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**Items for inclusion in
the October 2011 issue
are to be submitted by:-
Friday 9th September
2011**

Welcome.....

The summer is over and our thoughts turn to autumn - the new school term, harvest festival and Back to Church Sunday.



There are details on page 8 of all that is going on in our churches on that day. Why not take the opportunity to invite someone along?

There are some more dates for your diary in the autumn calendar on page 12. There is something for everyone between now and Christmas so please be part of what is going on and support these events.

Also in this edition, both Canon Rob and Rev John reflect on the recent rioting in Birmingham and other parts of the country; Mary Williamson shares her favourite Bible passage and Thelma Mitchell is our Parish Person.

Please get in touch if you would like to share your favourite Bible passage or be interviewed for Parish People - I'm sure you have a good story to tell.

Alan Haynes, Editor.

From The Rector

Has anything changed ?



In the week after the riots, I joined a brief public prayer vigil in Handsworth with friends old and new. Many of the lay people had of course been through the 1985 disturbances, but I was the only church leader present who was also there in that earlier awful time. Many asked, "Is this just back to square one? Has anything changed at all over the last 25 years?"

"Yes, utterly" was my firm answer. In 1985, we barely knew our Church of England neighbours, never mind the other mainstream churches, the growing number of majority Black and Asian ones or the even greater number of Sikh, Hindu and Muslim people of good will and integrity. It took years to grow common trust and understanding between us all, but there, in response to public evil, in the siren-filled daylight of Soho Road, we were all truly gathered as one. The change is huge, as we have seen in the inspiring dignity of bereaved Muslim families, the support of their Christian and Sikh neighbours, the bravery of Sanga TV and the generous determination of all ages, cultures and faiths to work together for the common good.

The next day, I met two of our local police officers outside Spar on The Green. They looked exhausted after days of 12 hour shifts, often with overtime on top - and all leave, days off and training cancelled. They had two concerns. One was to find assurance that the wider community knew that they were doing their best. That was easy to give. The other was to affirm how much they cared for Kings Norton as a special place with a special community. That was obvious - and easy to accept with thanks.

It was only as I walked away that I registered that these two exemplary officers, so committed to the peace and growth of our communities, were a young Muslim woman and an older Sikh man.

How much has changed!

Twenty five years ago, neither of these two stories would have been possible. There were very few bridges built between the different people of Handsworth. There were very few non-white police officers anywhere and even fewer able to

however, about a refusal to duck away from the search for understanding; a search that, if it is honest and open, may unveil some painful truths about our city and ourselves. Only through facing those truths can healing and transformation come.

I hope that nobody misunderstands the point that I've been trying to make. Just to make it very clear - I have no hesitation in condemning the criminal and violent actions carried out by the rioters in London, Birmingham and elsewhere. But the condemnation of evil is the easy bit. The hard part is bringing change to a society and a culture

from which such actions have sprung. As Jesus said, "God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him." (John 3.17). We cannot hope to share in that work of bringing salvation and healing to a broken world and its people, unless we are ready to take the time and the trouble to seek the fullest possible understanding of our society; of who we are, of how we have come to this point, and of where, by God's grace, we may go from here.

Rev John White

A prayer for peace in our communities

Gracious God,
We pray for peace in our communities this day.
We commit to you all who work for peace and an end to tensions
And those who work to uphold law and justice.
We pray for an end to fear,
For comfort and support to those who suffer,
For calm in our streets and cities,
That people may go about their lives in safety and peace.
In your mercy, hear our prayers,



Source: churchofengland.org

Rev John Reflecting and Reviewing



As you see, I've made a change to the title of my column this month. There is a time and a place for ranting and raving; but, writing at the end of what has been Birmingham's most traumatic week for several years, now is not that time. The terrible scenes of violence and looting that have been seen on our streets during August demand a more measured response, regardless of how strongly or passionately we may feel.

A number of years ago, the then Prime Minister John Major said, in relation to similar issues of deprivation and criminality, "*Society needs to condemn a little more and understand a little less.*" It was, I felt at the time, an uncharacteristic remark from a usually decent and thoughtful man. Sadly, however, it expresses an assumption that is very widely shared: that trying to understand the social context and factors that contribute to crime is the same thing as excusing or condoning the individuals who act wrongly. Far from it. There is, as another politician said so often, no contradiction between being tough on crime and tough on the causes of crime.

It may be that John Major was reacting to the frequent misuse of another famous saying. '*Tout comprendre, c'est tout pardonner*', usually translated as 'to understand everything is to forgive everything'. There is a misunderstanding here of the nature of forgiveness. Forgiving is not the same as condoning or excusing or explaining away. To say 'I forgive you' is very different from saying 'It was all right' or 'It didn't matter'. Wrongs are still wrongs; hurts are still hurts. What forgiveness makes possible is a release from the cycle of bitterness and recrimination, and the forging instead of new relationships and new beginnings.

