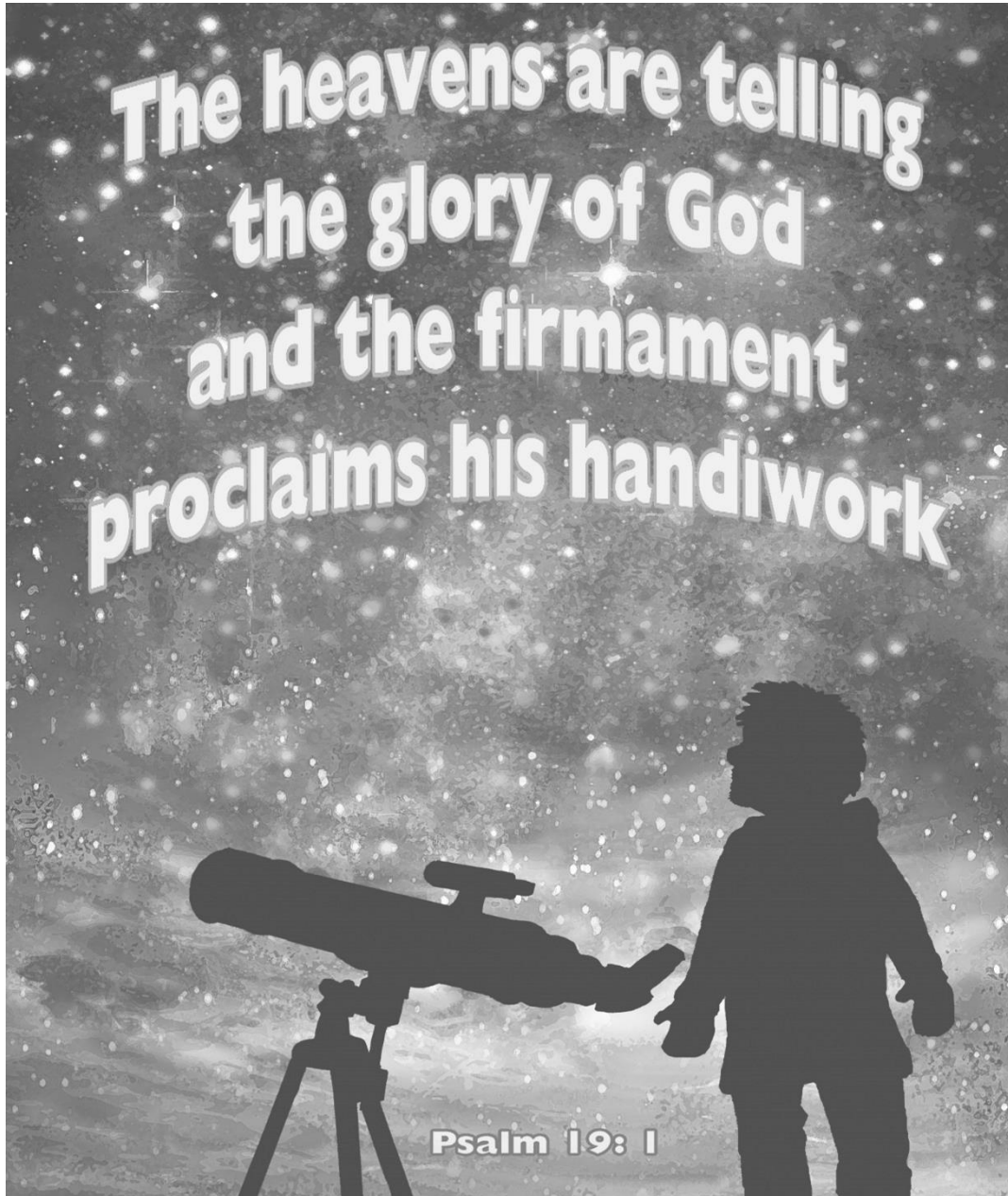


Parish Magazine

June 2024

30p



St. John's Parish Church

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

Magazine Contents:

Letter from Kenneth Wallbank	Page 3
Rotas	Page 5
Sudoku	Page 6
Wordsearch	Page 9
Children's section	Page 12

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Service times:

Sunday (10am)

Holy Communion 2nd June, 16th June
(30th June, Team service at St Cuthberts at 10:30)
Morning Prayer 9th June, 23rd June

Wednesday (10am)

Holy Communion 5th June, 26th June
Morning Prayer 12th June, 19th June, 3rd July

A Letter from the Kenneth Wallbank...

