The Rocket

May 2020 50p

The Magazine for the Parish of St Ann, Rainhill





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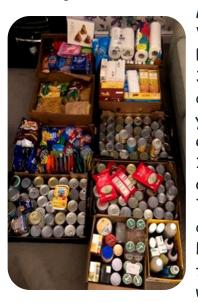
So Proud of My Village





Thanks to Jude for making the notices.

A message came on the Waterside Village face book page that boxes would be outside various front gates in the village, for food and other items. The items would go to 'Teardrops Supporting the Homeless', which is an independent non profit charity supporting the homeless and vulnerable in St Helens. On our exercise walk around the village me and Daisy popped our donation in a kind of honesty box. It was good to be able to give something as the foodbank in church is not available at present and I can't find one in Tesco. Later I read the post below on the village face book page. Delphine



Matt and Suzanne said, 'Thank you Waterside Village - your generosity has been amazing. You have donated over 300+ items at the box in our Road in 2 days. I have sorted in categories and you have given something of everything. Teardrops are making up 1000 hampers this week and they were overwhelmed with what we dropped off. Thank you to everyone It will make a difference to so many families in St Helens this Easter that are not as fortunate as us. Many have asked if we will do this again- YES WE WILL'.

Waterside Village is in the parish of St Ann's Church.



Does God require ritual?

No.

We do.

Rituals were once deeply embedded in societies all over the world. Here in the Western world sadly rituals have been abandoned as the industrial and technological revolutions have grown. There are still rituals that take place in many communities including our own.



In Thailand the ancient ritual of the Sak

Yant Blessing Tattoo takes place in special Buddhist temples. A monk tattoos the skin with bamboo and black ink whilst praying and singing over you. A spiritual experience I would love to take part in!

The Satere-Mawe and indigenous tribe in Brazil, perform a ritual when the boys transition to manhood. The young men put their arms into gloves filled with venomous ants, they have to endure the painful bites to increase their own strength.

Young girls from Central and South America celebrate the quinceanera, their transition into womanhood, by renewing their baptismal vows and commitment to their families during a Catholic Mass. Afterwards they celebrate with a fiesta eating and dancing with family and friends.

In the Anglican and Catholic faith tradition children at various ages are confirmed. The children renew their baptismal vows and make their own commitment to follow the Christian faith, they can then take part in the eucharistic meal. In faith communities rituals reinforce belief systems and encourage a sense of belonging and structure to weekly or daily life.

Since the enforced isolation due to the outbreak of Covid-19 our own rituals and daily rhythms of life have been interrupted and even stopped. What does this do to our sense of belonging and personal beliefs? I must admit I felt a sense of loss and grief when we were first told not to gather together to worship as the body of Christ. Rev Alan wisely said "the church is the people not the building, we are still here."

I love the ritual, the ceremony and the liturgy used in public worship so much so I created my own altar space at home and use that for personal prayer, reflection and meditation.

During Holy week I encouraged people to create their own prayer/altar space to recreate the spiritual journey we were walking to the cross. I found it to be a moving and powerful experience as my senses were involved just as they would be in church with candles lit, incense burning, water and oil poured onto my skin and the consuming of bread and wine. As people of faith we need ritual, we need something familiar and tangible that shifts our attention from ourselves to God who is... God just is. Exodus 3 v 14 "I AM WHO I AM."

God Bless, Rev'd Lynne

I have agreed to be furloughed for four weeks (starting Monday 27th April) as part of a trial in Liverpool Diocese.

It is important during this time that I am not contacted by the parish as this could be seen as pastoral work and I am not allowed to work at all.

I urge you to continue to pray, love and support one another as you have been doing and please pray for me and my family.

Much love and many blessings to you all. Rev'd Lynne

Front cover: St Ann's Church. Thanks to Jan Henderson, a parishioner from St Bartholomew's, who stopped off to take photos of Rainhill churches on Easter Sunday, on her way to Prescot, where she was taking food shopping to her Aunties.





Christian Aid Week We wanted to get in touch

10-16 May 2020

We wanted to get in touch with you about your fundraising for Christian Aid Week this year.

For many of us recently the Covid-19 situation will have dominated our thoughts and indeed how we go about our daily business. We have been overwhelmed by messages of support from our fundraising community looking both for guidance on how they can support us this Christian Aid Week but also with messages of solidarity for our brothers and sisters overseas.