I hope and pray that by the time you read this article there will have been no recurrence of the looting and rioting of early August. I further hope and pray that all sections of our society will be bold enough to ask serious questions about why those events took place when and where they did. That is not a matter of trying to excuse the inexcusable, or defend the indefensible; it is right that those who inflicted harm and fear upon so many in our city and our country should be brought to account for their actions. It is,

take Kings Norton and its people to their heart. Thank God there now are – but only by the faithful hard work and generosity of so many over so many years here, in Handsworth and throughout our city. It didn't and couldn't happen overnight.

What a contrast to the instant slogan politics and blame-gaming of too many leaders; their point-scoring over past records; their empty rhetoric and gesture; their treatment of disorder as an illness to be stamped out rather than a deep-seated condition of human living in which all can make a slow but vital difference – but only with patience, wisdom and long determination.

At 8am Holy Communion on the Sunday after the riots, the epistle reading was Romans 8.12-17; the Gospel Matthew 7.15-21. Both are about growth – of us as children growing through the inner working of the Holy Spirit into confident mature faith and of trees secretly growing to bear good fruit.

Growth in both passages has obvious outward signs in really grown-up people and in healthy trees laden with produce. But the key to both is what we cannot so easily see. The changes of heart, mind and spirit essential for

loving maturity; the processes of genetics, germination, feeding, pruning and growing through which groaning food-filled branches grow from tiny seeds.

We know this. The political discussion doesn't.

And that, believe it or not, is where prayer, yours and mine, comes in! I do not only mean the necessary faithful prayer for others generously offered in Handsworth, here and in so many other places. That is something we all can and must give.

I mean the place of prayer as God's gift to us; times of quiet and reflection in which God's seeds of mature love and hope can root and grow in us, secretly working to produce God's promised fruit.

It's a long, largely unseen process. It doesn't make headlines. It often feels a bit pointless and indulgent. It doesn't hit performance targets – and if that's all we did, the world would grind to a halt. But without it, we end up with the same panicky instant reactions we see in those who should know better.

Unless we give time to let our own inner growing happen, in crisis or out of it, we spurn God's gifts of the

promised Christian virtues of faith, steadfastness, integrity, hope, inclusion and generosity which alone bear the cross, cast out fear and evil and grow God's real peace.

Christian morality is not a checklist of right and wrong. It is about nurturing those virtues in church and throughout society, in young and old alike. And they need time to grow. As with the growth of trees from seeds into fruit-bearing, it cannot happen if we do not give time and attention, however pointless that can sometimes feel. It isn't.

"You did not choose me; I chose you – to endure and to bear fruit that will last," (John 15. 16). This verse is not just for clergy. It is a promise for all of us who are part of the church in any way. I saw it in Handsworth. I see it in the mature response of so many here.

Pray with me that it is true for all.

As we often sing:

"I will weep when you are weeping;
when you laugh I'll laugh with you;
I will share your joy and sorrow
till we've seen this journey through."

*From "Brother, Sister, let me serve
you" (CGI 6) by Richard Gillard*

It has to be a long haul, but in God's grace we will see this journey through. Lasting fruit will come!

Canon Rob Morris

Michael J Gill

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What are your hobbies and interests? I always wanted to travel from childhood, when north Wales was a foreign country to us! I do like meeting people, working with them, talking to them and sharing with them. I have been blessed more recently in studying in India on and off for a year and working for 3 months in Indonesia and visiting lots of places in between. I also love reading, music, cooking and we used to do a lot of walking.

What is your favourite holiday place? When in Indonesia I was based in Medan, Sumatera, a city only someone born there could love. But we did escape occasionally for the day to Lake Toba, a defunct volcano which, when it exploded 17,000 years ago, rocked the entire world and changed its geography significantly. As you climb out of the noise, fumes and pollution of Medan, the air clears and becomes cooler and the quiet, serene lake emerges amidst lush, rampant flowers. It hides many secrets. The land in the middle has Easter Island-type statues and other religious remains. I'd love to go back. Otherwise, almost anywhere in Italy and Morecambe Bay.

If you went on Desert Island Discs what would be your

luxury and book? With this Saxon colouring, it would have to be loads of moisturising cream and a hat and an endless supply of Mentholatum for my lips! Am I allowed an iPad? I'd love one! As to books - either it would have to be a huge compendium - I read Bleak House in India - or lots of books which just happened to wash up with me. I've read four 'un-put-downables' recently including The Secret Life of Bees and Nella Last's War, but I do have fairly eclectic taste so I'll read whatever is washed up. Mind, I've got to have my reading glasses with me! May be I should ask for a Kindle for my luxury? And I'll need music, from Abba to get the party going to Allegri's Miserere, his setting of Psalm 50 to remind me of heaven and many, many others!

What are your hopes for the church at Kings Norton? Apart from a toilet?! And kitchen! I'd love to see a development of mission awareness and continued work with young people who are so worth the effort. Not to mention we need their energy and dynamism! Spiritually, to build on the present and the past, continuing to be a light to lighten the local community, a strong shoulder for those who grieve and suffer and to continue to be proclaimers of the gospel to all.



