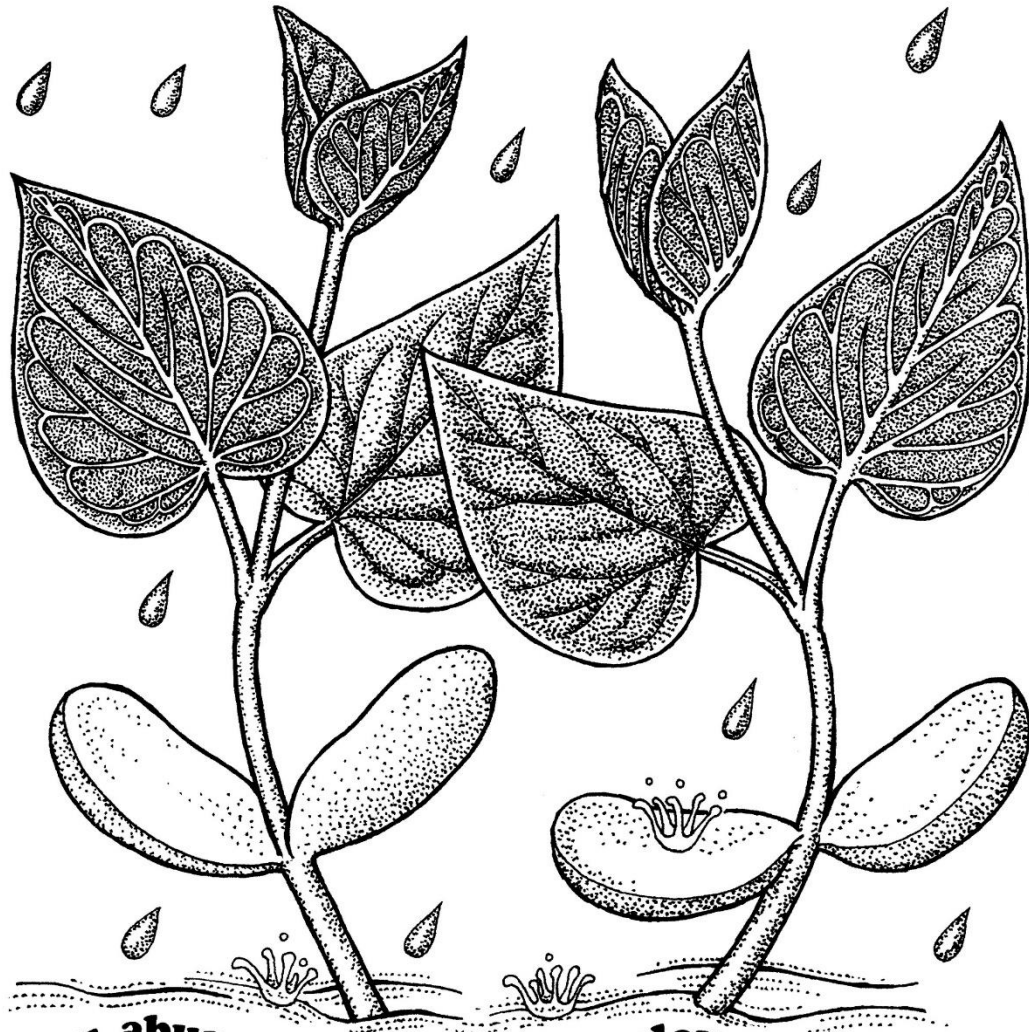


# Parish Magazine

April 2024

30p



**You abundantly water the ploughed fields,  
You settle  
its furrows and soften the earth  
with showers. You bless its growth. Ps 65:10**

## St. John's Parish Church

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

## Magazine Contents:

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## Church Contacts:

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Mrs Chris Jowett, 25 Brook St, Crossens. Tel: 227507