In 2019 CAW raised over 7.5 million pounds through a combination of church collections, fundraising events, house-to-house and delivery-only fundraising. As I'm sure you understand due to the Coronavirus outbreak sadly much of our usual fundraising cannot go ahead. We value our volunteers enormously and want to ensure you all keep safe when fundraising for Christian Aid Week. With this in mind I'm delighted to share with you below some new ideas, guides and resources to help celebrate Christian Aid Week online and show our love for our neighbours near and far, as a global family.

In these challenging times many churches have already made bold steps, streaming services online and harnessing technology and social media to reach out to communities. In this way we hope that our supporters will be able to continue their support and fundraising.

We will shortly have a suite of new resources including guides to help you run your own virtual event or fundraiser, a guide to running your own virtual quiz evening and a guide to holding a virtual service alongside supportive new worship materials.

You will be able to sign up for unique events during Christian Aid Week itself including a daily quiz and live stream worship events from the 10th to 16th May.

We are also looking forward to launching our digital envelope to enable people to give and share during Christian Aid Week.

Letter from Christian Aid.

Ken Hind





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From the Parish Register

Baptisms 'Our welcome and prayers'
8th March
Penelope Rose, daughter of Roz & Adam Gribben

Funerals 'Our sympathy and prayers'

4th March Leslie Brooks
14th March Doreen Bradburn
18th March Ruth Higham

Lord God, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The family of Doreen Bradburn, wish to thank all those who attended her funeral, led by Rev'd Lynne on13th March 2020 at St. Ann's Church, for the flowers and donations to the Church and the Sepsis Trust Research Fund. Also to say we particularly enjoyed the Mothers' Union Choir singing 'Abide with me' and the organist who provided the music. We were very pleased that members of Kendrick's Cross WI, the Mothers' Union and the Tuesday Luncheon Club were present. Although it was a sad occasion we were glad to have the opportunity to remember Doreen, with her Rainhill friends. Thank you.

Marjorie Carver(for Doreen's family)



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Rainhill Community Support Group

The headquarters of RCSG are in the Post Office. It is a Face Book page and it is set up so that even if you are not a Social Media user you can google it and see everything on there but not interact.

We are posting lots of uplifting things on there and practical support from volunteers who will do shopping or pick up prescriptions for the



vulnerable or those self isolating. Also there are details of businesses that will deliver. They are specifically supporting Reeve Court with shopping etc. Pretty much everyone there are vulnerable and were running out of food and other commodities. Also lots of odd things like taking delivery of a donation of 3 sacks of pasta that I have bagged up into 250 gm and 500 gm packages to go to the food bank. I can't go out because I'm self isolating to protect my Mother aged 98, and so I do the Social Media and on line things plus the 'bagging' from inside the house to release others to do shopping and deliveries.

We have a lovely young woman who dresses each day as Princess Belle from the film Frozen, and walks round a publicised area each day for an hour to wave to the children. They love it! There is another lovely facebook page called Rainhill Chasing Rainbows which is expressing the solidarity and Community response by displaying rainbows in windows for those who go for their exercise walk can spot and count. Last week we displayed teddies too so children could go on a bear hunt.

All these are small things in themselves but go a long way to make Rainhill the wonderful Community it is.

Ann-Veronica Howitt



There is a WhatsApp group for parishioners to join on their phones. You need a smart phone and a mobile call to Alan and he will advise you how to join the group. Daily prayers, hymns and readings have appeared on the messaging system over the Easter period and beyond, and those who

have read and listened have sent their own messages of thanks or just a simple 'Amen'. The words I write here do not do justice to the wonderful music and words, said/sung through video, on the phone screen, that we have listened to and watched through this medium. The reading and researching to find the right pieces for each day for us has been amazing. Speaking for myself, I can say it has been quite literally a Godsend. It has made me cry and smile in equal amounts and I have loved all the parishioners comments and input, with information especially about Anne Jones when she was poorly, thanks to Margaret Lutner. Through this we have been enabled to pray for Anne and others too. Many thanks to Lynne, Alan & Andrea and Geoff & Jean for their wonderful contributions.

Zoom is a new word for me and I was talked through this format on the lap top (you can use a smart phone and ipad too) by my daughter Deborah, in Bromley, Kent, (she is so patient). We are using it as a family for chats, quizzes and an Easter egg hunt.

