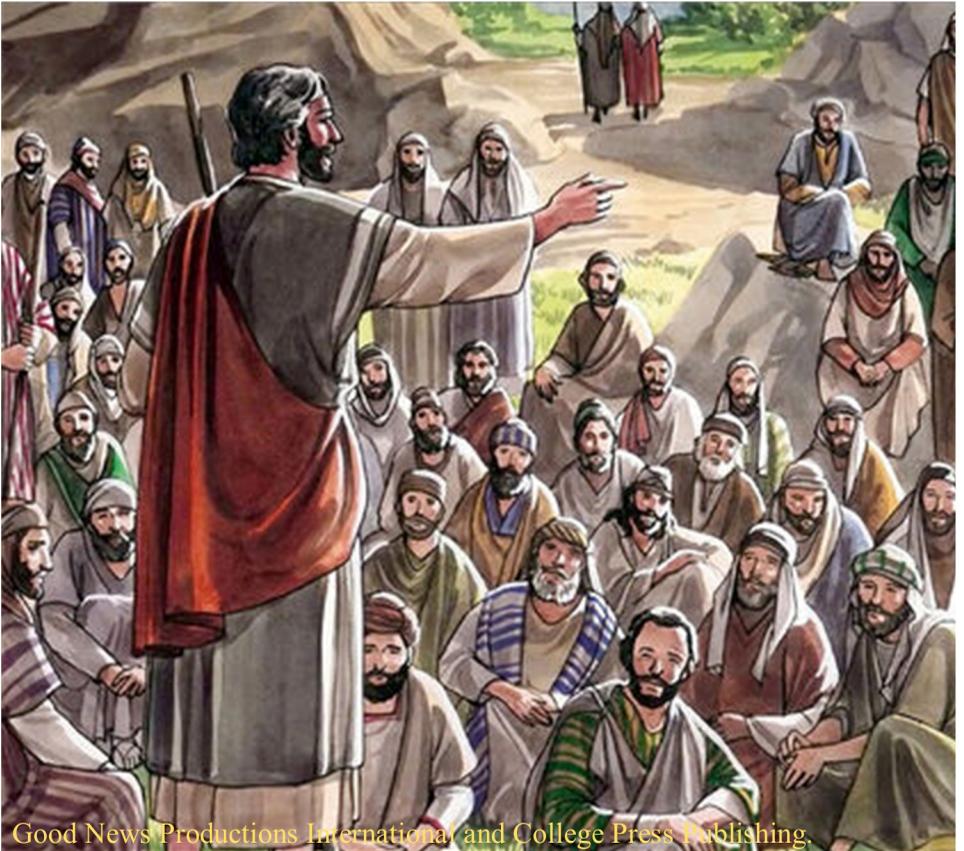


THE

# KING

FEBRUARY 2026



Good News Productions International and College Press Publishing

## The Sermon on the Mount

The Parish Magazine of St. Edmund the King, Northwood Hills

# THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. EDMUND THE KING

## NORTHWOOD HILLS

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The Vicarage, 2 Pinner Road, Northwood HA6 1QS  
*e-mail vicar@saintedmundschurch.org.uk*

**LAY MINISTER** Miss Sarah Parnaby (020) 8866 8309

**SERVICES** Principal Service - Sung Eucharist at 10.00 am every Sunday  
Also streamed from our website  
Other Services - Said Eucharist  
7.15 pm Tuesdays, 6.00 pm Wednesdays,  
10.00 am Thursdays, 11.00 am Fridays, Saturdays 10.30 am

SUNDAY SCHOOL at St. Edmund's Church  
Sundays at 10.00 am in the Hall during term time.  
Please contact Carol Diggins on 07827 159 586 for more information.

Arrangements for the SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (Confession),  
BAPTISMS, FUNERALS, WEDDINGS, and BANNINGS OF MARRIAGE -  
please telephone the Vicar.

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If you know someone who does not have internet access  
and would like a printed copy of this magazine,  
please contact Steve Castle at  
[steven.castle@saintedmundschurch.org.uk](mailto:steven.castle@saintedmundschurch.org.uk)  
giving their name and postal address  
(having first obtained their permission to supply this personal information).

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to the latest edition of this magazine and to The Orbit pew sheet.

