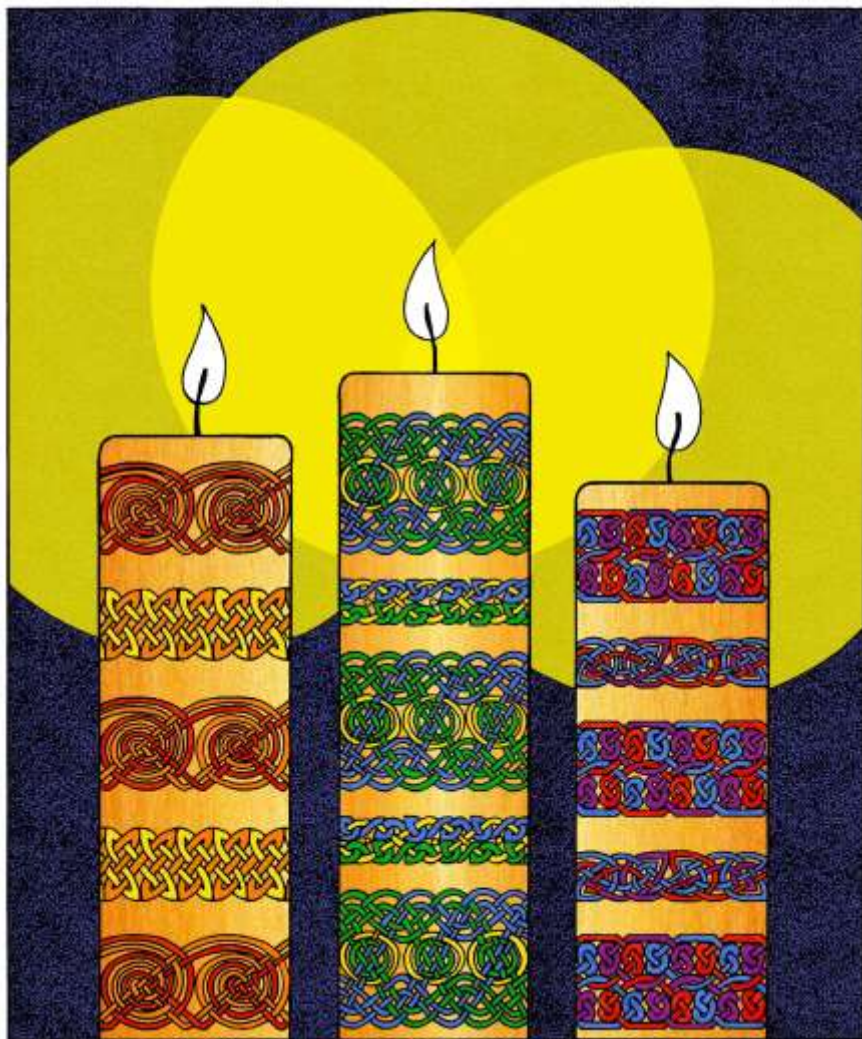


Winterbourne Churches' Newsletter

www.fromsidechurches.org.uk

www.salemchurch.org.uk



February 2026

ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH

Church Lane, Winterbourne, BS36 1SE

Acting Rector: **Rev David Jones,**
Phone: 07737 529687
Email: david.jones@fromesidechurches.org.uk

Associate Priest **Rev Joanne Hodge** Phone: 07758 648264
Email: j.hodge@fromesidechurches.org.uk

Associate Priest **Rev Julia Chard** Phone: 07811 524533

Churchwardens **Chris Greef** 01454 774479
Derek Andow 01454 775024

BENEFICE AND PARISH OFFICE

95 High Street, Winterbourne, BRISTOL, BS36 1RD

Administrator **Nessa Jarman** Phone: 01454 776518
Email: office@fromesidechurches.org.uk

Opening hours Monday, Wednesday & Friday 9am-1pm

WEDDINGS/BAPTISMS/CONFIRMATION/FUNERALS

Enquires should be made to the Benefice Office - 01454 776518

PASTORAL VISITING

If you need a pastoral visit or know someone who does, please contact Pearl on 01454 314184

St Michael's Community Centre Bookings Contact the Benefice Office

SALEM METHODIST CHURCH

Factory Road, Winterbourne, BS36 1QL

Minister **Rev Leigh Maydew**
Phone: 07388 083488
Email: leigh.maydew@methodist.org.uk

To whom enquiries for Weddings, Baptisms, or Funerals should be made.

