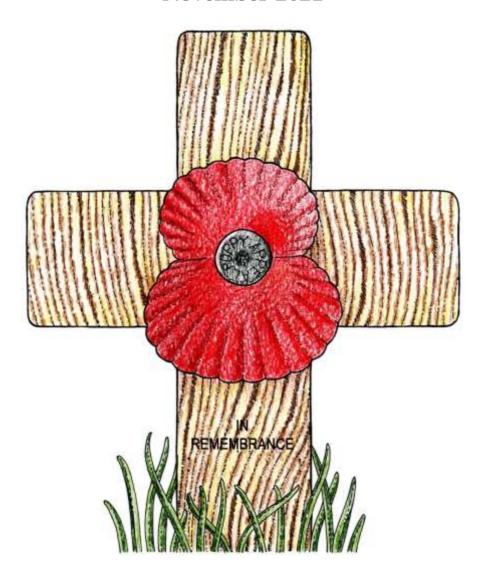
November 2021



THE MAGAZINE OF HOLY TRINITY CHURCH, HARTSHILL, NUNEATON



Dear friends,

Rainbows as a symbol of Hope:

For several years now we hold an alternative All Hallows party for young children to enjoy. The theme for our Messy Church Light party this year was Rainbows. But why?

Rainbows are beautiful sights that most people enjoy and admire. They are made up of amazing colours that inspire poems, art, and songs. They are light that is shaped through water and viewed and loved by people everywhere.

What happens is white light from the sun shines on one side of a water droplet, gets reflected off the other side of the droplet, and then exits out to the other side of the sky as a circular bow or arc of colour that is refracted or broken up into the colour spectrum.

Rainbows contain a continuum of around 1 million colours that are indistinguishable with the human eye. Instead, we can only really see seven colour hues: Red, orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo, and violet.

Rainbows were adopted as a symbol of hope during the Covid-19 pandemic, especially during periods of lockdown. Households worldwide displayed home-made images of rainbows in their windows, often alongside positive messages.

The rainbow has been for some time a symbol of ethnic and racial diversity. A rainbow flag has been adopted by the LGBT community.

However, what does a rainbow symbolize in Christianity?

In the Bible's Genesis flood narrative, after creating a flood to wash away humanity's corruption, God put the rainbow in the sky as the sign of his **promise** that he would never again destroy the earth with flood (Genesis 9:13-17). The rainbow reassured Noah and his family that a flood on the same scale will never take place again. God made an everlasting covenant with Noah, his family, their descendants, and all the living creatures. He promised never again to destroy the earth by a flood. The rainbow was the sign of that promise - a reminder of God's commitment to the earth.

The rainbow is also a picture of God's beauty and holiness. Ezekiel 1:28: "Like the appearance of a rainbow in the clouds on a rainy day, so was the radiance around him. This was the appearance of the likeness of the glory of the LORD."

The rainbow is precious. It's a symbol of what theologians call God's common grace - the grace he shows to all people saved and unsaved alike. With the rainbow God promised to restrain

his wrath. He promised never again to visit destruction on the earth in the same way.

The rainbow reminds us how our heavenly Father is prepared to restrain his anger against sin, and deal with it through his Son Jesus Christ.

So, the rainbow is not merely a symbol. It's not simply part of an ancient story. It is a living example of **God's faithfulness**. It is an assurance that God has not forgotten us and that he continues to work in this world.

Rainbows are not then just a range of colours combined to make a whole. They are symbols of hope, promise, peace, equality, new beginnings, and eternal life.

When we see a rainbow now, we can let it be a reminder of our covenant-keeping God and His indescribable beauty. And when we face the hardest storms in life, find ourselves in the midst of unexpected battles, and wonder if there's an end in sight, the rainbow reminds us that God remembers us, loves us, and will always be faithful to save us when we call upon him. The Lord will always stay true to his promises.

With Love & Blessings
Sally

Prayers for November

Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

Philippians 4 v 6 and 7.

We pray during the month for those involved in the ministry of the Church, the local community, those in need and issues in the wider world.

- 1 For the schools and groups/organisations teaching and working for the development of our children in our area.
- 2 Our Bishops Christopher and John in their work in the Diocese.
- 3 For those attending the Nuneaton Deanery Synod. We pray for all clergy in the Deanery who are facing big challenges resulting from the Covid pandemic.
- 4 For all leaders and governments who are trying to bring about peace in the world.
- 5 For the safety of all those attending bonfire and firework events tonight.
- 6 Heather, in her ministry in Hartshill and Galley Common and her work in the Deanery and Diocese.
- 7 For all those who mourn the loss of a loved one.
- 8 For the PCC members as they consider major issues facing our church and make decisions on behalf of Holy Trinity.

