

SERVICES AT OUR CHURCHES

Sunday 9:30 am Worship at St Barnabas Sunday 11:00 am Worship at Holy Trinity Wednesday 10:00 am Bible study at St Barnabas

Led by Robin Wilding

Wednesday 7:00pm Family Communion Holy Trinity

PEOPLE AT OUR CHURCHES

Vicar Post vacant

Lay Readers	Peter Haslam	(0161) 345 0215
	Lucie Reilly	(07880) 861 751
Wardens	Peter Haslam (StB)	(0161) 345 0215
	Val Crane (HT)	(0161) 628 4977
	John Wolstencroft (HT	(0161) 620 2401

Administrator	Sarah Gura	(07708) 714 813
HT Church Secretary	Zoe Liles	(07765) 963 899
Community Worker	MaryAnne Oduntan	(07908) 004 682
Treasurer & Gift-Aid	Mrs Vicky Heaton	(07468) 463 753
HT Parish Hall Manager Daniel Reilly		(07788) 860 764
StB Centre Manager	MaryAnne Oduntan	(07908) 004 682

To sign up for the magazine online, or to send contributions, please email Sarah Wilding at sarah.churchmag@gmail.com

er from the Editor

Hello lovely people

November, with its long dark evenings and gloomy weather, is traditionally a month for remembering: for looking backwards. We begin on the 1st with *All Saints Day*, when we remember saints and martyrs. This is closely followed by the service for *All Souls Day* on the 3rd, when we remember the 'faithful departed'. What is the difference? It seems to be a matter of time, between those known from the far past and those known to us personally.

Then we "remember, remember the 5th of November," when Guy Fawkes' plot to blow up the Houses of Parliament was foiled. The more cynical among us may wish he had succeeded, but it is a reminder that we are called to respect and pray for those in authority (1Tim 2:1-3, Rom 13:1-7). As our new Government settles in to its term let us remember to pray for them, whether their policies suit us or not. After that, we move on to *Remembrance Sunday*, on the nearest Sunday to the 11th, when we remember the terrible cost of war.

Closer to home, Paul, Jo and Mary are moving on. They haven't died nor even moved very far away and we may well see them from time to time. But they are no longer part of our regular church life and it is natural and right that we will miss them. So perhaps in this sad month it is a time for us to sort our memories of this family: to remember them and what they have meant to us. A time to be sad and let ourselves grieve before we begin the exciting task of looking for who comes next.

Jesus was a person who understood loss and sorrow and we can be sure that he will be with us at all stages of the journey.

Sarah W



From the church and parish

It's really happening: the Monks are leaving us this month to their new church in Ashton. Our love and prayers go with them as they embark on

this adventure.





The quiz night on 12th October was not as well attended as the last few events, with 43 participants in 7 teams taking part to win the cash prize of £30. Once again it was a very close-run contest with only 3 points between the winners and the runners-up and only ½ point between the third and fourth placed teams. We raised £313 and we will be putting this money towards the new kitchen in the Parish Hall, so very many thanks to all those who participated, and special thanks to Linda and John, Daniel and the two Thomases for their help with the preparations and their sterling work manning the bar. Thanks also to everyone who contributed the raffle prizes as we had a good selection of items. We'll be hosting another quiz night in the Spring and will publish the date soon in the New Year.

Bible Readings for November

Sunday 3 November

Kingdom 1

First: Deuteronomy 6:1-9 Epistle: Hebrews 9:11-14 Gospel: Mark 12:28-34

Sunday 17 November Kingdom 3

First: Daniel 12:1-3 Epistle: Hebrews 10:11-25 Gospel: Mark 13:1-8 Sunday 10 November

Kingdom 2

First: Jonah 3:1-5,10 Epistle: Hebrews 9:24-28 Gospel: Mark 1:14-20

Sunday 24 November Christ the King

First: Daniel 7:9-10,13,14 Epistle: Revelation 1:4b-8 Gospel: John 18:33-37

Church Diary

Sunday 3 November 6:00 pm: **All Souls' service** ('commemoration of the

faithful departed'), in Holy Trinity.

