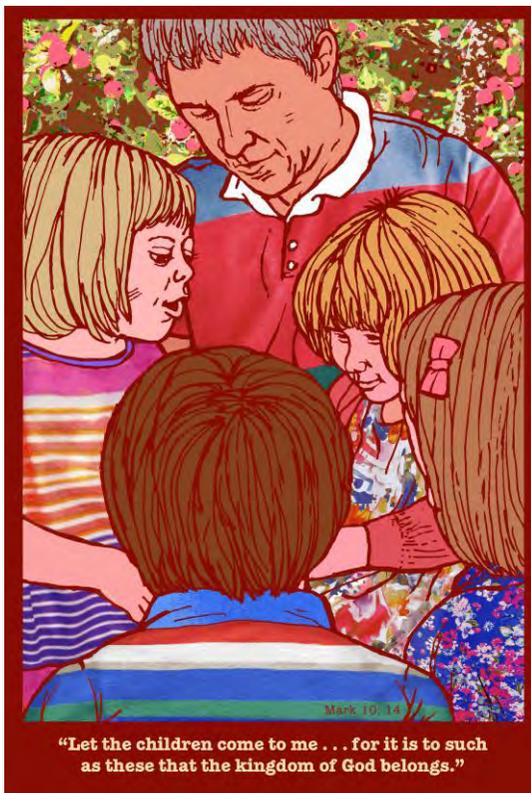




# Connected

## ***The Ryburn Benefice Magazine*** **October 2017**



**The Ryburn Benefice Churches:**  
**St Luke's Norland, St Mary's Cottonstones, St Peter's Sowerby**

# Church Contacts

**Name**

**Telephone**

**Email**

<b><u>Vicar</u></b>	Revd Jeanette Roberts	01422 646 371	revdjeanetteroberts@gmail.com
Retired Priest & Magazine Editor	Revd Lesley Ennis		lesleyennis@hotmail.co.uk
Associate Priest	Revd Ian Sparks	01422 884421	priest@luddendenchurch.org.uk

**St Mary's, Cottonstones**

Churchwardens	Jim Skelsey	01422822936	skelseyfamily@aol.com
	Miriam Asquith	01422 822534	miriam.asquith@hotmail.com
Verger	Contact Jim Skelsey		
Organist	Bill Ellis		

**St Mary's Community Centre**

Bookings	Jim Skelsey	01422822936	skelseyfamily@aol.com
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**St Luke's, Norland**

Churchwardens	Jen Hallos	01422 832700	jen@prospectplace.freeserve.co.uk
	Lynne Wheale	01422 823683	lynnewheale@hotmail.co.uk
Verger	Eleanor Mitchell	01422832560	
Organist	John Naylor	07977846285	john.r.naylor@live.com

**St Peter's Sowerby**

Churchwarden	Ken Cuttle	01422 836487	kencuttle@aol.com
Verger	Contact Ken Cuttle		
Organist	Richard Barnes	01422 346215	

**St Peter's Community Centre, Sowerby HX6 1HB**

Centre Manager	Fiona Butterworth	01422 836448	dfbutterworth@hotmail.com
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## Revd Ian writes .....

October is upon us and the colours of Autumn will soon be more and more evident as the garment of green gives way to glorious gold and rusty red. Then eventually the leaves will fall and trees will stand naked in the morning mist. This brings to my mind the words in a short but loaded song from the **1981 U2 album** of the same name, **October**:

<i>October and the trees are stripped bare Of all they wear. What do I care?</i>	<i>October and kingdoms rise And kingdoms fall But you go on And on.</i>
--	--

When asked in an interview in 1982 what the meaning of October was:

"*October is an image,*" said its writer Bono.

*"We've been through the '60s, we've been through a time where things were in full bloom. We had fridges and cars, and we sent people to the moon. Everybody thought how great mankind was. And now, as you go through the '70s and the '80s, it's a colder time of year; it's after the harvest, the trees are stripped bare and you can see things. We've finally realized, maybe we weren't so smart after all, now that there's millions of unemployed people, now that we've used the technology that we've been blessed with to build bombs for war machines. October is an ominous word."*

Now we are 35 years on and Bono and I are 57 years old and have lived through a lot of changes of season, but this October the issues facing the world, its needs and its faults, are essentially the same.

