# St John the Divine Rastrick Your Parish Magazine

## "How great thou art, how great thou art!"







#### Parish of St John the Divine, Rastrick St John the Divine, Gooder Lane, Rastrick, HD6 1HN

#### Vicar

Rev'd Michelle Petch - 01484 710538 - vicar@rastrickbenefice.org.uk

#### Churchwardens

David Marshall - 01484 718182 - mars42@hotmail.co.uk Hilary Cartwright - 01484 537399 - hilarymccarthy54@gmail.com

**Licensed Lay Minister** Alan Hoggard - 07756 035591- alanhoggard@btinternet.com

#### **Pastoral Minister**

Jane Hearson - 01484 968774 - family.hearson@tiscali.co.uk

**Safeguarding** Jane Hearson - 01484 968774 - janehearson83@gmail.com

#### **Health & Safety**

Please contact the Vicar or a Churchwarden.

#### **Hall Bookings**

Christine Whitaker - 01484 710952 - bookings@stjohnsrastrick.org.uk

#### **PRAYER FOR OUR CHURCH**

God of Mission who alone brings growth to your Church,
Send your Holy Spirit to give vision to our planning, wisdom to our actions, and power to our witness.
Help our churches to grow in numbers, in spiritual commitment to you, and in service to our local community,
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

### WHAT'S GOING ON HERE

Here is a list of regular activities which occur in our church. Please contact Group Leaders for details of their activities.

#### **Sunday Services in Church**

11:00 a.m. Holy Communion (1st, 3rd & 4th Sundays)

- 11:00 a.m. Holy Communion or Morning Worship (2nd Sunday)
- 10:30 a.m. Joint Benefice Service (5th Sunday as announced)

#### Mondays in the Community Hall

6:00 p.m.	Rainbows and Brownies	
7:30 p.m.	Guides	Sept June
7:00 p.m.	Beer & Banter Men's Group (1st Monday in the month	
	at The Four Sons, Clough Lane) - Alan: 07	756 035591

#### **Tuesdays in Church**

2:00 p.m. Mothers' Union (3rd Tuesday in the month)

#### Tuesdays in the Community Hall

12:00 noon Community Lunch (1st Tuesday in the month)
1:30 p.m. Reminiscent Cinema (1st Tuesday in the month)
1:00-2:30 p.m. Tai-Chi
6:30 p.m. Cubs
8:00 p.m. Scouts

#### Wednesday Service in Church

10:30 a.m. Holy Communion (2nd and 4th weeks in month)

#### Wednesdays in the Community Hall

- 6:15 p.m. Beavers
- 7:30 p.m. Wednesday Nighters (1st Wednesday in the month) in the Conference Suite.

#### Thursdays in the Community Hall

Brighouse Community Cinema (3rd Thursday in the month). See press for times and film showing.

#### Fridays

7:30 a.m. Morning Prayer (by Zoom). Alan:07756 035591

Rev'd Michelle writes.



#### Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me.

Welcome to the July magazine. As always, I hope you find the various articles and contributions both enjoyable and informative.

I'm writing this just after my return from retreat in North Wales. It was a wonderful time of spiritual refreshment and renewal for body, mind and soul.

I do hope that as we enter July with its longer, warmer and lighter days, you too might find some time and space for spiritual refreshment. Being away enabled me to slow down and to think. In particular I have been reminded of God's faithfulness and constancy in the ups and downs of life. I've been able to look back and review events and circumstances over the past few months, not all of which have been pleasant or easy. But in the remembering I have known God's presence beside me. His constant, unfailing love.

Maybe you might consider taking some time out with God in the coming weeks. One way you could do this is to come along to the Quiet Day on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> September. You'll find further details on the poster included in this magazine.

And I invite you to join with me in the praying the words of the hymn that have been in the forefront of my mind recently, which sum it up so well.

Great is Thy faithfulness, great is Thy faithfulness. Morning by morning new mercies I see. All I have need Thy hand has provided. Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me.