Senior Steward **Margaret Johnston** Phone: 01454 773626
Email: 123margaretjohnston@gmail.com

Hall Bookings **Jayne Glass** Phone: 07935 377790
Email: jaglass103@gmail.com

A message from Revd Joanne Hodge

One day the author and theologian, C.S. Lewis, of *Narnia* fame, was in the tool shed in his garden. He noticed a sunbeam shining across the shed, showing up the dust particles. He must have seen the same thing many times before, but this time he was captivated by it. He traced the beam of light to the crack at the top of the closed door of the shed. But what struck him was that although it appeared to be coming from the crack, it was really coming from a blazing star 90 million miles away! Squinting up the beam carefully so as not to burn his eyes, he followed the beam through the crack in the door, through the leaves of a tree outside and beyond to its magnificent source. Lewis thought to himself how different it was looking along the beam to its source than it was looking at the beam in his tool shed.



*(You can listen to the reflection
at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KQ1NQnoafY>)*



On February 2nd many Christians celebrate Candlemas. This day marks the visit of Mary, Joseph and Jesus to the Temple in Jerusalem (Luke 2:22-40) and it is often at this time that the churches bless the candles for the forthcoming year. 2nd February falls halfway between the winter solstice and the spring equinox, when daylight becomes longer than darkness; halfway between Christmas and Easter; halfway between Jesus' birth and death. When the light of Jesus, the light of the world, shines it exposes the dark and hidden corners. Where there is light there can be no darkness. So, let's take the light that we have been offered out into the world, our individual little flickering flames, that together we may blaze brightly to show the world the light of Christ and banish the darkness for ever.



WINTERBOURNE MOTHER'S UNION

have a varied schedule ahead this year.....

Everyone is welcome to join them at 2pm

February 16 th -	Vera Seaman-The Post Office
March 16 th -	Jeffrey Conway-tales from the Barbers Chair
April 20 th -	PUB LUNCH
May 18 th -	Hobbies/Interests sharing afternoon.
June 15 th -	Aurea Hart - Modern Day Slavery.
July 20 th -	Garden Party.
August-NO MEETING	
September 21 st	Opening Service
October 19 th -	Jeff Conway 2
November 16 th -	Activities TBC
December 21 st -	Service and Christmas tea



Contact Sue Reynolds 07505 382036 for more information

FROM ST MICHAEL'S REGISTERS

Baptisms

Rio James Aitkenhead-Pool 11th May

Marriages

Diane Marriott & Michael Belsten 23rd August

Deaths

David Summers	30th November 2024
Jeanette Sylvia Austen	5th January 2025
Patricia Margaret Barrie	17th January
Brenda Lilian Osola	8th February
Jacqueline Sherlock	25th February
Terance Richard Gardner	26th February
Sylvia May Brain	6th August
Mary Jean Keates	22nd August
Pamela Dare	23rd October



SUNDAY WORSHIP IN OUR CHURCHES

ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH

1st Sunday 4pm St Michael's Community Centre
ALL-AGE WORSHIP

2nd Sunday 10.30 St Michael's Church
PARISH COMMUNION



3rd Sunday 10.30 St Michael's Community Centre
CELTIC WORSHIP

4th Sunday 10.30 St Michael's Church
PARISH COMMUNION



Also in St Michael's Church

4th Sunday at 4pm - Pause for Thought or Café Church

1st Sunday at 8am - Holy Communion



See page 17 for details of special events
www.fromesidechurches.org.uk

SALEM METHODIST CHURCH

SUNDAY SERVICES at 10.30

1st Feb	Rev Leigh Maydew (Holy Communion)
8th Feb	Mrs Miriam Stitch
15th Feb	Mr Steven Holliday
22nd Feb	Mrs Joy Harris



Further details on the website www.salemchurch.org.uk

Climate news in 2025 – good or bad?

