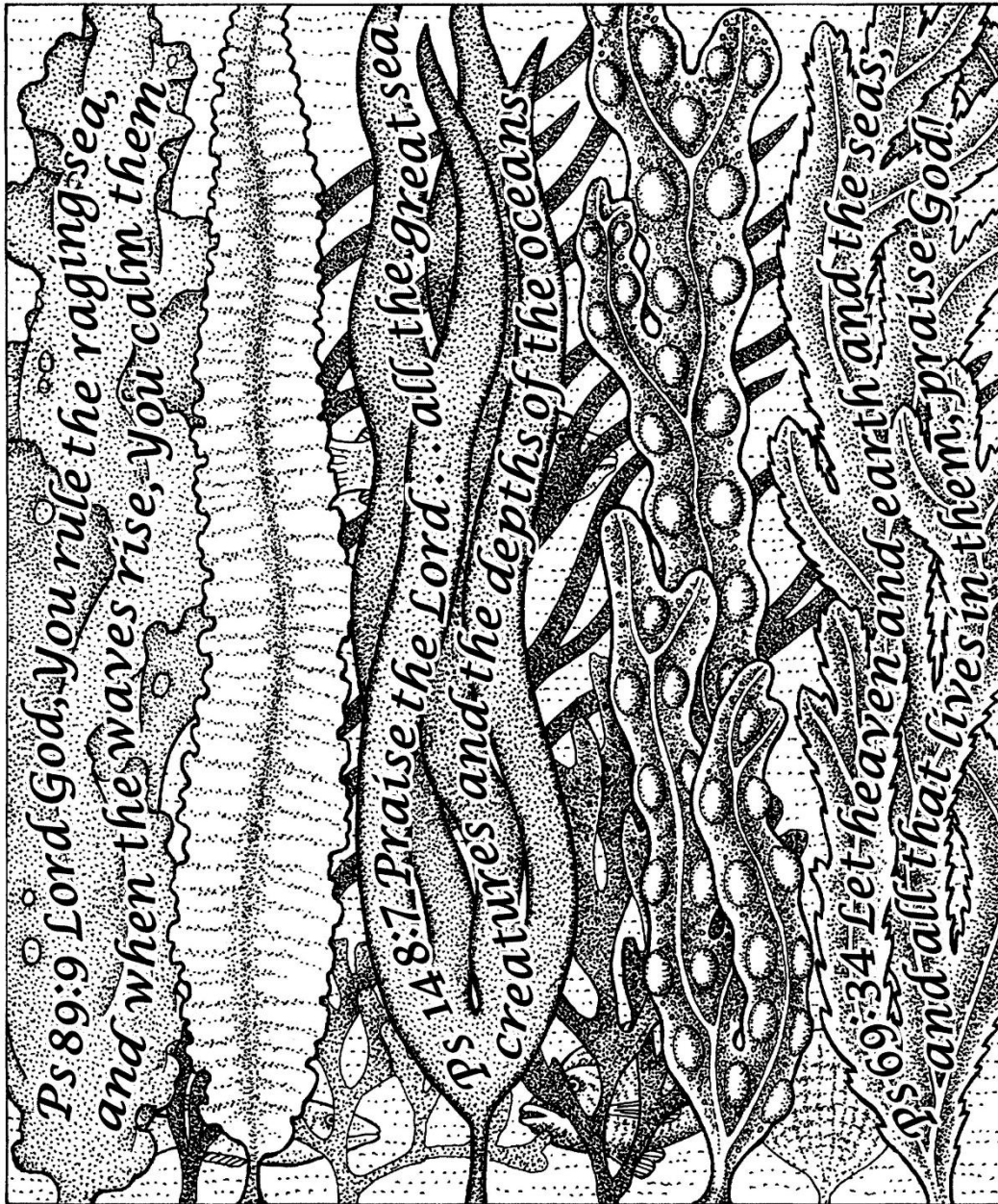


Parish Magazine

July / August 2026

30p



St. John's Parish Church

Rufford Road, Crossens, Southport
(A member of the North Meols Team Ministry)

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Church contacts:

Team Rector: Rev Rebecca Clarke, revrebecca@hotmail.co.uk, Tel: 233738
Reader: Mrs Karen Corbett, 40 New Lane, Crossens. Tel: 220192
Churchwardens: Mrs Chris Jowett, 25 Brook St, Crossens. Tel: 227507
Dr Andrew Macdonald, 7 The Causeway, Crossens
Treasurer: Mrs Louise James
PCC Secretary: Mrs Chrissy Gregory

Rainbows: Mrs Nicola Macdonald
Brownies: Mrs Natalie Flynn
Guides: Mrs Tracy Boden. Tel: 228189

Mumford Room bookings:
Mr Andrew Boden. Tel: 228189

Service times:

Sunday (10am)

Holy Communion: 5th July, 26th July, 2nd August, 23rd August
Morning Prayer: 12th July, 9th August, 16th August,

****No service at St John's on Sunday 19th July****

****Team service at St Cuthbert's on Sunday 30th August****

Wednesday (10am, unless otherwise stated)

Morning Prayer or Holy Communion

For later dates, please check the website: www.stjohnncrossens.co.uk

One Father In Heaven

At the time of writing, I am much looking forward to a performance of Donizetti's sparkling and witty opera "La Fille Du Régiment." It tells the story of Marie, who was found as a baby on a battlefield (don't ask!) and was adopted and raised by the regiment. Consequentially, she now has about 40 fathers to whom she is a beloved daughter, which is great - but consider the young man who loves her and comes to ask for her hand in marriage...!

In contrast, we only have one Father in Heaven, but his love and care for us is far beyond the power of 40, it is unequalled and unquantifiable.

God's Fatherhood is a prominent feature throughout scripture: In Deuteronomy 1:31 God is pictured as a father tenderly carrying his child through the wilderness, providing personal, nurturing protection.

In Psalm 103:13, God is described as having tender compassion and empathy for His children.

And in Jeremiah 31:3 we are promised that God's love is eternal and draws us to Him with unfailing kindness.

But it is through the Lord Jesus Christ that the Father heart of God is completely and perfectly revealed.

Jesus transformed our understanding of God by revealing Him as a tender, accessible Father. He taught us to pray "Our Father" (Matthew 6:9) and used the intimate name "Abba" (Mark 14:36), inviting us into a personal family bond. Through parables like the Prodigal Son, Jesus showed us a Father who runs to embrace us with compassion (Luke 15:20). Ultimately, Jesus' own life of service and sacrifice was the perfect reflection of God's heart, proving that to see the Son is to see the Father's love in action (John 14:9).

When we consider all that God has done and accomplished on our behalf, it is only natural that our response is to pour out our love for Him, but the real unfathomable

mystery is why God loves us in the first place! as St John wrote, “This is love: not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins.”

Paul also mulled over this theme in Romans 5:8 “God demonstrates His own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.”

In dying and rising again, Jesus has confirmed and sealed our status as children of God, His words to Mary Magdalene on Easter morning - “Go and tell my brothers I am returning to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.” (John 20:17)

Amazingly, we are adopted as sons and daughters of God!

The opera I’m about to see, is a playful and humorous reminder of the complexity of relationships and the richness of love, which prompts me to reflect how blessed we are to have one Father in Heaven whose love is not only deep and unwavering but also uniquely personal.

As we embrace the summer season, let us take the time to bask in the beauty of this relationship with God. A relationship that allows us to lay our burdens down and begin to live our lives with holy love and holy laughter, finding joy and peace in knowing that we are cherished children of a loving Father.

May this summer bring you moments of reflection, joy, and connection with your heavenly Father. Let us all carry His love in our hearts and share it with those around us.

Wishing you a wonderful summer filled with blessings and the warmth of God’s presence.

Anne

ROTAS

Sunday Coffee Rota

5 th July	Louise J & Heather
12 th July	Kath & Jane
19 th July	No Service
26 th July	Nicola & Andrew



2 nd August	Brenda & Chris
9 th August	Louise J & Heather
16 th August	Kath & Jane
23 rd August	Nicola & Andrew
30 th August	Brenda & Chris

6 th Sept	Louise J & Heather
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Help is urgently needed to maintain a weekly rota. If you are willing to volunteer, please see me. Chris Jowett

Wednesday Coffee Rota

1 st July	Eileen & Trish
15 th July	Brenda & June
22 nd July	Jean & Chrissy
29 th July	Chris & Janet