With my prayers and every blessing

Míchelle

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## SERVICES AND CHURCH INFO

#### SUNDAY SERVICES at St. JOHN'S - JULY

Sunday 7th July - 11:00 - Trinity 6 - All Age Holy Communion & Baptism Sunday 14th July - 11:00 - Trinity 7 - Holy Communion with a speaker from CICS (Christians in Calderdale Schools) Sunday 21st July - 11:00 - Trinity 8 - Holy Communion Sunday 28th July - 11:00 - Trinity 9 - Holy Communion



#### **MIDWEEK COMMUNION SERVICES - JULY**

Wednesday 3rd - 10:30 - St Matthew's Wednesday 10th - 10:30 - St John's Wednesday 17th - 10:30 - St Matthew's Wednesday 24th- 10:30 - St John's Wednesday 31st - No service

#### FORTHCOMING UNITED BENEFICE SERVICES

- Sunday 30th June 10:30 Joint Benefice St John's
- ◊ Sunday 29th September 10:30 Joint Benefice St Matthew's

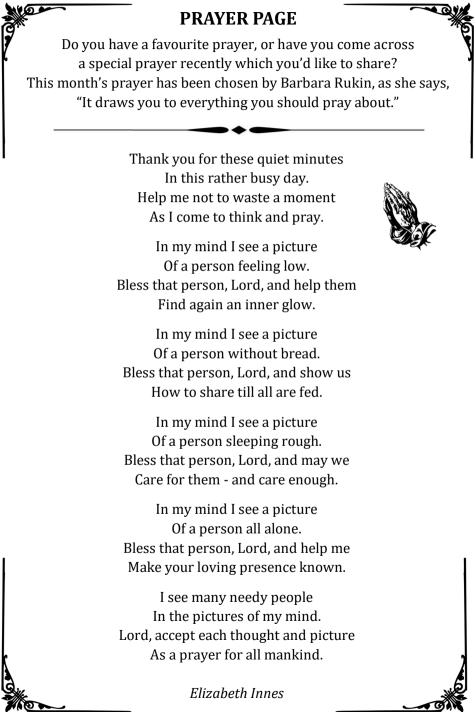
Please join Rev'd Michelle live on St John's Facebook page for Morning Prayer at 8.30am every morning Tuesday to Saturday



or you can catch up later in the day on Facebook or via the link on the home page of our Website.

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Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<u>01-Jul</u>	<u>02-Jul</u>	<u>03-Jul</u>	<u>04-Jul</u>	<u>05-Jul</u>	<u>06-Jul</u>
Psalms 98	Psalm 106	Thomas the Apostle	Psalms 113	Psalm 139	Psalms 120
1 Samuel 1.1-20	1 Samuel 1.21 – 2.11	Ephesians2: 19-end	1 Samuel 2.27-end	1 Samuel 3.1 – 4.1a	1 Samuel 4.1b-end
Luke 19.28-40	Luke 19.41-end	John 20: 24-29	Luke 20.9-19	Luke 20.20-26	Luke 20.27-40
<u>08-Jul</u>	<u>1nL-90</u>	<u>10-Jul</u>	<u>11-Jul</u>	<u>12-Jul</u>	<u>13-Jul</u>
Psalms 123	Psalms 132	Psalm 119.153-end	Psalms 143	Psalms 142	Psalm 147
1 Samuel 5	1 Samuel 6.1-16	1 Samuel 7	1 Samuel 8	1 Samuel 9.1-14	1 Samuel 9.15 – 10.1
Luke 20.41 – 21.4	Luke 21.5-19	Luke 21.20-28	Luke 21.29-end	Luke 22.1-13	Luke 22.14-23
<u>15-Jul</u>	<u>16-Jul</u>	<u>101-711</u>	<u>18-Jul</u>	<u>19-Jul</u>	<u>20-Jul</u>
Psalms 1	Psalms 5	Psalm 119.1-32	Psalms 14	Psalms 17	Psalms 20
1 Samuel 10.1-16	1 Samuel 10.17-end	1 Samuel 11	1 Samuel 12	1 Samuel 13.5-18	1 Samuel 13.19 – 14.15
Luke 22.24-30	Luke 22.31-38	Luke 22.39-46	Luke 22.47-62	Luke 22.63-end	Luke 23.1-12
<u>22-Jul</u>	<u>23-Jul</u>	<u>24-Jul</u>	<u>25-Jul</u>	<u>26-Jul</u>	<u>27-Jul</u>
Mary Magdalene	Psalms 32	Psalm 34	James the Apostle	Psalm 31	Psalms 41
2 Corinthians 5: 14-17	1 Samuel 15.1-23	1 Samuel 16	2 Corinthians 4: 7-15	1 Samuel 17.31-54	1 Samuel 17.55 – 18.16
John 20: 1-18	Luke 23.26-43	Luke 23.44-56a	Matthew 20: 20-28	Luke 24.13-35	Luke 24.36-end
<u>29-Jul</u>	<u>30-Jul</u>	<u>31-Jul</u>	<u>01-Aug</u>	02-Aug	<u>03-Aug</u>
Psalm 44	Psalms 48	Psalm 119.57-80	Psalms 56	Psalms 51	Psalm 68
1 Samuel 19.1-18	1 Samuel 20.1-17	1 Samuel 20.18-end	1 Samuel 21.1 – 22.5	1 Samuel 22.6-end	1 Samuel 23
Acts 1.1-14	Acts 1.15-end	Acts 2.1-21	Acts 2.22-36	Acts 2.37-end	Acts 3.1-10
Join Michelle on line T	uesday - Saturday:	https://www.facebool	https://www.facebook.com/stjohnthedivinerastrick	astrick	
Or use the Church of England Daily Pray:	England Daily Pray:	https://www.churchof	https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/join-us-service-daily-prayer	d-worship/join-us-sen	rice-daily-prayer
All readings in full can	All readings in full can be found by downloading the 'Lectionary: from the CofE' App on your mobile or PC	ng the 'Lectionary: froi	m the CofE' App on you	r mobile or PC	