Three years ago I wrote about the balance between the good and bad that had happened on the climate front in the previous year. There had been extreme weather events, costly both in human lives and in financial terms, Britain had just had its hottest year on record and progress towards meeting the climate targets the nations of the world had signed up to in various COP summits was depressingly slow. Nevertheless, there were a number of agreements that at least signalled the recognition of the importance of climate issues. In the US, provision was made to encourage the transition to a green economy, carbon levies were agreed in Europe, more land was to be put aside for nature, methane leaks were to be controlled, and funding for poorer nations was agreed.



So are things any better three years later?

The latest international climate conference, COP30, certainly failed to deliver, with no mention of fossil fuels at all in the final agreement. Many countries and politicians have started

to back track on previous climate promises and carbon emissions are still rising, although at a slower rate. The UK had its hottest year on record and the driest spring for over a century. On the positive side, the electric vehicle market continues to grow, partially driven by the availability of ever cheaper batteries. The expansion of

renewable energy sources is ongoing, with China in particular investing huge amounts, including in the developing world, which enables poorer countries to electrify without using fossil fuels. A High Seas Treaty has been agreed, providing protection to a large proportion of the Earth's oceans.



Overall, I can't help feeling that things went the wrong way in 2025. There are plenty of positive signs, however, many driven by economic forces rather than by political agreements and these have to be encouraged. So lobby your MP, talk to your neighbour, work harder to reduce your own carbon footprint and pray that the World may see the necessity of turning round the juggernaut that is driving us to climate disaster.



Chris Greef



Editor: There is a lot of talk about 'mindfulness' these days, and how to find calm moments in our daily lives. Both the BBC and Classic FM have even got radio stations devoted to 'mindful' and 'calm' music. But as Christians, we have an extra, divine resource to call on...

Peaceful mind

The Bible tells the story of Jesus and His stressed disciples in a boat in a storm. Like them, we also get hit by storms in life. And like them, we can know that Jesus is also with us. Why not take a moment to ponder these promises:

Cast your cares on the Lord and He will sustain you; He will never let the righteous be shaken. (Psalm 55:22)



Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid. (John 14:27)

Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. (Philippians 4: 6-8)

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The parable of the Shrewd Manager



JESUS OFTEN TOLD STORIES WITH HIDDEN MEANINGS



ONCE JESUS TOLD A STORY ABOUT A RICH MAN...

...AND HIS SERVANT, WHO MANAGED THE RICH MAN'S PROPERTY.



THE RICH MAN HAD HEARD THAT THE MANAGER HAD BEEN WASTING MONEY.

SO HE CALLED THE MANGER TO ACCOUNT FOR HIMSELF!



OH NO! I AM GOING TO GET THE SACK!!



THE MANAGER AGREED TO LET THE RICH MAN'S TRADERS FIDDLE THEIR BOOKS!



SO THEY ALTERED THEIR DEBTS - AND STAYED FRIENDS WITH THE MANAGER.

JESUS EXPLAINED THAT THE MANAGER HAD BEEN WISE IN MANAGING HIS FUTURE... EVEN THOUGH HE WAS BEING DISHONEST.



JESUS WAS TRYING TO ENCOURAGE THE PEOPLE TO THINK ABOUT THEIR OWN FUTURES TOO. BUT IT'S A HARD PARABLE TO UNDERSTAND!

Winnie the Pooh and Lent 2026

Remember the Winnie the Pooh stories? And Kanga's insistence on Baby Roo's taking his Strengthening Medicine? It's 'really quite a nice taste when you get used to it', she explained, although I'm not convinced Baby Roo always agreed.