- 9 For all countries which are still trying to recover from natural disasters such as earthquakes, hurricanes, and flooding.
- 10 For all those who suffer stress and worry in their work and other aspects of their lives. We pray for all organisations and individuals who help people with stress.
- Our lay readers and churchwardens Nick and Sally and all those who serve our church on Sundays and at times during the week.
- 12 For all the leaders attending the UN Climate Change Conference in Glasgow which ends today. That they will implement the actions agreed to protect the future of our planet.
- We pray for all the voluntary clubs and organisations that serve our local community in particular Trinity Tots, Uniformed Groups, and the library activities.
- 14 Remembrance Sunday we remember all those who have died in past wars and in the service of our country. We pray for all those who are serving in the armed forces.
- 15 For all those unemployed and seeking work and all those who are homeless.
- We pray for all children who suffer bullying in and outside of school and for all adults who also suffer bullying in their contact with other people. We pray for a more tolerant society.
- 17 All those countries that do not have enough resources for development and where people live in poverty.
- 18 The church family and parish of St Peter's, Galley Common, in particular for Katie and Debbie their Churchwardens.

- 19 For all missionaries, organisations and volunteers who work in troubled areas of the world.
- 20 For all those attending the Diocesan Synod, for the discussions that will take place and decisions made for the work of the Diocese.
- Our partner churches in Churches Together and the work and activities they do to create greater unity and fellowship between different denominations.
- 22 For our Queen and the rest of the Royal Family.
- 23 For doctors, nurses and other staff who work in our local doctors' surgeries, clinics and hospitals and for all those who are ill at this time.
- Families who have difficulties with their relationships with each other and particularly for those suffering domestic violence.
- Our Government and Members of Parliament as they deal with the problems and needs of our country and our locality.
- All couples who have been married at Holy Trinity this year. Also, for couples who are preparing for marriage next year.
- 27 The police and other emergency services that look after us.
- For those elderly people who are confined to home and those suffering loneliness. We pray for those who care for the elderly and in particular for the care and nursing homes in our area.

- 29 For all those people who are starting out on their Christian journey and for all those who wish to start afresh with their relationship with God.
- The shops and businesses in our Parish that serve the needs of people living in Hartshill.

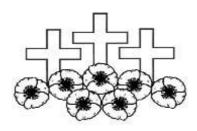
Prayers by Nick BB.

E-magazine

Welcome to this e-magazine. We are hoping to produce a printed magazine again soon but, in the meantime, we are continuing to produce an electronic version. Please send it to anybody who you think would like to read it, there is no charge.

You can find this magazine and all the electronic magazines at https://hartshillmu.uk/churchmagazines.html

Thank you to everybody who has contributed to this magazine, If anybody has anything they would like to share with readers of the magazine, please email it to me at mu@susanmfoster.co.uk. The deadline for articles for the December magazine is 22nd November.



Maria's Message

Hello Everyone,



In my town of Swadlincote there is an 'Old Fashioned Sweet Shop' so I paid it a visit to buy some sweets. I looked around and was faced with rows and rows of glass jars full of many different kinds of sweets, old favourites and new additions. I chose some good old fashioned Barley Sugars but the visit stuck in my mind. It made me think of how lucky we are to have so many choices in so many things these days. We only have to visit the supermarket and see the many choices of cereal, tea bags, coffee, bread etc... This then led me to think about the bigger choices we have in life – marriage, career, travel and house ownership to name a few. There are many things we have to take into account when we are making a choice, we have to look at the positives and the negatives and be prepared to compromise in some situations. But what about our state of mind and our life's path? There is no limit to the opportunities available to us, and again we need guidance to help us make choices. We can help ourself in many ways:-

CHOICE

We choose so many things every single day, but do we choose to be Happy?

Despite our circumstances, it is possible to overcome everything with positivity

Life can be easy, life can be hard and many things can get us down

But we can overcome everything by wearing a smile not a frown

So be positive my Friend, believe you CAN and you WILL

Friends, family, community and church are there to help, and this support all your needs will fulfil

This is good advice, but on those days when we feel weak and overwhelmed we need the strength of God to help keep us on the right track. We must always remember to take all our situations, problems and concerns to God and ask him to help us. (Proverbs 3 v 5&6 "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, do not depend on your own understanding. Seek his will in all you do and he will show you which path to take." - The New Living Translation.)