Daily Lectionary Readings July 2024



## Face to Face with Jesus ...a Quiet Day

at: The Community of the Resurrection Stocksbank Road Mirfield WF14 0BN

Friday 6th Sept. 2024 10 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

> Organised and led by Rev'd Michelle Petch: Prayer and Spirituality Co-ordinator For the Huddersfield Episcopal Area

£10 cost to cover room hire and refreshments. Please bring a packed lunch.

Limited places available. Further info and bookings contact <u>admin@rastrickbenefice.org.uk</u>

Image: Jo-B (Pixabay)

## **Prayer Ministry**



Prayer Ministry is offered monthly during the 11am Parish Communion Service.

An opportunity to bring concerns, people and situations before God in prayer alongside someone else.

Please come to the main door of the Lady Chapel after receiving communion if you would like to take part.

Upcoming dates are as follows:

Sunday 21 <sup>st</sup> July	Sunday 18 <sup>th</sup> August
Sunday 15 <sup>th</sup> September	Sunday 27 <sup>th</sup> October
Sunday 24 <sup>th</sup> November	Sunday 15 <sup>th</sup> December

Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. (Phil 4:6)



## **MOTHERS' UNION MATTERS!**

The MU matters here at St John's, locally across Huddersfield and Halifax and internationally!

The month of June has been exceptional!! In the Church we have had two major MU Meetings.... firstly, the Diocesan Council Meeting where we had over 60 Members gathering from across the Diocese. That was really special where we heard about the work, involvement and activities undertaken by all of the very many lively Branches which exist across the Diocese. We had a speaker, Chris Armstrong, from Tools with a Mission (TWAM). In advance we had been asked to bring any tools which we no longer needed at our homes....people brought garden

spades, sewing machines, typewriters, dress making zips, shears....in fact if it was a tool with a use....it was brought!! Chris explained that he then repaired the tools where necessary in a workshop in Bingley and then took them all out to various countries in Africa. They are then taken to various projects which have requested tools and support....so all going to focused and much needed projects and organisations.



The second major meeting was the Huddersfield Episcopal Area Gathering which was excellent. Our opening Worship was led by Michelle, who as well as being our vicar here at St John's she is also the MU Episcopal Area Chaplain. We were joined by Bishop Smitha, who not only is she our Bishop for this Area but she is also the Diocesan Bishop for the MU. How blessed we are to have two very influential Members of the clergy with us.

Bishop Smitha had noted through our meeting, prior to her presentation, that the MU is involved in a great many diverse activities...and she reminded us of the line in the hymn "Here I am Lord, I have heard you calling in the night...." And she felt that we all have been called to amazing ministry and that we are engaged in the work of Jesus.

