

Donations

November 2025

**GREETINGS FROM
LUDLOW
METHODIST
CHURCH**



Memorial to the 72,311 Missing on the Somme, Thiepval,
the Somme

When there is no peace

They dress the wound of My people as though it were not serious. "Peace, peace," they say, when there is no peace. (Jeremiah 6:14)

I wonder what peace felt like in 1945, after 9th May or 16th August? These, of course, were the days after Victory in Europe Day and then Victory in Japan Day. Once the parties and hangovers were cleared up, life would go on as before, for many months to come: with shortages, rationing, men overseas, houses bombed and people on the move. On the continent and in the Far East it was much worse.

What does it feel like now? Yes, we have had 'peace' of sorts in most of Europe between the major continental powers for decades, which is an achievement, but there is no peace in Ukraine, the Middle East or Sudan. If anything, the world is now looking to be a more dangerous place.

This verse from the prophet Jeremiah was the theme of a sermon recently. The preacher talked about peace making, peace keeping and a lasting peace, which are not the same and require different skills. In and after the Second World War *peace making* meant winning the war and defeating evil. *Peace keeping* was occupying the defeated lands until they could establish communities built on democracy and justice. (The preacher was born exactly nine months after either VE or VJ Day, so he was a 'child of peace'!)

What about a *lasting peace*? Many world leaders say, "Peace, Peace" but they mean only *peace on their terms* and do not care about anything else.

As Christians we should:

Pray for the *peace makers*: the women and men in the forces

Pray for *peace keepers*: the experts helping to build new societies

Pray for *lasting peace*: the willingness of world leaders and politicians to act for the greater good.

Celebrate CHRISTMAS

at Ludlow Methodist Church

A Christmas Fayre with a difference



Saturday 29th November 2025
10.00am to 2.00pm

Stalls with things to buy as you prepare for Christmas, alongside activities to help you think about the true meaning of Christmas:

**Cards, Cakes, Preserves, Crafts, Books
and 'Good as New' Gifts.**

**Carol singing, Craft activities
and a Graffiti Wall**

Tea, coffee and soup-lunch in the Café
without charge, but a donation will be appreciated!

All proceeds to church funds

Ludlow Methodist Church

Broad Street, Ludlow



Items can be brought to the church the day before between 3-5pm, when the tables will be set up. Or at 8.30am on the day.

Restless

Hidden within, perhaps unknown, in but a few a longing
grown
Restless for the restless sea, longing for the wild places
Seeking refuge from man's clamour, searching for the open
spaces
Scanning for the bleak and bare, searching for the forest
way
Tracking down contrasting places, where mother nature still
holds sway

We who are led and those who lead, we wilfully avert our
sight
Settled in our quiet streets, with pavements smooth beneath
our feet
We feel secure, and cannot quite believe those who predict
our plight

Pip Hollins

A minister bought a new car with a high-tech information on-board computer. One Sunday morning he got into the car to drive to church and the digital display lit up. He glanced at the screen and laughed as he read the announcement : " Time for service."

Stephen Dalton

Loose Cannons

More myths debunked...

'Rum, Sodomy and the Lash'

The expression is still widely believed to have been Churchill's opinion of the three cornerstones of British naval might and tradition and, unusually for false attribution, credit for the coinage was laid at his door while he was still alive. His last Private Secretary, Anthony Montague-Brown, recalls in his memoirs that Churchill frequently lamented that he hadn't thought of the jibe, but whoever did was far from original. Expressions targeting three main failings, with the first being rum, are nothing new and seem to be of American invention not British. In 1884, the tub-thumping Republican, the Reverend Doctor Samuel Dickinson Burchard, neatly scotched his own party's hopes for James G Blaine in his run for the presidency against Grover Cleveland with a New York speech including the sentiment: 'We are Republicans and don't propose to leave our party and identify ourselves with the party whose antecedents are rum, Romanism and rebellion.' His comments were aimed at the Mugwumps, a Republican splinter group gone over to the Cleveland camp, but it was the inclusion of 'Romanism' that lost Blaine the Catholic vote and the White House.