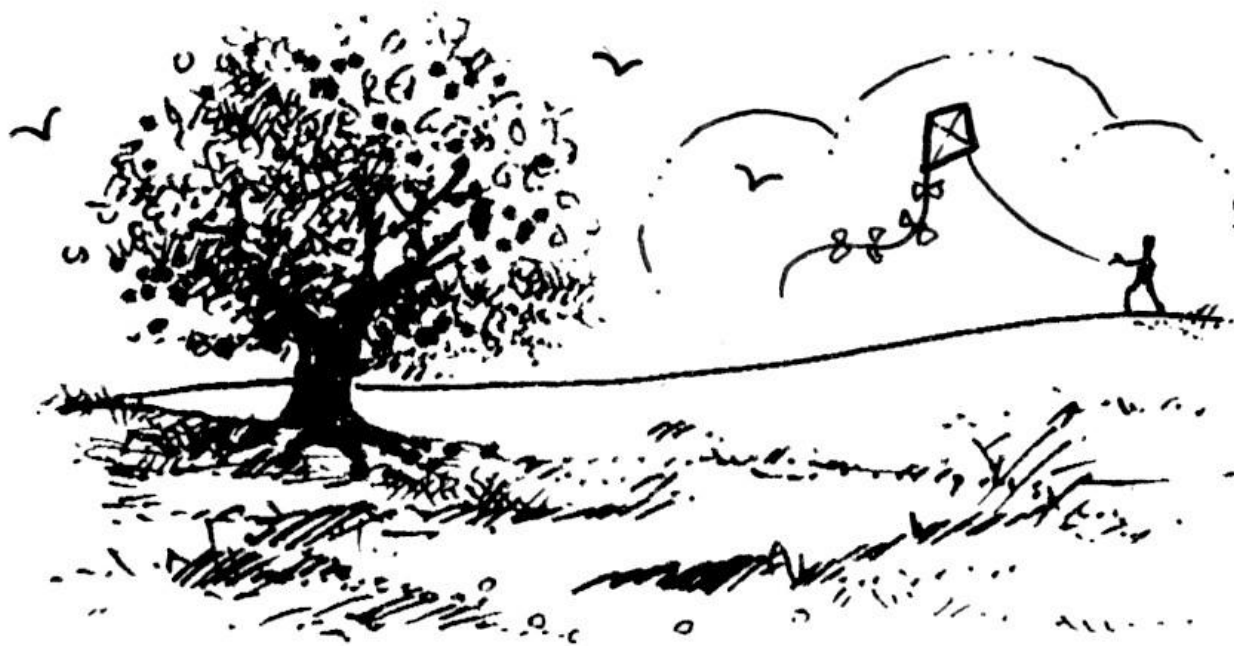
5 th August	Eileen & Trish
12 th August	Brenda & June
19 th August	Jean & Chrissy
26 th August	Chris & Janet
2 nd Sept	Eileen & Trish

Readings Rota

5-Jul-2026	Nicola	5th after Trinity	Romans 7.15-25a
12-Jul-2026	Simon	6th after Trinity	Romans 8.1-11
19-Jul-2026	Chris J	7th after Trinity	Romans 8.12-25
26-Jul-2026	Maggie	8th after Trinity	Romans 8.26-end
2-Aug-2026	Louise J	9th after Trinity	Romans 9.1-5
9-Aug-2026	Chris L	10th after Trinity	Romans 10.5-15
16-Aug-2026	Sylvia	11th after Trinity	Romans 11.1-2a, 29-32
23-Aug-2026	Hayden	12th after Trinity	Romans 12.1-8

Intercessions

July 5 th	5 th after Trinity	Simon
July 12 th	6 th after Trinity	Karen
July 19 th	7 th after Trinity	Simon
July 26 th	8 th after Trinity	Chris
August 2 nd	9 th after Trinity	Margaret
August 9 th	10 th after Trinity	Karen
August 16 th	11 th after Trinity	Andrew
August 23 rd	12 th after Trinity	Simon
August 30 th	13 th after Trinity	Chris



St John's Crossens
Summer Concert



BANKS BRASS



BAND



Friday 10th July – 7.30pm
at
St John's Church, Crossens
Rufford Road

£6 entry fee
Pay on the door



Save the date..

St John's Church will be open for
the Heritage Open Days on
Saturday 19th September.