Also, for the bigger picture, when we ask God to help us make a choice, when we do decide we will know it is in God's will because we will feel peaceful, not confused or doubtful. We must trust him – he knows what we need and he 'causes all things to work together for our good' (Romans 8 v 28 - The New Living Translation.)

Travel well along life's road everyone, make God your ultimate companion but also don't forget the group of travellers that are also walking along with you, cling together with God's strength and be assured you WILL reach your destination.

God Bless Maria xx





This is a charity in the Philippines, which came about by the vision of Australian couple Bob and Barbara Morriss around 20 years ago to establish a home for abandoned or orphaned children, which could be run and managed by Filipino staff. It was founded on the Word of God, embracing the scriptures of the Lord's command to care for orphans. They are a non-denominational ministry, bringing Christian love and care to many hurting or neglected children, many of whom would not have survived their early start in life. For instance, in 2017 little Daniella, found in a green polythene bag, aged around 2 weeks old and weighing the same as a bag of sugar. Fortunately, someone saw her, called the police who handed her over to social services who in turn took her to Rehoboth. Today, she is a beautiful little girl, growing up in a loving and caring home, who one day may be adopted into a "forever family".

The homes are run by Filipino "mamas", who provide a safe, loving environment, providing good food, pre-school education and lots of fun with toys and games. In the early days of the first home, Bob and Barbara employed a home helper called Fe and recognized her potential; so supported Fe in her education and university and she became a social worker, who has worked for the homes ever since and became Executive Director for seventeen years. She, in turn, has recognized the potential in other workers, empowering women and has given the staff opportunities to grow and develop. Fe's social work skills have been extremely well used in the vast amount of paperwork and research

involved in arranging adoptions for the children, some of whom have been adopted by overseas parents. Some of the children are re-united with their birth families, where possible.

Rehoboth also employ gardeners, maintenance workers, teachers and administrators, as well as the many talented caregivers. In the gardens, a lot of the food grown provides healthy meals for the children and the older children also enjoy helping grow vegetables in their own patches. Surplus supplies are sold locally to provide some income.

In the Bonnie's Heart baby home - (up to 4 years of age) there is room for 24. In the Morriss House, the original house, there are 12 older girls awaiting adoption or reunification and in the Ruffer House there are 10 boys. Each child is brought up to know that they are individually valued by their loving Saviour, The Lord Jesus Christ.

Apart from the Homes, a clinic has been established and over 100 births take place each year, giving local, vulnerable mothers a safe and clean place to give birth. A dental wing is also being equipped, which will hopefully serve the local community too, as well as the children.

Volunteers are always needed at the Homes, including overseas helpers. One of the charities featured some time ago in this church magazine was Siloam from Leamington Spa and one of the projects which Siloam supports is the Rehoboth Homes; so applications for volunteering can initially be made via Siloam.

Many lives have been saved by rescuing babies and children over the years physically, the loving care has restored mental health for those who have had abusive or traumatic early lives and equally or more importantly, spiritually, young lives are being saved for their eternal life, through this loving Christian care given by these homes.

Lynda Kelly



At the Community Centre - Next to Church Children Ages 5 - 11, accompanied by an adult (Other siblings are welcome!)

ART & (RAFTS, REFRESHMENTS, GAMES, MUSIC

Bible Readings / Passages with Personal Meaning.

I am sure, like me, you have one or more bible passages which hold a special meaning for you. Usually these would have come to your attention at a point in your life when you were facing a challenge or feeling in need of something. Yes, we all know certain bible stories from our times in church; the creation story from Genesis, the Easter story from the Gospels and of course the Birth of Jesus, all hold a special place and are familiar.

My special verse is Psalm 26 verse 2

"Test me, Lord, and try me, examine my heart and my mind;"

It came to my attention while I was running the London Marathon in 2016! Another runner passed me and these words were printed on the back of their T-Shirt. I followed the runner for a mile or so and remember thinking how appropriate for a marathon. My heart was certainly being tested and although I had trained for several months leading up to the event it took all my physical strength to keep going. Mental strength is also important in an endurance race like the marathon as negative thoughts enter your mind and the temptation to stop is ever present.