Anona, completed the first team of 9 lawyers at the new commission for the review of criminal cases at Alpha Tower in Birmingham in 1997. She bought a house in Cotteridge and spotted the one we now live in up for sale. We had lived in Kendal for 35 years where we had a pharmacy. We sold up and bought a house in Italy, in the mountains south east of Rome where we still live and work for six months of the year. Looking for a base in England, we wondered if we could ever leave Morecambe Bay. Anona and I were sitting in Birmingham Cathedral in September 2005, the flower arrangers were working on the harvest displays so there was a glorious scent of sweet vegetation. A low autumn sun was shining through the glorious Burne-Jones ruby red windows and as I prayed I knew we were meant to live in Birmingham. A visit to the Farmers' Market and we found St. Nicolas!
I have been very, very happy with both of these decisions!

Why is your Christian faith important to you?

The great German protestant theologian, Karl Barth, wrote hundreds of dialogues. Very few have read them all! When asked if he could sum up his Christian faith, he replied; 'Jesus loves me this I know, for the Bible tells me so.' I was brought up worshipping in a Baptist Church. The Sunday School took no

prisoners! Not for us fluffy stories - we read, explored, learned, recited - competitively - and discussed the Bible and even took Sunday School exams on its contents! I was steeped in terms such as salvation, ransom, redemption, restoration, forgiveness, purchase of blood, Passover Lamb, Lamb's Book of Life - and your name had better be in it! Help to remember was given - atonement, at one with God; justification, just as if I'd never sinned; grace, God's riches at Christ's expense - no wonder I became a bit of a theologian! I lapped it up and their gift was a joy of our Christian heritage in scripture, divining background, purpose and meaning and, most of all, applying its guidance and application to my life and how I should interact with the world as a Christian.

I am profoundly grateful to those women and men who instructed and nurtured me. In fact, I met my first Sunday School teacher recently after 45 years and it was wonderful to see her again! However, Neville and I were confirmed members of the Anglican church in 1980 at St. Thomas's church, Kendal and it was like coming home! For me, the Anglican community is my spiritual home which I love and where my heart is, the liturgy, the fellowship and the knowledge that I am a part of this world wide body of vastly diverse people.



Saint Nicolas Place

We've had a very interesting summer – and it is not yet over! New developments include the Fibre Flurry Yarn Shop, change in upstairs offices, clearing the barn ready for use as a workshop and training area and, thanks to Wates the builders, a brilliant community day of repainting, replacement, repair and sorting of precious archives and of stuff no longer needed.

After Kings Norton Festival we also took the Café and other catering in-house, staffed by enthusiastic trained local young people. We now have a very warm welcome and a simpler quality menu – with new items being added week by week. Come, taste and see.

During the autumn, we shall be bringing in our new Interpretation Plan – with new information displays, inter-active models, new opportunity to meet several characters from Kings Norton's past – and guess the voices they use! And we are planning new activities for all ages and new external signage.

In December, Saint Nicolas Place with St Nicolas Church will, of course, be celebrating the life and example of the lovely saint after whom we're named. December 3rd and 4th will see much happening in both to celebrate the whole community life of Kings Norton and to make renewal of our historic common commitment to its growth.

When we won BBC Restoration in 2004, there was no doubting the commitment and pride of the whole community. Without that, we would not have made it. I'm conscious that the strenuous tasks of completing the Restoration and then ensuring that the buildings were lively and sustainable have taken their toll of some of that common feeling. I believe that this autumn it will be restored. Please wish us well, look out for details and above all, find your part in all that we do together. More hard work – but growing excitement too!

Canon Rob Morris



Back to Church Sunday 25th September

How often have we thought:

“Must invite friends and family to church one day”

“That baptism, wedding or funeral meant so much to me. Must visit again sometime”

“I’ve been meaning for ages to drop in one Sunday”

On 25th September, all those good intentions can happen.

It is Back to Church Sunday – when churches across the country are inviting all who care about them to be part of our worship, prayer and hospitality.

At St Nicolas it will be Harvest Festival with a special welcome for all at 8am, at 10.30am Parade and at 6pm.

Hawkesley’s Harvest Festival with school and community is at 10.30am – with visit to the new Community Hub.

Immanuel have a special Guest Service for community and friends at 10.30am with the Baptism of baby Faith Love.

In each church, we shall have details of our autumn programme and, of course, our usual welcome and hospitality.

Do come Back to Church on 25th September
And if you are a “regular”, can you bring someone with you!

'Parish People' *People from all walks of Parish Life.*

Lancashire Lass, Thelma Mitchell



What is your name? Thelma Mitchell. I've always felt it a loss not to have a middle name and used to invent different ones for myself at school!

Where were you born? I was born in Bootle, an independent Lancashire borough on the Mersey though surrounded by Merseyside. So I've always been proud of being a Lancashire lass - not a Liverpudlian!