On both occasions our grateful thanks go to many of the MU Branches who brought items of knitting, toys, baby clothes, hair products, hospital emergency bags, wax and candles, twiddle muffs. Between us Ann Johnson and I took the items to a lady who takes items to Ukraine, some go to Focus for Hope, others go to an Agency which manages Refuges for those fleeing from domestic violence, and some to a Baby Bank in Heckmondwike. The Baby Bank, rather like Foodbanks, people are

referred to these centres, and are then given these very beautiful and welcome clothes and other items. Jane Hearson has taken some of the twiddle muffs to our local Care Homes in the Parish.



Other MU activities continue as usual... helping out at New Hall Prison in the visitors' tea bar, in the mother and baby unit and offering cooking classes to some of the women. We have had two more Members of our congregation volunteer for some of these vital activities. Want to know more? ..... see me, Ann Johnson or Margaret France.

We continue to focus on supporting all the ways to end domestic violence. Our Parish and the PCC have formally backed our work and this Church has received the Gold Level Award from the Mothers' Union at Mary Sumner House in London.... this recognises the various events which we have organised, some of which have given the opportunity for local people to engage with MPs and local leaders. We have had newspaper and local radio and TV coverage to discuss the work being undertaken. Of course, our ongoing involvement with the women in prison also supports all of this work and engagement. We are very proud to be recognised in this way....but it is ongoing because sadly so is the abuse. Want to know more? ....read my article in this month's Echo, 4 July.

Looking forward to July and August we have Midday Prayers at Halifax Minster on the first Monday in each month, our Summer Praise and Lunch in the Conference Suite on 16 July, Mary Sumner Day celebrations on Friday 9 August at Holmfirth Church, a MU led craft session at Railway Bridge View at the beginning of September. Do join us for any of these meetings or to chat about the work of the MU locally and overseas.

Tulía

## ECO CHURCH UPDATE

#### **Bee-friendly – Supporting pollinators**

A ROCHA BRONZE AWARD WINNER 2023 ECO & CHURCH (earn more)

We now have a herb planter in our church garden (thank you, HIC). With the help of the Rainbows and Brownies we have planted herbs (all cuttings or grown from seed) in the planter and borders. Many herbs have purple flowers beloved of bees and other pollinators. The girls also planted some basil seeds to take home so they can have some basil on their pizzas this summer. As part of our activities we also went on a garden safari. The girls spotted ladybirds, caterpillars, worms, wood lice, bees and a mouse! However, their favourite find was a plant we have always called "sticky bud" (cleavers) and they enjoyed making smiley faces on each other's backs with the strands.



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#### **Church of England Count on Nature Survey**

The Eco-Church Group has also conducted a species survey of the Church Garden. There is so much land owned by the Church of England and they are (or can be) an important resource for wildlife, as well as for the local community. The survey encourages congregations to see what they have

and to consider how they might provide the space and conditions for even more. We identified 8 different types of trees and shrubs, 6 different grasses, and approximately 23 wildflowers and plants. Also one large bracket fungus. We identified 7 different species of bird, one mammal (a young rat), ladybirds, and evidence of bees and beetles.



There is a new display with further information about supporting nature, especially pollinators, and lots of photos of our activities in Church. Please do have a look.

The Eco-Church Group

P.S. Do join us in the Church Garden on the last Wednesday afternoon of every month.

## **MISSIONS AND CHARITIES**

#### **BRIGHOUSE CENTRAL FOODBANK**

We are grateful for all your contributions to the Brighouse Central Foodbank, but if you want some suggestions we are particularly in need of

- tins of mince,
- kidney beans,
- tins of ham, pork or chicken,
- chocolate/sweets,
- mashed potato

Thank you so much for your continued support.



Norman Lake

#### PCC SNIPPETS FROM THE JUNE MEETING

- Accounts to the end of May show a church surplus of £3,237 due to £1000 legacy and annual donations from organisations, the hall reported a surplus of £703.
- The upgrade of the Sturrock room is underway funded by grant income and a donation
- A grant of £3,200.00 had been received from the Bishop's development fund which will fund the cost of moving the sound desk, a screen in the organ loft and other church improvements
- Gas and Electricity contracts are due to be renewed in October and PCC accepted a two-year quote 25% cheaper than the current prices through Green Energy.
- The size of our turnover (over £100k) means the P.C.C who are trustees must apply for Charity Commission status. ( currently we are an accepted charity but unregistered)
- £816 will be sent to Christian Aid
- David James expects to get a grant of £25,000 from Rastrick Big Local which would provide thirty Solar Panels to be fitted on the Church Hall roof.
- The Church Hall floor was discussed and a quote of £1300 was accepted for repairs which will take place in the Summer as a stopgap to a longer-term solution.
- A Faculty is to be submitted to the Diocese to build an inner vestibule as we enter the Church. This is to conserve heat.
- Work on rebuilding the organ is ongoing and should be completed by the beginning of July