St Ann's is using Zoom for church services on screen, as you can see on pages 16 and 17. This is a brand new service format for our clergy and especially our congregation. It is very successful and on the screen as the 'congregation' can see each other too it gives (me) a wonderful sense of belonging in our <u>so</u> separate worlds at present.

Delphine

Days to remember in May: Thursday 21st, is Ascension Day and Sunday 31st, is Pentecost Sunday.

We're Still Here



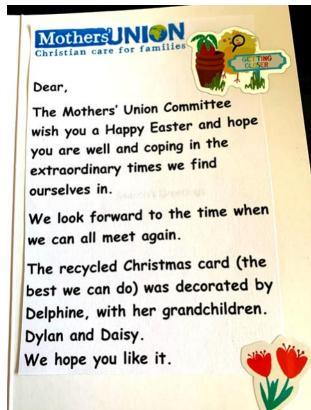
Easter Cards that Became a Mission

In these extraordinary times Susan Stott and I, thought of sending Easter cards to the Mothers' Union Indoor members, (many of whom live alone), and the MU helpers too, but how could we buy Easter cards! (not a necessity). My daughter Joanna had some white cards with envelopes left over from homemade Christmas cards so we sent them out with Easter images we printed found on the internet and Easter themed stickers (previously bought) decorated by my grand-children Dylan and Daisy. I then thought wouldn't it be great if we could send a card to every member of our branch. We had run out of card but I had a few packs of Christmas cards unopened and so I printed an Easter message to go over the Christmas message inside the card and again printed an Easter image this time to cover the

Christmas scene on the card. Some cards then showed a winter woodland scene border and others snow and sky, an evening scene and a church around the Easter image we had glued on. Every member of the branch should receive an Easter card decorated by Dylan & Daisy, with Easter stickers, all helped by me and Joanna.

The stamps were purchased by Ian and he wrote the addresses out (my writing is now appalling) and he posted them too.

Quite a production Line. *Delphine and family*.





The production line organised over 60 cards. Well done!!

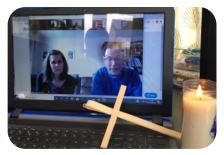






Palm Sunday our first Service via Zoom













Apologies, as photos taken of my lap top during both services have reflections and shadows but hopefully you can see how enjoyable they were. Delphine & Ian

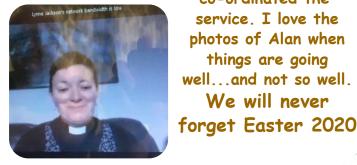


Alleluia, He is Risen Indeed





Gospel John 20 v 1-18



Geoff's talk was illustrated by the painting 'Do not touch me' by Titian





Easter 10.30 am Service 2020, on zoom and posted on WhatsApp. No photos of 'congregation' although there were so many joyful participants. The Gospel was read by Lynne and the Talk was given by Geoff. Ben Bolton Maggs and family Conant co-ordinated the service. I love the photos of Alan when things are going well...and not so well. We will never

risen, conquering Son; endless is the victory, thou o'er death hast won; angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away, kept the folded grave clothes where thy body lay.

Thine be the glory,





Minister: Christ is Risen All: He is risen indeed

Alleluia

+44 7443 333486

You are welcome to stay for a cup of tea or coffee after the service Served in your own living room



We're still

here





Lockdown Photos

On the 26th March at 8pm, Delphine, Ian and grandson Dylan, were clapping for the NHS with the rest of the road.

Princess Belle (Jess)
has an 'Everyday Hero's'
certificate from BBC's
Northwest Tonight. She
has used her exercise
time to walk around the
residential streets of
Rainhill (those previously
published on social
media) on Thursday
afternoons to cheer
children up. They have
clapped and cheered her
from a safe distance.

Stanley Bear and
Sidney Bear are
taking it easy,
self isolating at
Rachel Oxley's
house.
They are so laid

back they can 'bearly' stay awake!!!



Pat and Ron
Cockshott love
eating at their
favourite Italian
Restaurant but
just now it is tea
and crumpets in
the garden for
Pat.

Stay safe everyone.