What is your occupation? I started out as a laboratory technician but I always wanted to be a teacher. When the children were a bit older, in the late 1980's, I was 'teaching' at their school, The Queen Katherine Comprehensive in Kendal (named after Katherine Parr who is supposed to have been born in Kendal Castle, though historian and Kendalian David Starkey says this is rubbish!).

I went to Lancaster University to study Religious Studies with some English Literature and Sociology on the side! I managed a creditable BA Hons, despite spending most of my time in the chaplaincy, then did a



PGCE at nearby St. Martin's. After 4 years I returned to teach RE at QKS! (Hands off RE and RS in schools! It's a vital subject for all sorts of reasons, but particularly if we are ever to understand and get on with our neighbours. Back off my soap box...) I then taught A level Religious Studies at Barrow in Furness Sixth Form College for 15 years before moving to Kings Norton. The college had an active Christian chaplaincy - unusual in a school without a religious foundation. I returned to LU to do a Masters in Religion and Ethics part time and my final dissertation was based around research into school chaplaincies.

Why Kings Norton? Again, sorry, no short answer! Our daughter,

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Harvest, an African Supper, a drumming concert, Malawi - all on Saturday September 24th 2011 in St Nicolas Church.

The Drumming concert will be at 6.00 pm for ¾ hour, featuring the wonderful group "Drum Voice" who came last year. They are fun – but not artificially amplified – so at a volume for all to enjoy.

Next comes supper at 7.00 pm – a menu inspired by the crops and herds of Africa, though the vegetables may well have been grown very much closer to home than Africa. Nothing will be highly spiced, there will be vegetarian options and all food will be nut-free. Eating seasonally will be our theme.

There will be lifts home if you need one: but please let us know before the evening if possible.

Next will be opportunity to look at the diocesan DVD presentation about Malawi, look at the displays and try your hand at a quiz!

For that last reason, I'm not going to tell you much about Malawi – apart from the fact that the Diocese of Birmingham has a had a link with Malawi for many years now, helping in areas of education, health care, agriculture and direct church support. We have supported this link financially as a parish for some years now, and in former years too.

I'll leave you with one item of "food for thought": It costs the equivalent of selling 90kg of rice to send one child to secondary school for a year in Malawi. That's a lot of rice. Try piling up 1kg bags of rice or flour at home to get an idea...



Sylvia Fox

Mission Focus: USPG



St Nicolas Congregations support the work of the USPG by contributing £1000 per year

The USPG or The United Society for the Propagation of the Gospel is a major Anglican mission agency focused on sustaining relationships between churches and supporting Anglican Churches in over 50 countries in growing the church's capacity for mission, particularly through leadership development and health work.

It funds programmes in 12 provinces of Africa and Asia and also relates to many others including those in Latin America and the Caribbean. Each piece of work is partner-led, i.e. nominated by the diocese concerned as to what they believe God is calling them to do in mission. Unlike other programmes based on self-selected projects or very specific links, our scheme is part of a global pattern of support so that none of our communion-wide partners is neglected. Grants are provided on a long-term basis so that churches have a secure financial base from which to plan for the future.

Projects fall into one of several categories:

Healthcare For All

Save lives by supporting hospitals, medical personnel and healthcare programmes.

Training Leaders

Support training initiatives that enable church leaders to inspire communities.

Building Communities

Help churches and communities to work together and support each other.

Caring for Young Lives

Create a better future for children by supporting schools and youth programmes.

Action on HIV

Help churches reach out to people who are infected or affected by HIV/AIDS.



SAINT NICOLAS PLACE
KINGS NORTON BIRMINGHAM

Saturday 10th September 10:30am - 3:00pm Heritage Open Days

'Gotta Go Back To School'

Get to grips with a quill & ink in an old fashioned school room and fear the wrath of the Schoolmaster!

Saturday 29th October 6:30pm (Ticketed event)

'Historic Halloween'

Fancy dress with a historic twist! Come along dressed as your favourite historical character! Learn the traditions of Halloween's past and listen to grizzly tales of Kings Norton Gruesome and Notorious!

Kings Norton Farmers Market

The Green Kings Norton Birmingham
2nd Saturday each Month

Get
FRESH

Next Market is 10th
September 2011
9.00 a.m. to 2.00 p.m.



We are all invited to Messy Church on Farmers' Market Saturdays from 10am to 12 noon in St Nicolas Church.

The next one will be on Saturday 10th September. These are craft sessions on a Biblical theme for all ages - a great opportunity to have fun and get to know each other. We look forward to seeing you there!

KINGS NORTON FARMERS' MARKET

Kings Norton Farmers' Market was re-established in 2005 and we meet on The Green, Kings Norton on the 2nd Saturday of each month from 9am to 2pm.

The Market has proved to be a popular venue with shoppers and has won the FARMA (National Farmers' Market Association) Midlands Farmers' Market of the Year Award in 2007 and 2008 and was Regional Finalist for 2010.