## Come and join me each month for lunch/coffee in The Platform Café Railway Bridge View

Very informal - may include:

exchanging news prayer a discussion around the Gospel reading for the following Sunday

Next Date:

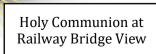
Friday 26th July 12:30 -1:30

Coffee and Conversati

Just a selection...

Leading worship at the MU council meeting

> Enjoyed lunch at the Christian Aid event. Yes, I know it's Cherry - but I forgot to photograph the Vicar! (Nice one of Cherry, though)





Coffee & Conversation at Railway Bridge View

What the Vicar got up to last month



ST JOHN'S RUCKSACK CLUB WALK Saturday July 6th 2024 HEPWORTH to HOLME 6 miles This is another linear walk which requires using BUSES the walk starts in Hepworth where we pick up the trail through a very attractive wood leading to Hade Edge. Passing Holme Styes res. we carry on to Ramsden res., and finishing in Holme village. EUS times: The X63 leaves Sainsburys at 8.34am for Huddersfield. The Hepworth bus leaves Hudderfield at 9.35am.

We will get the returning bus from Holme village.

Leaders Judith and Eric Ogden Eric's mobile no.: 07777 494 681

## Sunday 21st July

#### Short Sunday walk, leaving Church car park at 1:30p.m.

Join us for a short family walk from Mytholmroyd, to Hebden Bridge along the canal. About 1.5 miles each way.

Details of where we will park and meet up in Mytholmroyd will be given at St. John's car park.

There will be a short fun quiz and a challenge to pick up collectables.

We can spend 30 minutes walking around Hebden at your leisure with an agreed meeting point and time for the return stroll.

St. JOHN'S RUCKSACK CLUB

## St. JOHN'S PANTOMIME SOCIETY

## Pantomime - Dick Whittington



The pantomime committee have selected Dick Whittington and his Cat for this year's production and we are hoping for a good turnout for the cast auditions and the chorus meeting.

#### Cast Auditions will be held on Wednesday, 10<sup>th</sup> July at 7.30pm. in the Church Hall.

Anyone of secondary school age in December, including adults, of course, is invited to attend and audition for a part. Audition night always causes some laughs and often gives us a chance to meet new talent.

Please pass the word around anyone whom you think may be interested.

## The first Chorus meeting will take place on Wednesday, 4<sup>th</sup> September at 6pm in the Sturrock Room of the Church Hall.

There is no upper or lower age limit for people in the chorus and we would love to nurture a teenage chorus. If you, or anyone you know, may be interested please come along and meet the team who will tell you more about what is involved.

If you are interested in either of the above, but cannot attend at these dates please contact Graham Readshaw on 01484 713699 or 07949 082402 and let him know of your interest.



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## A Special Exhibition

I was recently in the lovely village of Bosbury in Herefordshire, and as I'm sure a lot of us tend to do, I had a look inside the church. They are in the process of raising funds to refurbish their organ, and some of the phrases they were using sounded very familiar,

" The instrument may sound good on a given day, but..."

"In order that this historic instrument can continue to function..." As part of their fundraising there was a display of Bible stories, created by the congregation. I thought you'd like to see some of them...



<image>

Consider the lilies of the field











## **COMMUNITY LUNCH**

The next Community Lunch is on Tuesday 2nd July. 12:00 All welcome. (No charge - donations much appreciated)

## **COFFEE & CAKE**

The next Coffee & Cake is on Saturday 13th July, in church. 10:00 - 12:00 Hosted by the Brownies

## AFTERNOON TEA

The next Afternoon Tea is on Saturday 19th October, in church. 2:00 - 4:30



## ANNUAL CHRISTMAS LUNCH 🅢

The annual Christmas Lunch is on Tuesday 3rd December, in the Community Hall. Booking essential: £20



Music News

We're all getting quite excited about the imminent return of our lovely Conacher organ. It's looking very interesting in the organ loft!

