

# The Lighthouse



 THE CHURCH  
OF ENGLAND  
Diocese of Norwich

Sunday 09 August 2020  
Issue 20

## ‘I want to hold your hand.’

The reading for Trinity 9 is:  
Matthew chapter 14 verses 22–33

Dear Friends,

Altogether singing joyfully, “I do like to be beside the sea-side”. We live in a wonderful part of the world, on our own island, Great Britain. There are 6000 islands in Great Britain, of which 136 are permanently inhabited. Surrounded by water we are a seafaring nation, and you can’t say fairer than that!

That said, I must readily admit that the Walker family are not great sailors. Andrew, our eldest son, fell out of a flat-bottomed boat in France – thankfully he surfaced almost straight away, but without his glasses. He went under again and retrieved them! Our last ‘voyage’ was from Wray Castle to Ambleside, in driving rain. Hardly a storm, but we were drenched.

Jesus made the disciples get into a boat one evening. I have visions of Jesus paying for 12 singles, one way. On the voyage, a storm, a distant figure on the water; Jesus declares who he is to those on board, Peter is challenged about his faith. Great faith as Peter walks on the water, lack of faith as he sinks down taking his eyes off Jesus. Jesus comes and takes control and offers his hand.

Galilee is known for its sudden storms. Some car park signs today on the coast of Galilee warn people about the fierceness of the storms, and that the local council will not accept responsibility for car damage.

We have ‘storms’ in our life – something flares up, we feel out of control, not a nice feeling – but as Jesus came and brought his peace to Peter and the storm on the lake, by faith he comes to you and me. He brings his word of hope, and his promise of peace. He stills the storms and the waves; he meets us where we are and brings us the healing we need.

There is an old Free Church hymn – which sums up the voyage in Matthew 14 and our journey of faith –  
“Sing, ye islands of the sea, echo back, ye ocean caves,  
Earth shall keep her jubilee, Jesus saves.”

Keep safe = social distancing + washing hands regularly  
+ wearing face covering where required.

Every Blessing in Christ,  
Derek the Cleric



*‘And when they climbed into the boat, the wind died down.’ –Matthew 14:32*

## Ideas for prayer

- + all those affected by the coronavirus
- + our NHS workers and those in care homes
- + our Government and advisors in making decisions for our nation
- + for wisdom and patience in dealing with the many changes to our ways of life
- + our public church service, and for all working to make it happen and all who attend
- + our continuing online worship service and Bitesize bible, the online worship team and all who attend
- + our children and their parents, especially now that the school holidays are here
- + our young adults leaving school or college during this time of uncertainty
- + our teachers in all that they do
- + those working in essential services
- + those who have lost their jobs
- + those who are back at work and adjusting to new ways of working
- + those who are suffering any injustice – racial, social, economic
- + those who feel isolated
- + wisdom in opening church buildings safely, and our Diocesan leaders in guiding the way forward
- + couples waiting to get married in church
- + families bereaved at this time and those not able to use the church as they would have wished to
- + our church community

### We give thanks for:

- + Dave's ordination as Priest on 7<sup>th</sup> August
- + the Word of God and his forgiveness
- + freedom to know the light of God's love through his Spirit
- + opportunities to serve others and share God's love
- + the beauty of the coast where we live, gardens, greenspaces and summertime
- + progress in understanding and treating the coronavirus
- + our families and friendships
- + small seeds of thought that lead us to faith in Christ

## Thank you to the St Nicholas Outreach Team

A big thank to the Outreach Team for all their efforts and time in delivering medicines during recent months. They have done an amazing service to many in the community and have given a great witness, as the vast majority of those who have been blessed by this outreach don't come to church.

–Revd Mark

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*“The fruit of silence is prayer. The fruit of prayer is faith. The fruit of faith is love. The fruit of love is service. The fruit of service is peace.”*

*–Mother Teresa*

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## Prayers following Revd Dave Cossey's Ordination

Dave was ordained Priest by Bishop Jonathan on Friday at St Mary's Watton. The Service would usually be in the Cathedral with many of our Church members present but because of Covid 19 this was not possible.

At the 10:00 Service today during the notices slot, I will pray for Dave at the start of his Priestly Ministry and I would encourage you to join with me in your homes at this time as we pray for him.