It seems to have been well before World War 1 that Burchard's gaffe was adapted to describe life before the mast in the British Navy, this transition likely through an existing British Army joke that the Royal Navy equivalent of wine, women and song was rum, bum and concertina. And neither expression shows any indication of fading from use. In 1977 the army tag was used by the British jazz musician George Melly as the title of his autobiography, and *Rum, Sodomy and the Lash* appeared as the title of a 1985 album issued by The Pogues, an Irish band originally named Pogue Mahone (Irish for Kiss my a***). They apparently dropped the offensive element after the BBC made it clear that their records would not be played until they changed their name.

Full credit to Graeme Donald 'Loose Cannons'.

Ron Gittings

Holy Days

Nov 1: The first martyrs – the ‘seed’ of the Christian Church

The first martyrs of Rome are recorded in the old Roman Martyrology, which states that:

‘At Rome, the birthday is celebrated of very many martyrs, who under the Emperor Nero were falsely charged with the burning of the city and by him were ordered to be slain by various kinds of cruel death; some were covered with the skin of wild beasts, and cast to the dogs to be torn asunder; others were crucified, and then when daylight failed used as torches to illuminate the night. All these were disciples of the apostles and the first fruits of the martyrs whom the Holy Roman Church sent to their Lord before the apostles’ death.’

Nov 4: Charles Borromeo - the un-ordained archbishop

Why should being a ‘lay’ person stop you from as full a ministry as being ordained? Here is a saint for all lay people who suspect they can do as good a job....

Charles Borromeo was an Italian who lived in Milan from 1538 to 1584. His uncle, Pope Pius IV, made him Archbishop of Milan three years before Charles even became a priest, let alone a bishop. Charles, however, was one of the ablest and most compassionate Christian leaders of his age. He established theological colleges to train future clergy, encouraged children to be taught the Christian faith, and increased the help given to the poor.

Nov 5: The Kea to toothache?

Kea was an early Christian and a monk from a good family who left Glastonbury to work in Devon and Cornwall, where Landkey (Devon) and Kea (Cornwall) bear his name. He founded several Christian centres in the area before going on to Brittany to become the saint known there as ‘Saint-Quay’. It seems that Kea may also have tried a bit of early dentistry, as down the centuries since he has been invoked over the problems of toothaches.

St Andrew and football

‘Some people think football is a matter of life and death. I don’t like that attitude. I can assure them it is much more serious than that’ (Bill Shankley). When you replace the word ‘football’ with ‘mission’, this quote still has something to say! The apostle Andrew (we remember him on 30th November) demonstrates what the mission of the Church is all about (cf John 1:35-42). It’s not unlike following your favourite football team!

When we support a football team, we make sure that we know all about them! When Andrew and his friend heard about Jesus, they wanted to find out more: *‘Look, the Lamb of God.’* (John the Baptist, v35). The first stage of mission is finding out more about Jesus, the One who enables us to be friends of God through His death and resurrection.

Secondly, when supporting a football team, we will spend time watching their games. Andrew asked, ‘where are you staying?’ and Jesus replied, ‘Come and you will see’ (v39). Andrew spent the rest of the day talking and listening to Jesus. As a result of this time, he had something to share. How much time do we spend with Jesus, reading His word and praying?

When our team wins, we want to share the good news! After meeting Jesus, Andrew’s first action was to tell his brother Peter: ‘We have found the Messiah’ (that is, the Christ)’ (v41). Are we willing to tell others about Him too? Sharing with family and close friends can sometimes be harder than talking with strangers. However, we don’t need to follow a football team to engage in mission. It’s all about being excited to share Jesus with those we meet day by day.

‘Mission is seeing what God is doing and joining in’ (Rowan Williams).