Come Rain or Shine....

At the time of writing, it is a beautiful day, with blue skies and lots of spring sunshine, providing a tantalising hope of warm summer days ahead. Although, given the vagaries of our English weather, the more likely scenario is that by the time you read this - it will be raining again!

Whenever the sun does put in an appearance at this time of year, I am instantly transported back to my school days and the memory of the morning sunlight streaming in through the indies of the assembly hall and our young voices united in singing Bishop William Walsham How's lovely hymn from 1871 -

“Summer suns are glowing over land and sea,
Happy light is flowing, bountiful and free.
Everything rejoices in the mellow rays,
All earths's thousand voices swell the psalm of praise.”

Even its beautiful tune “Ruth,” exudes warmth and radiance, so much that you can almost feel the “mellow rays” of summer sunshine warming your face!

It's a hymn that we seldom sing today, maybe because it is so redolent of long hot summers, that we don't often get the chance - as it isn't quite the same with rain hammering on the window!

However, this hymn still has much to say to us, but in the interests of brevity and available space, let's look at the second verse, for it gives us much to ponder on and something positive to take with us into the month ahead.

“God's free mercy streameth over all the world,
And His banner gleameth, everywhere unfurled;
Broad and deep and glorious as the heaven above,
Shines in might victorious,
His eternal love.”

God's mercy is His pity, kindness and compassion towards his people, who don't deserve it. It is God's patience in withholding immediate judgement upon us - even though we do deserve that!

Mercy is at the very essence of God's nature - as we say in the Prayer of Humble Access at the communion service “But Thou art the same Lord, whose nature is always to have mercy...”

God's wrath and God's mercy met at Calvary, and through the Cross, our lives can be transformed.

In the Old Testament, the Mercy Seat was the golden lid covering the Ark of the Covenant. It was the place where God would meet with the High Priest on Israel's behalf (Exodus 25:19-22.) and the only means by which this meeting was possible, was through the blood of the spotless lamb.

Paul also writes about this in Romans 3:25; the Greek word for Mercy Seat is usually translated as “propitiation” or as in the NIV “sacrifice of atonement.” Jesus has become our “Mercy Seat,” the place where God and sinners can meet and be reconciled.

And what about that “gleaming banner?”

Again, in Exodus 17:15 following the defeat of the Amelekites, Moses raised an altar to the Lord and called it “Jehovah Nissi - The Lord, Our Banner.”

In the Song of Songs 2:4 we can learn a little more about God’s banner, as the beloved says “He has brought me into his banqueting house and His banner over me was love.”

Divine mercy and love, confirmed and consolidated through the victory of the Cross, has flooded into every corner of our sinful world.

There is nowhere that God’s love and mercy cannot reach. There is no heart that cannot be opened and changed by redeeming, victorious love.

Unlike the summer sunshine, it is 100% constant and amid the continuing cost of living crisis and rising prices, it remains free!

Now isn’t that good news - whatever the weather!



This Quarter's Team On-Line Magazine is now available for viewing on our YouTube Channel

[NORTH MEOLS TEAM MINISTRY SOUTHPORT]

This edition includes:

Two Hidden Windows - Persecuted Christians - Personal Poems - Living by Faith - St. Stephen's CE School - St. John's Brass Band Evening



Sanctuary Flowers

- June 2nd Flowers in memory of the Iveson family.
- June 9th _____
- June 16th _____
- June 23rd _____
- June 30th _____

Thank you to all supporters of our Flower Fund. ECB.