Another thing I recall is how determined I was to remember this bible verse. But with so much going on, the exhaustion, the crowd noise the sense of the big occasion, I thought I was sure to forget it. And then it

dawned on me 26.2 is the marathon distance in miles. Psalm 26 v2. I was so stupid, of course that's why the other runner had that printed on their back. If I had had enough energy I would have burst out laughing – but I didn't.

Since that day however I have never forgotten that verse of the bible. I think it is good to be tested, to step out of your comfort zone and try something new. I often end my Sunday talks with a challenge and this little article is no different. I am asking you to ask others if they have a favourite bible verse or chapter, ask them why it is their favourite. Maybe share with them your favourite or meaningful passage or verse. It's good to share and learn more about others so go-on, give it a go.

Blessings.

Nick (M)

p.s. I also love John 3: 16 "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."

I mean, Wow, just Wow. Amen



The poppy is a symbol of Remembrance and hope for a peaceful future. Wearing a poppy is a show of support for the service and sacrifice of our Armed Forces, veterans and their families.

Sharon's Recipe - Lebkuchen (serves 12)

Lebkuchen is a German Christmas biscuit and that it is often shared on 6th December when Germany celebrate St Nicholas Eve, an early celebration of Christmas and a gift-giving day especially for children.



Ingredients Biscuits

200g / 7oz runny honey

85g / 3 oz butter

200g / 7 oz plain flour

100g / 3½ oz ground almonds

1 tsp baking powder

½ tsp bicarbonate of soda

1 tsp ground cinnamon

1 tsp mixed spice

1 tsp ground ginger

½ tsp ground nutmeg

1 tbsp cocoa powder

½ unwaxed orange, finely zested and the juice

Pinch of salt

Ingredients for sugar coating

100g / 3½oz icing sugar 2 tbsp boiling water

Ingredients for chocolate coating

200g / 7 oz dark, milk or white chocolate, finely chopped

Method

Preheat the oven to 180C Fan/Gas 6. Line two baking trays with baking paper.

Heat the honey and butter in a small saucepan over a low heat until melted. Tip into a large mixing bowl and put in the fridge for 5 minutes.

Remove the honey-butter mixture from the fridge and sieve in the remaining dry ingredients, add the orange zest and juice, stirring to combine. (The mixture will be sticky) Return to the fridge for about 1 hour, or until completely cold.

With damp hands, break off pieces of the dough and roll into balls slightly smaller than a golf ball. Transfer to the baking trays and flatten down slightly, leaving enough space between each Lebkuchen to spread during cooking. Bake for 15 minutes, or until the Lebkuchen has risen and are firm to the touch. Set aside for 10 minutes to cool on the baking trays, before transferring to a wire rack to cool completely.

To make the sugar coating, mix the icing sugar and water in a bowl. Dip one side of the lebkuchen into the icing and return to the wire rack, icing side up, to set.

When the icing is set make the chocolate coating by melting half the chocolate in a small heatproof bowl over a simmering saucepan of water, making sure the base of the bowl doesn't touch the water. When the chocolate has almost melted, take the pan off the heat and add the remaining chocolate. Stir until all the chocolate has melted. Dip the uncoated side of the lebkuchen into the chocolate and return to the wire rack, chocolate side up, to set. To give a good thick coating spoon a little more melted chocolate onto the base of each biscuit.

Once the chocolate is set serve with the icing side uppermost.

Will keep in an airtight container for 7-10 days or can be frozen for up to 3 months.

	Who's Who?	
Vicar	Revd. Heather Barnes	02476 392266
Church Wardens	Mr Nick Miles	02476 394339
	Mrs Sally Young	02476 397276
PCC Secretary	Mrs Carol Miles	02476 394339
Treasurer	Mrs Wendy Albrighton	02476 397183
Planned Giving	Mrs Wendy Albrighton	02476 397183
Mothers' Union	Mrs Susan Foster	07783 727300
Weddings	Mr Nick Miles and Mrs Carol Miles	02476 394339
Flowers	Mrs Jan Blamire-Brown	02476 395467
Baptism	Revd. Heather Barnes	02476 392266
Community Centre Bookings	Olwyn Hardy	02476 397961
Sunday School	Mrs Ruth Kinderman	02476 395326
Magazine editor	Mrs Susan Foster	02476 319943

Church website: http://www.holytrinityhartshill.co.uk/

https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/12983

FB https://www.facebook.com/groups/holytrinityhartshill/(group)

and https://www.facebook.com/holytrinitychurchhartshill/ (page)

Hartshill Mothers' Union website: http://hartshillmu.uk/

Prayer Requests prayers.holytrinity@gmail.com

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