Sunday 10 November 9:30 am: Remembrance Service in St Barnabas.

10:50 am: Remembrance service at Waterhead War

Memorial.

11:30 am: Remembrance Service in Holy Trinity.

Thursday 21 November 7:00pm Licencing Service in St Peter's Church

Ashton-under-Lyne, OL7 oBA

Sunday 15 December 6:00 pm: **Annual Carol service**, in St Barnabas

Weds 18 December 7:00 pm: **Annual Carol Service** in Holy Trinity.

Tuesday 24 December 4:00 om: **Christingle service** in Holy Trinity.

11:30 pm: (?) **Midnight Mass** in Holy Trinity.

Weds 25 December 9:30 am: Christmas Service in St Barnabas.

Sunday 5 January 9:30 am: annual **Covenant Service** in St Barnabas

11:00 am: annual Covenant Service in Holy Trinity

ADDITIONAL ROLES

Sarah Gura: Baptisms admin.

Notice boards at StB.

Registers and school forms.

Magazines, posters and transcripts printing and distribution.

Pete Haslam: Chairing PCC at StB. Opening St Barnabas on Sunday.

Vicky Heaton: Compile transcripts for services. PowerPoints for Sunday services at both churches.

MaryAnne Oduntan: Centre manager at StB Oversee all aspects of Barnabas Thrive!

Lucie Reilly: Chairing PCC at HTW.

Wednesday services, including PowerPoint.

Oversee all rotas.

Oversee stand-in preachers and PTO staff.

School forms

Tom Reilly: Social media uploads.

Upload transcripts.

Update websites including diaries.

Please pray for people as they take on extra responsibilities. There are bound to be mistakes; please be kind and encouraging.

Christmas at Holy Trinity

Christmas Raffle

As usual we are having a Christmas raffle with a substantial hamper as the first prize. There are boxes at the back of the church for donations together with a list of suggested items for the hamper. Please bring your donations in on or before 8^{th} December. The draw will take place after the Carol Service on Wednesday 11th December.

December Dates

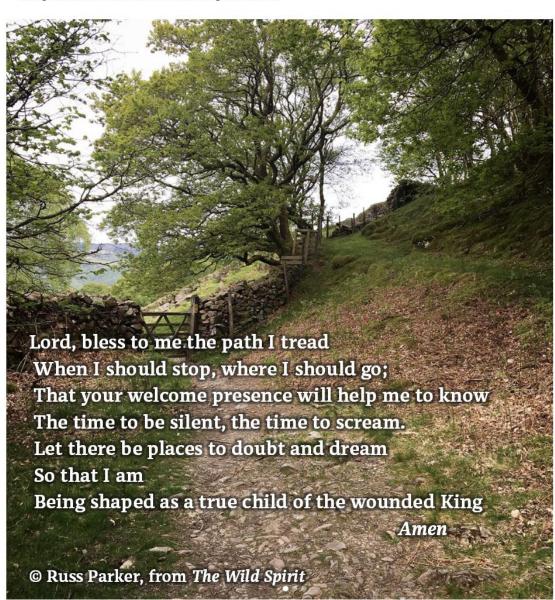
Saturday 7th December we will be decorating the church between 10 and 12 on Saturday morning if anyone is able and willing to come along to help. Refreshments will be provided.

Wednesday 11th December is the Carol Service at 7pm, followed by refreshments and the raffle prize draw.

Sunday 22nd December there will be a Christmas Faith lunch after the service and we will be serving mulled wine as well as the usual tea and coffee. Please join us whether you are able to bring food or not; all will be welcome.

Advance notice for January 2025

Saturday 4th January we will be taking down the Christmas decorations in church and would be glad of extra pairs of hands if you are willing and able to help and refreshments will be provided.



It's All Greek to Me...

... Lord of lords.

