfortunately had problems and although they later became estranged, her death in 1912 had a traumatic effect on Hardy and soon after he made a trip to Cornwall to revisit places linked with their courtship. However, he remained preoccupied with his first wife's death and tried to overcome his remorse by writing poetry. In his renowned *Poems of 1912-1913* Hardy reflected deeply on Emma's death, their love, and the *meaning* of his own life. Working in bereavement I know a reflection on the meaning of one's life is very commonplace after a death of someone close.

So back to Alpha in 2011, and it was there that I first learnt that only in a relationship with Jesus do we find the true meaning and purpose in our lives. I also learned about prayer; and if the relationship with Jesus helps us discover the purpose of our life then I believe it follows that prayer is the form of communication to help establish that meaning. Since then I have prayed, and I think, like most people here, I have had times when I feel my prayer life has been strong and consistent and other times where it has been hurried and I am almost on automatic pilot.

When I read Bible commentaries about today's Gospel reading about prayer it suggested that ministers clear some time on their schedules for additional pastoral counselling in the coming weeks. So a warning to David! We have lots of questions about prayer; does it work; how does it work; why do some prayers seem to go unanswered; as well as many



?????

Many of the books referred to in the Alpha materials are available from St. Margaret's Crick library.

A special invitation to all seekers.

?????

### Questions of Life and Faith

What does Christianity mean in the 21st Century?

Join us for food, talk and discussion

### Alpha Course

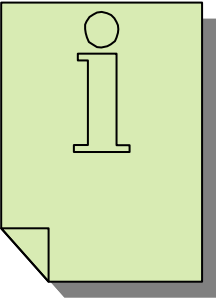
Lilbourne Village hall

19:00

Weekly

Commence 22nd September

Finish Thursday November 24th



## Special Activities

### Look out for our Advent boxes

St. Margaret of Antioch

Crick

1st to 25th December 2016



practical questions about how and where to pray. There are still many unanswered questions I have about prayer.

In Luke 11, Jesus goes to lengths to stress to the disciples that it is not just the words we use in prayer, but rather he seems to say that believers can and should ask *boldly*. We know from Jesus' frequent praying, that God wants us to pray. More than that, in his parable and comments after his prayer, Jesus suggests to the disciples that God wants us to ask for anything. The words used in my NIV Bible in verse 8 are translated as "shameless audacity". Our petitions to God, Jesus says, should be bold, audacious, and shameless. In spite of our brokenness and self-centredness, God still wants us to boldly pray and promises the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him. In his book, 'Too Busy *Not* to Pray', Bill Hybels emphasises that in prayer we must mean what we say.

If we are looking for meaning in our lives, and believe that purpose and meaning comes from our relationship with Christ, then we must pray with meaning and pray audaciously.

Many of you will know I work in sport, and particularly in golf. I was quite taken by a reflection on his prayer life by the famous golfer Gary Player, now aged 80. To finish I'd like to read you that short passage:

**I asked for strength, And God gave me difficulties to make me strong,  
I prayed for wisdom, And God gave me problems to solve.  
I asked for prosperity, And God gave me brains and strength to work.  
I prayed for courage, And God gave me dangers to overcome.  
I asked for love and God gave me opportunities.  
I asked for humility, And God gave me experiences not to be proud of.  
I asked God to grant me patience, And God said, 'No'.  
He said. Patience is a product of tribulation. It is not granted. It is earned.  
I asked God to spare me pain, And God said, 'No'.  
He said. 'Suffering draws you apart from worldly cares and brings you closer to me'  
I received nothing I wanted. I received everything I needed. My prayer has been answered.**

Brian Hemming



## "A Dream or No"

Why go to Saint-Juliot? What's Juliot to me?  
 I've been but made fancy  
 By some necromancy  
 That much of my life claims the spot as its key.

Yes. I have had dreams of that place in the West,  
 And a maiden abiding  
 Thereat as in hiding;  
 Fair-eyed and white-shouldered, broad-browed and brown-tressed.

And of how, coastward bound on a night long ago,  
 There lonely I found her,  
 The sea-birds around her,  
 And other than nigh things uncaring to know.

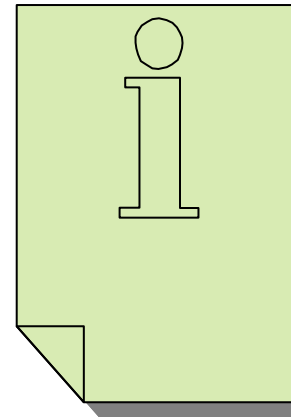
So sweet her life there (in my thought has it seemed)  
 That quickly she drew me  
 To take her unto me,  
 And lodge her long years with me. Such have I dreamed.

