



# St. John the Divine, Coppull

## November 2020

Vicar: Rev Matthew Hornby 01257791218 Pastoral Assistant Mrs. Joyce Heaton 793501  
Churchwardens: Mr. Geoffrey Magrath 794176 Mrs. Joyce Heaton 793501

### From the Vicarage

#### Tier 3

I'm writing this on the day Lancashire enters Tier 3 "very high alert" status. It's possible we may experience even further restrictions before they get lifted. We recognise the very real threat of coronavirus, and continue to pray for those affected, those vulnerable, and those working in the NHS. We also recognise that the various restrictions are having a harmful impact on many of the most vulnerable in our society, including, but not limited to, those with mental health issues, those who are isolated, large families, those who are economically vulnerable, and we continue to pray for these people, and more besides. Furthermore, we recognise that God is still good, he still loves his people, and he has brought his people through greater crises than this. *"For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord."* (Romans 8:38-39)

### Church Services Continue

None of the restrictions introduced since August affect places of worship. We can continue to meet in church for public worship, and will continue to follow the pattern we established back in July, of meeting on a Sunday at 9.30am for in-person worship, following guidelines on social distancing and hygiene, alternating between St John's Coppull and Coppull Parish Church, followed by an online service at 11.00am. Therefore, unless the government introduces further restrictions in the meantime, our in-person services for November will be:

Sunday 1 <sup>st</sup> Nov	9.30am Holy Communion at Coppull Parish Church with Rev Duncan Bell
Sunday 8 <sup>th</sup> Nov	9.30am Service of Remembrance at St John's Coppull
Sunday 15 <sup>th</sup> Nov	9.30am Holy Communion at Coppull Parish Church
Sunday 22 <sup>nd</sup> Nov	9.30am Holy Communion at St John's Coppull with Rev Mike Keulemans
Sunday 29 <sup>th</sup> Nov	9.30am Holy Communion at Coppull Parish Church (Advent Sunday)

### Remembrance Sunday

Remembrance Sunday is a real highlight of the year for me; as it is for many of us. Unfortunately, we will not be able to mark the occasion in quite the way we normally do. I have been in discussion with the Coppull Branch of the Royal British Legion, and this is what we have been able to arrange, following guidelines from the Government, the Royal British Legion nationally, and the Church of England.

We will hold a church service in St John's, Coppull at 9.30am on Sunday 8th November (as we would anyway). This service will have a Remembrance theme and include an Act of Remembrance, a two minutes' silence (though not at 11.00am) and appropriate music (though no congregational singing). We cannot accommodate as many people as we normally would, as we have to social distance, but St John's is such a big church building that we could still safely welcome many more people than normally come to church on a Sunday!

There will be a separate Service of Remembrance outside in the churchyard by the war memorial, with a silence at 11.00am. Attendance at this service must be restricted to invited guests only. The Coppull RBL are inviting representatives of local groups and officials, and are doing their best to make sure that no group is left out. We will try our best to have this service videoed and, if possible, livestreamed, so that people can participate in this event even though they are not able to attend in person.

I realise this falls short of how we usually observe Remembrance Sunday in Coppull, but I trust that this is the most responsible and appropriate way of marking Remembrance under these unusual circumstances.

### Online Ministry

We are continuing our **online ministry** for those who are not yet able to return to physical church meetings with **short Sunday services at 11.00am** on the **Coppull Church of England Facebook** page. We also have a short "morning meditation" consisting of a Bible reading, a prayer and the Lord's Prayer at 11.00am on Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays on the

same Facebook page. Our home group continues to meet via Zoom on Wednesdays at 8.00pm. If you would like to join, and/or would like technical assistance to do so, contact Matt.

## Advent and Christmas

### *Christmas Services*

It seems unlikely that we will be able to celebrate Christingle, Carol Services and Nativity Plays as we normally would. We will continue to hold Sunday services throughout December, and we intend to celebrate Midnight Holy Communion in St John's Church on Christmas Eve, and Christmas Morning Holy Communion in Coppull Parish Church.

Of course, plans may have to change if restrictions change. If so, I will let you know as soon as possible. But the government appears to be committed to allowing church services to continue as long as we continue to socially distance. And the activities below have been designed to be "lockdown-proof".