There is an average of 30 stalls selling a wide range of produce varying from fresh vegetables, green grocery, bread, fresh and cooked meats, pastries, cakes, pies and eggs – all locally produced. Other vendors sell fish, home made soup, honey, plants, flowers and many other products combining to make a visit to the Market a unique shopping experience.



Our motto is "GET FRESH" because we believe in local fresh produce being made available to the general public directly from the producers.

We are a Community Interest Company and all profits generated by the Market are used

to support local community projects.

Please note that whilst parking is at a premium on The Green, there is free parking available in the car park of the Navigation Inn, in Wharf Road, a short walk from The Green.

For more information, please go to our website: www.kingsnortonfarmersmarket.co.uk or telephone Terry Bowen (0121 459 9383) or Rod Kent (0121 458 1887). Thank you.

Women's Fellowship

Our meeting is to be held at 7.30pm on Thursday 1st September in the North Hall of St.Nicolas Place.

The programme is a talk entitled 'What the Butler Saw' by one of our regular speakers – Patricia Boyd.

All welcome.

Alison Blumer, Chairman.

Kings Norton History Society

The Kings Norton History Society's 2011/2012 lecture programme will commence on Monday 26th September with a talk by Noel Hughes, Area Manager of Severn Trent Water, about where our water comes from with: "HIDDEN JEWEL - ELAN VALLEY RESERVOIR & AQUEDUCT".

Talks take place in the North Hall of Saint Nicolas Place. Doors open at 7.00 p.m. and the talks start at 7.30. Visitors are always welcome.

Claire Simpson, Chairman

For up to date Parish news, go to



www.kingsnorton.org.uk

Autumn 2011: Big Diary Dates

Saturday 10th September: Heritage Open Day

“Got to go back to school” 10.30 am - 3.00 pm.
Free family event day at Saint Nicolas Place. Get to grips with a quill in an old fashioned school room and maybe fear the wrath of the schoolmaster!



Saturday 24th Sept: Harvest Supper

at St Nicolas with a Malawian theme. 6.00 pm for “Drum Voice”, eat at 7.00 pm and then share the Diocese’s Malawi presentation. (Please see page 9 of this magazine for details.)

Sunday 25th Sept: Back to Church Sunday

Events at all three churches. (Please see page 8 of this magazine for details.)

Sunday 9th October, 10.30am at St Nicolas Church:

We host the annual national service of the Anglican Society for the Welfare of Animals.

Saturday 15th October:

We’re planning another lovely concert!

Saturdays Nov 5th & 19th & 26th:

Sweeping in St Nicolas Churchyard.

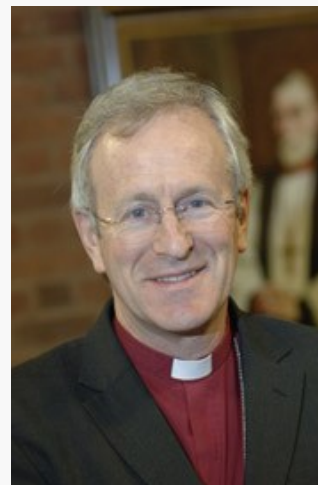
Leaf

Saturday 12th Nov: Craft Fair at Saint Nicolas Place.

We’re planning to arrange a **Film Night** - details to follow.

Sunday 14th Nov: Remembrance Services at 10.30am.

Thursday 17th Nov: Church Council meets,



years. As journalists and press magnates have shone the spotlight on a stream of institutions and power-brokers (Banks, Parliaments, Hospitals, Churches) now it is the Media’s turn to be found wanting in integrity.

At the heart of all these scandals and exposés is the failure of we human beings to treat each other as children of God, infinite in worth, in common need of dignity, kindness and compassion, and above all, of the reconciling good news of Jesus Christ. (Read 2 Corinthians 5:16-21).

I urge you to recommit yourself in your neighbourhood, in your business dealings and in your families to rebuild trust and to create connections that can take the saving love of Jesus Christ across the street and to the uttermost parts of the world.

+David Birmingham

Source: birmingham.anglican.uk

Prayer for the current financial situation

Lord God, we live in disturbing days:
across the world,
prices rise,
debts increase,
markets are in turmoil,
jobs are taken away
and fragile security is under threat.
Loving God, meet us in our fear and hear our prayer:
be a tower of strength amidst the shifting sands
and a light in the darkness;
help us receive your gift of peace
and fix our hearts where true joys are to be found,
in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Source: churchofengland.org

Bishop's Comment In God we Trust

These words are written on every coin minted in the USA and, even in a constitution that separates church and state, are part of everyday financial transactions in a country with a trillion dollar debt threat.

In the UK, where the bishop leads his peers in daily prayer in the Chamber before every sitting of the Upper House of Parliament, as the euro-zone comes under threat, starvation stalks the Horn of Africa and deprivation devastates neighbourhoods in our own region, it becomes clear that trust is of fundamental importance to the way we organise our society whether in the global village, throughout Europe or across the city-region of Birmingham.