September has seen the catastrophic effects of natural disasters with hurricanes and earthquakes. People of faith believe that this is the world that God made. The forces of nature are His gift but they can be both beautiful and dangerous; awe-inspiring and frightening; wonderful but also fragile. It seems that we cannot have one without the other and so nature is sometimes our enemy and not our friend.

September has seen the rattling of sabres and testing of strength - or more accurately the rattling of ballistic missiles and testing of nuclear devices. Time has shown that kingdoms rise and fall. Fake kingdoms headed by democratically elected presidents and self-appointed dictators face each

other in a war of words we hope will not escalate into a war of the world. People of faith believe that this is the world that God made. The freedom of will inherent in human nature is His gift but it can be both beautiful and dangerous; awe-inspiring and frightening; wonderful but also fragile. It seems that we cannot have one without the other and so human nature is sometimes our enemy and not our friend.

God made the world and everything in it and declared it was good. Autumn is a hopeful season despite its place in the cycle of life. There is much beauty in the colours of this season and the morning mists and sunset sky. The story of 'the Fall', the turning away from a relationship with God by humanity, as told in the book of Genesis is the beginning not the end of the story. God does not leave us forever clutching fig leaves. God loves us too much to leave us where we are and in Jesus sends a Saviour to restore that relationship. We believe that God does not remain distant and unfeeling but comes close to share in the pain and the tragedy of all that hurts life on earth. We believe that God weeps with those who weep and suffers with those who suffer, and calls us to do the same. God calls us to rejoice with those who rejoice and work to bring in the true kingdom of justice, joy and peace. October may be a time when it's very easy to be sad and lament about the state of the world, but hold fast to the words of Lamentations 3:22-23

*The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases;*

*his mercies never come to an end;*

*they are new every morning;*

*great is your faithfulness.*

Remember that while the evil enemy prowls around and manifests itself in various forms, there are good people and friends doing amazing things in the world.

October is a simple song with a powerful meaning. Basically, seasons change, things happen and God goes on. May the message of hope in the midst of despair, love in place of violence, and faith through times of uncertainty, continue to capture the hearts of a whole new generation of listeners.

Grace and peace Ian

# Hello God....

## Love

(Mt 22: 34-40)

When we don't know what to do,  
when we don't know where to turn,  
how to deal with that situation,  
how to manage that difficult person,  
Jesus says,

LOVE, love, love.  
Receive my love.  
Know my reality in your heart,  
then reach out and love.  
Love God,  
love others,  
love yourself  
and everything will change.

Jesus says love will do it.  
Believe Him!

By Daphne Kitching

### ***The glass***

*To the optimist, the glass is half full. To the pessimist, the glass is half empty. To the engineer, the glass is twice as big as it needs to be.*

*In October the Church remembers St Luke, the physician...*

## **A Doctor's Day**

The receptionists are cheerful,  
Bid us welcome, sort us out,  
And we sit and wait and in due time  
Hope you can sort us out.

We try to give you details  
Of how we really feel  
And some are quite specific  
**While some we can't explain.**

You use your special knowledge  
And apply your special skills,  
Prescribe your medication  
**In the hope you'll cure our ills.**

And then we find that while some work,  
Others make us worse,  
As side-effects cause problems  
Quite different from the first!

But you keep on and sometimes win,  
And then you send us home  
With years to live, and thanks to give,  
To you and God alone.



*By Sam Doubtfire*

# The Regular Church Calendar

## Sunday

- 10.00am Holy Communion St Peter's  
In It Together Worship 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in the month
- 11.30am Holy Communion St Mary's ( 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays of the month only)
- 3.30pm Holy Communion St Luke's  
In It Together Worship 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in the month

## Monday

- 9.15am Morning Prayer St Luke's

## Tuesday

- 12 noon Lunch Club St Luke's, 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday in the month

## Wednesday

- 9.15am Morning Prayer St Mary's

## Thursday

- 9.15am Morning Prayer St Peter's
- 10.15am Holy Communion White Windows, 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday in the month
- 12 noon Lunch Club St Peter's Centre 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday in the month