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### MARCH MAGAZINE

*All contributions for  
the March Magazine  
to be with Jenny Jones by  
**Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February***

**020 8866 7173**

**[jonesjennye@googlemail.com](mailto:jonesjennye@googlemail.com)**

*The March Magazine  
will be available  
from Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> February*

# FR. MICHAEL'S LETTER

---

Dear Friends,

As I write this letter in mid-January, there are signs that spring may not be far away, as the snowdrops in the vicarage garden make their annual appearance, and some of the crocuses are beginning to sprout. Although winter still clearly has a hold the signs of spring remind us that, even beyond the darkest months, hope and renewal are near at hand.

In the church calendar, February brings us to the threshold of Lent, as Ash Wednesday falls later this month, on 18<sup>th</sup> February. Lent is a solemn season, inviting us to reflect, to pray, and to reassess our spiritual lives. It is an opportunity to contemplate what is really important, to lay aside the distractions of daily life, and to prepare our hearts and minds for the coming celebration of Easter. I encourage you to consider your observance of Lent this year. Whether you choose to forgo certain comforts or perhaps take on something extra, adopt a new spiritual discipline, or simply dedicate a moment each day to quiet reflection, I hope this Lent will be a period of profound spiritual nourishment for us all. We will again have a Lent Course, which will begin on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> February, and I would encourage as many as possible to join this as it is incredibly helpful to share our faith with others and learn from each other.

As we move further into 2026, the PCC will be sharing our Mission action plan with everyone to help us move forward and grow through the year. I would encourage everyone to familiarise themselves with the document when it is published and get involved as much as possible.

Connie Ambrose and Hilda Greenfield have over many years led the Women's Guild here at St. Edmund's, and have both decided to step down from their posts. Both have done magnificent jobs in growing the Guild and making the meetings both interesting and fun, and I would like to thank them for all they have done. There is however now a need for others to take on the role of organising the meetings, so if you feel you are able to do that, do please speak to Connie or Hilda who will be able to guide you in what needs to be done. Although it's called the *Women's Guild*, it is open to everyone, so gender is no barrier to being an organiser.

Occasionally, I do get feedback from a sermon; recently, Richard Mount, following the sermon I preached at the All Age Epiphany Eucharist, shared a poem he had written some time ago and he has given me permission to include it here.

I hope as we move further into 2026 at a time when society sometimes appears divided or hurried, that we may strive to act with intentional kindness and generosity, both within our parish and throughout the wider community.

With love and prayers.

*Fr. Michael*

# IF JESUS CAME TODAY

by Richard Mount

If Jesus came today  
What would he be like  
Would he wear golden Lycra  
And ride a golden bike.  
Or would he own a penthouse  
And choose to drive a Porsche  
Create his own podcast  
To monetise his thoughts.  
Would he sell merchandise  
Exploit his family tree  
Capture the zeitgeist  
Appear at Glastonbury.  
Would he eat McDonalds  
As Stormzy hopes he might  
Would he use his Facebook page  
To show us all the light.  
Would he wear a cross  
Would he wear leather shoes  
Would he pierce his tongue  
Would he have tattoos.  
Would he enter politics  
What party would he join  
Would he be a businessman  
Investing in bitcoin.  
Would he argue with Piers Morgan  
Shouting to be heard  
Would he go on Question Time  
Just to spread the word  
Would he accept a Knighthood  
Would he bow to the King  
Would he have a six pack  
Would he go to the gym.  
Would he influence his followers  
Sell the clothes he wears  
Would he charge a small fee  
For a mention in his prayers.  
Jesus is with us  
Jesus is love  
What would he be like  
Ignore all the above.

## CALENDAR AND PRINCIPAL SERVICE READINGS FEBRUARY 2026

**Principal Service** - Sung Eucharist at 10.00 am every Sunday

- 1 SUN THE PRESENTATION OF CHRIST IN THE TEMPLE (CANDLEMAS)**  
Malachi 3.1-5, Hebrews 2.14-end, Luke 2.22-40
- 8 SUN 2<sup>nd</sup> SUNDAY BEFORE LENT**  
Isaiah 49.8-16a, 1 Corinthians 4.1-5, Matthew 6.25-34
- 15 SUN SUNDAY NEXT BEFORE LENT**  
Exodus 24.12-18, 2 Peter 1.16-21, Matthew 17.1-9
- 18 WED ASH WEDNESDAY**  
Joel 2.1-2,12-17, 2 Corinthians 5.20b-6.10, John 8.1-11
- 22 SUN 1<sup>st</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT**  
Genesis 2.15-17; 3.1-7, Romans 5.12-19, Matthew 4.1-11
- 26 Thur Lent Course Starts - then every Thursday to 10<sup>th</sup> April