The Scarisbrick Mausoleum will also be
open on the same day.

On our YouTube Channel every Wednesday...

You are invited each week to take a...

Mid-Week Pause

A time for God in maybe a busy week
with hymns - a Bible Reflection - prayers

NORTH MEOLS TEAM MINISTRY SOUTHPORT

begins Wednesday 6th May



Puzzles – Sudoku

EASY

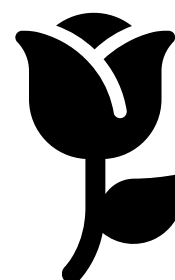
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9					8	6		5
	6	3				9	1	
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2	7	8	1	9				
	9	6				4	7	
8		1	9					6
	5	7			6			

MEDIUM

2		5				8		
			6	5	3			
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3								4
7			2		9			
	2							9
			5	7	4			
		4				6		5

Sanctuary Flowers

Donations would be welcome for the Sanctuary Flowers during July.



Flowers for August

2nd August _____
 9th August Mrs G Johnson
 16th August _____
 23rd August Mrs B Brown.
 30th August _____

Thank you to all who support our Flower Fund. ECB.

"SCHOOL - RESCUE ME!"

As part of their work to support charities, school are supporting an animal rescue centre called "Rescue Me". The children have been asked to collect postage stamps from envelopes, unwanted foreign currency and any pre-decimal or pre-euro currency people may have hidden in old socks!!!

If you have any such items, please can you pass them to Karen Corbett and she will take them into school.

Nexus

Churches Together

(in North Meols)

Tuesday 14th July

At Cornerstone Methodist Church
7:30pm

Everyone is very welcome!

“A new commandment I give unto you. Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another”

John 13:34-35

WORDSEARCH



It was 250 years ago, on 4th July 1776, that the US Declaration of Independence was adopted by the Second Continental Congress. The original signed parchment still exists, behind bullet-proof glass at the National Archives in Washington.

An original draft of the Declaration was made by Thomas Jefferson and was amended by Benjamin Franklin and John Adams. It runs for only 1,320 words. The Declaration included the phrase: "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness."

July
Fourth
Declaration
Independence
Second

Continental
Congress
Washington
Draft
Thomas

Jefferson
Benjamin
Franklin
John
Adams

Truths
Created
Equal
Creator
Inalienable

Rights
Life
Liberty
Pursuit
Happiness



Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

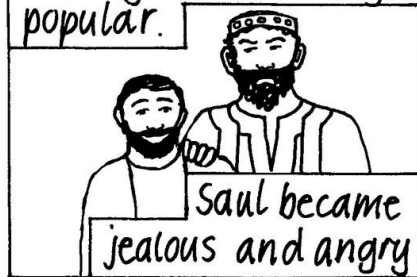
It can be read in the Bible in
1 Samuel 24

God chose Saul to be the King of Israel,
but Saul chose to disobey Him. God said
that the next king would not be Saul's son.

Saul didn't know
that God had
chosen David to
be the next king.



David was very successful
as a fighter and very
popular.



David had to go on the run and
hide.



One day, Saul
and his army
were in En-Gedi.
Saul needed to
pee, so he went
into a sheep
fold built next
to a cave...

David and his men were hiding at the
back of the cave!



David crept over and
cut a piece off Saul's
robe.



Then David felt bad.



David waited until Saul
was far enough away
then he shouted to him.



Your majesty, I could have
killed you today, but I
knew it was wrong. I want
to prove to you I'm not
trying to harm you.



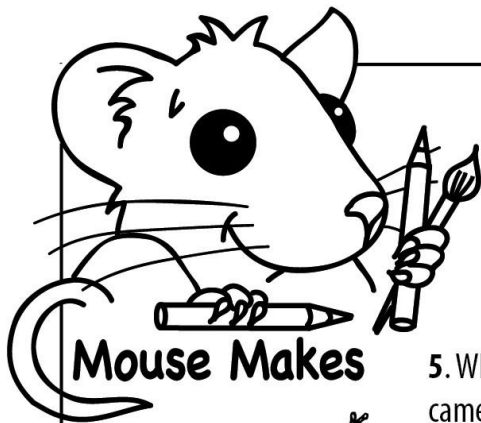
David, you are better than
me. I would have killed you
but you were kind.