“As you may know, I’ve been missing from church for the past couple of months, having had open-heart surgery in Birmingham to correct a couple of defects that I previously had been blissfully ignorant of. That was followed by a further few days in Hereford to clear up some post-surgery complications. I’m now recovering slowly and beginning to get out and about around town, - avoiding steep uphill gradients when possible!

I would like to thank all those folk who have sent cards and messages of encouragement, and who have prayed for my recovery, with particular thanks to Ron & Barbara for the loan of a shower stool – a real godsend in the first weeks back home.

I must also say I thank God for the amazing skill of the surgeons at QEH, and for the amazing care and kindness of the nursing staff, both there and in Hereford, most of whom were immigrants or the children of immigrants, a reminder that we need to value the people who make our NHS what it is.”

Best wishes,

Geoff

Quotes

War is not an act of God but a crime of man. - *Cordell Hull, former US Secretary of State*

Death takes away the difference between king and beggar, and tumbles both the knight and the pawn into one bag. - *Thomas Adams, son of US President John Adams*

Death is but a passage out of a prison into a palace. - *John Bunyan, writer and non-conformist preacher*

Look upon death as a thing you must meet with; look upon yourselves as a thing you must part with. - *William Dyer*

He may look on death with joy who can look on forgiveness with faith. - *Thomas Watson*

Words and ‘The Word’

At our Church in the Café evening services this year we have been following the ‘Bible Month’ theme of John’s Gospel. Each month the leader has chosen their own favourite or meaningful passage from John. In October I took the opening verses of John’s Gospel: **“In the beginning was the Word ...”**

I tried, not altogether successfully, to contrast the frailty of our words with the reliability of ‘The Word’ that is God. But I wasn’t satisfied with what I did that evening, so I want to have another go here, taking a slightly different approach.

Firstly then, what do we mean by ‘The Word’? The simple answer is Jesus, but there’s more. John goes on to say: **“... and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind.”** (John 1: 1-4, NIV). This is the foundation of our Trinitarian understanding of God: Father (creator), Son (with God), Spirit (life and light). But perhaps the most important words here are: **“In the beginning”**, implying that Jesus didn’t arrive on the scene only 2,000 years ago, but has been God since the beginning of time. In Genesis we read that God spoke creation into being (with words?). So ‘The Word’ is everything that we understand about God, and everything that we understand about God is seen in Jesus. God’s Word/Jesus’ words are reliable.

Contrast that with our words. Today we live in an age of ‘fake news’, rumours, innuendo, divisive language, hate-speech, Social Media fuelled by algorithms, political posturing and fear of being ‘cancelled’ for saying the wrong thing. Words that we grew up with now have new meanings; some are fashionable amongst the younger generation, such as ‘sick’ or ‘wicked’ now meaning great or good. Others are more profound such as ‘gay’ which used to mean happy or fun. We can so easily trip over our words and cause unintended confusion or even offence. And then there are words that society seems to have become afraid of – people no longer die, they pass. Health and Safety does not permit ‘accidents’, they are ‘incidents’ which could have been prevented.

If you’ve read this far, perhaps you no longer trust the words I am using! Yet, we depend on words for our everyday communication; they are essential.

In my talk at Church in the Café I probably lost many of those present by quoting from a book I have been reading*, which delights in mixing poetry and theology. The author talks about words that are trapped on the page, like caged birds. We take them at face-value; we want them to make sense. But in poetry, the words are released from their cages, where they can dance and fly like wild birds. Perhaps to understand theological concepts we need to allow the written words to dance in the Spirit of God. I quoted a philosophy lecturer who said “I only answer the questions that nobody asked”. For me, that is the wonder of God and of theological exploration – it provides answers to questions that I didn’t know I needed to ask.

So that brings me back to ‘The Word’. In our prayer and worship we encounter the God who is beyond mere words – we become wordless and wait for the unknown Word to be spoken. When our words, or lack of them, are overtaken by ‘The Word’ we are free to fly into the presence of God.

Mike Owens

* Ruben Alves: ‘The Poet. The Warrior. The Prophet.’