### ASH WEDNESDAY

The beginning of Lent

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> February 2026

Eucharist at 10.00 am

Sung Eucharist at 8.00 pm

Imposition of Ashes will be offered at both Eucharists

### OTHER DIARY DATES

- |                                |                  |
|--------------------------------|------------------|
| Sunday 15 <sup>th</sup> March  | Mothering Sunday |
| Sunday 29 <sup>th</sup> March  | Palm Sunday      |
| Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> April | Maundy Thursday  |
| Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> April   | Good Friday      |
| Sunday 5 <sup>th</sup> April   | EASTER DAY       |

**SUNDAY SCHOOL**



**at St Edmund's Church**

**For more information  
call Carol 07827 159 586**



**BRING - AND - BUY  
SALE**

**1st SUNDAY OF  
EACH MONTH**

**11.15am IN THE HALL**

Part of our Eco Church Project

## **St. EDMUND'S YOUTH GROUP**

Meets usually every 2 weeks  
on Wednesdays during term time;  
7.30 - 9 pm, in the Hall. Open to all aged 10-16.

Contact Steve Castle on 020 8868 0482 for information.

See [www.saintedmundschurch.org.uk/youthgroup](http://www.saintedmundschurch.org.uk/youthgroup)  
for details and dates

# PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL NOTES

December and January is a quiet time for the PCC in regard to formal meetings and discussions. However, as you've come to expect everything continues as always; bills are paid, donations counted, bins are emptied, bulbs are changed and a lot more besides, some of which I'm still learning about.

With the additional services over Christmas, it's not only Fr. Michael, the Servers and Choir who have extra commitments; Churchwardens, Sidespeople and the Flower Guild have an increase in their workload as well. As a PCC, it is our ultimate responsibility to ensure that the 'support' side of things work like clockwork and almost invisibly. This year we had the added complication of the internet being cut off on Christmas evening affecting many in the local area. At St. Edmund's, we take our communications and online service availability extremely seriously, as we know how important it is for those unable to attend church in person. Thankfully one of our Churchwardens was able to create a workaround to allow us to continue to broadcast the services live online.

When attending services it was so lovely to have a warm welcome from the familiar faces of our Sidespeople, some I'm sure only went home to turn around and come back! This is a huge part of the planning of services from a PCC perspective, and conversations could frequently be heard checking that people were available to help during the services. We are fortunate that we have PCC members in a wide range of roles along with experienced volunteers, so as a collective PCC we can be confident in the smooth running of the various roles.

We are also looking forward to our Annual Parochial Church Council meeting (the ecclesiastical equivalent of an AGM), on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> March. As always, it is a time when we reflect on the year, look to the future and vacancies become available not only for PCC members, but also for other roles as we update rosters. One of the invisible teams are the Church cleaners. There are a few teams who rotate monthly so that the duty is shared. Different teams meet at different times, sometimes after the Sunday service but the team I'm on, led by Hilda, with Connie and Wendy, clean on Thursdays after the service; it is a lovely way to start the day, with a service, refreshments and a natter followed by a bit of polishing, dusting, sweeping and vacuuming. If becoming part of the PCC or helping in one of the many vital roles involved in running St. Edmund's is of interest to you, now, at the beginning of the year it is a great time to make those enquiries. Just have a chat with me or any member of the PCC and we'll be pleased to discuss how you might be able to serve.

Amanda Roberts, PCC Secretary

# RAISE THE ROOF UPDATE

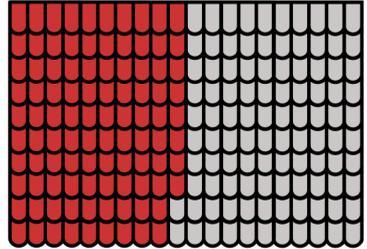


Since October last year we have managed to raise an additional £4,000 for our Raise the Roof appeal, thanks to a wonderful Christmas Bazaar, continuing successful Bring and Buy sales and generous personal donations from members of the Church and surrounding community. Please accept my heartfelt thanks.

As you can see, our total now stands at £98,000 raised with £102,000 to go.