The crisis in Greece is a symptom of a breakdown in trust between people. Those financing the country's debt stopped believing that it would ever be able to repay what it owed. This corporate nervousness sent interest rates sky-high and a crisis began. We see this disabling cycle hit countries, businesses and individual borrowing, with far-reaching consequences.

But a more fundamental breakdown is happening in the relationship between people and God. While coins declare trust in God, those with dollars or pounds in their pocket may rely only on inadequate selfish-sufficiency both to fight disaster and achieve happiness.

You may remember the rich farmer in Jesus' story, who works hard to grow huge amounts of produce. At the exact moment when he decides he has ample for his soul, God calls him from his earthly existence to a place where he cannot take his wealth (Luke 12). So we too rely on our material possessions to maintain our soul's well-being. In a breath-taking lack of trust in God's purposes we often abandon our responsibilities as stewards of His creation and live as those who own possessions merely for our personal pleasure and security. Our national commitment to targeted Aid and regular personal charitable giving is a step in the right direction but we must go deeper and meditate on why we allow obesity and famine to co-exist in our global village.

Breakdown in trust is also at the heart of the media storms that have engulfed the nation over the last few



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November 19th: Choral Concert at Birmingham Cathedral
with a specially commissioned work to celebrate the 400th Anniversary of the King James Bible.

November 26th: Hawkesley Christmas Fayre

December 3rd and 4th: St Nicolas Festival Weekend
"Celebrating God's gifts in our Church and Community"
Special events in Church and in Saint Nicolas Place on Saturday 3rd;
Parish Festival Service and Parish Lunch on Sunday 4th.

Saturday 17th December: "Carols and Candles on the Green"
6pm - 9pm. Join us for an evening of carol singing on the Green and a
Candlelit Christmas tour of Saint Nicolas Place. With fun activities and a

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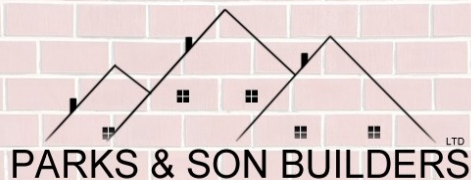
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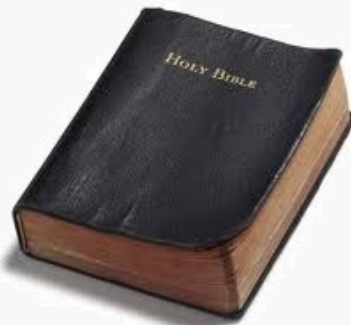
My Favourite Bible Story (John 14: 1-6)

“Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going.” Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.”

This has been a favourite passage of mine since I was a child at school and I read it for the very first time. There is such a confidence in the words that make me believe that this is so. The picture that these verses conjure up is so very comforting and when I was recently in hospital, these words gave me complete trust that all would be well and so I found myself strangely content. I also draw much comfort from Psalm 23 and often think of the words in the middle of the night when I can’t sleep, because I know that I can rely on God completely and can talk to him about anything. Many is the conversation I have with him in the depths of the night!

Written by Revd Jayne on behalf of Mary Williamson

What is your favourite Bible story? Why not help celebrate the 400th anniversary of the KJV Bible by writing it down and sending it to us so we can share it with our readers?



July 2011 Baptisms

“In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit”

3 rd July	Lily-Louise Anthony-Freeman
3 rd July	Quinnley Eoin Duddy
3 rd July	Ciaran Hugh James Ryan
3 rd July	Georgia Leigh Ryan
17 th July	Aidan Kristopher Dodd
17 th July	Harry James Keegan
17 th July	William Edward Walton
17 th July	Evan Dennis Thomas Williams
31 st July	Demi Alisha Drew McKiernan

July 2011 Marriages

“Those whom God has joined together”

2 nd July	Mark Anthony Clason and Karen Elizabeth Sharp
2 nd July	Kris Keith Jamie Green and Jessica Fallon
2 nd July	Matthew John Davis and Amanda Jayne Tabberer
16 th July	Frederick John Davies and Karen Ann Gambardella
16 th July	Leigh James Hickman and Julia Marshall
23 rd July	Christopher James Arnold and Veronica Roseann Poyser
23 rd July	Sean Brady and Paula Leigh Allon
30 th July	John Phillip Carter and Victoria Mary Richards
30 th July	David Robert Gallon and Katie Smith Hughes

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First, we are told that we shouldn't put up barriers, but to try and make up. Jesus encourages us to talk and listen to each other, even inviting others to help mend our relationships. Secondly, we are told to forgive each other not seven times but seventy times seven times! How many times have you been forgiven when you do something wrong, not only at home, but at school and by your friends? How many times has God forgiven you?

**We should love each other as we are loved,
which means
forgiving each other as we too have been forgiven.**

Forgive
Seventy
Seven
Barrier
Talk
Listen
Love
Mend
Jesus

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

CHILDREN'S PAGE... with Gail.

Hello everyone!



Together, let's take a look at Matthew 18:15-17 and 18:21-22.