But nought of that maid from Saint-Juliot I see;  
 Can she ever have been here,  
 And shed her life's sheen here,  
 The woman I thought a long housemate with me?

Does there even a place like Saint-Juliot exist?  
 Or a Vallency Valley  
 With stream and leafed alley,  
 Or Beeny, or Bos with its flounce flinging mist?

**Thomas Hardy (1840-1928)**

**February 1913**



## Weekly and Monthly Activities

### All Saints' Yelvertoft

Toddler Church Wednesday 2pm-3pm in the Reading Room.

Contact Sheila 822794

Tuesday Chat , first Tuesday of month at 25 High St. Yelvertoft.

### St Margaret's Crick

Little Saints pre school group  
 Monday 2.15 –3.15 in the church.

Bible Study, 2nd and 4th  
 Thursdays 7.30 at 4 Bury Dyke.

### Holy Communion

Wednesday 10.30.



### Prayer meeting:

Last Wednesday of Month

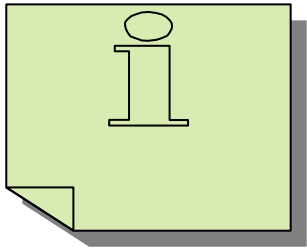
Contact Lorna Taylor

*28th September :Yelvertoft*

*26th October :Crick*

*30th November: Yelvertoft*





## Special Events

### FOSM

Curry Nights

October 14th

November 18th

Join us for a curry and have a convivial evening

Venue :Old School Hall

### All Saints' Lilbourne

8th October

1pm

Village Hall

Jumble sale

Contact Jan. 860742

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

Christmas Fayre

9th December

6pm

Village Hall

10th September  
2016

10am to 4pm

### Northants Historic Churches

Sponsored ride  
and stride.

Lilbourne

Yelvertoft and

Crick



### The Voice

Woman much missed, how you call to me, call to me,  
Saying that now you are not as you were  
When you had changed from the one who was all to  
me,

But as at first, when our day was fair.

Can it be you that I hear? Let me view you, then,  
Standing as when I drew near to the town  
Where you would wait for me: yes, as I knew you  
then,

Even to the original air-blue gown!

Or is it only the breeze, in its listlessness  
Travelling across the wet mead to me here,

You being ever dissolved to wan wistlessness,  
Heard no more again far or near?

Thus I; faltering forward,  
Leaves around me falling,  
Wind oozing thin through the thorn from norward,  
And the woman calling.

**Thomas Hardy (1840-1928)**

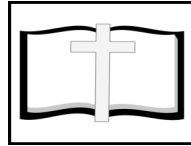
**1912**



## Thoughts from the pulpit

email

Patrick.mulcahy123@btinternet.com



**28** *Mathew 5 verses 17-19* In which we see a tension between the

Law and God's Grace.

**29** Luke 8 verses 26-39 In which Jesus casts out a legion of demons into a herd of pigs!

**30** Matthew 16 13-20 In which Jesus renames Simon

**31** Matthew 13 verses 44-46 In which Jesus encourages his disciples to keep searching

**32** Luke 12 verses 32-40 In which Jesus tells his followers not to fear.

This is a list of the last month's sermons preached by David .

For those unable to attend weekly worship but who wish to develop there understanding of the Christian faith in the 21st Century these are available in PDF format.

## Harvest Services

### *All Saints' Lilbourne*

25th September

6pm

Service and harvest supper



### *All Saints' Yelvertoft*

25th September

11.15

Harvest celebration

Followed by

***Faith Lunch***



### *St. Margaret of Antioch*

11th September

9.45am

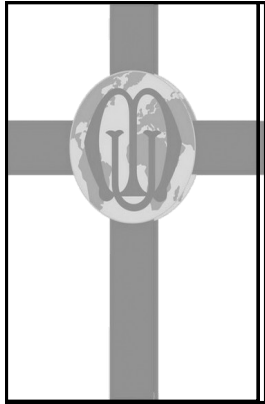
Little Saints Harvest Service

### *St. Margaret of Antioch*

18th September

6pm

Service followed by harvest supper



Mothers Union Care for families.