Treasurer: Mrs Louise James

PCC Secretary: Mrs Chrissy Gregory

Rainbows: Mrs Nicola Macdonald Tel: 233580

Brownies: Mrs Lynn Harrison Tel: 07595 423734

Guides: Mrs Tracy Boden Tel: 228189

Mumford Room Bookings:  
Mr Andrew Boden Tel: 228189

### Service times:

#### Sunday (10am)

Holy Communion 7<sup>th</sup> April, 21<sup>st</sup> April, 5<sup>th</sup> May

Morning Prayer 14<sup>th</sup> April, 28<sup>th</sup> April

#### Wednesday (10am)

Holy Communion 3<sup>rd</sup> April, 17<sup>th</sup> April

Morning Prayer 10<sup>th</sup> April, 24<sup>th</sup> April

*A Letter from the Revd Rebecca Clarke*

Dear Friends,



Since my last letter in December 2023, sadly, the war continues between Israel and Hamas, the innocent continue to bear the brunt of the conflict in loss of lives, homes, and so much more, it is the same in Ukraine and indeed so many other countries around the world where war rages unabated. War is no respecter of persons but is cruel, unforgiving and has absolutely no mercy whatsoever. In war excuses are always made for killing other people, excuses made for driving people out of their homes, excuses made for terrorising and torturing the population. Always there is an excuse and well-constructed propaganda to try and make it all seem alright. Well, it isn't and never will be, for war is war.

For us it's very easy to get disheartened when we are constantly bombarded on our screens with seeing so much suffering from those caught up in these unrelenting conflicts. So easy for us to think the world is a bad or evil place and in so doing lose any sense of hope or that things can change.

But we must never lose hope, for in the darkest of situations peace, hope, love and goodness will prevail. In the midst of all we are hearing about the absolute horror of war in various countries we also hear stories of kindness, stories of hope and of love.

Let us not lose sight of these remarkable and uplifting accounts for in them we see the love, the compassion, the kindness, of God, who is right there in the midst of the suffering of the people.

Such acts become the bedrock and building blocks for that longed for peace. For peace is built on love, respect, kindness, hope, and goodness.

*A Peace Dream written by Claire Smith from Guyana*

I dream  
Of a loving world  
Where we see each other  
With God's eyes;  
I dream of a resourceful world  
Where we cherish the unique gift  
Of each other;  
I dream  
Of a hopeful world  
Where we recognise the power of God's grace  
To transform and make new;  
I dream of peace.....

May God bless and uphold all those who seek peace in our world today.

Rev Rebecca Clarke Team Rector North Meols Team  
St John's Crossens



Time to see what our three Churches are up to in the weeks leading up to  
Christmas

by signing in to our Team's YouTube Channel  
"NORTH MEOLS TEAM MINISTRY SOUTHPORT"

The full team service where we welcomed the new Bishop of Liverpool is  
currently available on the team's YouTube channel.

## Sanctuary Flowers



April 7th Easter flowers  
April 4th \_\_\_\_\_  
April 21st \_\_\_\_\_  
April 28th Mr & Mrs J Sutton

Thank you for all the support you give to our Flower Fund especially over  
Easter. ECB.

# ROTAS

## SUNDAY COFFEE ROTA

7th April	Nicola & Andrew
14th April	Brenda & Mavis
21st April	Chris D & Bill
28th April	Chris J & Bill
5th May	Kath & Jane



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

## WEDNESDAY COFFEE ROTA

3rd April	Jean & Mavis
10th April	Brenda & June
17th April	Chris & Janet
24th April	Trish & Eileen
2nd May	Jean & Mavis

## Readings rota

April 7th	Joan	2nd Sunday of Easter	1 John 1.1-2.2
April 14th	Louise J	3rd Sunday of Easter	1 John 3.1-7
April 21st	Chris J	4th Sunday of Easter	1 John 3.16-end
April 28th	Nicola	5th Sunday of Easter	1 John 4.7-end
May 5th	Simon	6th Sunday of Easter	1 John 5.1-6



# **Banks Brass Band**

## **Spring concert**

### **Friday 26<sup>th</sup> April**

### **7.30 @ St. John's church.**

**£5 per person.**

**Refreshments included.**

**Please ask Chrissy or Jane  
for a ticket.**

# PUZZLES - SUDOKU

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1			9					

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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.