The word kurios in New Testament Greek, or kurie when used as a form of address, is translated in various ways but is always a term of respect towards another person. At one end of the scale, it simply means 'sir' as a courtesy title addressed to a stranger and a title of respect addressed to a father, a husband or an angel. It is used of a master, that is one to whom any service is due, and of an owner or one who has the disposal of anything. Jesus as Messiah has a special ownership in mankind, having bought us by his blood. At its highest level kurios is used to refer to an emperor or king. It is also the Greek translation of the Hebrew Jehovah, adonai and elohim (ie. the name of God, lord, and god). After the resurrection of Jesus and the coming of the Holy Spirit, the New Testament writers use the word mostly in the stronger sense, as an expression of the lordship of Jesus, as in Peter's address to the crowds, "God has made him Lord..." (Acts 2:36). Thus as a term it can be seen to encompass both carpenters and kings.

There is another word, *despoteis*, distinguished by the translation 'Sovereign Lord' when used to address God in prayer, as in Acts 4:24, when the believers are praying for Peter in prison. It is also translated 'master' in other places and is the term of address for a slave to a master. This is the word from which we get the English word 'despot'. To us, a despot is an entirely negative word, used of a corrupt, cruel and self-serving ruler. In its origin, however, it means one who has absolute power and authority; in our constitutional monarchy we find it hard to imagine what that is like and how scary it can be, but it was the normal state of affairs with the Caesars of Rome. It was wisely said by Lord Acton that "absolute power tends to corrupt absolutely", so it is not surprising the word is now associated with corruption and oppression.

This makes it the more remarkable then, that God, who can do anything he wants, remains faithful and reliable in his dealings with the physical universe and with people. This *despoteis* could change the laws of physics any time and base the universe on pink bubble-gum if he wished, but he maintains all according to the laws he has given. How amazing then, that Jesus, who knew who he was, "that the Father had put all things under his power..." got up from the table and washed his disciples' feet (John 13:3-5). This is the example of lordship, of being someone entitled to respect, that Jesus gave us.





POPPIES

In the early years of the 20th century there were hardly any poppies in the fields of Flanders, Belgium. This is because the soils of Flanders were fairly poor and the corn poppy thrives on richly manured, ploughed land. One British soldier remarked in 1914 that the fields in the area of the Somme (in northern France) were far poorer for poppies than his native Norfolk in England. It was in the second year of the war, in 1915, that the first records appeared in letters sent home of no-man's land being "ablaze" with scarlet poppies. From this time onwards, letters written by soldiers constantly referred to the fields of poppies, and featured heavily in soldier's poems such as the one opposite. Poppies also appeared on the battlefields of Gallipoli, in the Dardanelles, where conditions mirrored the fighting taking place on the Western Front.

The war created prime conditions for poppies to flourish. Continual bombardment disturbed the soil and brought the seeds to the surface. They were fertilized by nitrogen in the explosives and lime from the shattered rubble of the buildings. Tragically, the blood and the bones of the millions of slaughtered men and animals also fertilized the soil.

The poem *In Flanders Fields* by John Macrae was published on 8th December 1915 in *Punch*, and became an immediate sensation in the trenches and around the English-speaking world. The poppy became the symbol of the war dead. It was seen as representing the souls of those who died between 1914 and 1918, transformed into a million blood-red flowers.

With thanks to

https://www.discoveringbelgium.com/the-poppies-of-flanders

Red Poppies in the Corn

I've seen them in the morning light, When white mists drifted by.
I've seen them in the dusk o' night Glow 'gainst the starry sky.
The slender waving blossoms red, Mid yellow fields forlorn.
A glory on the scene they shed, Red Poppies in the Corn.

I've seen them, too, those blossoms red,
Show 'gainst the Trench lines' screen.
A crimson stream that waved and spread
Thro' all the brown and green.
I've seen them dyed a deeper hue
Than ever nature gave,
Shell-torn from slopes on which they grew
To cover many a grave.

Bright blossoms fair by nature set
Along the dusty ways,
You cheered us, in the battle's fret,
Thro' long and weary days.
You gave us hope: if fate be kind,
We'll see that longed-for morn,
When home again we march and find
Red Poppies in the Corn.