The Yelvertoft branch serves members of the benefice and meets monthly in the reading room on the third Thursday of the month at 2pm (except December)

The Mothers Union is a charity based in the Church of England to support Christian care for families both home and abroad. Members are not only Mothers: it is family orientated.

### Leukaemia Research Fund

Coin Appeal

*Ever wondered what to do with old foreign coins or notes and old UK coinage?*

The leukaemia research fund collects and sells them to raise funds for medical equipment or research.

Any contributions to

Mrs B Windsor

Leukaemia Research fund Appeal

29 High St

Yelvertoft

NN6 6LF

### Mothers' Union

All Saints' Yelvertoft

Meets 3rd Thursday of each month

Reading Room

Yelvertoft

# A BOOK REVIEW



## ‘The Church Jesus prayed for’

Have you read this book written by Michael Cassidy and published by Monarch Books? [ISBN 978 0 85721 330 3] Michael calls it ‘A personal journey into John 17’. If you think that the Church in Britain today is not having as much impact as it should in witnessing to the people of Great Britain, that it should in fact be much more effective, then get and read a copy of this wonderful book!

In it Michael first gives an insight into the context of Jesus’ high priestly prayer before outlining Jesus’ world view. This occupies the first five chapters before he gets down to detailed expositions of the marks that Jesus prayed for that would characterise his Church. The whole prayer concerns what he wants His Church to look like. The marks taken one by one are as follows:

Truth  
Holiness/Godliness  
Joy  
Protection  
Mission  
Prayerfulness  
Unity  
Love  
Power  
Glory

Each mark is thoroughly explored with numerous instances and anecdotes. I found that I could not finish reading one chapter, without immediately wanting to press on to the next.

This is what Lord Carey, Archbishop of Canterbury 1991-2002 said about the book – “Michael Cassidy has put his heart, soul and mind into what might end up as a landmark study of John 17, arguably the greatest, deepest and most mysterious chapter in the whole Bible..... I warmly commend this terrific book.”

Ian Mackintosh

### **Books for Autumn?**

In addition to Ian's Recommendation.

'The Church Jesus prayed for'

'A Treasury of Prayers'

A lovely book of prayers and pictures from the ages.

.....

*How about this recommended to me recently!*

### ***Finding your hidden treasure.***

*A book about silent prayer.*

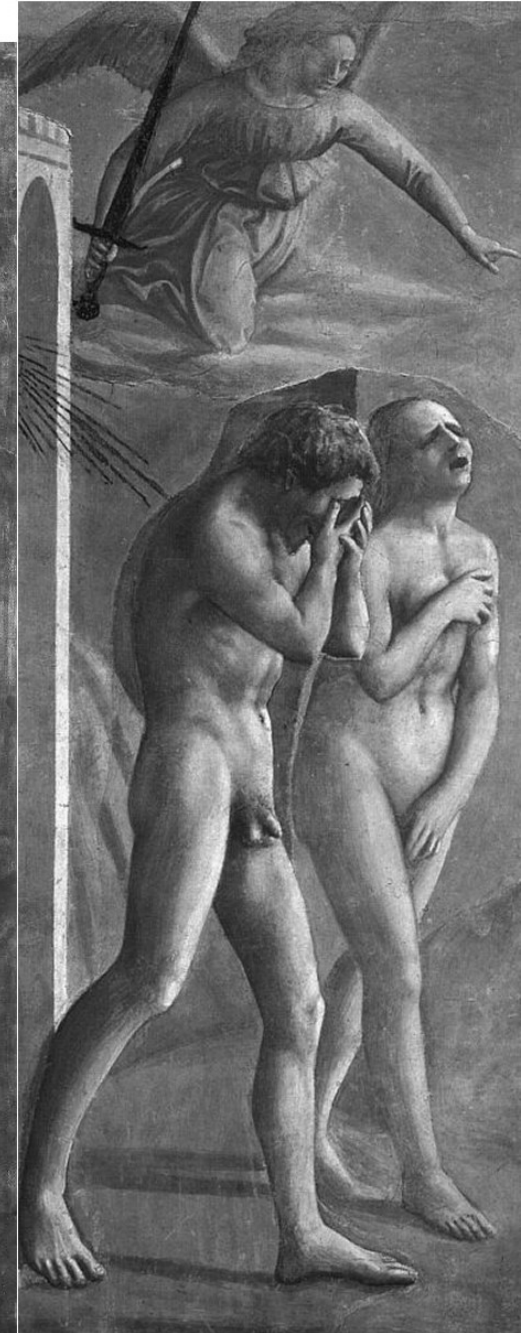
*Written by Benignus O'Rourke*

*'God speaks to us in the great silence of the heart'*

.....

