



# Grasshopper



St. John the Baptist, Hey November 2019  
*Receiving and Sharing the Love of God Everyday*

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*Dear Friends*

There is a traditional Mediterranean story about an old man who had lived a long and happy life on a beautiful island. He had a great love for the island; many generations of his family had lived there. When the man was reaching the end of his life, he asked his sons to carry him outside one last time. Once outside, he reached out his old gnarled hand and gathered up a handful of his native soil. The old man clutched the soil and died with it still in his hand.

The man reached the gates of heaven and was joyfully greeted by angels, who invited him in. As the man tried to cross the threshold, one of the angels gently said, "You must let go of that soil before you come in". "I couldn't possibly do that" said the man, "This is the earth of my beloved island home, the soil of my native land". The angels were sad as they went back into heaven, leaving the old man, a lonely figure, wandering around outside the gates.

The angels often went outside to try to persuade the man to loose his grip on the soil and enter heaven. As years went by they tried many things, even taking him a sample of the heavenly banquet, which they eat with him outside the gates. Even this did not persuade him. He longed to join them, entering heaven for all eternity, but he just could not bring himself to let go of what remained of his earthly home.

Many years later the angels tried again, but this time, they took the man's beloved Granddaughter with them (who had by now joined them). The Granddaughter was delighted to see her Grandfather

and ran towards him. "Please join us in heaven", she said, "we love you so much and want you with us for all eternity". The old man was overcome with joy and threw open his arms to embrace her. As he did so, the soil which he had held so dear, slipped through his fingers and the angels swept up the old man and his granddaughter and carried them both across the threshold into heaven.

This story made me think about what is important to us. Are there earthly things that we hold onto which might prevent us from taking heavenward steps?

We sometimes cling too tightly to earthly things, putting too high a value on them. The Kingdom of God should always be our top priority, all other things should pale into insignificance in the light of our ultimate goal. The trouble is, sometimes we have worked so hard to achieve or maintain our earthly possessions or status that we find it even harder to let go. But, it's not only earthly goods that we can cling to, we sometimes cling to grudges, not wanting to let go of our resentment, we can simply cling to the way things were, but this too can prevent us from moving forward. The important thing is to constantly pray that God will open our eyes to anything that prevents us from enjoying all that He has prepared for us.

As Autumn begins to make its presence felt all around us, as we feel the need to draw up a chair near to the fire, I pray that the warmth of God's love will draw us ever closer to him and allow us to let go of all that holds us back.

May God bless each and every one of us.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Jyn'. The letters are fluid and connected, with a long, sweeping underline that curves back under the 'n'.

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## Day by Day Scheme

11 Nov	Remembering the day the guns fell silent
12 Nov	Chris' birthday
14 Nov	In memory of Edith Milward's birthday
14 Nov	In loving memory of Roy Winterbotham
16 Nov	Remembering the Birthday of the late Anne Davies
21 Nov	In memory of Albert Harper's birthday

The running costs of the church, which include the upkeep of the buildings and grounds, light and heat and costs of the services, amounted to £30,795 in 2018 – just over £84 a day.

Thank you to all those who are supporting the Day by Day Scheme which is used towards these costs.

If you would like to help please speak to a warden or our administrator.

# Bible Readings

## **3 Nov                      All Saints' Day**

Daniel 7:1-3, 15-18

Luke 6:20-31

## **10 Nov                      Remembrance**

Job 19:23-27a

Luke 20:27-38

## **17 Nov                      Second Sunday before Advent**

Malachi 1 4:1-2a

Luke 21:5-19

## **24 Nov                      Christ the King**

Jeremiah 23:1-6

Luke 23:33-43

## **1 Dec                      First Sunday of Advent**

Isaiah 2:1-5

Matthew 24:36-44

# Diary Dates

## **November**

### **3rd Sun**

### **All Saints' Day**

8am                      Holy Communion Book of Common Prayer

9.30am                  Family Eucharist

### **3pm                      All Souls Service**

4th Mon                  7.30pm                  Deanery Synod

5th Tues                  7.30pm                  PCC

6th Wed                  10am                      Holy Communion BCP

10.45am                  Coffee & Chat

11am                      Holy Communion Oakdene

7th Thur                  7pm                      Come & Praise!

### **10th Sun                      Remembrance**

8am                      Holy Communion

9.30am                  Parish Communion



On Monday 30th September and Tuesday 1st October, 50 groups of children from Hey with Zion school visited us to take part in the **Experience Harvest** event.

There were 6 stations:

### **Station 1: Harvest of the Flock**

Here the children were asked what we get from sheep and a few of them knew that we get mutton as well as lamb from sheep. A couple of the children thought that sheep wear raincoats when it rains. A spinning wheel in the background was tried by some of the visitors and they learnt how the fibres are spun to make them strong, and had a go at weaving or knitting. At this station one of the children was delighted that she had learned to knit.



There was some surprise at the size of the fleece we get when they are shorn (not Shaun, he is a young sheep).