The Fundraising Team will be meeting very shortly to plan fundraising events for 2026.

If you are reading this and have any new ideas, or a request for a previous favourite event to be repeated, please let me or one of the team know: Fr. Michael, Carol Diggins or James Mair.



**£98,000 raised    £102,000 to raise**

## Personal Donations: An Appeal

We can only reach our fund-raising target through a combination of prayer, collective fundraising events, grants and personal donations.

If, after prayerful thought and consideration, you feel able to make a personal donation towards the Hall and Lady Chapel roof replacement, it would be greatly appreciated.

Donations may be made in several ways:

- by bank transfer to our account with CAF Bank (preferred method, as we receive the whole amount with no fees taken):
  - account name: PCC of St. Edmund The King, Northwood Hills
  - sort code: 40-52-40
  - account number: 00017222
  - optional reference “Raise the Roof”
- by online donation via credit or debit card or PayPal by clicking the “Donate here” button on our website: [www.saintedmundschurch.org.uk](http://www.saintedmundschurch.org.uk)
- by cheque, made payable to PCC of St. Edmund The King (with “Raise the Roof” written on the reverse, please). Cheques may be sent to The Treasurer, St. Edmund’s Church, 2 Pinner Road, Northwood. HA6 1QS.

Finally, please continue to keep the project in your prayers as we seek to keep our Hall and Lady Chapel open, safe and available for all in our Parish.

With my best wishes    Steve Castle

It's hard to believe that Lent starts this month, when I'm still reporting about the services of Christmas, which were sublime as ever, conducted with the perfect amount of dignity and joy. The Blessing of the Crib had the ever-impressive Harrow Concert Band to accompany its carols and to play seasonal favourites after the service. The Church was thronged with families who enjoyed listening to Fr. Michael and Nicky Setterfield presenting a new version of the Christmas Story told through chocolate and other edible products: I believe Star-bars and Angel Delight came into it somewhere! (You get the idea.) The sweets etc. were distributed among the excited youngsters who leapt to catch them. After the service there was a well-attended Eucharist for those who could not get to Midnight Mass or on Christmas Day.

The Church glowed atmospherically with candles and fairy-lights for Midnight Mass. Our organist in Mark's absence was an exceptionally talented 18-year-old, Alex, who was quick to pick up on the vagaries of this special service, and was willing to listen to information and requests for help when rehearsing the choir. He played again for the Christmas Morning Eucharist, when the order of service was more geared to the young, meaning that he needed to leap between the piano and the organ quite a bit, which he did with alertness and celerity! That young man will go far. On this occasion, Fr. Michael assembled a group of mainly young people to play a game of 'Pass the Parcel' in which all the wrappings had some relevance to the Christmas Story. The gift inside, a box of 'Celebrations' (get it?) was won by Fr. Michael and duly handed out.

It was so good to have a continuation of Christmas devotion through the days that followed - after all, the Greater Christmas Season goes on till 2<sup>nd</sup> February, with the Feasts of St. Stephen, St. John, the Holy Family, and others. On Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> January we were fortunate to have as our organist Robert Jones, talented Director of Music for Eastcote and Ruislip Choral Society. He too was very helpful in rehearsal and tackled our organ with assurance and panache.

Yes, we've been extremely lucky with our music this Christmastide; Alex returned to accompany our New Year's Eve Service of Devotion and Benediction on Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> December. We sang Britten's evocative New Year Carol to open the service, which started at the Font for our Act of Repentance. We then focused on the Word of God with readings from the lectern, before the Renewal of the Covenant, when the Blessed Sacrament was revered at the Altar. We prayed that God's will might be done in us, in whatever He required of us. Then Fr. Michael made the sign of the cross in Blessing over us with the Holy Sacrament. It was a peaceful, reflective service, putting us in a devout and thoughtful mood for New Year.

There was a well-attended morning Eucharist on New Year's Day (the Feast of the Circumcision of Christ), after which we were invited to the Vicarage for a celebratory glass of bubbly, and some tasty nibbles in which Monty the dog took a keen but restrained interest! It was a cordial and convivial atmosphere: thank you, Fr. Michael, for your hospitality.