ROTAS

SUNDAY COFFEE ROTA

2nd June	Bill & Chris J
9th June	Kath & Jane
16th June	Nicola & Andrew
23rd June	Brenda & Mavis
30th June	Chris D & Bill
7th July	Bill & Chris J



Help is urgently needed to maintain a weekly rota. If you are willing to volunteer, please see me. Chris Jowett

WEDNESDAY COFFEE ROTA

5th June	Brenda & June
12th June	Chris & Janet
19th June	Eileen & Trish
26th June	Jean & Mavis
3RD July	Brenda & June

Readings rota

June 2 nd	Maggie	1st after Trinity	2 Corinthians 4.5-12
June 9 th	Joan	2nd after Trinity	2 Corinthians 4.15-5.1
June 16 th	Andrew	3rd after Trinity	2 Corinthians 5.6-10, 14-17
June 23 rd	Chris J	4th after Trinity	2 Corinthians 6.1-13
June 30th	Team service at St Cuthbert's		

PUZZLES - SUDOKU

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

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

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Easy

Medium

"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 – what is it?

About 25 years ago, the local clergy in the North of Southport initiated a meeting of lay people from the churches, with the objective of promoting a better understanding of our shared faith in Jesus Christ and working together to promote the Gospel to our shared community at this end of the town. The group was to be led by the laity.

“Nexus,” which in Greek means “a coming together” was suggested as the name for this group.

Since then, the Group has met monthly, on the evening of the second Tuesday of each month. The venue has been hosted by a different church each year.

Over the years, great friendships have been formed across the denominations and much has been learned of each other’s traditions and practices. Also, we have learned that we have so much more in common, and very little divides us.

Every year, the international Octave of Prayer for Christian Unity has been celebrated with a special Service, accompanied until recently with ecumenical prayers through the week.

Nexus is an effective instrument to enable us to work better together, showing the community how our shared faith in Jesus can bring God’s love and joy to our hurting world.

As Nexus members, we are now very few in number, but convinced of the need of our group, and invite each of you to come along to our meeting on June 11th at Cornerstone Methodist Church, starting at 7.30 pm.

Why not give it a try?



Nexus
**Churches
Together**

(in North Meols)

***Tuesday, 11th June 2024
7.30 p.m.
at Cornerstone Methodist Church***

**Everyone is very
welcome!**

The meeting will be led by:

Cornerstone Methodist Church

***"Be completely united, with only one thought and one purpose."
[1 Corinthians 1: 106]***

WORDSEARCH

Erasmus, patron saint of sailors

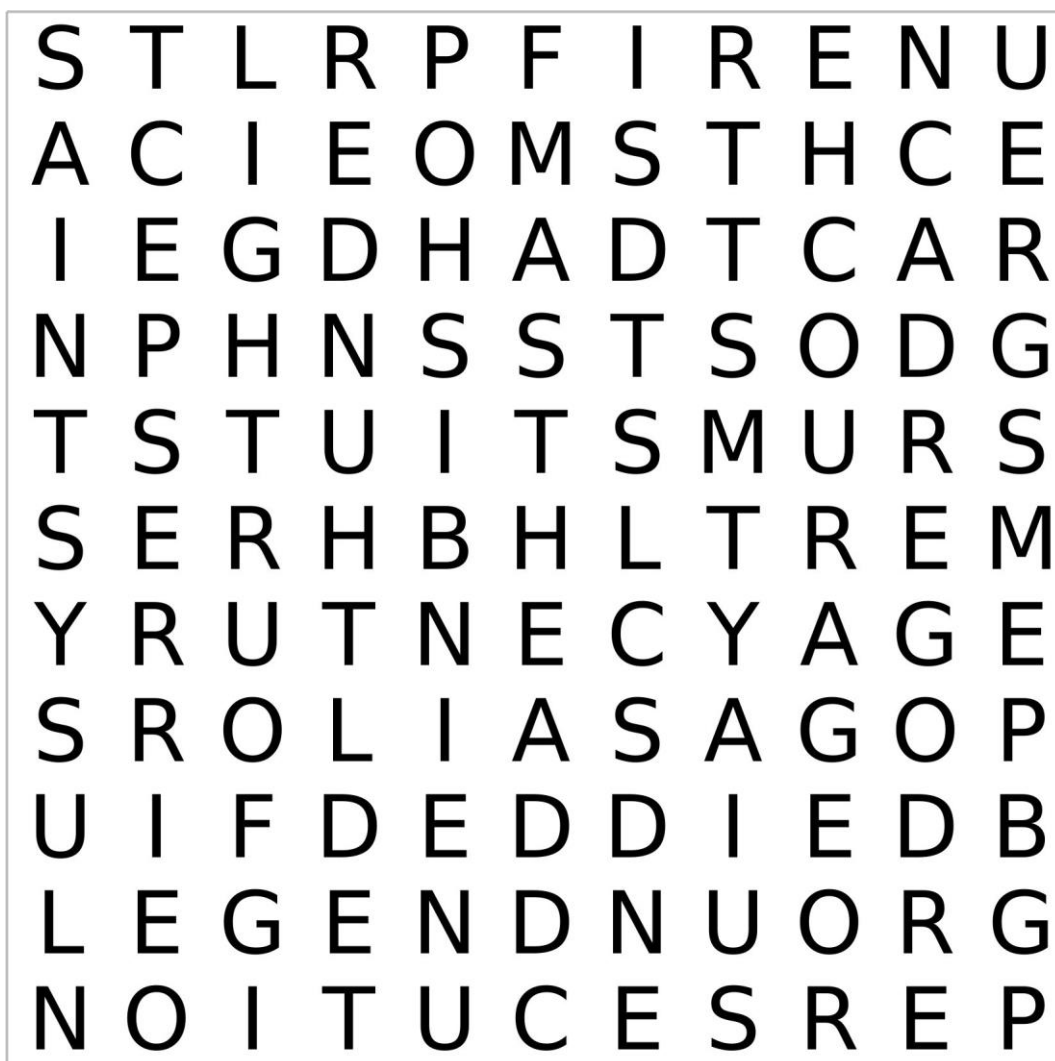
Do you like messing about in boats? If so, then you'll have heard of St Elmo's Fire. It is the light that is sometimes seen on mastheads of boats after storms at sea. St Elmo is another name for St Erasmus, a fourth century Syrian bishop who was not afraid of violent storms. Legend has it that one day when Erasmus was preaching outside, a thunderbolt hit the ground right beside him. That might have distracted modern bishops, but not Erasmus – he just kept on preaching. His courage won him the respect of sailors, who made him their patron saint. Erasmus finally died during the Diocletian persecutions in 300AD, and his feast day is 2nd June.