Now I know you will be
the next king, but please
look after my family.

David promised, and
Saul and his army
went home.

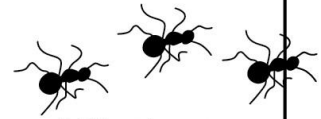




1. What bird makes
it's nest on high?
Job 39:27



2. What ate the seeds along the path?
Matthew 13:4



3. The hair of which animal
was used to make curtains?
Exodus 36:14

4. What insect
can we learn from?
Proverbs 6:6

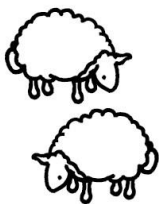
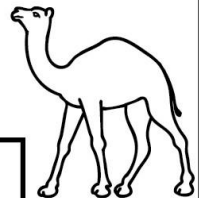
7. Which animal
was Jesus
compared to?
John 1:29



5. What plague
came out of the
River Nile?
Exodus 8:6



6. What animal would
go through the eye
of a needle easier
than a rich person?
Luke 18:25



8. What bird did Noah release
from the ark first?
Genesis 8:7



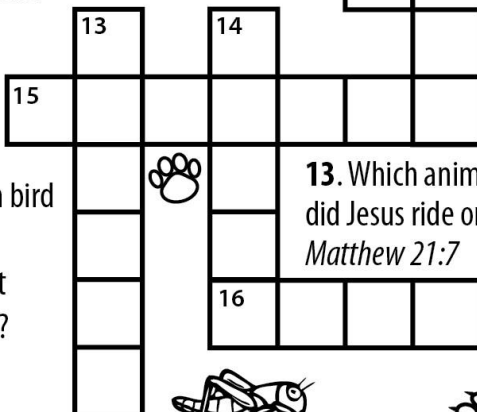
9 across.
In what creature's mouth
was a coin found?
Matthew 17:27



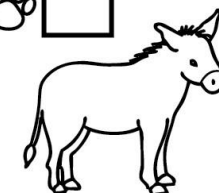
9 down.
What lives
in holes?
Matthew 8:20



12. Which bird
did the
Holy Spirit
appear as?
Luke 3:22



13. Which animal
did Jesus ride on?
Matthew 21:7



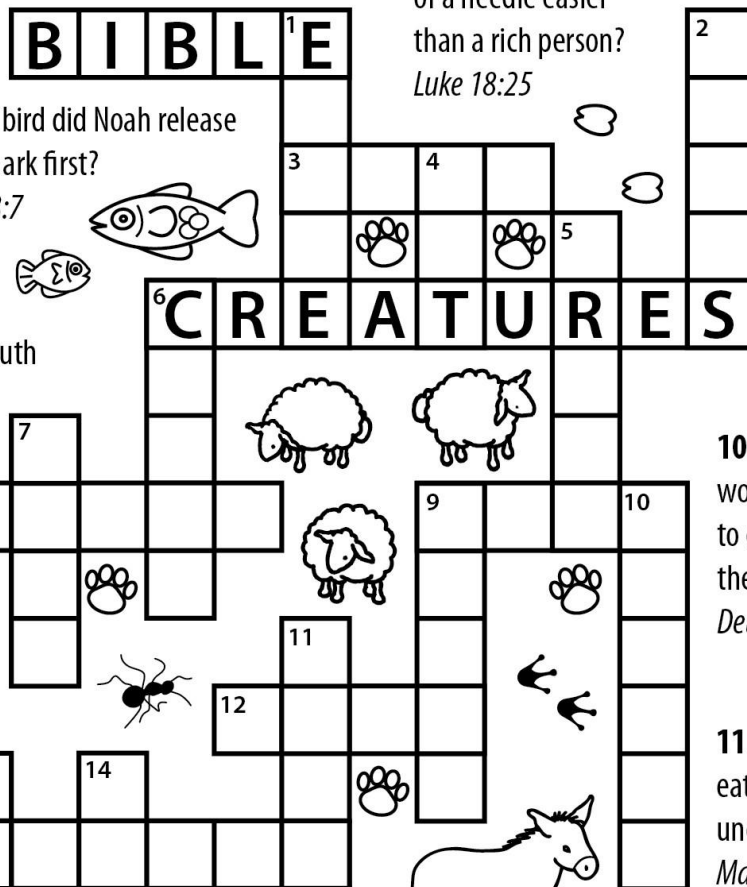
14. What bird did God provide
for food in the wilderness?
Exodus 16:13