## Station 2: Harvest of the Earth

Here the visitors were shown what we can do with clay that we get from the earth. They made thumb pots to take away with them (although many and various were the shapes seen, from an alien's head to a Christian cross). At this station we learnt how to write and pronounce "clay" in Russian.



ГЛИНА  
celena

## Station 3: Harvest of the sea

At this station the children were asked what we get from the sea; including lobster and crab and they made an Origami boat to take away with them. A Breton fisherman's prayer was then said and the boats were put on the sea as in the picture. They were offered a fish to eat if they were allowed to (a





sweet chosen to meet all dietary requirements). Here we learnt that most of the children thought that the greatest risk to a fisherman was a shark jumping on board their boat and eating them!

#### **Station 4: Harvest of the Grain**

Here the children were shown ears of wheat and how they can become the coarser wholemeal flour or fine white flour. A number of bread products were shown and they were invited to sample some fresh bread (gluten free was available). Here we learnt that chapatis are also made from flour and one child explained what a chapati is as not all the other group members knew that. The children were invited to say together the words of the hymn "We plough the fields and scatter".



#### **Station 5: Harvest of the Garden**

Here the children were introduced to the planting of seeds to grow crops, and were invited to inspect seed and guess what they might grow into, peas and broad beans for example. They were also asked to identify a number of fruits and vegetables, with one of them thinking that a parsnip was a form of carrot. They were also invited to plant a seed in some compost. Digging and raking the soil were also demonstrated.





## Station 6: Harvest Thanksgiving

At each of the previous stations the children had been given a different paper fruit representing the harvest. Written on the back of each fruit were attributes for them to aspire to: Humility, Joy, Peace, Generosity and Patience. A



A number of the children decided that the fruit with its wool thread would make a good necklace, and they were quite correct. At this station Rev Lyn told them the story of the Hebrews escape from Egypt and that they did not have time to make bread with yeast, as there was no time for it to rise, so they made yeast free or unleavened bread. At night they made a temporary shelter called a Sukkar, and this is what she is sitting in. The Jewish festival of Sukkot celebrates the harvest in the Hebrew calendar and we have used a replica for our Harvest Celebration. The Jewish people would hang real fruit in their Sukah, here we have hung the paper fruit given to the children.

Here two pupils who are members of our congregation are seated in the Sukkar and one of them is wearing a Kippah (or skull cap) and a Tallit (or prayer shawl). Here the children were led in singing the refrain from the Harvest hymn "all good gifts around us".



The following 5 photos were taken by Headteacher Mr Clowes:







Below are four volunteers who joined us on Tuesday



And for the final word, a quote from a member of the reception class  
"We had fun here today"

**Annual Christmas Fair**  
**Sunday 1st December 10.30am – 1pm**

Once again we will be hosting our annual Christmas fair in the Church hall, with a variety of stalls;

- Father Christmas will be in residence once again
- Various Tombola Stalls, including our ever-popular Chocolate and Bottle Stalls.
- Mystery parcels
- Knitted toy stall
- Fair Trade Stall
- Decorate your own Ginger Bread Men Stall (a favourite with the children).
- Home Made Jams
- Various Craft Stalls
- Café – with of course our ever popular Bacon Butties.

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We are also looking for new vendors who would like to be included in this successful event.



## Street Prayers

<i>Week</i>	<i>Street</i>
4th Nov	Taylor Green Way
11th Nov	Brighton Road, Whitegates Lane
18th Nov	Rivington Lane
25th Nov	Den Lane Higher

Prayers for these streets will be offered in Church on the Sundays shown

Any requests for specific prayers

please ring the parish office 626 3630

Let us witness to the presence of the church to all in Hey Parish

## Faithful Departed

John Heap  
Margaret Reid

"Rest eternal grant unto them, O Lord  
and let light perpetual shine upon them"





# Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in  
Matthew 7:7-11, Luke 11:5-13

To teach about praying, and God's good gifts, Jesus told this story - 'If you have a visitor arrive in the middle of the night..!'

Oh no! I have no bread to feed him! I am so ashamed! What can I do?... I know!



'You would go round to a friend's house.'



I really, really need some bread for a visitor.



I need that bread!



He's not going to go away, is he?



Jesus concluded...

So keep on asking and it will be given, seeking and you will find, knocking and it will be opened... And parents, if your hungry child asks for bread,

'..would you give them a stone?'



'And if they asked for a fish...'



'..would you give them a snake?'



'Or if they asked for an egg...'



'you'd give a scorpion?'



If you, who aren't perfect parents, give good gifts to your children, then don't you think that gifts from your perfect Father, God, will be even better?