Once it's back, it will need to be played for a while, to settle in and to iron out any teething problems. After that, we're looking forward to having a big celebration, but more of that next month.

Of course, the Voices will be involved, and so they can also look forward to some serious rehearsing! In fact, they'll be happily singing for the rest of the year as we'll be into Christmas rehearsal music after that!







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CHRISTIAN AID - the Coffee & Cake Soup and a Sandwich raised £217 to which we added the Gift Aid to be collected by St John's on their behalf.

There was £281 in the envelopes collected so total sent to Christian Aid was £551 WONDERFUL.



Following on from the Christian Aid Lunch we wondered if people would like the 'Soup & Sandwich' to be a monthly event (probably beginning in October).



Reminder: NO COMMUNITTY LUNCH IN AUGUST

Christmas Lunch - NOW FULL





### PUZZLE PAGE by the Bat in the Belfry

July and holidays beckon. Let's hope for good weather. Try these two in-between ice creams

#### Number 24 – 13 Gardeners delight.

Can you name the following wild flowers sometimes found in gardens?











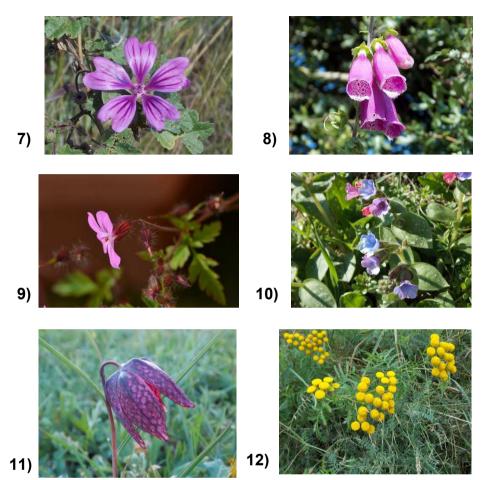




3)

2)

6)



#### Number 24 – 14 Mind Games 2

1) Shadow was holidaying on the Isle of Beguile. This is an island where the natives always lie and the visitors always tell the truth. Shadow was walking along when Bill, Frank and Joe approached him. Joe said 'All of us are natives'. Frank said 'Only one of us is a visitor'. Who is a native and who is a visitor? Explain.

- 2) Harold Bird married a widow. At the time they each had three children of their own. 13 years later the Bird children got into a heated argument. Mrs Bird exclaimed to Mr Bird, 'Your children and my children, are fighting with our children!' Each parent is directly related to 9 of the 12 children in the Bird family. How many children were born after Mr and Mrs Bird were married?
- 3) A black dog stands in the middle of an intersection in a town painted black. None of the street lights are working due to a power failure caused by a local storm. A car with two broken headlights drives towards the dog but turns in time to avoid hitting him. How could the driver have seen the dog in time?

## Last month's answers

#### Number 24- 11 D-Day

1) Overlord (the codename for the invasion of Europe).

2) Major John Howard (Major John Howard was played by the actor Richard Todd in the film 'The Longest Day'. Todd was in reality, one of the reinforcements from the 7th Battalion at Pegasus Bridge).
3) Nevada (Gold, Sword and Juno beaches were for the Canadian and British Commonwealth to invade and Utah and Omaha were for the Americans)
4) Neptune (Operation Overlord refers to the large-scale operation of establishing a military presence in Normandy; hence, Neptune is the first phase of Overlord.)
5) He was celebrating his wife's birthday in Germany (Because the weather in the English Channel appeared to be too severe to launch an invasion, Rommel felt it would be safe to leave the front for a few days to see his wife.)
6) First US Army Group (The First US Army Group was a great tactic used to keep the Germans thinking that the invasion would occur in Calais. It consisted of

thousands of cardboard and rubber dummy tanks and aeroplanes, fake troop barracks and supply dumps, and enough humans to give the appearance of great activity. Even after the actual invasion had begun, the Germans were convinced that FUSAG was going to invade at Pas-de-Calais, and they refused to send reinforcements to Normandy. By the time the Germans realised they had been deceived, the Allied forces were well established in France) 7) The Atlantic Wall (This was made up of thousands of large concrete pill boxes set up along the coast of France. Many of these were made from materials from the beach and were easily demolished when bombed) 8) Bad weather and rough seas ( Even on the actual day conditions were rough, but Eisenhower wanted a full moon and high tides to land the soldiers. He did not want to wait for the next full moon. Landing in marginal weather helped catch the Germans off guard as they didn't expect an invasion in such conditions) 9) Dwight D Eisenhower (Eisenhower was in charge of planning. He did not, however, actually fight on the beaches. The ground forces were under the command of Field Marshal Montgomery) **10)** General Alan Brooke (You may not have heard of him, but he was the Chief of the (British) Imperial General Staff)