## Saturday

- 9.30am Prayer Breakfast St Peter's, 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday in the month

Don't forget to look us up on the web:

[www.ryburnbenefice.org](http://www.ryburnbenefice.org)



SaintPeter's Church Sowerby

For details of Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals, Home Communion,  
Holy Unction, and Confession, please contact the Vicar:  
Revd Jeanette Roberts tel 01422 646 371  
revdjanetteroberts@gmail.com

## Particular events to note in October

Sun 1 <sup>st</sup>	Harvest Festival Service	3.30pm St Mary's
Wed 4th	Ladies Night	7-9pm St Peter's Centre
Sun 8 <sup>th</sup>	Harvest Festival Service	10am St Peter's
<b>Sun 15th</b>	<b>St Luke's Day Joint Service</b>	<b>3.30pm St Luke's</b>
Mon 16th	St Peter's Centre Committee	7.30pm St Peter's Centre
Mon 23rd	Sowerby Events Gp	7.30pm St Peter's Centre

### Quote of the month

*'It's a funny kind of month, October. For the really keen cricket fan it's when you discover that your wife left you in May'* Denis Norden

### Website

The website for the Ryburn Benefice is -

<http://ryburnbenefice.org>,

- from where you can access the websites for each of the three churches. Keep visiting over the coming months to stay connected with all that is happening in your local church community.

### Front Cover Picture Puzzle

*Editor : The September cover picture overlooked Hubberton.  
Congratulations to Leslie Wakeford for being the first to contact me.  
Having run out of photos there is something different on the cover for  
a change.*

## From the Registers ....

### At St Luke's Church:

Congratulations to  
Ivy Dorothy Wheale and  
Hannah Dorothy Evelyn Wheale  
whose baptism is on 1<sup>st</sup> October



### *Girlfriend*

When our minister and his wife visited our neighbour, her four-year-old daughter answered the door. "Mum!" she yelled toward the living room. "God's here, and he brought his girlfriend."

## Lesley's little greenhouse



My greenhouse is now in place, thanks to everyone's kind contribution towards my retirement gift, and Brian's skilful construction. I just thought you would like to see it! Thanks again .Lesley

# Autumn Fayre

Mytholmroyd Community Centre

**Saturday 21 October**

**1 – 4 pm**



**Grand Raffle, Craft Stalls,  
Bric-a-brac, Plants, Cakes,  
Gift Ideas, Games,  
Quality Good as New**  
*-for all the family*



- **Entertainment**
- **Refreshments**
- **Free admission & parking**

**Leonard  
Cheshire**

**100 Years  
of Inspiration**

*All proceeds in aid of White Windows Home in Sowerby Bridge*

***Weekly Groups at St Peter's Community Centre which is just across the road from St. Peter's Church. Formerly the village school, therefore the entrance is via the old school yard.....***

**Community Café**

Monday – 8.30am-noon. Term time. Join us for inexpensive bacon butties, omelettes, home made cakes, treats, colouring/activity table for children. Free housing benefit advice available.

*Facebook: The Cafe St Peter's Community Centre Sowerby*

**Tai Chi**

Monday – 1pm-2pm

2.15pm – 3.15pm Beginners Class

**Ryburn Art Club**

Tuesday - 10am-12.30pm. Term time.

**Brownies and Guides**

Tuesday - 6.30pm-9pm - for girls aged between 7 and 14 years. Term time.

**Lunch Club**

Thursday – Noon-1.30pm - first and third Thursday of each month.

**Slimming World**

Thursday evenings from 7.30pm. Tracey is your Slimming World representative.

**Let's Get Creative**

Friday – 9am-10.30am - a free, messy play group for parents and toddlers. Sensible parenting advice given if asked for.

**Community Café**

Saturday – 9am-1pm. Join us for inexpensive bacon butties, soup, home made cakes, treats, colouring/activity table for children. Free housing benefit advice available. *Facebook: The Cafe St Peter's Community Centre Sowerby*



*Weekly Groups at St Peter's Community Centre continuing :*

Saturday - **Artsbarre Performing Arts Academy update:**

**Due to Jennie's work commitments, the start date has been postponed, Artsbarre will begin in January.**

Artsbarre believe in everyone performing, each term they will host a live show in which all students will participate (unless they choose not to) No extra show fees, no expensive costume fees.