# **Churches Together**

*(in North Meols)*

***Tuesday, 9<sup>th</sup> April 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

## St George of the Golden Legend

St George is Patron Saint of England, but he never actually came here. He was a Christian officer in the Roman army under Diocletian, who refused to abandon his faith during the Terror. George was therefore martyred in Palestine about 300 AD. His courage became legendary, and St George became the example of a Christian fighting-man, a powerful helper against evil powers affecting individual lives. He was the soldier-hero of the Middle Ages. In the Golden Legend of the 13th century, Jacobus de Voragine tells the story of how St George helped rescue the people of Sylene in Lybia from a dragon, especially the princess, who had been offered to the dragon as a sacrifice. With the dragon dead, and the princess returned to her father the King, the people of Sylene converted to Christianity.

George  
Patron  
Saint  
England  
Officer

Roman  
Army  
Diocletian  
Terror  
Martyred

Palestine  
Courage  
Example  
Helper  
Evil

Soldier  
Hero  
Golden  
Legend  
Dragon

Princess  
Converted



## Prayer for April 2024

*based on John 20: 19-end*

Almighty Father,

In these weeks after Easter, help us to receive afresh  
the new life Jesus' resurrection makes possible.

Lord, come to us. Walk through the locked doors of our fears.

Bring us your peace. Fill us with your Holy Spirit.

Send us onto our daily front lines to share your resurrection  
peace and hope and love with those who are lost and lonely.

Thank you for meeting us in Jesus, our Lord and our God.

We are your Easter people. Hallelujah. Amen.

*By Daphne Kitching*

### **Something a little lighter...**

#### **Heaven**

Seen in a parish magazine: "We shall be meeting on Wednesday, when the subject will be 'Heaven - how do we get there?' Transport by bus is available at 6.45pm opposite the King's Arms

#### **Choir**

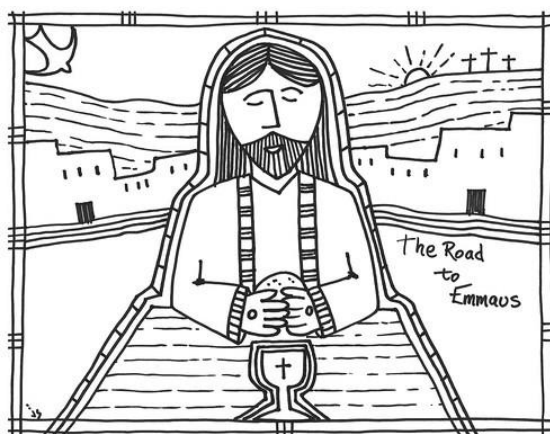
Seen in a parish magazine: 'Next Sunday the choir will give a recital, after which the church will be closed for repairs.'

#### **Those typos in the church newssheet...**

The church's AGM will be hell on 22nd April.

While the pastor is on holiday, massages can be given to the church secretary.

More sinners wanted for the choir.



**Emmaus**  
(Luke 24:13-32)

In the breaking of the bread  
Our eyes were opened,  
We knew Him then.  
The Lord was with us in Emmaus,  
There was no doubt.  
He was alive and with us,  
The scriptures made sense.  
What a difference!

But thinking back  
To that journey –  
To the grief that overwhelmed us,  
The discussions, disagreements  
And debilitating disappointment –  
A different opening of the eyes,  
We never were alone.

Before the word and bread,  
Because of the word and bread  
He was there,  
He is here,  
Always,  
Walking with us.