It can be helpful to think of Lent as a sort of medicine; an opportunity to strengthen us in the things that are good, rein in other facets of our personality, and reset the compass to the true North of following Jesus. A Spring-clean of the soul, if you like.

Baby Roo (and Piglet on the one occasion he was subject to it) found Strengthening Medicine not to their liking, and we may groan inwardly at the thought of 'giving up something for Lent'. Think of what lies behind this 'giving up'. It's so that we may be strengthened, our character refined, our prejudices examined, our junk thrown overboard, and we may come to Passiontide and Easter more fit to walk the way of the Cross, and rise in new life with Jesus at His Resurrection.

Nor is Lent just a case of giving up chocolate. One year I gave up Facebook for Lent, having spent far too much time scrolling through it each day. It freed me to do other, more constructive things. And instead of giving up, why not take up something you've been meaning to do but never got round to; something life-affirming, something good for God.

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, which this year falls on 18th February. Many Christians go public with their intention to keep a good Lent by being 'ashed'- the sign of the Cross made on the forehead in a mixture of ash and holy oil at a special service that day. The ash is usually the burnt remains of the palm crosses from last year. Having been ashed, the intention of the 40 days of Lent is to maintain a steady course closer to God, symbolised by the giving up of something - like chocolate - which has a hold on us. We walk with Jesus on the way to the Cross, mindful of the 'riches of God's kindness, forbearance and patience' as St Paul has it, and mindful too of Jesus' choice of the Cross as a way for us to enter those riches more fully.



And to face the immensity of that sacrifice, and the immensity of God's riches made available to us in Jesus, we need all the Strengthening Medicine we can get!



WINTER CHARITY CONCERT

Saturday 7th February
2026

7:00 PM

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GENESIS

This is the first of a new series aimed at providing an overview of the Bible. This month we consider the first book, Genesis.

As the title suggests, Genesis is primarily about beginnings. In chapters 1-11, it records the creation of the heavens and the earth and human beings; marriage and family; sin's effect on society and the world. The following chapters record God's dealings with Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and Joseph, and their families. In this story of the Patriarchs we see God establishing a people called to bless the world, as He blesses them.



The book of Genesis is key to understanding the whole Bible. It is supremely about relationships; the relationships between God and the created order, God and human beings, and between human beings themselves. Fundamentally man has been created in the image of God, so that he can relate to God in a personal way: *'God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them'* (1:27). However, Genesis plots how this relationship was broken by sin, when Adam and Eve disobeyed God, resulting in the fall of human beings and the created order. By creating people with free will, God risked the possibility that they might reject Him. This is inherent in His love for human beings.

In Genesis, God enters into covenants with the world (the rainbow following the flood) and with Abraham and his descendants (circumcision), pledging His love and faithfulness to them and calling them to respond to Him in faith. It reminds us that God is fundamental to living. Without a sense of the centrality of God's place in our lives, we can never get our lives right.



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cake and a
cuppa



Crafts

Games



Singalongs



Quizzes

We meet on the first Wednesday and the third
Thursday of each month

Come and join us, we'd love to see you.