Getting Older

Every time I cough, splutter, or sneeze, my radiant leaks and my exhaust backfires.

The good thing about having a bad memory is that jokes can be funny more than once

I’m not hard of hearing……I’ve heard enough

Be kind to your kids. They choose your nursing home

Money isn’t everything, but it sure keeps you in touch with your children

Green Pages

A round-up of environmental
and climate-change news

November 2025

To be a pilgrim

What I love about pilgrimage is its simplicity. On any particular day there is no question about what I should do or even what I should wear. Come rain or shine I will walk to the next place on the map, wearing the least dirty of the two sets of clothing I have with me.

In a world where so many people are overwhelmed, this can be a welcome relief. The mental energy released from making decisions can be invested in a relationship with God, self and the environment. My physical body is occupied, so my mind can cartwheel through the sky!

I love to travel alone, but one of the joys of recent years has been the creation of a group pilgrimage, which usually takes place at Easter.

In 2019 we struggled to get up to five people for the first one, two of whom were the leaders. But last Easter eleven pilgrims made our way through the South Shropshire hills from Monday to Saturday, staying at Methodist Churches overnight.

We are fortunate to have some glorious countryside to travel through and we have learned that it is not the number of miles we have walked or the routes we have chosen that make the pilgrimage the rich experience that it is. Our joint commitment is to become an ‘occasional community’, sharing a common way of life along the way. This is expressed through a daily rhythm of prayer, the preparation of meals and bedding down together in the same building overnight.

All this requires a care for each person and consideration of our different needs. I think it is from this wellspring that ‘holy moments’ have come, just as much as when we stand together at the top of a hill with the skylark singing overhead.

*The Rev Rachel Parkinson
former Chair of the Wolverhampton and Shrewsbury Methodist District*

Gold Eco church award for Chester

Wesley is a city centre church communicating the gospel as a Fairtrade Church, Inclusive Church and a Church of Sanctuary. Our Eco Church journey began in 2020 when we started an eco-group. We went on to achieve the bronze award in May 2021, silver in February 2024 and gold in July 2025.

We commissioned an environmental audit by 'Inspired Efficiency' in 2023. We changed our gas tariff to a greener one, replaced lighting with LED lights, replaced some of the existing windows to improve insulation and installed solar panels in February 2025.

We have regular eco displays in the church foyer and have led services including Climate Sunday, Creationtide, Harvest and themes based on books we've studied in church book groups, such as Braiding Sweetgrass. We've also held Zoom discussions on plastic waste, climate change and difficult questions relating to environmental themes.

Engaging with the wider community has been an important part of our environmental aims. The church is used throughout the week by a large number of people in a variety of activities. We have widely advertised some events such as a pancake evening focusing on issues around food and the LOAF principles (Local, Organic, Animal-friendly and Fair trade) and a Tax Justice talk by a trustee of Just Money, attended by members from other city churches and a local councillor. We've had meetings with our local MPs.

Working through the Eco Award levels has helped us to appreciate the need to reduce our collective and individual carbon footprints, in line with the Methodist Church's aspiration to reach net zero by 2030. We are linked with the District and Connexional Environmental Network. We are also part of local environmental events such as Great Big Green Week and promote Eco Church with our stalls at Green Fairs.

Our weekly church and circuit bulletins have an Eco Matters slot with lifestyle tips and local environmental issues. The Eco Church journey has helped us appreciate, even more, our part in caring for God's world as an ongoing part of our Christian commitment.

Angela Macquibin, Eco Group convener at Wesley Methodist, Chester

Why we need to stop burning waste

Incineration – burning waste in industrial plants – has become the cheapest and quickest way to deal with the huge amount of rubbish we generate. Even recyclable materials often end up being burned, simply because sorting them is too difficult. Shockingly, many of the items you dutifully put in your recycling bins actually end up being burned - as exposed by *The Big Plastic Count 2024* which found that 58% of household plastic waste is being burned (46% in 2022).