Boats
Elmo
Fire
Light
Masthead

Storm
Sea
Fourth
Century
Bishop

Legend
Preaching
Thunder
Ground
Respect

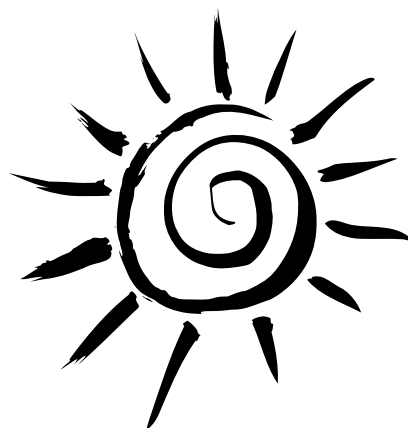
Courage
Sailors
Saints
Died
Persecution



Summer COFFEE MORNING

Saturday 13th July

10am-12.00



CAKES & RAFFLE



Prayer for June 2024

Dear Lord,

Here we are in June. Halfway through this year already! How the years fly by and often we are so busy, so taken up with everyday concerns that we forget to take time to be still; to consciously be in your presence; to be aware of the wonders of your world.

June is such a beautiful month, so we take this moment, Lord – and we thank you for your goodness to us and your provision for us. Especially we thank you for the gift of Jesus who is the only way to you, who is your truth and who offers us eternal life, if we will turn away from our self-centredness and put our trust in Him.

For June and for Jesus, Lord, we praise you and we glorify you. And we move into the rest of the year in hope and trust.

In Jesus name,
Amen.

By Daphne Kitching

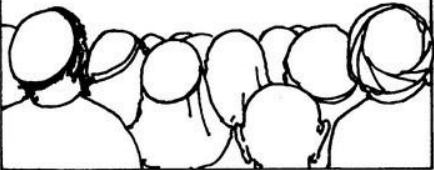
Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in
Ex.19:3-9,20:1-21,24:7,12-18,32:1-25,34:1-9

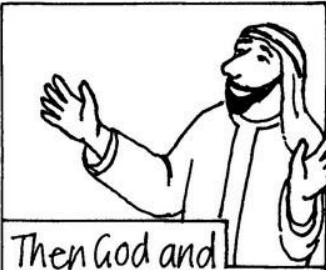
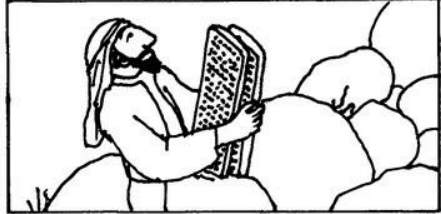
God rescued the Hebrew people from Egypt and led them to Sinai mountain. There He offered them a contract....