Classes : 2pm-3.30pm, 5-10 years olds (flexible).

3.30pm-5pm, 11-16 years olds (flexible) £6

Be there all afternoon for £10

Contact Jennie on 07976 901 058, artsbarre@gmail.com,

www.artsbarre.com for more details.

If you are interested in coming to any of these groups, just turn up on the day to get more details.

**newsflash**   
Christian Initiative in Calderdale Schools

**Twelve24** is a band that tours internationally, performing at big venues, including festivals, and performing in schools, addressing topics as varied as self-esteem and bullying, but also able to explain Christian beliefs and values as appropriate, depending on what the school needs.

They will be spending 4 days in local schools (free of charge to the schools), and performing for a

**youth night at Atik on Wednesday 17th January.**

More details will follow, such as information on how to contribute to this amazing opportunity to show our local youth and schools that we love them.

Rosemary Wright - Administrator

  
Christian Initiative in Calderdale Schools

[www.cicscalderdale.org.uk](http://www.cicscalderdale.org.uk)

Reg charity No:1097660



## MIXED UP MONTHS

Words that begin with 'oct' mean to do with the number eight – an octopus has 8 tentacles, an octagon has 8 sides. So October should be the 8<sup>th</sup> month of the year, shouldn't it? But it isn't.



The reason goes back to Roman times. October was the eighth month in the Roman calendar until July was added to celebrate the birth month of Julius Caesar.

This was followed by Augustus who also added another month (guess what that one was called!). With these two extra months fitted into the calendar what was the eighth month became the tenth month. Which gets more muddled: because words beginning with 'dec' mean to do with the number ten, so under the old way December was the tenth month. Shall I stop now before we all get even more confused?

## OOOOOos

All these names begin with O – which ones aren't the real name of a saint?

1. Odo
2. Olaf
3. Osyth
4. Oliver
5. Olympias
6. Odilia
7. Omer
8. Oudoceus
9. Osburga
10. Ouen



**How does an octopus go into battle?**

Well armed.



**What's round, orange and can't sit down?**

A seatless Satsuma.



**Answers:** the answer is that they all are real saint's names! Aren't you glad that they didn't call you after some of these saints?

# A big thank you from St Luke's

On behalf of St Luke's church, a big thank-you to all those who kindly helped out during the very busy Scarecrow weekend 2017.

Thank you for giving your time; thank you for the numerous and generous donations of baking that we received and thank you for supporting Norland church. The weather was in our favour and it was brilliant to have so many happy visitors in our little church.

Although the accounts have yet to be finalised the overall takings appear to be very similar to last year which was approximately £3000.

The winning Scarecrow was :

## **Alice & the Queen of Hearts by the Wisniewski family**



second was Lego Batman by Nick Fox and in third place was Heroes We Never Forget by Cath & Rod Hulme.

Well done to everybody who made a scarecrow and contributed to another successful year. The presentation evening will be held in Norland Working Mens Club on 27th October starting at 7.30pm.

To Celebrate Bible Sunday, (29<sup>th</sup> October), how about this? :

## ***The Bible in 50 words***

God made  
Adam bit  
Noah arked  
Abraham split

Joseph ruled  
Jacob fooled  
Bush talked  
Moses balked

Pharaoh plagued  
People walked  
Sea divided  
Tablets guided

Promise landed  
Saul freaked  
David peaked  
Prophets warned

Jesus born  
God walked  
Love talked  
Anger crucified

Hope died  
Love rose  
Spirit flamed  
Word spread

God remained - anon



**ST PETER'S CHURCH SOWERBY**

## **LADIES' NIGHT**

**WEDNESDAY 4 OCTOBER 7-9PM**  
**ST PETER'S COMMUNITY CENTRE**  
**(St Peter's Avenue, opposite church)**

**\*\* Body Shop \*\* Vix Mix \*\***

**\*\* Gemz Ladies handbags & accessories \*\***

**\*\* Olganna \*\* Party Lite Candles \*\***

**\*\* BP Designs greetings cards \*\***

**\*\* handmade gifts \*\***

**\*\* MeTime Massage Therapy \*\***

**\*\* Refreshments \*\* Raffle \*\***

**Browse for early Christmas presents  
or a treat for yourself**



**Admission Free**

Fundraising for St Peter's Church, Sowerby  
<http://st-peters.ryburnbenefice.org>