Lieutenant-Colonel W. Campbell Galbraith (1917)

Stones (called *stelae*) have been set up and used as memorials throughout the ancient world. The ones that survive are often very intricately carved with pictures or writing. The best known example is probably the Rosetta Stone, which is inscribed with a commemoration of the same event in three languages. It gave archaeologists the key to understanding two other ancient languages because of the one that was known.



In the Bible, memory stones were also set up, but the occurrence seems to be more spontaneous and there is no indication that they were carved. The first example comes in Genesis: Jacob was running away from Esau, after tricking him out of his blessing, and lay down to sleep using a stone as a pillow. He had a dream of angels going up and down to heaven and God spoke to him in the dream. "Early the next morning Jacob took the stone he had placed under his head and set it up as a pillar and poured oil on top of it." (Genesis 28:18)

At the beginning of the possession of the promised land, God did a great work for the people when he held back the waters of the Jordan for them to cross, as he had done at the Red Sea. "When the whole nation had finished crossing the Jordan, the Lord said to Joshua, 'Choose twelve men from among the people, one from each tribe, and tell them to take up twelve stones from the middle of the Jordan, from right where the priests are standing...to serve as a sign among you. In the future, when your children ask you, "What do these stones mean?" tell them that the flow of the Jordan was cut off before the ark of the covenant of the Lord." (Joshua 4:1-7)

Samuel also set up a stone. During his lifetime there was perpetual war with the Philistines. After one particular victory, at Mizpah, when the Philistines were utterly routed, "Samuel took a stone and set it up between Mizpah and Shen. He named it Ebenezer, saying, "Thus far the Lord has helped us." (1 Samuel 7:11)

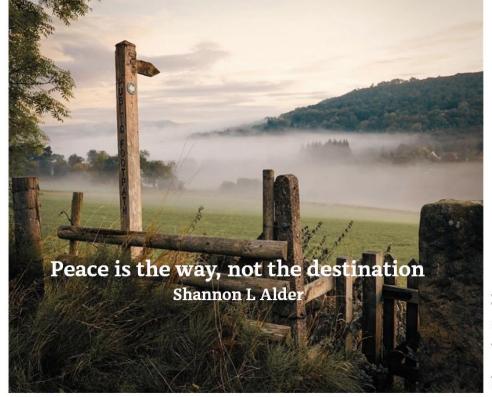
Ancient crosses and the ruins of abbey buildings can also be seen as memorial stones. They remind us of the nation's rich Christian heritage.

Has God done something great for or in you? Try setting up your own memorial stone. Find a stone and place it in your house or garden so that when you see the stone it will remind you of what God has done. Size is not important. Who knows? Over time you might end up with a cairn.

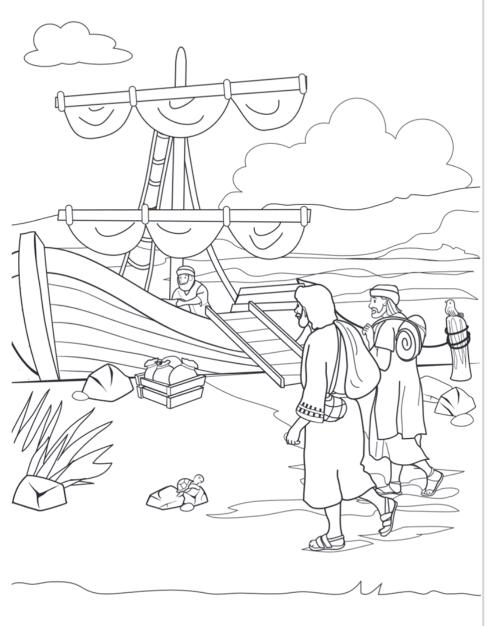
Or you might want to keep or carry a stone as a reminder that God is faithful and keeps his promises.