#### <u> Number 24 – 14 Dads Day</u>

 Mufasa 2) John Steinbeck 3) Prince Philip, The Duke of Edinburgh 4) Atticus Finch (To Kill a Mockingbird)
 Alexander the Great 6) Julius Caesar and Mark Antony
 Euclid 8) Little Lord Fauntleroy's 9) Fred Flintstone
 Jasper Carrot

## ANSWERS NEXT MONTH

## SHIRLEY...

#### What would Jesus do?......

A friend and I went to a concert given by Overgate Choir and Hammond Brass Band. It was held in All Saints Church, Elland. After turning through streets in the surrounding area, we asked a gentleman who

was going home, where the church was. He thought a second or two then as he answered I spied a spire! He pointed to a gateway which led round the backway to the church. Although it was tucked away, surrounded by houses and in traditional stone, the inside was



beautiful. Colourful statues of saints framed the chancel and there were lots of golden tints. The audience soon filled the seats, the choir and band assembled and the Vicar came forward to welcome everyone and wished us an enjoyable evening. Everyone clapped and the evening commenced.

At this point I felt a little sad. What a missed opportunity of saying a prayer of thanks to God for sharing His house for the evening and for the talents he had given to those taking part. Perhaps the Vicar thought it was not appropriate as it was not a church service or maybe the audience were non - believers or of different faiths. I don't know. But we usually acknowledge the host when we visit someone's house and why should we not proclaim Christianity to non-believers when the opportunity arises?

I am sorry and apologise if I have upset or offended anyone by saying this but What Would Jesus Do?

## Let's build a Better Britain

I want to be patriotic and back Britain every time, but I've just been thinking, "What is patriotism?"

Has it changed with time? Britain was great, and still, I'd like to think,

but Britain is abstract – just a name. It is the population, you and me, who must accept the blame. People create a country by how they live each day, working together and playing a part.

Or else – wanting to break away.

Day by day it seems someone's out on strike.

Who are they hurting most of all? The people they most like; Their families, their neighbours and their friends.

In fact, everyone in Britain, on whom each one of us depends.

So, let's hope our next Government sees the error of our ways and work honestly together before Britain finally decays.

Shirley

#### AND FINALLY....

A little girl, dressed in her Sunday best, was running as fast as she could, trying not to be late for Sunday School. As she ran she prayed, "Dear Lord, please don't let me be late. Please don't let me be late!"

While she was running, she tripped up a curb and fell, getting her clothes dirty and tearing her dress. She got up, brushed herself off, and started running again. As she ran she once again began to pray, "Dear Lord, please don't let me be late... but please don't shove me either!"



#### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Tuesday 2nd July Community Lunch 12:00

Saturday 6th July Rucksack Club Walk

Wednesday 10th July Pantomime Society - Cast auditions 7:30

Saturday 13th July Coffee & Cake in church (Hosted by the Brownies) 10:00 - 12:00 Eco Church - Swap Stall

Saturday 13th July Benefice Safari Supper

Sunday 14th July Eco Church - Swap Stall

**Tuesday 16th July** MU Summer Praise and Lunch

Friday 26th July Coffee & Conversation - Railway Bridge View 12:30

Sunday 21st July Mytholmroyd—Hebden Bridge walk

Wednesday 31st July ECO Church - in the Church Garden

Items for the July magazine. to: stjohnsrastrick.mag@gmail.com **by 9:00 a.m. Sat. 27th July please**. Thanks.

CALENDAR

Website : www.stjohnsrastrick.org.uk

Parish Calendar : http://tinyurl.com/jcjrehp

Facebook : www.facebook.com/stjohnthedivine

**Wi-Fi** Network : everywhere Password : anywhere



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