Incineration is a major climate problem, producing around 16 million tonnes of toxic ash and residues in Europe every year, which still need to be sent to landfill. According to the UK Without Incinerators Network, incinerators emit roughly one tonne of CO₂ for every tonne incinerated. About half of this derives from plastic.

On top of this, BBC analysis suggests that deprived areas are ten times more likely to have an incinerator in their community than the wealthiest areas. This raises serious environmental justice concerns through higher risks of pollution plus the health and social costs of living in proximity to incinerators.

Areas with high incineration rates tend to have lower recycling rates, with councils often tied into long-term waste contracts. Despite a government crackdown announced in 2024, new incinerators are *still* being planned and approved. Scotland and Wales have already introduced measures to curb incineration (to varying degrees of success), but in England, overcapacity remains a growing risk.

That's why we support the Zero Waste Europe 'Better than Burning' campaign and have signed an open letter to the UK government calling for a similar ban on new incinerators. If we want a fairer future, we must stop building incinerators and invest in solutions to cut plastic production, reduce waste, and scale up reuse and recycling. Expanding incineration capacity only locks us into decades of burning, when what we really need is less waste in the first place.

'Everyday Plastic' is proud to be one of 156 organisations to sign an open letter calling for an end to new waste incinerators being built.

Everyday Plastic

River pollution

Almost 4,000 people have signed up to a lawsuit against poultry producer, Avara Foods Ltd, and Welsh Water over allegations of "extensive and widespread pollution" in three rivers – the Wye, the Lugg and the Usk (*both organisations deny all claims*).

It is argued that the state of the rivers in recent years has severely affected local businesses, property values and people's enjoyment of the area, and are seeking "substantial damages".

The law firm Leigh Day, said the case was the largest brought over environmental pollution in the UK, on three counts – the number of claimants, the geographical scale of the damage and the total cost of the claims. Those who have joined the group legal claim live or work alongside the rivers, or use them regularly for leisure activities. They want the court to order a clean-up of the rivers, as well as to provide compensation.

A combination of chicken manure and sewage spills are blamed for harming water quality and suffocating fish and other wildlife. All three rivers are protected for their importance to rare wildlife, including otters, freshwater pearl mussels and the Atlantic salmon.

The Wye in particular has become symbolic of widespread concerns over the worsening state of the UK's waterways in recent years. As many as 23 million chickens, a quarter of the UK's poultry production, are raised in the river's catchment area. It flows for 155 miles from its source in the Cambrian Mountains of mid Wales along the border with England to the Severn Estuary. Campaigners have been raising concerns over the state of the river Wye for several years

Steffan Messenger

Environment correspondent, BBC Wales

The Green Pages of the Ludlow Methodist Church monthly magazine are brought to you by the Care for Creation Group.

For more information please contact Elizabeth Wright.

Family Courage - Part 2

Eric Gifford

Eric had a brother, Maurice, who led a very active and colourful life. Born on May 5th 1859 he entered the Merchant Service on the completion of his education, learning his trade aboard the training ship *Worcester*.

He joined the British Steam Navigation Company in 1878 and saw much of the world during his four years with the company. In 1882, having left their employment, he fought in the Mahdist War and then became an Assistant Correspondent to the *Daily Telegraph*.

He moved to Canada, where he was to stay for 11 years. During his time there he joined Lord Minto's *French Scouts* and fought with them in the Red River Rebellion (in what is now Manitoba) earning a medal and clasp.

From here he moved to South Africa and took up the appointment of General Manager of the Bechuanaland Exploration Company, shortly afterwards he became involved in the First Matabele War of 1893.

In the March of that year, the Matabele people revolted against the authority of the British South Africa Company. Their spiritual leader, Milmo, convinced his people that the white settlers were responsible for the cattle disease, locust plague and drought that were bringing great discomfort to the country at that time. His timing was excellent as the country was virtually defenceless, most of the troops having been sent to fight in the Transvaal Republic.