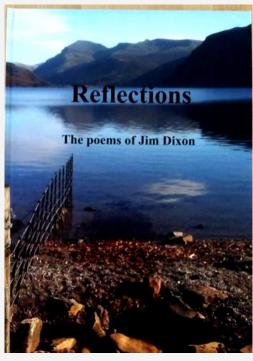




Jim Dixon

Jim Dixon has been writing poetry for well over thirty years, and his poetry has graced a wide range of publications- from

'The Cricketer' to 'Climber and Rambler' and from 'Cumbria' magazine to 'The Liverpool Echo'. He has been inspired by the beauty of his native Cumbria, the grace of Geoffrey Boycott and memories of times past. More often though his writing has been inspired by his grandchildren. The collection of his poems, to celebrate his 85th birthday, is due recognition that his grandchildren (and indeed all of his family) find him pretty inspiring too. (The Rocket love Jim's poems too)









Remembering flowers that would have been in church, at this time.

Below is an Easter garden outside church. It has evolved. The two outside crosses arrived first, then the central cross. Next a purple robe covered the central cross on Good Friday and on Easter Day there was a white robe. We're Still Here. Thank you Alan & Andrea





Rainhill Civic Society Rainhill is Still In Bloom



Rainhill in Bloom for 2020 will be photographs of your garden.

This is not a competition.

We invite you to take a picture of your garden (front or back) and upload them onto Rainhill Civic Society New Facebook.

Please join in and help to lift our spirits.

Mothers IN ON Christian care for families

Three members of our Mothers' Union branch have recently passed away through natural causes. We send our sympathy and prayers to their family and friends.

We were saddened to hear of the recent death of Gill Saha, a long time member of the St Ann's community. As a member of the Mothers' Union she took part in the MU choir and held the indoor members' meetings at her house. She was also one of the first ladies to join the church choir.



Music medal to thank her for loyal service to St Ann's Choir. Gill was also in the Flower Guild, she was one of the originators of the Garden Trail and for many years provided a spread of food for those following the trail at her house in Old Lane. She was a member of the PCC and she was also a bell-ringer. Gill was part of the Saturday morning church-cleaning rota for several decades and she was one of the unsung heroes who stood on the church car park in all weathers collecting contributions from drivers to fund its resurfacing. Barbara Whitley

Doreen Bradburn, was a well known figure in Rainhill. She was a member of the Mother's Union having accompanied her mother to meetings at an early age. She was also a member of Kendrick's Cross WI and enjoyed the many outings over the years. Latterly she attended the Tuesday Lunch Club at the Village Hall. She was a regular church goer and delivered the church magazine. Having lived in Rainhill all her life she knew lots of people and she often visited them when they became less active. She was very independent and did her own shopping. She enjoyed cooking and baking cakes, sewing her own clothes and knitting for the younger members of her family. She was very close to her family; cousins, nephews and nieces, and joined with them for family occasions. She enjoyed holidays and frequently travelled by coach or train. As she got older she often got tired and could be seen sitting on a bench in the village taking a nap or watching the world go by. Dilvs Golden

Edna Atherton, was a private person, however she was a much loved member for many years, who enjoyed the meetings and our outings too. She was also a member of the Towns Women's Guild. Edna was a member of the Church of England Flower Arrangers Association in church for many years. She attended the extend classes on a Friday in St Ann's Centre. Latterly Edna lived with her son in Aughton Park, Ormskirk.

The Queen is the Patron of the Mothers' Union.
"Better days will return," said the Queen. "We will be with
our friends again; we will be with our families again;
we will meet again."



On 24th May We remember John & Charles Wesley, evangelists & hymn-writers

John and Charles Wesley were the founders of Methodism. Two of 19 children born to Samuel and Susannah Wesley of Epworth Rectory in Lincolnshire in 1703 and 1707, their father was the local rector, while their mother was a spiritual inspiration to her many children.

Both John and Charles went to Christ Church, Oxford (1720 and 1726). John was ordained, and Charles and some friends formed a 'Holy Club' while still at college. It consisted of men who dedicated themselves to Bible study, prayer, fasting and good works. Such regular disciplines soon earned Charles the nickname 'Methodist'. The name stuck. Both Charles and John felt called to the mission field, and so in 1735 they sailed to Georgia. Their time among Indians in America was not a success - they struggled for any real spiritual authority in their ministries. Feeling failures, they returned to England in some depression. John summed it up: "I went to America to convert the Indians; but, oh, who shall convert me?"

Then the Wesley's made friends with some Moravians. They stressed that salvation cannot be earned, but must be received by grace through faith in Christ. Charles was the first to experience this 'true' conversion, when on Pentecost Sunday, 21st May 1738, he wrote that the Spirit of God 'chased away the darkness of my unbelief.' Only three days later, on 24th May, 1738, it was John's turn. As he wrote in his journal: "In the evening I went very unwillingly to a society in Aldersgate Street, where one was reading Luther's preface to the Epistle to the Romans. About a guarter before nine, while he was describing the change which God works in the heart through faith in Christ, I felt my heart strangely warmed."