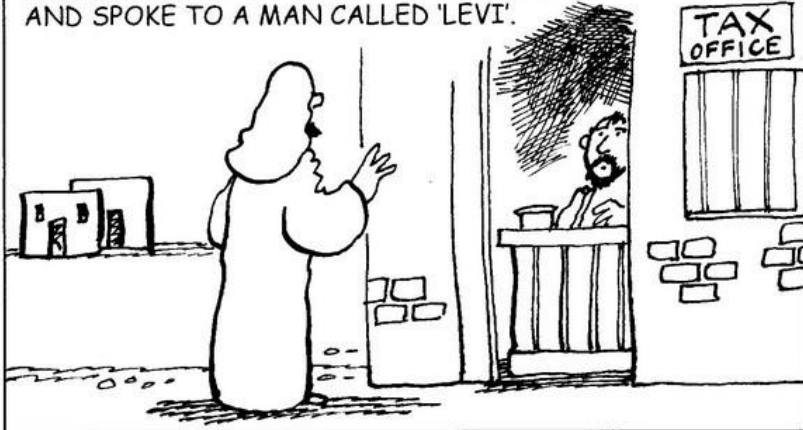
# The Doctor and the Sick



THE PEOPLE JESUS CHOSE TO BE HIS CLOSE FOLLOWERS WERE OFTEN QUITE UNUSUAL.



ONCE JESUS STOPPED BY A TAX-COLLECTOR'S OFFICE AND SPOKE TO A MAN CALLED 'LEVI'.



LEVI'S LIFE WAS CHANGED BY MEETING JESUS.



LEVI WANTED ALL HIS FRIENDS TO MEET JESUS TOO, SO HE CALLED A BIG PARTY FOR HIS TAX COLLECTOR FRIENDS



IN JESUS' DAY TAX COLLECTORS WERE VERY UNPOPULAR. THE PEOPLE THOUGHT JESUS WAS MIXING WITH A BAD BUNCH!

...BUT I AM HERE TO HELP PEOPLE WHO HAVE LOST THEIR WAY!

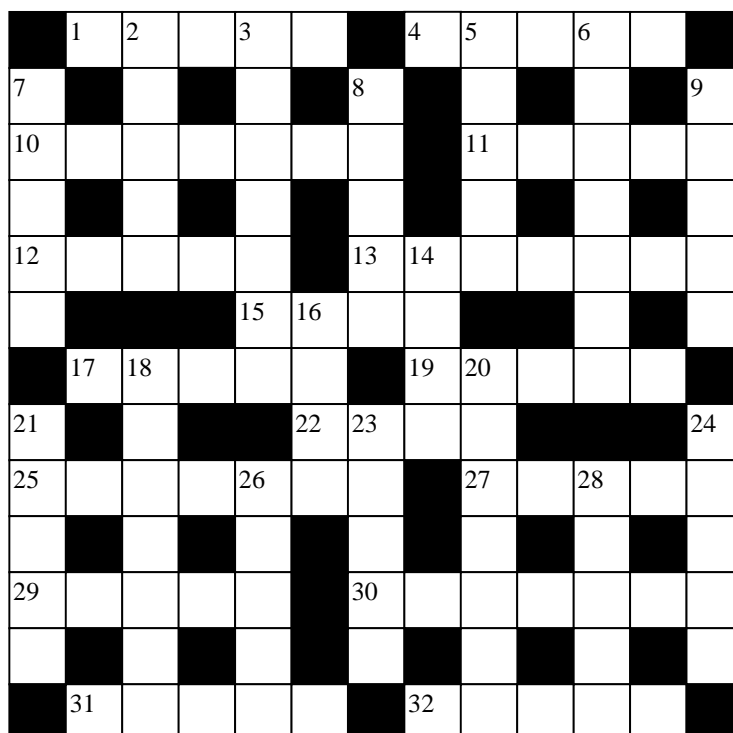


SURELY IT IS THE UNWELL PERSON WHO NEEDS THE DOCTOR - NOT THE WELL?!



see Luke 5:27-32

## NOVEMBER CROSSWORD



### CLUES

#### ACROSS

1. Actor's line, but only for the audience (5)
4. Reproach (5)
10. Flower merchant (7)
11. Flower of the lily family (5)
12. Take away membership (5)
13. Not lawful (7)
15. Swirl of water (4)
17. Bearlike mammal from China (5)
19. Very unpleasant (5)
22. Cab (4)
25. Type of clue (7)
27. Gatekeeper's cottage (5)
29. Standard for comparison (5)
30. Threw out (7)
31. Light meal (5)
32. Begin (5)

#### DOWN

2. Ladle (5)
3. Exercised in formation marching (7)
5. Place to stay (5)
6. Give great pleasure (7)
7. Frequently (5)
8. Straight-laced (5)
9. Accidentally cause to fall from container (5)
14. American wildcat (4)
16. Items of information (4)
18. Forsake utterly (7)
20. Illness (7)
21. Molten material within earth's crust (5)
23. Yellowish-brown fossil resin (5)
24. Bitter hostilities between families (5)
26. Memorial from the past (5)
28. Discourage (5)

Solution to October crossword Across: 7.Outlet,8.Better,10.Provide,11.Close,12.Real,13.Beret,17. Plate,18.Spar,22.Tales,23.Opinion,24. Vanish,25.Slight.  
Down: 1.Compere,2.Ottoman,3.Begin,4. Teacher,5.Stool,6.Greet,9.Selection,14.Closest,15.Springs, 16.Granite,19.Stove,20.Plank,21.Aisle.