We celebrated the Feast of Epiphany on Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> January with an All-Age service. Fr. Michael revived an old tradition: 'the Proclamation of the Moveable Dates of the Church' for the year - and then asked three young people each to place a symbol of one of the gifts of the Wise Men in our crib, after talking about them and their significance. Then, he spoke of King Herod getting news of the child that threatened his kingship, and considered how such news might have been broadcast today. He reflected that when there is a huge news item now, you don't get to choose on how others treat you or your story. Jesus too was endangered by this, when the news of His birth resulted in Herod's soldiers being sent out to kill Him.

This, said Fr. Michael, was the reality of Epiphany, which means the revealing of Christ to the world, with all the riskiness and unpredictability it involved - and He did that for us.

In the Intercessions we all took a pinch of incense to place on the coals in a brazier so that the sweet aroma of its smoke would rise Heavenwards, symbolically taking our prayers with it.

In this period of new beginnings, we celebrated the Baptism of Jesus on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> January, when we renewed our Baptismal Vows. I recommend you listen on YouTube, to Fr. Michael's challenging sermon which encouraged us to renew our mission, both individually and collectively as a parish, in this dark world.

The big solace of a biting January was, of course, the Pantomime, 'Hickory Dickory Dock', by Mike Warrick, on 10<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> January. It was a triumph, with a new and typically wit-filled script, well-painted and effective scenery, great acting and the customarily polished dancing and singing that fills you with joy. The jokes and puns came thick and fast, some Classical (thanks, Mike!) and others on every level from highbrow to topical to utterly groan-worthy!

Peter Heath was sharing the music with Sylvester Gomes this year (we wish David Steward a full recovery from his fall) and some of the songs were of Peter's own composition. Indeed, the show contained a brilliant and varied range of music, superbly performed.

The story was based on the song of the title: time has stopped on the Doldrum clock - an enchantment caused by the nefarious Sir Tempus de Fugit, played villainously well by Mike Warrick. The clock-keeper, a gentle character played sweetly by Jordan Baker, is trapped in the tower, where strangely time seems to go faster, under the same spell. Sir Tempus also owns a flour mill where everyone who disagrees with him has to slog (which some do with extreme lethargy, particularly 'Curmudgeon', a seriously grumpy Jo Newcombe!)

Fortunately, there are plenty of heroic characters determined to put things right: in particular Minimus, a talking mouse (played with cheerful assurance by Jade Stygall). Also bent on recovering Horace is his wife, 'Long Jean' (an engaging and excitable Steve Castle) and her son and his betrothed, Finn and Bess (Poppie Haynes and Chloe Singh) - helped and hindered by Bess's two eccentric aunts, Thyme and Tyde Waytes, (acted hilariously by Nicky Setterfield and Louise Hemming). The Powers for Good were represented graciously by Donna Bryk as Fairy Quartz and Jenny Sakal as the Dryad of Briarthorn Forest - a suitably creepy location for all kinds of magic, [and home to the Tree Matriarch (Holly Baker)]. Jenny also played Knuckles, one of Sir Tempus's brigands, with Amelia Padurariu as her equally dull-witted companion,

Lurch. Especially amusing were the guards, Mortice and Chubb, a dippy Jo Henry and Raluca Lobontiu, who worked effectively as a duo.

The whole evening was a real treat. While mainly following the St. Edmund's tradition of pantomimes, Mike brought fresh life to that tradition, with an original story, 'tweaks' such as having female characters as the main two stooges for a change, and a slightly altered finale, in which the Fairy had her final speech cut off in favour of a round dance by the whole cast, during which they took their bows.

A superlative production, everyone, and much thanks to all who worked backstage, the lighting and sound technicians, the wardrobe department and all those who made the production possible in so many ways.

As I mentioned earlier, Lent begins this month, with Ash Wednesday on 18<sup>th</sup> February, and the Lent Course on Thursdays, starting on 26<sup>th</sup> February, but before then, we have Candlemas on Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> February, a festival of light to celebrate Christ as the Light of the Nations. We pray fervently that this truth will become manifest in our world.

### **News from a Distant Pew**

Kalyani Menon, former parishioner and Churchwarden, sends her love and best wishes to all her friends at St. Edmund's. Although, sadly, no longer able to correspond, she is in good spirits, thinks and prays for us all and is still able to attend services at her church in Hereford.



## **HICKORY DICKORY DOCK**

What a treat to have another original pantomime performed by Arrow Players. The story is set by Long Jean Logical whose husband, Horace Logical, is the clockmaker who has been away for some weeks to mend the clock in Doldrum. Long Jean is getting very worried as he should have been back by now and she is aware that many people who go to Doldrum do not return as Sir Tempus Fugit has a power that keeps them there.