### *Christmas Charity*

We will be collecting for the following charities this Advent and Christmas:

- Help the Homeless drop-in centre
- Home Start
- Living Waters Food Bank

The Help the Homeless drop-in centre and Living Waters Food Bank both need donations of non-perishable food. There will be a collection box at the back of St John's for Living Waters Food Bank, and a box at the back of Coppull Parish Church for donations to Help the Homeless. Please give generously. There will also be a collection box at the back of Coppull Parish Church from 1<sup>st</sup> November to 13<sup>th</sup> December, collecting toys to be given as Christmas presents to local families in need via Home Start. Please donate a good quality toy, wrap it and label it with the age of the intended recipient. Or you can drop them off with Joyce Gore at 31a Coppull Hall Lane.

### *Advent Windows*

Would you like to decorate your front window and/or front garden for Advent? If we get 24 volunteers, we can do a real-life Advent Calendar around the village this December! We hope to be able to include craft activities and charity collection. Lots of people will be putting lots of effort into Christmas decorations this year. Let's make sure the Christian message of Christmas is not drowned out. Could you decorate your window or garden in a way that relates to the Nativity story? Would you be willing to host a charity collection box and/or a distribute a covid-secure craft for a day? If you'd like to be involved, contact Matt.

### *Stone Painting*

In a similar vein, I know many of you like to paint stones and/or find stones that others have painted. Could you paint a stone with a scene or motif from the Nativity, or with a suitable Bible verse, and place it somewhere around the village for others to find? People can hunt the stones during December, then we can bring the stones into church for our Christmas services. Let Matt know if you're painting a stone, and where you're placing it!

### *Doorstep Christingle*

We aim to distribute instructions for making your own Christingle, together with an explanation of what the orange, the sweets, the candle and the ribbon represent, to the whole village. We may not be able to meet for a Christingle service in church. But we can all stand on our doorsteps at 6pm on Christmas Eve, holding a lighted Christingle, and sing Silent Night!

### *Video Carol Service*

More details to follow in next month's magazine...

Let's show that the church (that is, the people of God) is still active even though we can't make the same use of our buildings. And let's remind people, and ourselves, that Christmas is about God's love for the world in sending his Son Jesus!

Yours in Christ,

Matt

## SERVICES DURING NOVEMBER 2020



Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> 9.30 a.m. Holy Communion – Coppull Parish Church

Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> **Remembrance Sunday**  
9.30 a.m. Holy Communion – Xt. Johns Church


11.00 a.m. Act of Remembrance – Sorry by invitation only

Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> 9.30 a.m. Holy Communion – Coppull Parish Church

Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> 9.30 a.m. Holy Communion - St. Johns Church

Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> **Advent Sunday**  
9.30 a.m. Holy Communion – Coppull Parish Church


### In Flanders' Fields



In Flanders' fields the poppies blow  
Between the crosses, row on row,  
That mark our place: and in the sky  
The larks, still bravely singing, fly  
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the dead. Short days ago  
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,  
Loved and were loved, and now we lie  
In Flanders' fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe;  
To you from failing hands we throw  
The torch; be yours to hold it high,  
If ye break faith with us who die  
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow  
In Flanders' Fields.



### Peace

On the eleventh day of the eleventh month  
The guns had ceased and peace had come,  
Another war with so much loss  
As brave men fought and victories won.

We honour those who gave their lives  
And took up arms against the foe,  
Not knowing if they would return  
But faithful to the call to go.

Battles rage throughout the earth,  
It seems that wars will never cease  
Until the day that Christ returns -  
And only then will there be peace.

The Prince of Peace, Emmanuel  
Will come to end this world of strife  
And as He brings His kingdom in  
He'll usher in eternal life.

# Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in  
Lk 8:40-56, Mt 9:18-26, Mk 5:21-43


Jairus, a town leader, had a 12 year old daughter who was ill and about to die. He came to Jesus and knelt at his feet...

Please come! If you touch her she will be healed.



Jesus went with him.

In the crowd was a woman who had been ill for 12 years.




If I touch his cloak I will be healed

Jesus felt power go out of him



Who touched me?

Jesus waited...



and the woman knew she had to tell him.

She knelt at Jesus' feet and told him everything



Go, daughter. Your faith has healed you.



Then Jairus was told his daughter had just died.




But Jesus said



Don't be afraid, just believe and she will be healed.

When they got to Jairus' house, it was filled with people mourning.



She is not dead, but asleep.

They laughed at Jesus. He sent them out of the house.



Little girl, get up!



At once she stood up!

Her parents were amazed.