John and Charles Wesley then devoted the rest of their lives to sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ. In doing so, they turned England upside-down. When the established Church threw John out, he took to the fields, preaching to coal miners and commoners. His itinerant evangelism took him 250,000 miles on horseback and to preach over 40,000 sermons. His small 'societies' attracted some 120,000 followers by the time of his death.

My Favourite Charles Wesley Hymn

And can it be that I should gain An int'rest in the Saviour's blood? Died He for me, who caused His pain? For me, who Him to death pursued? Amazing love! how can it be That Thou, my God, shouldst die for me? Amazing love! how can it be That Thou, my God, shouldst die for me? And claim the crown, through

'Tis mystery all! The Immortal dies! Who can explore His strange design? In vain the firstborn seraph tries To sound the depths of love Divine! 'Tis mercy all! let earth adore, Let angel minds inquire no more. 'Tis mercy all! let earth adore, Let angel minds inquire no more.

He left His Father's throne above, So free, so infinite His grace; Emptied Himself of all but love, And bled for Adam's helpless race: 'Tis mercy all, immense and free; For, O my God, it found out me. 'Tis mercy all, immense and free; For, O my God, it found out me.

Long my imprisoned spirit lay Fast bound in sin and nature's night; Thine eye diffused a quickening ray, I woke, the dungeon flamed with light; My chains fell off, my heart was free, I rose, went forth, and followed Thee. My chains fell off, my heart was free, I rose, went forth, and followed Thee.

No condemnation now I dread; Jesus, and all in Him, is mine! Alive in Him, my living Head, And clothed in righteousness Divine.

Bold I approach the eternal throne, Christ my own.

Bold I approach the eternal throne, And claim the crown, through Christ my own.



Me and lan went on a pilgrimage in the steps of St Paul in 2016. The photo shows all that remains of the prison that St Paul and Silas were incarcerated in at Philippi.

Acts chapter16, verses 16 to 35, tells the amazing story which is also found in verse 4 of the hymn.



Crosswords Clues, answers on page 29

Across

- 1 'Therefore let us passing judgment on one another' (Romans 14:13) (4)
- 3 'I these persons here present' (Marriage service) (4,4)
- 9 According to a prearranged timetable (Numbers 28:3) (7)
- 10 Group of eight (5)
- 11 The cell into which the Philippian jailer put Paul and Silas (Acts 16:24) (5)
- 12 Taylor, pioneer missionary to China (6)
- 14 Otherwise known as the Eucharist, Breaking of Bread, the Lord's Table (4,9)
- 17 'So that after I have preached to others, I will not be disqualified for the prize' (1 Corinthians 9:27) (6)
- 19 Attend to (3,2)
- 22 Approximately (Acts 4:4) (5)
- 23 Tea rite (anag.) (7)
- 24 Rule of sovereign (8)
- 25 Test (anag.) (4)

Down

- The name of the street where Judas lived in Damascus and where Saul of Tarsus stayed (Acts 9:11) (8)
- 2 'The playing of the merry -, sweet singing in the choir' (5)
- 4 'We have been saying that was credited to him as righteous' (Romans 4:9) (8,5)
- 5 Dr Martyn Jones, famous for his ministry at Westminster Chapel (5)
- 6 Port at which Paul landed on his way to Rome (Acts 28:13) (7)
- 7 Observe (Ruth 3:4) (4)
- 8 Minister of religion (6)
- 13 'I am of this man's blood. It is your responsibility' (Matthew 27:24) (8)

- 15 'Greater love has no one than this, that he -- his life for his friends' (John 15:13) (3,4)
- 16 Archbishop who calculated that the world began in 4004BC (6)
- 18 'No one can the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit' (John 3:5) (5)
- 20 Establish by law (5)
- 21 Product of Gilead noted for its healing properties (Jeremiah 46:11) (4)

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THE ROCKET DEADLINE FOR JUNE submissions is FRIDAY 15th May

Our Award Winning Rocket magazine is enhanced by your articles, photos and poems which are especially welcome from all parishioners and churches in the parish.

Please email your submissions to: therocketmag@gmail.com
or drop them in at St Ann's Centre or leave them in the red folder at the back of church. Thank you!