The rebellion began prematurely but, within a week, 244 settlers had been killed in Matabeleland and Mashonaland, hundreds of homes and mines were also burned. The inhabitants of Bulawayo built a defensive perimeter in the middle of the town and armed themselves with whatever weapons they could. Most of the weapons had gone with the troops, but there were hunting rifles, a few artillery pieces and a small mixture of several types of machine guns.

Deciding to go on the offensive rather than wait to be attacked, the settlers organised patrols which became known as the Bulawayo Field Force. These patrols rode into the countryside to rescue surviving settlers and escort them safely to Bulawayo, as well as taking the fight to the enemy. Gifford raised a group of 40 horsemen known as *Gifford's Horse*.

Within a week 20 of the Field Force had been killed and 50 wounded. Gifford was to lose his right arm in one encounter with the enemy.

Milmo laid siege to the town but neglected to cut the telegraph line to Mafeking, enabling the inhabitants to gain more information than they would otherwise have had. The siege lasted several months and was broken by the arrival of two relief columns, almost on the same day, one from the south and one from the north.

The war ended in October 1896 with the assassination of Milmo, shot in the heart by a member of the Bulawayo Field Force. Cecil Rhodes then walked, unarmed, into the Ndebele encampment and persuaded the impi to surrender and lay down their weapons. It was during this war that Baden-Powell learned the scout craft that he would later use as a basis for training young boys in the Scout Movement.

Gifford married on 21st September 1897. Among the wedding presents he gave to his new bride, Marguerite, somewhat bizarrely, was the bullet that had cost him his right arm, now set in Metabele gold! He was appointed CMG and died on 1st July 1910. CMG is Companion to the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George. It's the sixth most senior order in the British Honours System and was created in 1818 by the Prince Regent, primarily to honour those who had given outstanding service to the Commonwealth.

Captain JFP Butler

Eric's nephew, John Fitzhardinge Paul Butler, was born in Gloucestershire in December 1885. He won his VC fighting in the Cameroons. Commissioned into The King's Royal Rifle Corps but attached to the Pioneer Company of the Gold Coast Regiment, West African Frontier Force. His citation, gazetted on 23rd August 1915, reads:

'For most conspicuous bravery in the Cameroons, West Africa.

On 17th November, 1914, with a party of 13 men, he went into the thick bush and at once attacked the enemy, in strength about 100, including several Europeans, defeated them, and captured their machine gun and many loads of ammunition.

On 27th December, 1914, when on patrol duty, with a few men, he swam the Ekam River, which was held by the enemy, alone and in face of brisk fire, completed his reconnaissance on the further bank, and returned to safety. Two of his men were wounded while he was actually in the water'.

He went on to also win the Distinguished Service Order (DSO) and was eventually killed in action on 5th September, 1916, in Matombo, Tanzania, and is buried in the nearby Morogoro Cemetery.

Sources: Max Arthur *Symbol of Courage*

Dupuy R. Ernest and Trevor N *The Collins Encyclopaedia of Military History*

Ron Gittings

Take it easy on those country roads

Country roads may look inviting to drive, but the statistics tell a different story. For collisions on rural roads are around four times more likely to result in a fatality.

Such is the finding of the NFU Mutual Rural Road Safety Report 2024. It found that in 2023, an average of one in every 32 collisions on rural highways resulted in a death, compared to one in every 122 on urban roads. Overall, more than 18 people died on rural roads each week in 2023.

So - what is wrong? It seems it is the sheer number of hazards which motorists may face on a rural road. These include blind corners, narrow roads, road quality, poor visibility, cyclists, pedestrians, horse riders, mud and debris, loose livestock, agricultural vehicles, unexpected road or field entrances, impatient drivers, and Sat-Navs sending people down unsuitable roads.

It all adds up to one simple message: be careful and expect the unexpected on country roads.

We are losing our peregrine falcons

Our peregrine falcons are dying. We have lost 80pc of our UK population in the past 50 years. That make them one of the most-at-risk British birds.