MEMORY STONES





Paul and Barnabas set off on their journey



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PAUL'S FIRST MISSIONARY JOURNEY, a mad lib

At first, Paul didn't believe in Jesus, but after a bri	ght light blinded his and		
	(body part)		
Jesus spoke to him from	_, he became a Christian.		
(a place)			
God had a job for him – to go tell all of the	the good news about Jesus!		
(so	mething alive, plural)		
Paul and his friend Barnabas first sailed to	where they met a		
(a pla	ce)		
who tried to stop the	from believing in Jesus, so Paul		
(an occupation) (al	other occupation)		
told him that his would be blind for awhile. And it happened!			
(a body part)			
In, Paul went to the	to teach about Jesus.		
(a city)	(a building)		
At first many of the people were	to hear the good news, but others weren't and		
(an emotion)			
they Paul and Barnabas a			
(verb, past tense, something you can do to someone else			
In the city of, Paul and E	arnabas healed a man's		
(a city)	(body part, plural)		
Then some of the people in the city thought that the	ey were and wanted		
	(noun, plural)		
to sacrifice to them, butl Paul	made them stop.		
(animal, plural)			
Then some Jews from the o	ther cities came and convinced the crowd to throw		
(adjective)			
at Paul to try to kill him, but he	got up and back into the city.		
(noun, plural)	(action verb, past tense)		
After that, Paul and Barnabas returned to many of	the that they'd already visited,		
	(noun, plural)		
reminding the people to keep their	·		
(noun)			
Then they back to the ci	y where they'd started and told the people there		
(verb, past tense)			
about all of the wonderful things God had done through them.			
	odgir tricin.		

Use the clues to fill in the story. You can read about it in Acts 13 & 14

towns, faith, went.

glad, persecuted, leave, Lystra, feet, gods, bulls, angry, stones, went,

After every war someone's got to tidy up. Things won't pick themselves up, after all.

Someone's got to shove the rubble to the roadsides so the carts loaded with corpses can get by.

Someone's got to trudge through sludge and ashes, through the sofa springs, the shards of glass, the bloody rags.

Someone's got to lug the post to prop the wall, someone's got to glaze the window, set the door in it's frame.

No sound bites, no photo opportunities and it takes years.
All the cameras have gone to other wars.

The bridges need to be rebuilt, the railroad stations too. Shirt sleeves will be rolled to shreds. Someone, broom in hand, still remembers how it was.
Someone else listens, nodding his unshattered head.
But others are bound to be bustling nearby who'll find all that a little boring.

From time to time someone still must dig up a rusted argument from underneath a bush and haul it off to the dump.

Those who knew
what this was all about
must make way for those
who know little.
And less than that.
And at last nothing less
than nothing.

Someone's got to lie there in the grass that covers up the causes and effects with a cornstalk in his teeth, gawking at clouds.

© Wislawa Szymborska translated from the Polish by Stanislaw Barankzak & Clare Cavanagh



As minister of the benefice of Clarksfield and Waterhead, Paul Monk will be a hard act to follow. Unlike previous incumbents, Paul had to serve not just the churches of St Barnabas, Clarksfield and Holy Trinity, Waterhead, but others besides, i.e. St John, Hey, St Thomas, Moorside, and St Mark, Glodwick. In the case of Waterhead, all this involved not simply the customary duties of a priest (leading regular church services, officiating at special services (baptisms, weddings and funerals) and providing pastoral care for parishioners, i.e. emotional, social and spiritual support) but, in addition,

managing finances, raising funds for various projects, attending to the maintenance and improvement of the buildings, visiting local schools and, in the case of St Barnabas', creating the food

co-operative and the Thrive! groups for the church and local communities and supplying them, thanks to his fund-raising skills, with a dedicated community worker. In the case of the other churches, Paul was on hand to provide advice and cover for baptisms, weddings and funerals, while at St Mark's he was responsible for disposing of its assets following its closure.

Paul Monk came to the church with a background in physical chemistry. A published author of scientific textbooks, which he either wrote himself or co-authored, he had also been a teacher and college lecturer, notably at Manchester Metropolitan University. He also had experience of several different types of churchmanship, including Methodism. From arriving at Holy Trinity and St Barnabas in 2009 as team vicar, he ultimately found himself as the only Anglican minister in the east of Oldham, due to changes in the way regions are administered and the loss of stipendiary ministers generally.