We need not fear, as a feisty mouse, Minimus, and a trusty fairy, Quartz who has the power to change time, were on hand to thwart Sir Tempus Fugit. Minimus and Quartz also had help from the Misses Thyme Wates and Tyde Wates who were probably not far short of their 105<sup>th</sup> birthdays! Plus young sweethearts Finn and Bess. And so the quest began to rescue Horace overcoming forests and guards and Sir Tempus Fugit himself.

The scenery was just right and the moving trees a triumph. A great choice of music and the words in the original songs were perfect. The closing scene 'The Festival Field in Winter' was beautiful. The colours of the costumes, scenery and props were amazing - and there was SNOW! The final bows taken as the dance went around like a clock was a very clever idea.

Well done to everyone involved. Another slick and joyous production, thank you.

Terry and Marian Grealey

# 2<sup>nd</sup> NORTHWOOD (ST. EDMUND'S) SCOUT GROUP

Marjorie Pimm

---

Congratulations to our brilliant team of seven Scouts, who have once again demonstrated their skills and determination by winning the District Chilly Goat Survival camping competition for a record fifth time. This was held at Phasels Wood at the beginning of January, when temperatures barely rose above freezing. Despite these challenging conditions, our Scouts performed exceptionally well, tackling each task with enthusiasm and resilience.

Throughout the competition, the team faced a wide range of survival challenges, including:

- Responding to a simulated first aid incident
- Air rifle shooting
- Archery
- Constructing tin can burners
- Creating water filters
- Building shelters
- Undergoing survival training
- Fire Lighting

A huge thank you to Team Catering, whose Michelin Star meals ensured that everyone was well-fed throughout the weekend.

We take great pride in our Scouts, particularly for their commitment to teamwork. However, this would not be possible without our dedicated team of leaders and parent helpers who give their spare time to help young people learn new skills, develop confidence and most importantly have fun.

## **Are you up for a challenge?**

We are looking for leaders to support our existing teams :

Beavers (ages 6-8), Cubs (ages 8-10 ½), (Scouts ages 10 ½ –14).

No experience necessary - we will provide full support and training.

If you think this is for you, our Group Lead Volunteer, Amanda,  
e-mail [amanda.roberts@renscouts.org.uk](mailto:amanda.roberts@renscouts.org.uk)  
would be delighted to hear from you.



# HYMN OF THE MONTH

Mike Godden

Not knowing what the future holds brings an uneasiness to our lives, but in this hymn we are given the words for our prayer that God would guide us through the pilgrimage of a life of unknowns, expressed as an allusion to the Israelites' journey through the desert to reach the Promised Land.

Guide me, O Thou great Redeemer,  
Pilgrim through this barren land;  
I am weak, but Thou art mighty,  
Hold me with Thy powerful hand.  
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven,  
Feed me now and evermore,  
Feed me now and evermore.

Open now the crystal fountain  
Whence the healing stream doth flow;  
Let the fiery cloudy pillar  
Lead me all my journey through.  
Strong deliverer, strong deliverer,  
Be Thou still my strength and shield,  
Be Thou still my strength and shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan,  
Bid my anxious fears subside.  
Death of death, and hell's destruction,  
Land me safe on Canaan's side.  
Songs of praises, songs of praises  
I will ever give to Thee,  
I will ever give to Thee.

The original text of the hymn was written in 1762 in Welsh by William Williams, a nonconformist preacher. It was translated into English by Peter Williams (no relation!) in 1771. Current usage is usually the first verse of Peter's translation, and the last two from William's own later translation into English. Williams (1717-1791), was born near Llandovery, Carmarthenshire. He originally studied medicine, but abandoned it for theology. He was ordained Deacon in the Church of England, but was refused Priest's Orders, and subsequently attached himself to the Calvinistic Methodists. For half a century he travelled in Wales, preaching the Gospel.

Peter Williams (1722-1796) was also born in Carmarthanshire. He was ordained in the Church of England in 1744. His evangelical convictions soon took over and joined the Calvinist Methodists in 1746. He served as an itinerant preacher for many years and was a primary figure in the Welsh revival of the eighteenth century. After being expelled by the Methodists in 1791 on a charge of heresy, he ministered in his own chapel during the last years of his life.