Further information from Edna Snaith 07789 662694

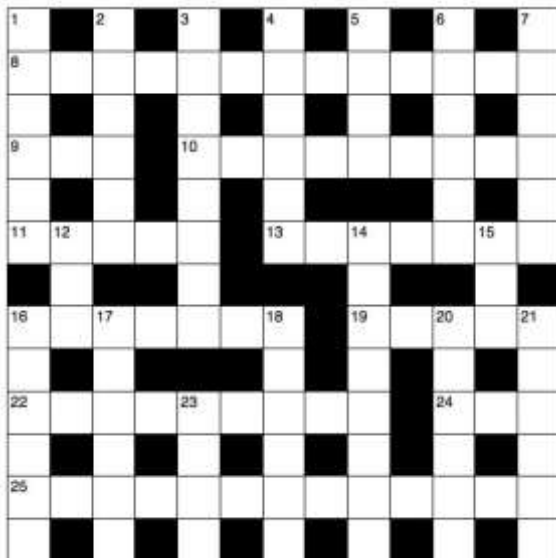
CROSSWORD

Across

- 8 How the Abyss (NIV) is described in the Authorized Version (Revelation 9:1) (10,3)
 9 Frozen water (Ezekiel 1:22) (3)
 10 The Ten Commandments (9)
 11 In Roman Catholic theology, neither heaven nor hell (5)
 13 Des cons (anag.) (7)
 16 'Though [your sins] are red as — , they shall be like wool' (Isaiah 1:18) (7)
 19 Keen (Romans 1:15) (5)
 22 Repugnant, loathsome (Jeremiah 24:9) (9)
 24 Drink like an animal (Judges 7:5) (3)
 25 First and last (Revelation 22:13) (5,3,5)

Down

- 1 Father of Ahi, a Gadite (1 Chronicles 5:15) (6)
 2 Where David found the stone with which he killed Goliath (1 Samuel 17:40) (6)
 3 'Hour by hour fresh lips are making thy — doings heard on high' (8)
 4 'And there were shepherds living out in the fields near by, keeping watch over their — at night' (Luke 2:8) (6)
 5 United Society for Christian Literature (1,1,1,1)
 6 'If he refuses to listen even to the church, treat him as you would — — or a tax collector' (Matthew 18:17) (1,5)
 7 Where Paul was taken when things became difficult in Berea (Acts 17:15) (6)
 12 Istituto per le Opere di Religione (Vatican Bank) (1,1,1)
 14 'Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new — ; the old has gone, the new has come!' (2 Corinthians 5:17) (8)
 15 Used to colour ram skins red for use in the tabernacle (Exodus 25:5) (3)
 16 Vat car (anag.) (6)
 17 'Be joyful — — , patient in affliction, faithful in prayer' (Romans 12:12) (6)
 18 'The parts that are unpresentable are treated with special modesty, while our presentable parts — — special treatment' (1 Corinthians 12:23) (4,2)
 20 Ancient rowing boat (Isaiah 33:21) (6)
 21 Say again (2 Corinthians 11:16) (6)
 23 What Jesus did in the synagogue in Nazareth after he stood up (Luke 4:16) (4)



Answers on page 22

Salem Diary

Happy New Year to all readers - although we are now nearly a month into that new year



We were very sad to lose Rev. Caroline Carter on December 29th. Many at St. Michaels will remember her from when we had a very strong LEP. She had been in Horfield Lodge - a Methodist care home in Horfield - for several years. Sadly her health deteriorated as time went by and her quality of life was less than we would wish for anyone. She is now at peace and free from suffering.

Her funeral, on Tuesday January 27th, is at Salem at 2.30p.m. We ask your prayers for David and her family.

Between Christmas and Easter we are holding our Sunday services in the Hall. This is an effort to save on heating bills during the colder months of the year. Many of the congregation are very happy with this arrangement!!

Our regular activities recommenced in January and in February they are as follows

Wednesday 4th Coffee morning -an opportunity to meet with friends for conversation as well as coffee.
10am



Tuesday 10th Film afternoon. This month we will be showing "Mrs Caldocots Cabbage Wars—a comedy starring John Alderton, Pauline Collins and Peter Capaldi. ALL ARE WELCOME
2p.m



Saturday 21st Bacon Butty coffee morning—another opportunity to socialize and enjoy refreshments
10 a.m.