SaintPeters Church Sowerby



# The Vineyard and the tenants

JESUS OFTEN TOLD STORIES WITH HIDDEN MEANINGS



HE ONCE TOLD A STORY ABOUT A MAN WHO OWNED A VINEYARD

AS THE MAN LIVED A LONG WAY AWAY FROM THE VINEYARD...



...HE ARRANGED FOR SOME TENANTS TO LOOK AFTER IT FOR HIM.

BUT WHEN THE OWNER SENT SOME SERVANTS TO CHECK ON THE CARE AND PROGRESS OF THE VINEYARD...

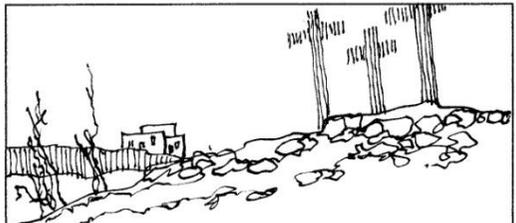


...THE TENANTS BEAT THEM UP!



THIS HAPPENED SEVERAL TIMES. EVENTUALLY THE OWNER SENT HIS OWN SON TO SEE WHAT WAS HAPPENING.

BUT THE TENANTS BEAT THE SON UP SO BADLY THAT HE DIED!



JESUS USED THIS PARABLE TO EXPLAIN WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IN HIS OWN LIFE. IT IS A VERY CHALLENGING STORY. see Luke 20:9-16



# MOVIE MOMENTS

Nick and Carol Pollard from EthosMedia.org share thought-provoking reflections on the latest films.

## Leadership and mental health

With the strapline “The icon you know. The man you don’t”, *Churchill* offers an unusual perspective to consider the mind of this great wartime leader (brilliantly played by Brian Cox who gives what film critics have described as ‘a master-class in acting’). And like all good art, this iconoclastic movie causes the viewer to think again about our assumptions and preconceptions. Here, we don’t just see the strong stable person that we assume Churchill to be because of his inspirational speeches and place in history. Rather we experience a thought-provoking viewpoint on some of the personal struggles behind his public rhetoric and robust decisions.



The film powerfully depicts Churchill’s inner turmoil as he wrestles with regrets about the past (the vast loss of life at Gallipoli in 1915) and fears about the future (that this carnage will be repeated on the Normandy beaches), highlighted against the backdrop of his own battle with the ‘black dog’ of depression.

Some have criticised the film for historical inaccuracies such as the fact that, although Churchill did oppose any hasty return to France in 1942, by 1944 he was committed to Operation Overlord. But that



is to misunderstand the nature of art, as the film theatrically condenses this journey into one week before D-Day. And, more important, that also misses a key message in this film, which is particularly relevant today as we become increasingly aware of the mental health challenges that many of us face – including those in positions of leadership.

All of us, whatever our position and responsibilities, can wrestle with doubts and struggle with depression. But we can keep going. And we can take heart from the biblical message: ‘My grace is all you need. My power works best in weakness.’

EthosMedia.org provides free resources to help people explore spiritual, moral, social and cultural issues through the latest feature films.

**ETHOS MEDIA**.org

*Churchill* is released on Blu-ray™ and DVD on 16<sup>th</sup> October 2017.