The tune mostly used for the hymn is Cwm Rhondda, composed in 1905 by John Hughes (1873-1932). Its magnificent melody is surely a major contributor to the popularity of the hymn, not least wherever the Welsh Ruby Union team is playing. Hughes was born in Glamorganshire. He received little formal education; at age twelve he was already working as a doorboy at his local colliery, eventually becoming an official in the traffic department of the Great Western Railway. Much of his energy was devoted to the Salem Baptist Church in Pontypridd, where he served as both deacon and precentor.

Guide me, O Thou great Re-deem-er, pil - grim through this bar - ren land.



**Brownies**  
Northwood

6<sup>th</sup> Northwood Brownies

Brownies is part of Girlguiding and open to girls aged 7-10

We meet at St Edmund's Hall on Wednesday's 5.30pm to 7pm

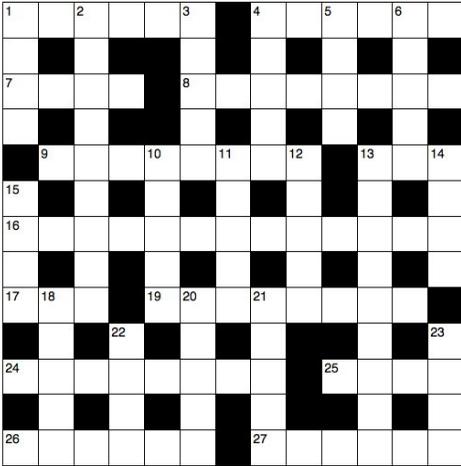
For more information contact Nicola at [brownies6northwood@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:brownies6northwood@yahoo.co.uk)



### January Crossword Solution

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

## FEBRUARY CROSSWORD



### ACROSS

1. 'If you love those who love you, what — is that to you?' (*Luke 6.32*) (6)
4. 'They threw the ship's — overboard' (*Acts 27.19*) (6)
7. The first murderer (*Genesis 4.8*) (4)
8. He was the head Levite in charge of the singing when the ark of God was brought back to Jerusalem (*1 Chronicles 15.22*) (8)
9. Samson was noted for this (*Judges 16.6*) (8)
13. Solicit money or food from passers by (*Acts 3.2*) (3)
16. What William Booth's Christian Mission became in 1878 (9,4)
17. Alliance of Religions and Conservation (1,1,1)
19. 'I will praise your name for ever and ever. — — I will praise you' (*Psalms 145.1-2*) (5,3)
24. Simon had (anag.) (8)
25. Desperate (*Deuteronomy 28.48*) (4)
26. Elisha witnessed the boy he was seeking to resuscitate do this seven times before opening his eyes (*2 Kings 4.35*) (6)
27. The belly and thighs of the statue in Nebuchadnezzar's dream were made of this (*Daniel 2.32*) (6)

### DOWN

1. 'Before the — crows, you will disown me three times' (*Matthew 26.75*) (4)
2. Relating to the books of the Bible between Acts and Revelation (9)
3. 'They have — the Lord out of the tomb, and we don't know where they have put him!' (*John 20.2*) (5)
4. Belief (5)
5. 'Take the following fine spices: ... 250 shekels of fragrant — ' (*Exodus 30.23*) (4)
6. 'Do not — Jerusalem, but wait for the gift' (*Acts 1.4*) (5)
10. A seer (anag.) (5)
11. 'Even there your hand will — me' (*Psalms 139.10*) (5)
12. The wild variety was part of John the Baptist's diet (*Mark 1.6*) (5)
13. A non-Greek speaker who was looked down on by civilized people (*Colossians 3.11*) (9)
14. Famous 1950s musical whose characters included members of 16 Across, — and Dolls (4)
15. The province from which Paul wrote to the Corinthians (*1 Corinthians 16.19*) (4)
18. 'He was standing in the gateway with a linen cord and a measuring — — his hand' (*Ezekiel 40.3*) (3,2)
20. 'Today, if you hear his — , do not harden your hearts as you did in the rebellion' (*Hebrews 3.15*) (5)
21. The Jericho prostitute who hid two Israelite spies on the roof of her house (*Hebrews 11.31*) (5)
22. 'And now these three remain. faith, — and love. But the greatest of these is love' (*1 Corinthians 13.13*) (4)
23. 'God has numbered the days of your reign and brought it to an end' (*Daniel 5.26*) (4)