Tuesday 24th Women's Fellowship . All ladies are welcome to join us for an hours fellowship
2.30p.m



On Ash Wednesday (February 18th) we will be joining friends at Badminton Road for an afternoon/evening event including prayer stations and self-ashing

Special events in & around St Michael's

Sunday 1st February at 4pm
CANDLEMAS PRAISE
in St Michael's Community Centre
see page 3 for the story of Candlemas



Saturday 7th February from 3.30-5.15
MESSY CHURCH
in St Saviour's Church Hall

Saturday 7th February at 7pm
CHARITY CONCERT
for Dig Deep
in St Michael's Church
see page 11



Sunday 15th February at 10.30
CELTIC WORSHIP
in St Michael's Community Centre

Wednesday 18th February
ASH WEDNESDAY COMMUNION
in St Michael's Church at 8am
in St James Church at 10am
in St Peter's Church at 7pm



Sunday 22nd February at 4pm
CAFÉ CHURCH
in St Michael's Community Centre
see back page

The importance of light is a theme this month so we must include a look back with the school at a busy term when light was a theme as well.

St Michael's Primary School

Festivals of Light

This has been a very busy term at St Michael's Primary School. Whilst the nights are drawing in, we have been learning about festivals of light celebrated by different faiths.



We were lucky enough to have one of our parents come into Year 4 to make rangoli patterns and talk about how their family celebrates Diwali. The story of Rama and Sita is remembered during the Hindu festival of Diwali, when diva lamps are lit to guide Goddess Lakshmi to their homes to bring luck and good fortune, and fireworks are let off to celebrate.



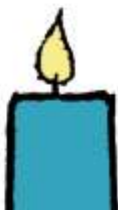
We have also been learning how Jewish people celebrate the Miracle of the sacred lamp that burned for 8 days with just one bottle of oil. Every night during the festival of Hanukkah, a candle is lit on a special candle holder called a Hanukkah.

Our Key Stage 2 children held a Christingle Carol Service at St Michael's Church. Reverend Joanne Hodge introduced the service and children and parents filled the church with the traditional Christmas carols "Oh Little town of Bethlehem", "Once in Royal David's city" and "Oh come all ye faithful". It was a very special moment to sing "Away in a manger" as all the Christingles were lit. Children took turns to read to the congregation, reflecting on the meaning of the orange, ribbon, sweets and candle.



The last few weeks of term are always exciting as we prepare for Christmas. The school was treated to the Reception and Key Stage 1 nativity dress rehearsals with some wonderful singing, and the Church Assembly team lead a service to

remind the children of the story of the birth of Jesus and what it means to Christians. The last week will be full of festive fun as we enjoy our Christmas lunch and class parties, and the whole school will be heading to the Hippodrome to watch the Pantomime “Jack and the Beanstalk”.



Throughout all the festivities, our school candle continues to be lit in assemblies, reminding us of the light that Jesus brings to many Christians’ lives. Each day at the end of our school assemblies, the flame is extinguished and the message is taken with us with the words “Let the light shine in us today.”



At the end of November, a group of people from the Fromeside Benefice spent a weekend at Harnhill Centre, near Cirencester - here are a few photos. What wonderful weather they had!





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11th March

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A message from
Revd. Leigh Maydew

'A new year a new you' is often the phrase at this time of year isn't...but what about the old you? What's wrong with that?

There is always something that we would like to change about ourselves isn't there. Despite joining the Army I've put a bit of additional weight on over the last year, weight I'd really like to get rid of again.

These negative feelings that we sometimes might have about ourselves are often not echoed in the thoughts of those around us and of those who love us. I'd also want to suggest that they're not echoed by God either.

At Christmas we celebrated the fact that God came to earth in the being of Jesus, the Son of God. In Galatians Paul reminds us that 'in Christ you are all children of God through faith.' Because we are 'children of God', Psalm 139 tells us that we are 'fearfully and wonderfully made.'

Regardless of gender, ethnicity, sexuality, age, ability, weight, or anything else, God loves us because we are his children. The difficult part is often recognising and accepting that love.

'For I know the plans I have for you,' declares the Lord, 'plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.' (Jeremiah 29:11)

This new year may part of the new you be an exploration of what might be bigger than us. An exploration of what God has done for you and continues to do for you. An exploration of what a relationship with God might be all about.

There are plans for us, and God loves us – what better way to start the year is there than knowing this.