*By Daphne Kitching*

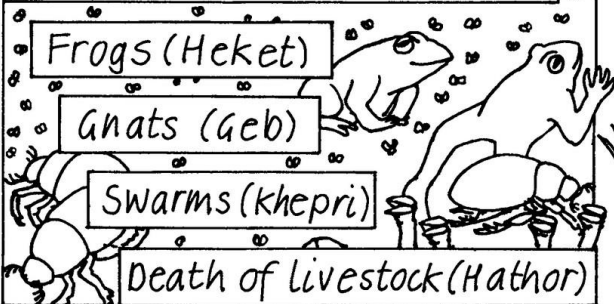
# Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

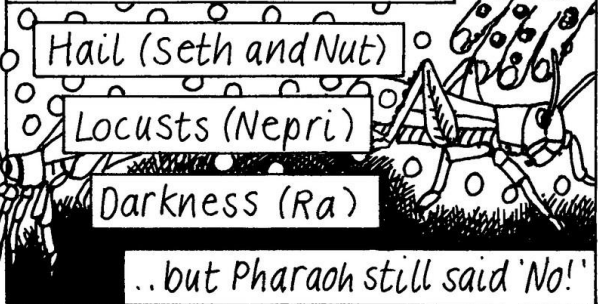
It can be read in the Bible in  
Exodus 7:14-10:29, 12:21-23, 29-33, 14:5-29

God told Pharaoh to let the Hebrew slaves leave Egypt, but he refused. God then showed his power over Egypt (and its gods)...

The Nile turned blood red (Hapi)



Boils and sores (Sekhmet)



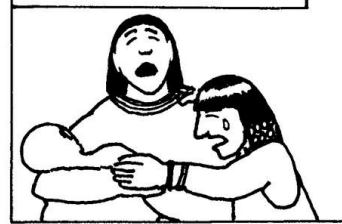
God told the Hebrews to prepare to leave, and each family to kill and cook a lamb. He told them..



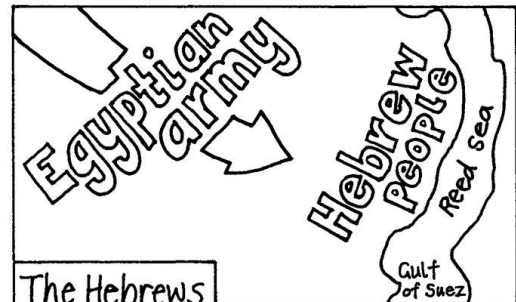
Mark your house door with the lamb's blood.



That night, in each un-marked house, the eldest son died.



The Hebrews left Egypt...

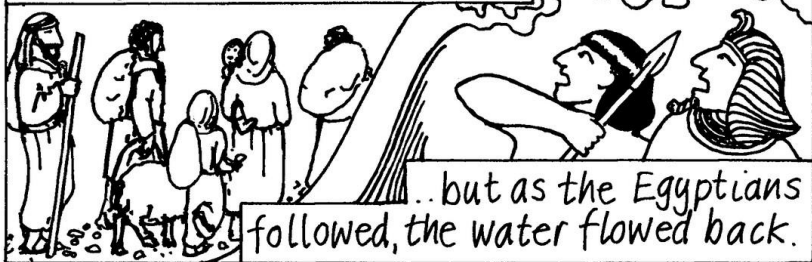


The Hebrews were trapped by the Red Sea..

God made a cloud to hide them from the Egyptians..



and sent a wind. By morning the sea bed was dry and they walked across..



The  
Tale of the  
**TWO  
BUILDERS**



JESUS OFTEN TOLD  
STORIES WITH  
HIDDEN MEANINGS



ONE WAS ABOUT TWO MEN WHO  
BUILT THEIR OWN HOUSES

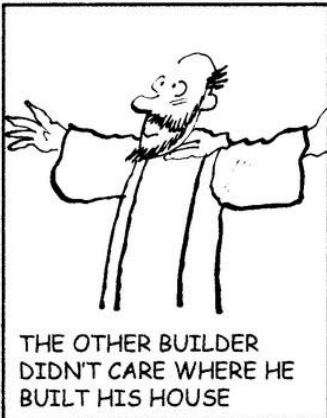


THE FIRST BUILDER SEARCHED HIGH  
AND LOW FOR A GOOD SOLID ROCK ON  
WHICH TO BUILD HIS HIS HOME.