Peregrine falcons are special - they are among the fastest animals on the planet, and the largest species of falcon in the UK. But although some rewilding and conservation projects are underway to help these beautiful predators, they are being decimated by pesticide poisoning and illegal hunting.

According to recent statistics from the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, our peregrine falcon population is shrinking at a rate of about seven per cent a year.

Keen to be Green?

Parish Buying's new energy procurement product, 'Parish Energy' is welcoming new church customers.

Parish Buying (the Church of England's Procurement Team) developed the new, improved energy product after an extensive tender process.

Local churches are being encouraged to look at what the scheme can offer, compared to their current energy contracts, and consider a switch.

'Parish Energy' is available to churches wishing to switch to greener energy and/or who are out of contract with their current energy supplier and want an easier contract arrangement.

Parish Buying says that the benefits of using Parish Energy include saving time and money, as well as supporting renewable energy. Ecotricity offers 100% pure green from UK-based renewable sources, and green gas is also available from Corona (at a premium).

More information at: <https://parishbuying.org.uk/products-services/>

Residential Carol Singing

This year our Carol Singing around the residential homes will take place on the following dates and times in December.

<u>Home</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>
Hagley Place	Wed'sday 3rd	14.30
Churchill	Thursday 11 th	10.30
Four Rivers	Thursday 11 th	11.30
Alexandra House	Friday 12 th	14.30
Hendra House	Friday 12 th	15.30

We will spend between 30-45 minutes at each home and the programme consists of:

Welcome

Poem

3 Carols

The Story

3 Carols

Prayer

3 Carols ending with

'We wish you a Merry Christmas'

Please let Denise or Sarah know if you're able to come along and join in.



Church Concert 11th October



The Rockerfellas

Ruth Owens, violin, and Jane Hughes, piano



Sudoku (Medium)

2		5				8		
			6	5	3			
9							6	
			4		6			1
3								4
7			2		9			
	2							9
			5	7	4			
		4				6		5

Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in
Matthew 7:7-11, Luke 11:5-13

To teach about praying, and God's good gifts, Jesus told this story - 'If you have a visitor arrive in the middle of the night..'

Oh no! I have no bread to feed him! I am so ashamed! What can I do?... I know!



'You would go round to a friend's house.'



I really, really need some bread for a visitor.



Don't bother me. We're all in bed.

I need that bread!



He's not going to go away, is he?

Jesus concluded...

So keep on asking and it will be given, seeking and you will find, knocking and it will be opened... And parents, if your hungry child asks for bread,

'...would you give them a stone?'



'And if they asked for a fish...'



'...would you give them a snake?'



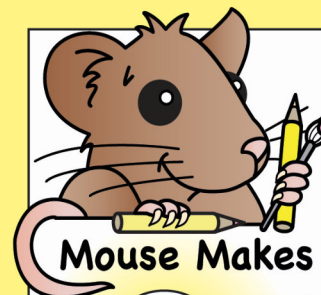
'Or if they asked for an egg...'



'you'd give a scorpion?'



If you, who aren't perfect parents, give good gifts to your children, then don't you think that gifts from your perfect Father, God, will be even better?



LIGHT IN THE DARKNESS

Advent Sunday this year falls on 30th November. ADVENT is a time to celebrate the ARRIVAL of Jesus, God's Son, our Saviour. We look forward with HOPE, we give thanks for God's LOVE and the PEACE and JOY we have in Jesus.



Read:
LUKE 2:10-11
Who is 'God's news of great joy' for?



Read:
John 3:16
How did God show He loves us?



Read:
Isaiah 40:5
What shall be revealed?



Read:
Romans 5:1-2
Through who do we have peace with God?

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

ADVENT • ARRIVAL • HOPE • JOY • LOVE • PEACE • GOD • GLORY
MESSAGE • PROMISE • PROPHECY • FORETOLD • JESUS • SAVIOUR
CHRIST • GIFT • GOOD NEWS • RETURN • CANDLE • LIGHT