CROSSWORD ANSWERS

ACROSS: 8, Bottomless pit. 9, Ice. 10, Decalogue. 11, Limbo. 13, Seconds. 16, Crimson. 19, Eager. 22, Abhorrent. 24, Lap. 25, Alpha and Omega.

DOWN: 1, Abdiel. 2, Stream. 3, Wondrous. 4, Flocks. 5, USCL. 6, A pagan. 7, Athens. 12, IOR. 14, Creation. 15, Dye. 16, Cravat. 17, In hope. 18, Need no. 20, Galley. 21, Repeat. 23, Read.

Reflecting Faith: The Gospel & the Sermon

One of the highlights of the Christmas services is the reading of the opening passage from John's Gospel, 'In the beginning was the Word ...' I love the poetry of the words and sentences, as well as their very meaning. In most churches everyone will stand for that reading, which emphasises its importance. But what makes it important?



Most gospel passages that are read in church include the words of Jesus Himself, handed down to us over the centuries, but here there are none. Rather, this is the defining statement of who Jesus is and where He came from..

After the Gospel, we move on to 'The Sermon' which is often known as 'Breaking the Word'. This parallels if you like, the 'Breaking of the Bread' which follows later in the service.

The Sermon is intended to be an expansion and perhaps an explanation of the Bible readings that have been used in the service. Often it sets the scene and context for the verses which are set and can often seem quite random and disconnected.

This is particularly true of the Old Testament reading, where not only the verses may be unconnected to readings from previous services, but often they are taken from totally different books; Isaiah one week and Jeremiah another.

So what is the preacher's task here? It was once described to me as: to comfort the disturbed and to disturb the comfortable! That sounds a bit harsh, but when you think about it, isn't that what we really need from our God? When we are in difficulties, whatever the cause, we need to know He's there, and that He has our back, so to speak.



When things are going well for us, then that's a good time to be working on recognising another weakness in ourselves and working towards lessening it.

There's no sitting back on our laurels when we work for the Lord.

This month

Think about how you were before the sermon started and how did you feel at the end – was there something in it that you will think about over the coming week, or was it lovely comfort food? Whichever it was, may it bless you as you prepare for Lent.



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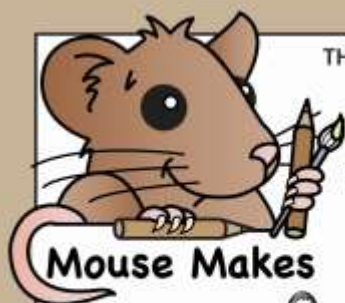
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Read the story in
Luke 4:1-13

THE TEMPTATION OF JESUS

After Jesus was baptised in the River Jordan where did the Holy Spirit lead him to? v1

How many days was Jesus being tempted by the devil? v2

What did Jesus eat? v2

What did the devil tempt Jesus to turn a stone into? What did Jesus say? v3-4

What did the devil offer Jesus if He worshipped him? What did Jesus say? v7-8

What did the devil ask Jesus to do? What did Jesus say? v9

FIRST TEMPTATION

THE
DEVIL SAID:

"If you are God's Son order this stone to turn into bread."

JESUS REPLIED:

"Man shall not live on bread alone."

Read Deuteronomy 8:3

WE LEARN:

Read the Bible

Learn God's word.



SECOND TEMPTATION

THE
DEVIL SAID:

"I will give you power and wealth if you worship me."

JESUS REPLIED:

"Worship the Lord your God and serve only Him."

Read Deuteronomy 6:13

WE LEARN:

Put God first
Worship only Him.