Keep My rules, and you will be My people and I will be your God and protect you.



We promise to do what You tell us and worship only You.

Moses climbed the mountain. God gave him two stone slabs with the contract on them.



Then God and Moses talked ... for 40 days and nights



Meanwhile...

Aaron, that Moses isn't coming back. We can't worship something we can't see.



Make us something we can worship

So Aaron made a gold bull and the people went wild.

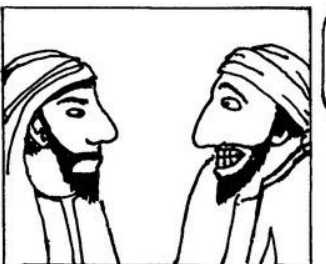


God told Moses....

Your people are already worshipping a statue.



Moses was so angry he smashed the contract slabs



It's not my fault, they made me do it.

God, please, please forgive Your people.



So God forgave His people and gave Moses two more contract slabs.



The tale of the Salt and Light



JESUS OFTEN TOLD STORIES WITH HIDDEN MEANINGS

HE ONE EXPLAINED TO HIS FRIENDS THAT THEY WERE A BIT LIKE SALT!

IN JESUS' DAY, SALT WAS VERY PRECIOUS. IT HELPED PRESERVE FOOD....

....AND SALT GAVE FLAVOUR. IT WAS VERY USEFUL INDEED

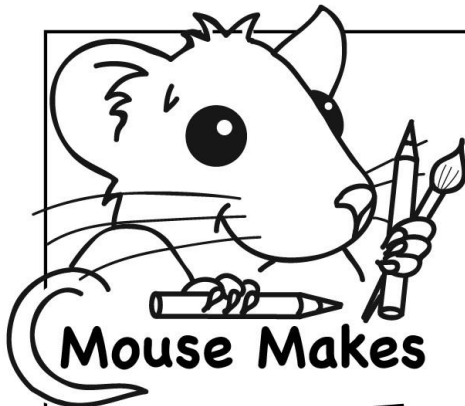
SALT HELPED MAKE LIFE BETTER - WE TOO SHOULD HELP MAKE LIFE BETTER IF WE CHOOSE TO FOLLOW JESUS!

JESUS ALSO SAID HIS FOLLOWERS SHOULD BE LIKE LIGHTS

'NOBODY LIGHTS A LAMP - THEN PUTS IT UNDER A BOWL', SAID JESUS

THE WAY WE LIVE OUR LIVES AS CHRISTIANS SHOULD BE AN EXAMPLE TO THE REST OF THE WORLD.

JUST LIKE A CITY BUILT ON A HILL!



Change each letter in this bible verse to the letter before it in the alphabet.

TFF XIBU LJOE PG
MPWF UIF GBUIFS
IBT HJWFO UP VT
UIBU XF TIPVME
CF DBMMFE
DIJMESFO PG HPE
POF KPIO UISFF: POF

Solomon's father defeated a giant and became a King. Who was he?

1 Samuel 48-50

Whose daughter was healed by Jesus?

Mark 5:21

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

WHO IS MY FATHER?

Who was created by God and became the first father?

Genesis 2:20

Who had a son when he was very old?

Genesis 21:5

Shem Ham and Japheth's father built a huge boat, who was he?

Genesis 6:10-14

Who gave his son Joseph a robe of many colours?

Genesis 37:2-3



This Roman puzzle square reads the same from the top, bottom and sides and translates:

"Arepo the sower guides the wheel with skill."

R	O	T	A	S
O	P	E	R	A
T	E	N	E	T
A	R	E	P	O
S	A	T	O	R

If you rearrange the letters it can spell **PATER NOSTER** which means "Our Father".