*If anyone has read a book they would recommend as a 'good read' send me a short review and I will include it in the Advent edition.*

.....



## A preparation for Advent

In her excellent book on Biblical themes from the great artists Sister Wendy says of this painting by Masaccio.

‘We do not need to be told that we are fallen: the world is not as it should be.

The expulsion of Adam and Eve from the Garden of Eden ,where they were intended to live, has gripped the imagination of several Artists. No one shows more poignantly than Masaccio what it means to leave a world of peace and freedom, and move out into the violence and unhappiness that have dominated every century of human history.

He shows tenderly and sadly the beauty of our first parents, and their heart-rending grief as they encounter the consequences of their actions. Every sin damages us, and it is a grief to god solely because we have lessened and abused our capacity for happiness. Adam cannot bear to look at what he has done, Eve flings back her head in the anguish of the primeval scream. Yet naked and vulnerable, ashamed and afraid, they still have above them the radiant presence of an angel, pointing them to their future. God has not abandoned them. They are still beautiful, but now must work and suffer for what should have been pure delight

*Sister Wendy's Bible Treasury*

*The picture opposite is before and after restoration .*

## **From the diocese.**

The diocese offers training this autumn. Anyone interested should contact a church warden or the rector .

Names and address on page 28.

### Courses available:

- House group leadership
- Lay worship
- Children's work
- Training for Eucharistic assistant
- Introduction to Godly play
- **Lifestyle**  
**Four evening sessions in Towcester – Fridays 16, 30 September, 14, 21 October**  
**How do I live in God's global creation?**  
**As a disciple, how do I choose to use my resources?**  
**What is my relationship with work, leisure, food, possessions, money, time, health?**  
**How can my lifestyle develop as a disciple of Jesus?**



## News from Lilbourne.

### Northamptonshire Historic Churches Trust 'Ride and Stride' : Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> September

The Trust has helped Lilbourne church with grants in the past, and we are currently hoping for a grant from them towards the roof repair,

Taking part in this sponsored event raises money both for NHCT and for the church of the participant's choice. You work out a route and visit as many open churches as you can (details available) getting sponsored for how many you can do, and the money you raise is split equally between the two. Being on the boundary of two areas, our church doesn't usually have many visiting cyclists / walkers, and in recent years we haven't had any participants either. It would be nice to have some.

#### **Forms & info.: Jan Alexander / Graham Le Flem**

### Harvest Festival & Supper: 25<sup>th</sup> Sept. 6.00pm

A lovely, traditional service & event. Recently, though, most of the harvest produce that decorates the church (and is sold for donations afterwards) has been purchased from Aldi – which isn't altogether in the spirit of the thing! ***Could any gardeners help out with donations of their own produce?*** The church will be decorated for Harvest on the Friday or Saturday; if you'd be interested in helping, just check exact time with one of the churchwardens.

Tickets for the meal that follows the service are £8 adult, £4 child at secondary school; 11-and-unders free. That's for a two-course candlelit meal (we always have a delicious 'veggie' option for those who prefer not to eat meat) plus first glass of wine

for adults, in the beautiful, atmospheric surroundings of Lilbourne's ancient church

Tickets on sale soon – please join us!

### Autumn Jumble Sale Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> October 1.00pm in the village hall.

30p entry. Setting-up and receiving jumble 10am-12.00, doors open 1.00pm Refreshments are always available at our jumble sales – not to mention live music from our resident organist, Peter. Please help by donating unwanted but saleable just-about-anything – but please, we would prefer not to have old books and videos that aren't likely to sell because we then have to take them to the tip! Come and see if you can find a bargain! Do be aware that the sale is usually about finished by around 3.00pm (we pack up when buying stops!) Best to come in early. Further information from Jan Alexander 860742.

### Remembrance on The Green 10.50 am Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> November.

Refreshments served in the chapel afterwards.

## ADVENT

The prayer tree will be in the church from the beginning of Advent. We may be able to have the building open again for a few days - look out for details.

### Christmas Fayre Friday 9<sup>th</sup> December 6.00pm in the hall.

Stalls, hot turkey rolls, mulled wine and Father Christmas! The Christmas Draw will take place – tickets on sale from late November