1

F O R T Y D A Y S S O N K L O R D N H
T D O W N O N W O R S H I P
T E S T W O R L D L T U N B
L V T E M P T A T I O N G R
E I A M J E S U S F N G D E
N L K P D E S E R T E R O A
T H O L Y S P I R I T Y M D
I M J E R U S A L E M F S J
W I L D E R N E S S J U M P

JESUS • BAPTISED • RIVER • JORDAN • HOLY SPIRIT • LED
WILDERNESS • DESERT • FORTY DAYS • HUNGRY • DEVIL
TEMPTATION • STONE • BREAD • WRITTEN • SON • WORLD
KINGDOMS • GLORY • WORSHIP • SERVE • GOD • HIGH
JERUSALEM • TEMPLE • SON • JUMP • DOWN • LIFT • FOOT • LORD • TEST • LENT

THIRD TEMPTATION

THE
DEVIL SAID:

"If you are God's Son throw yourself down, the scriptures say God will take care of you."

JESUS REPLIED:

"Do not put the Lord your God to the test."

Read Deuteronomy 6:16

WE LEARN:

God cares, trust
Him do not test Him.





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Headteacher Mrs. Kirsty Robson
Phone 01454 867105

Year 4 Greek WOW Day at St Michael's Primary School

The first day back after the Christmas holidays was filled with excitement and enthusiasm at **St Michael's Primary School**, as **Year 4 pupils** stepped back in time for a spectacular **Greek WOW Day** to launch their new history topic.



ATHENA

The children arrived at school dressed as characters inspired by **Ancient Greece**, including gods, goddesses, heroes, heroines and mythical creatures. The corridors and classrooms were transformed as pupils proudly showcased their costumes and shared their ideas with friends. During the day, the children **designed their own Greek hero or heroine**, carefully choosing special powers, symbols and strengths, and also **created imaginative mythical creatures**, drawing inspiration from legends such as the Minotaur, Pegasus and Medusa.



POSEIDON

A highlight of the day was learning all about **Hercules**, one of the most famous heroes in Greek mythology. The children discovered the story of his **Leo and the Gorgon's curse**, learning how Ancient Greeks used myths to explain the world around them and to teach important lessons about courage, determination and perseverance.



Pupils also enjoyed tasting a selection of **Greek foods**, helping them to experience what life may have been like in Ancient Greece. They learned that bread, olives, fruit, cheese and honey were common foods, and that many families ate simple meals together, often sitting on the floor rather than at tables.

As part of their learning, the children explored fascinating facts about **Ancient Greek civilisation**, including: Ancient Greece was made up of **city-states**, such as Athens and Sparta, each with its own rules and way of life. The **Olympic Games** began in Ancient Greece over 2,700 years ago and were held to honour the god Zeus.



This Greek WOW Day marked the start of a topic where Year 4 will continue to explore **how children lived in Ancient Greece** and compare it with their own lives today, deepening their understanding of history and the world beyond their own experiences.

The children were eager to share how much they enjoyed the day:

"I loved dressing up and learning about the Greek gods because they all had special powers."— Year 4 pupil

"My favourite part was learning about Hercules."— Year 4 pupil

"The Greek food was really tasty and it helped me imagine what life was like long ago." — Year 4 pupil

"Making my own mythical creature was amazing because I could be really creative." — Year 4 pupil

The Greek WOW Day was a wonderful example of learning brought to life, encouraging curiosity, creativity and excitement. Year 4 are now looking forward to continuing their journey through **Ancient Greek history**, building knowledge while developing a deeper appreciation of how people lived in the past.





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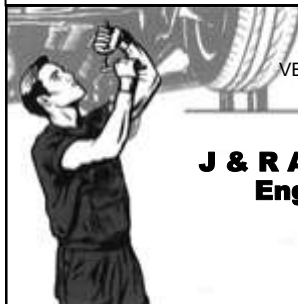
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looking at a theme using Scripture, music,
informal discussion
(with provision for accompanied children)
and tea/coffee, of course!

SUNDAY 22 FEBRUARY at 4pm

in St Michael's Community Centre

High Street, Winterbourne

and then 4th Sunday of every alternate month

Please send contributions for the March Newsletter by email to Gill Greef (gill@gillgreef.com) or deliver them to the Church Office St Michael's Community Centre, 95 High Street by Sunday 15th February.