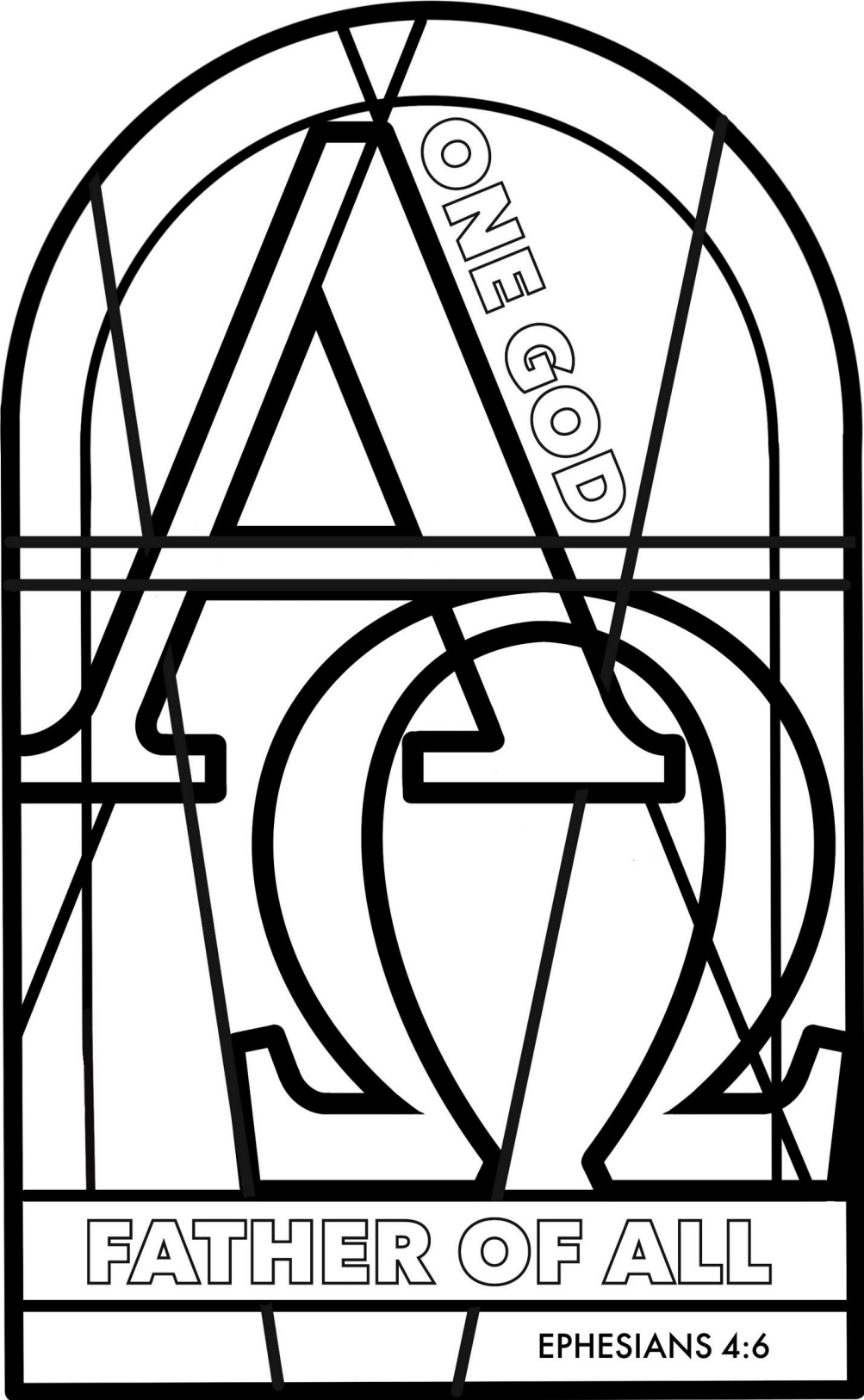
A
P
A
T
E
R
N
O
S
T
E
R
O

Look up the Bible verses to find the fathers then look for them and the words below in the word search.

FATHER • GOD
SON • DAUGHTER
JOSEPH • ISAAC
MOSES • JOB
SOLOMON
ZECHARIAH
ZEBEDEE

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Some colouring for all ages....



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