—Revd Adrian



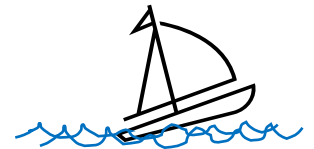
*Dave was ordained as Priest on 7 August at St Mary's Watton*

Photo: Cossey family

# Wordsearch

This week's puzzle from Carol: all the verses in this puzzle can be found in Matthew chapter 14 verses 22–33.

E	P	R	T	T	H	E	E	U	E	G	E	I	A	PRAY
E	O	R	E	O	K	N	I	S	N	G	F	E	T	EVENING
I	G	S	R	F	E	U	B	I	A	D	B	T	W	DISTANCE
S	G	G	R	G	N	I	K	R	S	U	E	T	A	BUFFETED
E	E	E	I	S	W	L	U	W	F	E	E	R	O	WIND
R	S	V	F	O	A	O	I	F	K	R	S	P	T	WAVES
T	O	E	I	W	C	N	E	A	T	W	A	R	U	WALKING
E	W	N	E	D	D	T	L	N	W	W	O	A	A	LAKE
T	O	I	D	R	E	N	K	P	W	A	E	Y	T	TERRIFIED
A	W	N	F	D	G	H	O	S	T	V	T	C	R	GHOST
P	E	G	O	H	A	R	K	R	T	E	N	E	H	COURAGE
T	U	D	I	S	T	A	N	C	E	S	E	Y	R	WATER
W	W	O	R	S	H	I	P	P	E	D	U	A	F	SINK
N	E	V	E	W	E	E	D	I	E	S	W	N	H	WORSHIPPED



Toward Shernborne from Mill Road

Photo: LW

Stopwatch: how quickly can you solve these anagrams?

**PEACE TIN**  
**NOT IN RADIO**  
**LIFE AIMS**  
**SERVING FOES**  
**DO SWIM**

(All are words found in this week's *Ideas for Prayer* on page 2. Answers, last page.)

*But Jesus immediately said to them: "Take courage! It is I. Don't be afraid."*

—Matthew 14: 27

# The Power and the Glory



I suspect that “Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”, by Walter Chalmers Smith, is one of our best-known hymns, but by no means one of the most popular. It does not describe Nature or Creation or our feelings. It is about splendour, glory, power and majesty, and these are not attractive qualities to most people.

However, the way the hymn is structured, and communicates its message of grandeur and adoration, is clever. From the first line, immortality and invisibility are linked, and through the hymn are equated with God, reaching a dramatic climax in the fourth verse:

Thine angels adore Thee  
All veiling their sight.

The vocabulary of the text is based on the prevailing imagery of light. It is used five times, and then the fifth verse is a repetition of the first.

It is no wonder that the people of ancient times worshipped the sun. It is the source of all light and heat, of all earthly energy. Sunlight controls everything that grows, all our food, the composition of the Earth’s crust, and, in interaction with the oceans, all wind and weather and water supply. Without it, our planet would be dark and lifeless. It is the only element that we cannot control. We can control water direction and use, harness the wind and air, and use the power of the sea and harvest its produce. But we cannot see light except by comparison with its absence, darkness.

In the hymn, God is the “pure Father of Light”, as in the gospels Jesus is “the Light of the World”, and we can have no visual conception of God. To use the personal pronoun to describe God only confounds any attempted conceptualisation.

We may compare our transitory lives with God’s immortality, as in the first and third verses:

We blossom and flourish  
As leaves on the tree,  
And with and perish,  
But nought changeth Thee.

Then we are left with a sense of awe and wonder. If we trace our belief back as far as we can go linguistically, we come to the ancient Hebrew word for God, “Jehovah”, and etymologically the nearest meaning we can get to that in modern English is “Who is it?”

–Allan Coleby

## Good news!

The Benefice is delighted to share news that HRH The Duchess of Cambridge has chosen to support Baby Basics based here at St Nicholas Church as well as nationally. This good news follows from a private volunteering visit made by the Duchess to St Nicholas, where she met with Maggie Anderson, Co-Lead of Baby Basics West Norfolk, and a Health Professional.

The Duchess asked many questions about the work of Baby Basics and built a Moses basket to be delivered to a mum in need.



HRH The Duchess of Cambridge volunteering at Baby Basics

Photo: Kensington Palace

To learn more about the Duchess's initiative to support baby banks nationwide, which she launched on 4 August, visit the Diocesan website at <https://www.dioceseofnorwich.org/news/duchess-of-cambridge-volunteers-at-baby-basics-west-norfolk-in-dersingham/>.