AT LONG, LONG LAST HE  
FOUND THE IDEAL SPOT.



SO HE BEGAN TO BUILD.

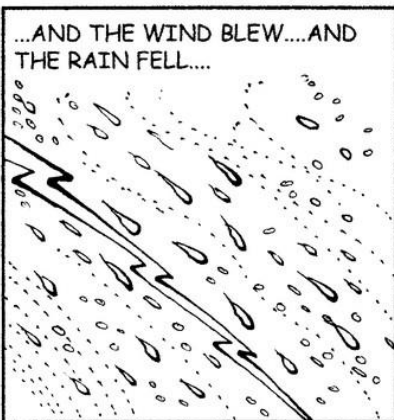


THE OTHER BUILDER  
DIDN'T CARE WHERE HE  
BUILT HIS HOUSE

HE THOUGHT SOME NICE FLAT SAND  
WOULD BE AN EASY PLACE TO BUILD.



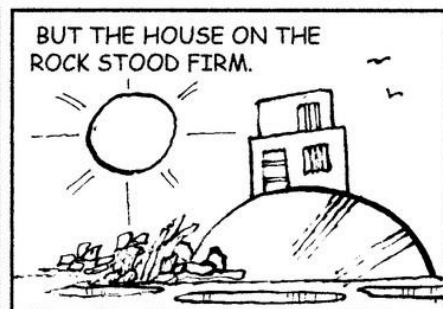
BUT ONE DAY THE  
STORM CAME...



...AND THE WIND BLEW...AND  
THE RAIN FELL...

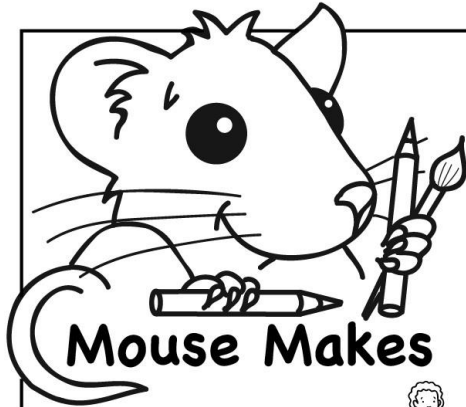


...AND THE HOUSE ON  
THE SAND COLLAPSED!



BUT THE HOUSE ON THE  
ROCK STOOD FIRM.

JESUS EXPLAINED -  
IT'S IMPORTANT OUR LIVES HAVE  
A FIRM FOUNDATION!



Some time after Jesus had risen a few of His disciples met together to go fishing. They fished all night but caught nothing. As the sun rose a man on the shore asked; "Have you caught anything?" "Not a thing" they answered.



He said to them "Throw your net out onto the right side of the boat and you will catch some."

So they did and they and they caught so many fish they could not pull in the net.

Then John recognised the man, "It is the Lord!"



**READ**

the story in **John 21**



How many times had the risen Jesus revealed himself to the disciples before this?

Read **John 21:14**



How many disciples were there? Who were they?