# October 2017 Crossword

## Across

1 'A little later someone else saw Peter and said, "You — are one of them"' (Luke 22:58) (4)

3 Giving (1

Peter 2:5) (8)

9 They came to Jerusalem seeking an infant king

(Matthew 2:7) (3,4)

10 'An athlete... does not receive the victor's crown unless he competes according to the — ' (2 Timothy 2:5) (5)

11 Pacifist, temperance advocate, open-air preacher, leading 20th-century Methodist, Donald — (5)

12 'Come quickly to — — , O Lord my Saviour' (Psalm 38:22) (4,2)

14 'The God of Abraham, — — — , the God of our fathers, has glorified his servant Jesus' (Acts 3:13) (5,3,5)

17 Sear by intense heat (Revelation 16:8) (6)

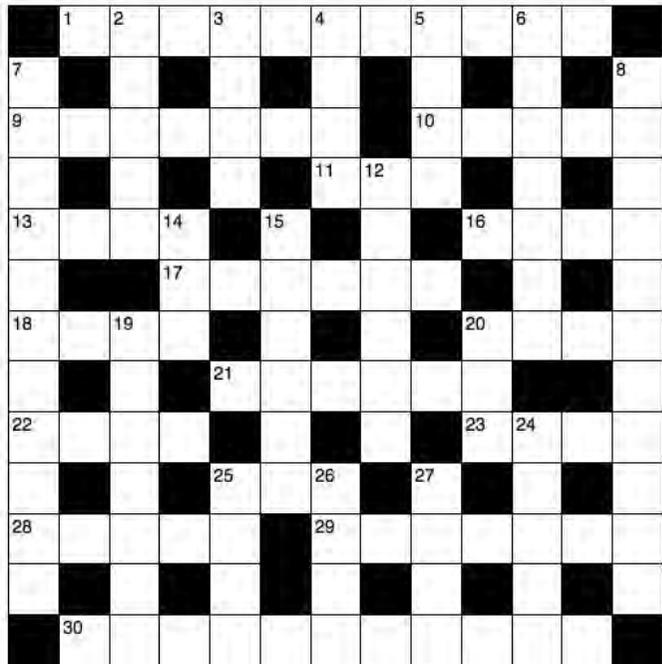
19 'It is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust — — ' (Psalm 118:8) (2,3)

22 Goods (Nehemiah 13:15) (5)

23 i.e. train (anag.) (7)

24 Surrounding area (Luke 24:50) (8)

25 'Righteousness will be his — and faithfulness the sash round his waist' (Isaiah 11:5) (4)



## Down

- 1 Elegant and creative (Exodus 31:4) (8)
- 2 'Listen, I tell you a mystery: We will not all — , but we will all be changed' (1 Corinthians 15:51) (5)
- 4 'I... delight to see how orderly you are and how firm your — — — is' (Colossians 2:5) (5,2,6)
- 5 Enlist (2 Samuel 24:2) (5)
- 6 Of the Muslim faith (7)
- 7 Sharp intake of breath (Job 11:20) (4)
- 8 Woven cloth (Ezekiel 16:13) (6)
- 13 Plentiful (Romans 5:17) (8)
- 15 CIA char (anag.) (7)
- 16 Paul and Silas stopped him committing suicide after an earthquake in Philippi (Acts 16:27–28) (6)
- 18 One of the ingredients in the making of incense for the Lord (Exodus 30:34) (5)
- 20 Episcopal headwear (5)
- 21 Inhabitant of, say, Russia, Ukraine, Poland, Slovakia or Bulgaria (4)

## Answers : **September Crossword**

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

# Guardian Angels – keeping an eye on us

The teaching of Jesus encourages us to believe in guardian angels. He once said, 'See that you do not look down on one of these little ones. For I tell you that their angels in heaven always see the face of my Father in heaven.'  
(Matthew 18:10)

The existence of angels was suggested in various Old Testament texts, Jesus mentioned them explicitly, and the early Christians accepted their existence and work (Acts 12:15).

In England, devotion to the angels, both in Anglo-Saxon times and later, was strong. In modern times, the great American evangelist Billy Graham has written an entire book on the existence and work of angels.

Alcuin described them as intercessors (in the 11th century Leofric Missal); Herbert of Losinga, bishop of Norwich (d 1119) specially praised them, and his contemporary, Reginald of Canterbury, wrote prayers in their honour.

Honorius Augustodunensis (d 1151) clarified the existing belief of the time by asserting that each human soul, when infused into the body, is entrusted to the particular care of a single angel, who protects both body and soul and offers prayers to God.