Matthew 18:15-17

"If a fellow believer hurts you, go and tell him - work it out between the two of you. If he listens, you've made a friend. If he won't listen, take one or two others along so that the presence of witnesses will keep things honest, and try again. If he still won't listen, tell the church. If he won't listen to the church, you'll have to start over from scratch, confront him with the need for repentance, and offer again God's forgiving love."

Matthew 18:21-22

At that point Peter got up the nerve to ask, "Master, how many times do I forgive a brother or sister who hurts me? Seven?" Jesus replied, "Seven! Hardly! Try seventy times seven."
(Translation taken from The Message)

Sometimes when we have a disagreement with our families or friends, we stop talking to them and don't want to spend time with them anymore. We put up barriers between us, a bit like a fence or a wall. This stops us from making up with each other, which is such a shame, as before the fallout we got on so well and used to share lots of good times together.

Jesus knows that at times like this, we are sad about our broken relationships. Jesus loves us and doesn't want us to be sad, so in both these readings he is telling us how to deal with these broken relationships.

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July 2011 Funerals

"I am the resurrection and the life, saith the Lord"

- 8th July George Eagles, 87. Cremation at Lodge Hill.
- 13th July Susan Audrey Matthews, 63. Service in St Nicolas Church,
Cremation at Redditch.
- 14th July Stephen David Fendick, 55. Service at St Nicolas Church,
burial in Kings Norton Cemetery.
- 15th July Reginald James Whatmore, 78. Cremation at Lodge Hill.
- 15th July Harley Alan Neal, 5 Days. Service at St Nicolas Church,
burial in St Nicolas churchyard.
- 18th July Hector Norman Francis. Interment of ashes in St Nicolas
churchyard.
- 18th July Anne Connop, 72. Cremation at Lodge Hill.
- 21st July Leonard Lawrence, 76. Cremation at Lodge Hill.
- 22nd July Ronald Edwin Harris, 84. Cremation at Robin Hood.
- 24th July Marie Lillian Willis. Interment of ashes in St Nicolas
churchyard.
- 26th July Arthur Bowater, 82. Cremation at Lodge Hill.
- 27th July Joyce Alice Cox, 84. Service at St Nicolas Church,
burial in Kings Norton Cemetery.
- 28th July Roger Derek Horton, 66. Service in St Nicolas Church,
cremation at Lodge Hill.
- 29th July John Charles Morgan, 88. Service at St Nicolas Church,
burial in St Nicolas churchyard.

At Saint Nicolas Place

Women's Fellowship Seniors' Club (Over 65's)

7.30pm 1st Thursday; Secretary: Carol Devic
Every Wednesday 1pm – 3pm
Christine Bowen & Marlene Collyer

Guides and Brownies

Rainbows: Mondays 5.30 - 6.30 pm
Brownies (188th Birmingham): Tuesdays 6.00-7.30 pm
Brownies: Thursdays 6.30 - 8.00 pm
Guides (247th Birmingham): Mondays 7.15-9.00 pm

Guides and Brownies at Hawkesley Church Centre

Rainbows (1st Kings Norton): Mondays 5.30 pm
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Guides (141st Birmingham): Thursdays 7.00 pm

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Cubs (8-10½): 6.15-7.45 pm Karen Urwin 430 6005
Scouts (10½-15½): 8 pm Rob Keenahan 244 0789

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Staff Team Director: Abigail Roberts Bookings/Events: Andrew Driscoll
Heritage and Learning Officer: Matthew Knox

Kings Norton Parish Office

St Nicolas Place, 81 The Green, Kings Norton, Birmingham, B38 8RU. 0121 458 3289

e-mail:- parishoffice@kingsnorton.org.uk Open: 10 am - 1pm Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri

Parish website www.kingsnorton.org.uk

Please use Parish Office to contact clergy and lay officers, to place prayers and notices in
our weekly newsletter and monthly Events Diary – and for all churchyard enquiries.

Hawkesley Anglican Methodist Church Primary School

Shannon Road, Hawkesley, Kings Norton, B38 9TR 459 6467 Fax: 459 6468

School website: www.hawkesley.bham.sch.uk

KINGS NORTON TEAM PARISH

People, Places and Contacts

Please use our website www.kingsnorton.org.uk, ask at services or Open Church times or at Parish Office on 0121 458 3289 (Mon-Fri 10am – 1pm). The weekly newsletter and monthly events diary have the latest information. Churchyard enquiries to Parish Office

MINISTRY TEAM:

Canon Rob Morris (Team Rector)	458 3289/459 0560
The Revd Dr John White (Team Vicar)	458 3289/07854 412949
The Revd Jayne Crooks (Team Priest)	458 3289/459 3733
The Revd Donald Sampson (Methodist Minister)	458 3289/476 7223
Mrs Fay Fearon (Reader)	458 3289/451 1914
Mrs Ruth Howman (Reader)	458 3289

WARDENS

St. Nicolas Hawkesley	Paul Shelton, Anne Hughes 458 3289 Jim Clarke 550 3455/07939 838086 Elaine Cooper
Immanuel	Alan Haynes 459 4711