## OLD GAELIC BLESSING

May the raindrops  
fall lightly on your brow.

May the soft winds  
freshen your spirit.

May the sunshine  
brighten your heart.

May the burdens  
of the day rest  
lightly upon you.

And may God enfold you  
in the mantle of His love.



*Thanks to Jackie Scott for sending us this lovely Old Gaelic Blessing. Jackie says the blessing reminds her "of the way God heals with and through nature and how working in my garden among the flowers or walking through the countryside feels so therapeutic, no matter what anxieties may be bothering me elsewhere. I hope it will help other people too."*

This Celtic cross, near Peebles, Scotland, is thought to mark the site of St Gordian's Kirk. –*lv*

Photo: Chris Eilbeck CC BY-SA 2.0

## Update from St Michael's Ingoldisthorpe

*Thanks to Sue Lake for this photo, taken on a beautiful summer's day, of the work in progress at St Michael's church, Ingoldisthorpe.*

Sue says, "The scaffolding firm worked constantly for two days erecting the impressive scaffold and we all hope that this proves to be a safe start to enable the roofers to make a safe and secure restoration. I think it might be interesting for people to see."



*Work under way at St Michael's*

Photo: Sue Lake

## Norfolk Churches Trust Sponsored Bike Ride/Walk

**Saturday, 12th September 2020, 9.00 a.m. – 5.00 p.m.**

I am looking for people to give an hour stewarding in the church between the hours of 9.00 a.m. and 2.00 p.m. Ideally I would have two people on at a time. Please let me know if you are able to help. I still have sponsorship forms for those wishing to participate in the ride or walk. There are details on <https://norfolkchurchestrust.org.uk/bike-ride/> or by contacting me, the local co-ordinator in our church, on: 01485 540857

–Neil Adams



*St Mary's Anmer*

Photo: Church of England website

## Outdoor Service at St Mary's, Anmer, on 30th August, 2020

On Sunday 30th August we will hold a Benefice Morning Prayer Book Service in Anmer Churchyard.

Please bring a chair!

If you plan to attend, please contact Pauline Martin on 01485 544561 or [secretary@stnicholasdersingham.org.uk](mailto:secretary@stnicholasdersingham.org.uk) to book as usual.

## Reminder

Please remember to book in advance if you plan to attend the Sunday in-church worship service at 10 a.m. in St Nicholas Church, Dersingham.

You will need to book in advance each time.

To book, please contact Pauline Martin on 01485 544561 or [secretary@stnicholasdersingham.org.uk](mailto:secretary@stnicholasdersingham.org.uk)

## Bring a cushion...

You may wish to bring a cushion if you are coming to church for the service or for private prayer, as we've removed all the pew cushions for ease of cleaning!

## An update about face coverings

Please be aware that the Diocese have now said that we should be wearing masks (face coverings) in church for our services, but if you have any health problems and are unable to wear one, please be assured that you will be very welcome in church without one.

## Contactless payment

At our in-church services, we would welcome you making your Giving by Contactless Payment, which will be available on the front desk as you come in. Just set the machine to the amount you wish to give and scan your card.

Those who are unable to get to the service and would like to make a donation, please contact the Treasurer, Pat Oughtibridge, c/o the church office at 01485 544561 or email [secretary@stnicholasdersingham.org.uk](mailto:secretary@stnicholasdersingham.org.uk)

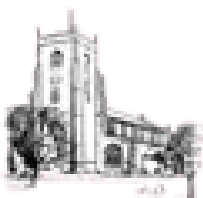
## 9<sup>th</sup> August – a special day in the Church calendar

Mary Sumner, 1828- 1921, is the Founder of the Mothers' Union.  
In *Common Worship: Daily Prayer*, the following Collect appears for 9 August, the day marked for celebrating her life and work.

Faithful and loving God,  
who called Mary Sumner to strive for the renewal of family life:  
give us the gift of your Holy Spirit,  
that through word, prayer and deed  
your family may be strengthened and your people served;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*Anagrams: patience,  
ordination,  
families, forgiveness,  
wisdom*

*With help from:  
[anagrammaker.com](http://anagrammaker.com)*



[www.stnicholasdersingham.org.uk](http://www.stnicholasdersingham.org.uk)  
[dersinghamonlineworship.com](http://dersinghamonlineworship.com)