Read **John 21: 11**

How many fish did they catch? Read **John 21: 11**

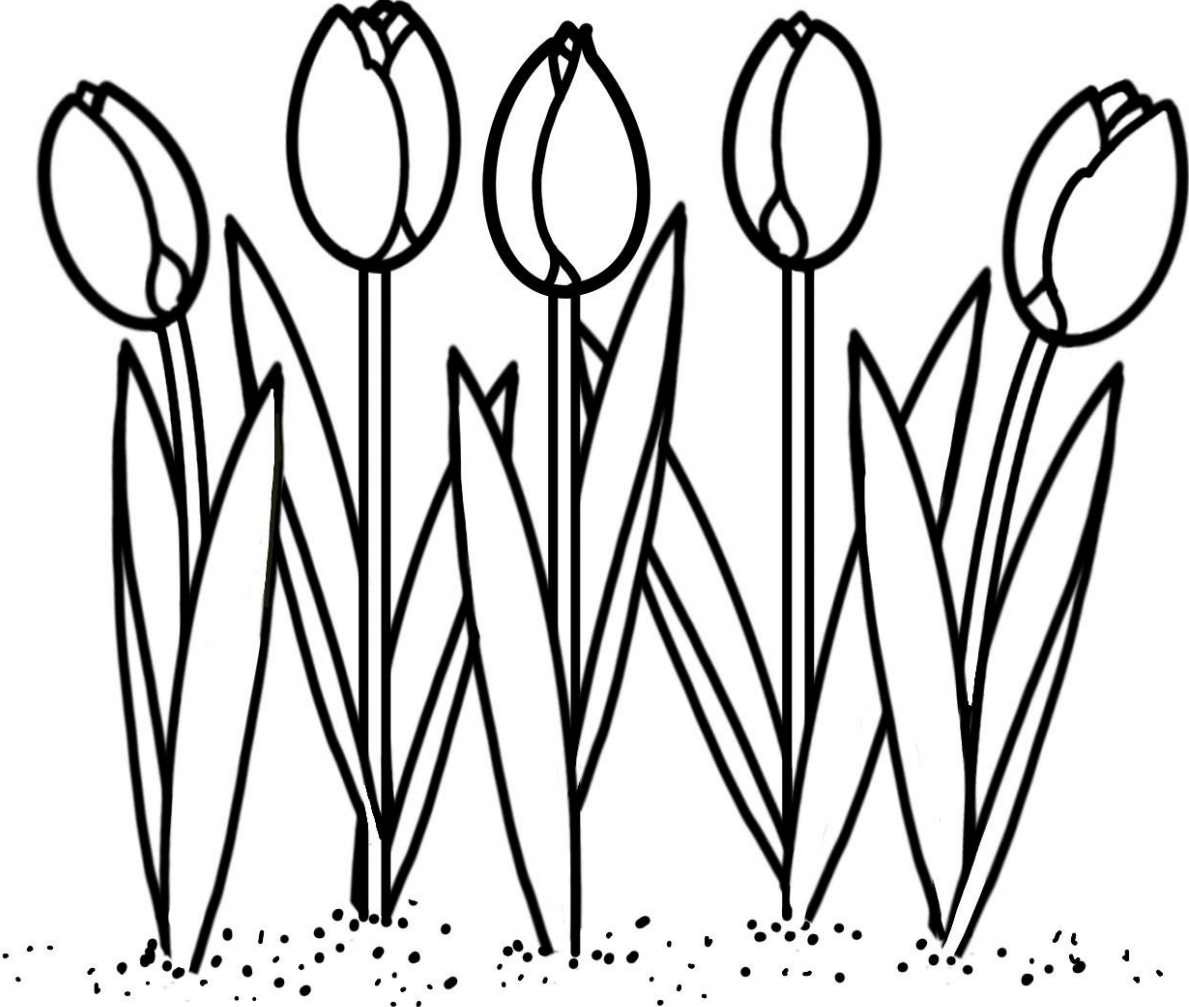
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 D F I S H U N I G H T E  
 C A U G H T L D O F U L L

DISCIPLES • TIBERIAS • SEA • SIMON PETER • THOMAS • NATHANAEL • JOHN • DAY  
 FISHING • BOAT • NIGHT • CAUGHT • NOTHING • WATER • SHORE • FISH • CAST • NET  
 RIGHT • FIND • HAUL • LORD • FULL • LAND • FIRE • BREAD • BREAKFAST • JESUS

Colour in all the fish

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Some colouring for all ages....



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