For many centuries Christendom was satisfied with the feast of St Michael (and all Angels), but the special feast



of the Guardian Angels was introduced in Austria, Spain and Portugal in the 15th – 16th centuries. Guardian Angels were then seen as guardians of particular towns or regions, or of each individual. Pope Clement X made the feast day universal in 1607, fixing its date to 2nd October.

## Fly

If God wanted us to fly, he would have given us tickets. - *Mel Brook*

# **Bishops' concern over benefits freeze**

Bishops are now so concerned about the effect of poverty on children that they are supporting calls for the Government to end the benefits freeze. They recently spoke out after the publication of a report by the Child Poverty Action Group (CPAG) which warned that a combination of rising prices and a freeze on benefits – and even cuts – is leaving many families simply unable to meet the costs of caring for their children.

The report, *Cost of a Child in 2017*, estimates that families in which both parents work full-time on the National Living Wage are 13 per cent (or £59 per week) short of what they need in order to give their children a minimum living standard. Single parents working full-time on the same wage are 18 per cent short. Couples and single parents not in work face a shortfall of more than 40 per cent.

Voicing her concern, the Bishop of Gloucester, the Rt Rev Rachel Treweek, said: 'We know that the first years of life are the most critical for the life chances of every child.'

# **Time for Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes**

**It is time to start collecting children's toys and finding a shoebox to send to a child living in poverty in any one of up to 100 countries worldwide.**

This year Operation Christmas Child worldwide is hoping to send up to 12 million shoe boxes from countries such as the UK, the USA, Canada, Australia and Germany, to needy children who will otherwise have no presents at all this Christmas. Details at: <https://www.samaritans-purse.org.uk/what-we-do/operation-christmas-child/>

## **And Finally.....The Perfect Minister**

The Perfect Minister preaches exactly 10 minutes. They condemn sin roundly, but never hurt anyone's feelings. They work from 8 a.m. until midnight, and are **also the church's odd job person.**

The Perfect Minister lives on a very small salary, wears good clothes, drives a good car, buys good books, and donates £30 a week to the church. They are 29 years old and have 40 years' worth of experience. Above all, they are good looking.

The Perfect Minister has a burning desire to work with teenagers, and they spend most of their time with the senior citizens. They smile all the time with a straight face because they have a sense of humour that keeps them seriously dedicated to their church. They make 15 home visits a day and are always in their office to be handy when needed.

The Perfect Minister always has time for church meetings and all of its committees, never missing the meeting of any church organisation. And they are always busy evangelising the unchurched. They also spend hours preparing couples for their weddings, hours preparing parents for their baby's baptism, and hours visiting the bereaved. But their life is dedicated to solitude, prayer and meditation.

The Perfect Minister is always in the next town over! So if you think that our minister does not measure up, it has been suggested that we simply send this notice to six other churches that are tired of their minister. The idea is that we bundle up our minister and send them to the church at the top of our list. If everyone cooperates, in one week we will receive 1, 643 new ministers. One of them should be perfect. Have faith in this plan. One church broke the chain and got its old minister back in less than three months.



"Wait a moment, dear, this isn't a tourists'-  
attraction ratings guide, it's a Health  
and Safety warning!"

*If you have enjoyed reading our magazine, and would like to advertise the activities of your group or business in our next edition, please contact the editor, Revd Lesley Ennis tel 01422 832747, or email your request to [lesleyennis@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:lesleyennis@hotmail.co.uk)*

*For voluntary organizations there will be no charge. For commercial organizations, our introductory rates are extremely competitive: currently £2 per issue or £10 per year, for a quarter page insert. For a growing readership in Sowerby and further afield of about 400 or more it is well worth boosting your advertising potential through our magazine.*

*All articles are accepted subject to Sowerby PCC editorial policy. Cut off date for items for the following month's edition is 15th of the preceding month.*

*If you would like to receive future editions (in PDF format) direct to your email box, please email the editor with your details, which will be used solely for this purpose only.*

*Grateful acknowledgement is given to all our magazine contributors, and also to the contributors of the website [Parishpump.co.uk](http://Parishpump.co.uk), for kindly allowing us to use some of their material.*