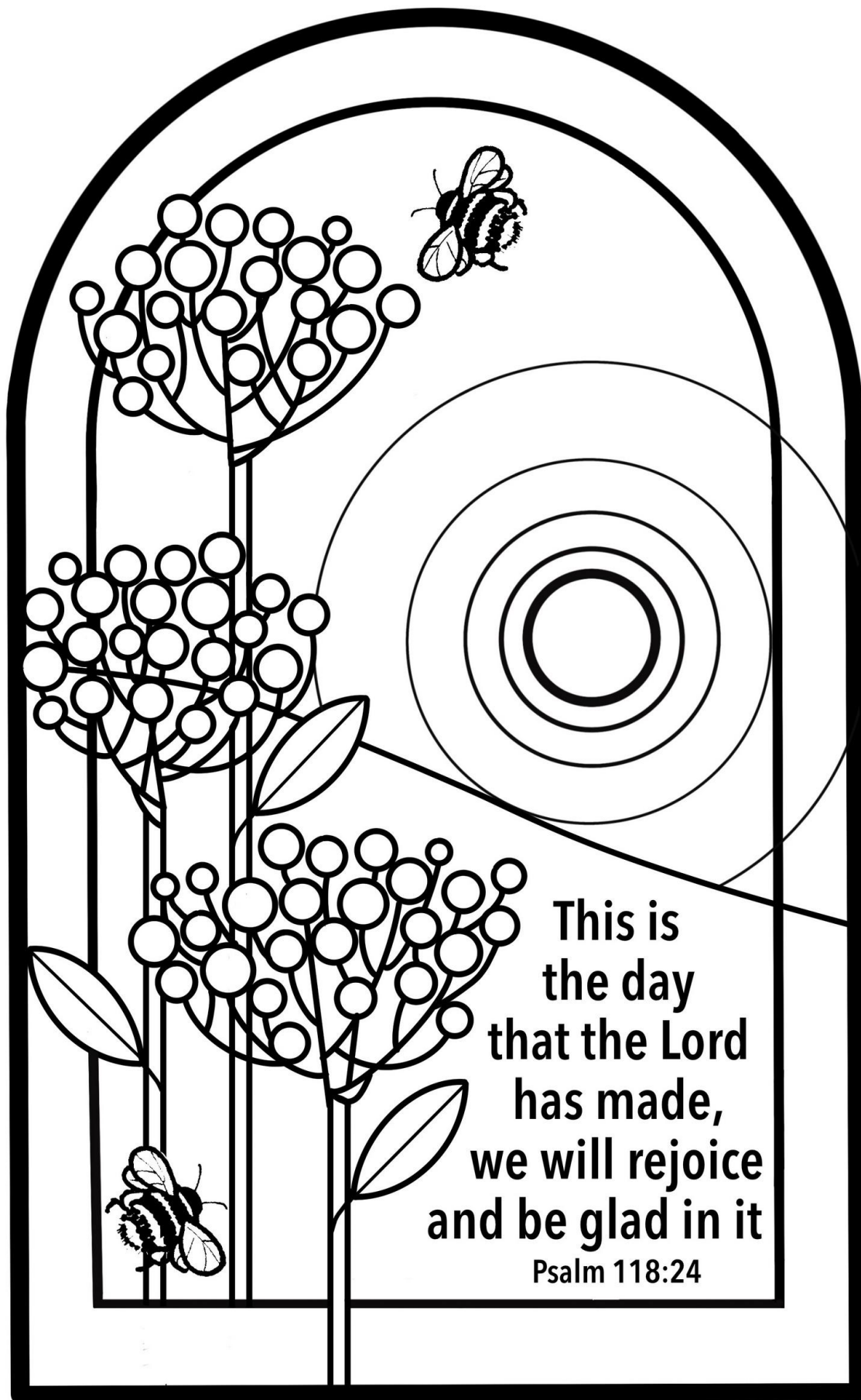
15. What insects did John eat in the wilderness?
Matthew 3:4



16. Which animal is the
"mightiest among beasts"?
Proverbs 30:30



Some colouring for all ages....



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