Paul performed all the duties of his role with kindness and affirmation, not to mention his cheesy sense of humour. It is to be doubted whether when Paul started on his Oldham adventure that he expected to be woken up at 2:00 in the morning with someone demanding food. 'Living over the shop' has presented challenges for him and the family but they have served the church and community graciously through all the difficulties, including Brexit (which negatively affected congregation numbers) and the pandemic.

It is said that if you don't make a hole when you go, you won't make a dent where you're going. On that basis, we can expect to see a huge crater appearing in Ashton very shortly!

John Booth with Sarah W

Church members say:

"Paul was a very knowledgeable person, and I will miss his advice and expertise."

"He's a businessman. Don't get me wrong, it's what the church needs."

"The needs of the poor were always very close to Paul's heart – hence his great contribution to the needs of the local community."

"He's kind." "He's been a good friend."

"He was there for me in a dark time."

"We need someone just like Paul."

"I can't imagine the church without him."

"Paul is the reason I come to this church."



New Address:
The Rectory,

2a Hutton Avenue, Cockbrook, Ashton under Lyne, OL6 6YQ

Mobile: (07854) 776 410 (as before) Email: vicar.of.ashton@gmail.com

From the Parish Registers

Funerals

Wednesday 9 October: Christine Liley, at St Thomas' Church, Moorside

Holy Baptism

Sunday 20 October: Isabel Lucy Schofield, Charlie James Schofield and Poppy Anne Schofield

All at Holy Trinity, Waterhead

FROM THE HOLY TRINITY MEMORIAL BOOK

- 4 Florence Dean died 1999 aged 86. Treasured Mum, Grandma and Great-Grandma.
- Norah Illing dearly loved Wife, Mother and Friend died this day 1993 aged 72. 'Resting where no shadows fall.'
- 6 **Harriette Heywood Waddington** died this day 1942. Known as Daisy to family and friends. A constant worshipper and a beloved friend. **Rebecca Sarah Robinson** died 1969. 'In Heavenly Love Abiding.'
- Freda Barnes died this day 2010 aged 71. Passed away overseas. Greatly loved. Reunited with Trevor.
- 9 **Frank Robinson** died this day 1958 aged 66 years. 'A loving Husband and Father.'
 - Louisa Mary Hudson died this day 1995. 'In Heavenly Love Abiding.'
- 11 **Stuart Stephen Bolton** died 1994 aged 18 years. 'Remembered always with love.'
 - **Albert Allen** A dear husband and father. Birthday Memories 1923-1978. 'Lest We Forget.'
- Harry Buckley died this day 1947. True was his heart, his actions kind, His loving memory left behind.
 Austin John Cox died 1990. 'His life a Beautiful Memory, His Absence
 - a Silent Grief.'
- Hilda Harris died this day 2008 aged 82. 'Treasured memories of a loving Mum, Grandma and Great-Grandma.'
- Helen Chadderton Feber died 1996 aged 95 years. 'A deeply caring friend and an inspiration to all.'
- Fred Broadbent died 1986 aged 88 years. 'Dearly loved. He lives in our hearts and minds.'
- Loving memories of **John Fielding Baron** who died in 1985 aged 73 years.
- 25 Fred Wolfenden died this day 1972.
- 28 Sarah Fletcher died 1942. Always remembered.
- Barbara Battersby died 1957 aged 3 yrs. 9m. A treasured little daughter and sister. Remembered with love.
- 30 **Frank Albert Horrocks** died this day 1988. Loved and Remembered Always.