PCC (Church Council)	Secretary: Judy Ash Treasurer: Tracey Adams
Parish Administrators:	Judy Ash, Sylvia Fox, Christine Gadd
Christian Giving Officer	Jean Brownsword 458 3289
Churchyard Care Team	Richard Harper 458 3289
Bible Reading Fellowship	Julie Caley 458 3289
Flower Co-ordinator	Alison Blumer 486 2837
Organist and Music Director	Sylvia Fox 07778 449170

*Tuesday: Training and groups 6-9pm; Friday: Juniors 6.30-7.45 p.m.; Seniors/Adults 8-9pm.
Handbell Ringers Mondays 3-4.30 p.m - please phone first to check we are meeting if you are hoping to come along.*

Immanuel Music Group	Susan Haynes 459 4711
-----------------------------	-----------------------

Oasis/ Sunday School/

Immanuel	Nicky Moorcroft (Oasis leader)
St. Nicolas and Hawkesley	contact via Parish Office 458 3289

Parish Magazine: Editor	Alan Haynes 459 4711 editor@kingsnorton.org.uk
Treasurer (Subscriptions)	Alison Blumer 486 2837
Advertising Manager	Evelyn Finn via Parish Office 458 3289
Parish Website	David Ash e-mail webmaster@kingsnorton.org.uk

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The Church in the Parish

We are a Church of England Team Parish in partnership with the Methodist Church, serving all in Kings Norton through St Nicolas Parish Church and Hawkesley and Immanuel District Churches.

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To live out God's radical hospitality for all

To be equipped for work in God's world

St Nicolas Parish Church *on The Green B38 8RU*

Sunday 8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP)
10.30 am Holy Communion Oasis for 5-11's
2nd Sunday: 10.30am Parade Service - All Age Worship 11.45am Matins (BCP)
4pm Holy Baptism (*1st and 3rd Sundays*)
6 pm Evening Worship
Every Sunday evening we offer prayer, music and quiet for all to share in as you wish. Do come..
1st Sunday : Taizé Prayer 2nd Sunday: Holy Communion with Prayer for Healing
3rd Sunday : Night Prayer and reflection 4th/5th Suns: Special services/Evensong (BCP)

Mon, Wed, Thu 9am Morning Prayer

Thursday 11 am Holy Communion (BCP)

BCP is the Book of Common Prayer from 1662. Other services are a mix of ancient and modern words and music, mostly from the Common Worship Service Book 2000.

Hawkesley Church (Anglican/Methodist)

at Hawkesley School on the corner of Shannon Road and Old Partway, Kings Norton, B38 9TR

Sunday 10.30am Worship and Children's Activities (5-11's):

1st & 3rd Sundays – Holy Communion;

2nd & 4th Sundays – Morning Worship.

Tuesday 10am Hawkesley Coffee Morning (every two weeks)

Immanuel Church

at The Fairway Centre on the corner of Wychall Lane and The Fairway,, Kings Norton, B38 8XJ

Sunday 10.30am Worship - and Oasis for children of primary school age.

1st & 3rd Sundays – Holy Communion;

2nd Sunday – Morning Worship

4th Sunday – All Age Worship

Open Church

We open St Nicolas Church as much as we can so that all may share God's peace and promise in a space where they have been found and trusted for centuries. There is a place for you within its story. Please pray that more will know it as a safe place for prayer and healing, where sorrow and joy are held in God's love.

We welcome volunteers to share in our offering of welcome, refreshment and care through St Nicolas, Hawkesley and Immanuel, to steward St Nicolas in Open Church times and care for our churchyard, flowers and brasses. Do ask.

Open Church times

Do visit, pray, light a candle or share quiet conversation over coffee as you wish

Wednesday 10.00 am – 1.00 pm and 6.30 – 9pm (Candlelit Church)

Thursday 6.30 – 8pm for all Marriage and Baptism enquiries

Saturday 10.00 am – 12 noon for coffee, knit-and-natter, prayer

*with **Messy Church** for all ages every 2nd Saturday (Market Day)*

Candlelit Church

Every Wednesday, 6.30 – 9 pm with informal learning together at 8pm.

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Arrive at any time; stay for any length of time - as you wish.

Tiny Tots

Thursdays, 9.30 am (term time) in St Nicolas Church for 0-5's and parents/carers.

Growing in Faith

We are growing fresh ways for all to grow in faith – those making their very first step, those who have made many and those who are discovering God's love afresh after times of change. Please ask in each church for details.

Baptisms and Marriages

Please visit St Nicolas on Thursdays between 6.30pm and 8pm to ask any questions and arrange bookings with our clerks. One of the clergy is also present to help if there is a question over whether your service can be held in this parish.

Helping to keep our parish church open for all

It costs around £800 each week to keep St Nicolas open. We welcome all financial support through donations and especially through regular Planned Giving. Do ask for details and, if a taxpayer, please ask how you may Gift Aid your offering.