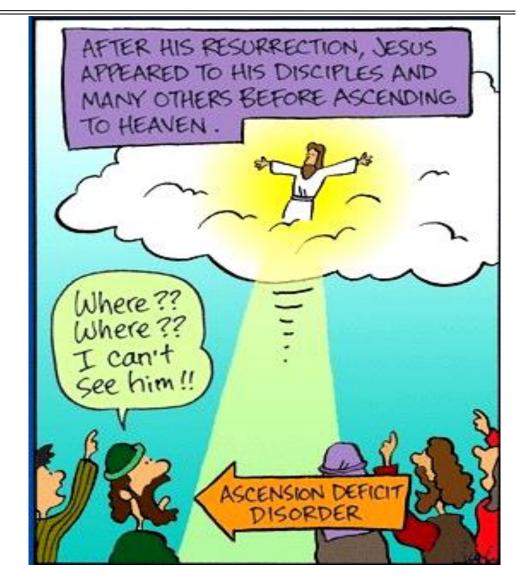
DISTRIBUTERS PLEASE NOTE: The magazines will be in St Ann's Centre for distribution after 11.30am on the Thursday before the last Sunday of the month and on Friday morning, then in church on Sunday.

THE ROCKET SUBSCRIPTIONS

New Subscribers, each issue of The Rocket costs 50p, with 11 issues each year. But did you know you can subscribe for just £5 a year? For more details contact: therocketmag@gmail.com



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Crossword Answers.

ACROSS: 1, Stop. 3, Call upon. 9, Regular. 10, Octet. 11, Inner. 12, Hudson. 14, Holy Communion. 17, Myself. 19, See to. 22, About. 23, Iterate. 24, Monarchy. 25, Stet.

29

DOWN: 1, Straight. 2, Organ. 4, Abraham's faith. 5, Lloyd. 6, Puteoli. 7, Note. 8, Cleric. 13, Innocent. 15, Lay down. 16, Ussher. 18, Enter. 20, Enact. 21, Balm.



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Rainhill Civic Society



. Sorry folks but we have had to postpone the AGM, which was planned for 28th April, until further notice.

'rainhill civic society new' is on Facebook www.rainhillcivic.org

Please check our Facebook Page or see the Website for up to date information.

I'll tell you a tale, that's been recently written. Of a powerful army, so Great it saved Britain, They didn't have bombs and they didn't have planes, They fought with their hearts and they fought with their brains, They didn't have bullets, armed just with a mask, We sent them to war, with one simple task, To show us the way, to lead and inspire us, To protect us from harm and fight off the virus, It couldn't be stopped by our bullet proof vests, An invisible enemy, invaded our chests, So we called on our weapon, our soldiers in Blue. "All Doctors, All Nurses, Your Country needs you" We clapped on our streets, hearts bursting with pride. As they went off to war, while we stayed inside, They struggled at first, as they searched for supplies, But they stared down the virus, in the whites of its eyes, They leaped from the trenches and didn't think twice. Some never came back, the ultimate price, So tired, so weary, yet still they fought on, As the virus was beaten and the battle was won, The many of us, owe so much, to so few, The brave and the bold, our heroes in Blue, So let's line the streets and remember our debt We love you, our heroes, Lest we forget Sent by Ann-Veronica Howitt

Wordsearch, Pentecost

This month the Church celebrates the Ascension of Jesus, the sending of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost, and the fact that our God is a Trinity: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. After the Resurrection, Jesus was seen on the road to Emmaus, by the Sea of Galilee, in houses, etc.

He encouraged his disciples, and said that He was sending them to all corners of the earth, as his witnesses. 40 days after Easter, Jesus ascended into heaven; his work on earth was done.

The disciples returned to Jerusalem, and on the fateful morning of Pentecost, there was suddenly the sound as of a mighty rushing wind. Tongues of flame flickered on their heads, and they began to praise God in many tongues - to the astonishment of those who heard them. That morning the Holy Spirit came to indwell all those who believed in Jesus: the Church was born.

And so we have a triune God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Ascension Blessed Taken Jerusalem Wait Prayer Power One Room **Disciples** Tongues Flame Joy Praise Confusion Languages Earth Peter Holv Spirit Trinity Father Son triune





Parish Phonebook

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ROCKET DISTRIBUTION:	St Ann's Centre	0151 493 9350				
ROCKET EDITOR:	Delphine Corcoran	01744 832616				
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