EVIDENCE

As cities are populated by cosmopolitan peoples, so it is with the wild plants. On a glorious October morning, when walking in Manchester, I came almost to the Rochdale canal, where lies a small patch of spare ground shaded by mature trees. I always wonder about the wildlife supported by such pockets of urban greenery. Spilling onto the pavement were some plants of black nightshade. This is related to tomato but the berries are poisonous. A track paved with stone setts leads to the canal and here I almost stepped on a sturdy bright green hawk-moth caterpillar as it undulated

across the path on its way to pupate. It does strike one as wonderful that this vulnerable creature, having left the tree where it has been feeding on the leaves, will bury itself in the soil and then spin a protective cocoon, waiting until the spring to emerge as a beautiful nightflying moth.



Here the old brick railway arches have been considerably brightened by large-scale spray-can graffiti and a small garden has been started with timber edged raised beds containing culinary herbs. All plants tell a story and a survey of the weeds revealed a few stories here. In no particular order: Oxford ragwort, sent from southern Italy to the Oxford Botanic Garden for assessment as a possible garden plant. From Oxford the seeds were dispersed along the earliest railway lines. Buddleja bushes from China and yes, one butterfly, a



speckled wood. Another escapee, *galinsoga*, a Latin American food plant, was brought centuries ago from Peru to Kew Gardens. Modest and unprepossessing, it was named after a Spanish botanist called Ignacio Mariano Martinez de Galinsogia. The common name of the plant is gallant soldier. From north America have arrived Michaelmas daisies and Canadian fleabane.



Along the canal, among a rich flora, Mexican daisies, a garden designers' favourite, shone brightly in the autumn light and plump brown toadstools looked as if they could provide a good meal if edible. On returning home I watched an online lecture from Ohio on the subject 'Moulds Mushrooms and

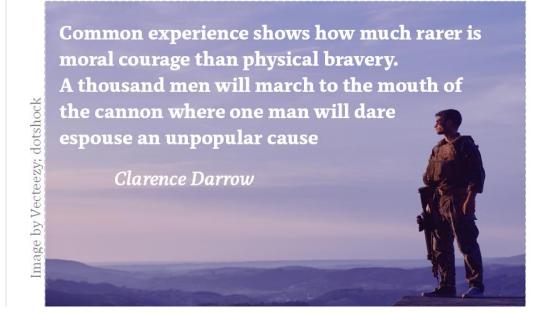
Medicines, our lifelong relationship with fungi'. At the end someone asked the speaker, Professor Nicholas Money, to name his favourite

fungus. He replied that he admired the artillery fungus, common near to his home. The small cup-like body of the fungus, when sufficiently charged with moisture, fires out a spore-filled capsule so highly adhesive that it is very difficult to remove from any surface upon which it lands, car



bodywork for example. One of Professor Money's listeners had once remarked that such ingenuity could not possibly have been arrived at by evolution.

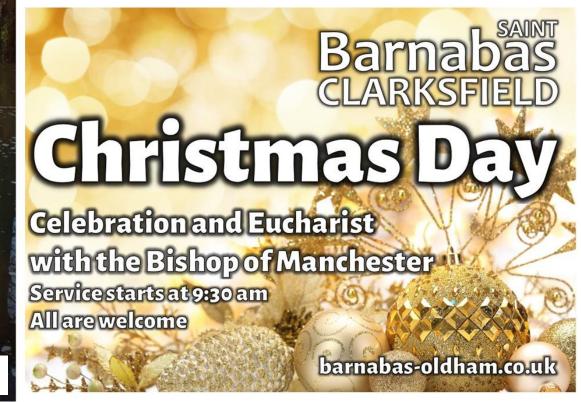
Geoff Lees



Song of the Month 1. My times are in Your hands I trust in You Your love will never fail I trust in You Even though the mountains fall into the sea I trust in You Even if the stars should fall And all the world is shaken 2. When I can't see the way I trust in You I believe the things You say I trust in You Even when I'm sinking down beneath the waves I trust in You I know that You will lift me up And put my feet on solid ground R: Every day, You're faithful New mercy from above Like a tree in Your temple I'm surrounded by the strong walls Of Your love John de Jong

Listen here: https://youtu.be/S8XImW FgGI

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SERVICE
Tuesday 24 December at 4:00pm
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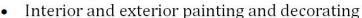
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