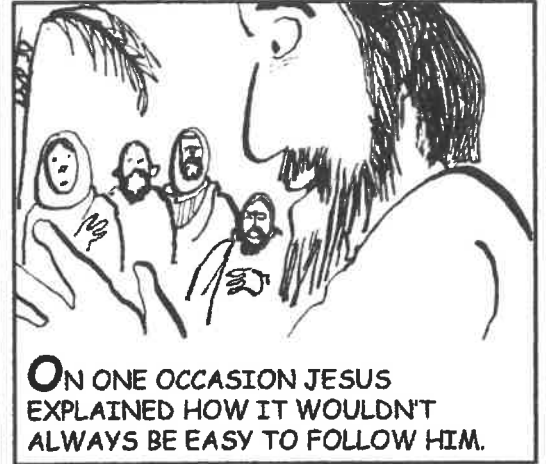


Give her something to eat, and don't tell anyone what has happened.

# The tale of the Tower Builder



JESUS OFTEN TOLD STORIES WITH HIDDEN MEANINGS

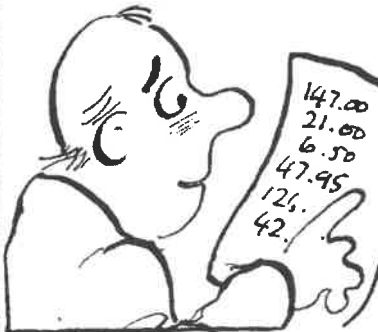


ON ONE OCCASION JESUS EXPLAINED HOW IT WOULDN'T ALWAYS BE EASY TO FOLLOW HIM.



JESUS BEGAN, 'IF ONE OF YOU PLANS TO BUILD A TOWER....'

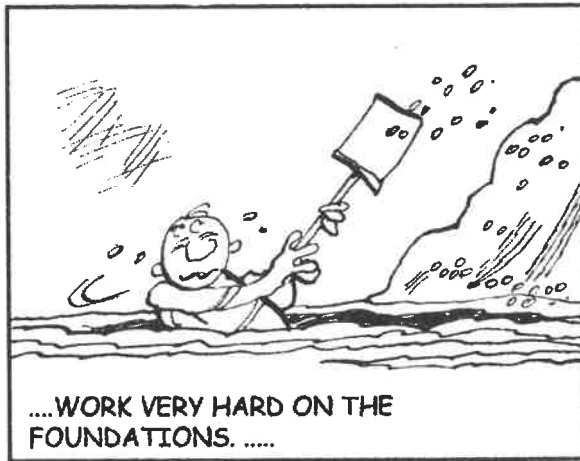
...YOU'LL FIRST NEED TO WORK HOW MUCH IT WILL COST.



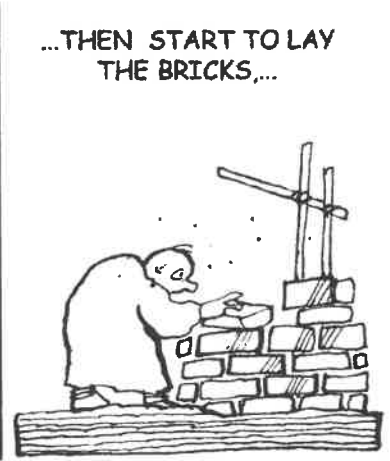
IF YOU DON'T DO THE SUMS....



...YOU MIGHT MAKE A START, ....



....WORK VERY HARD ON THE FOUNDATIONS. ....



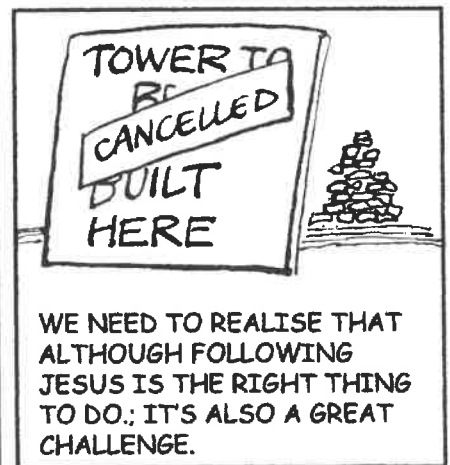
...THEN START TO LAY THE BRICKS,...



...BUT SUDDENLY RUN OUT OF MONEY!!



THEN PEOPLE WILL LAUGH AT YOU!



WE NEED TO REALISE THAT ALTHOUGH FOLLOWING JESUS IS THE RIGHT THING TO DO, IT'S ALSO A GREAT CHALLENGE.

***From the Reaisters:***

**Baptisms**

***We Welcome you into the Family of God***

**Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> October**

**Charles James Orrell**



**WE REMEMBER**



The Somme, Dunkirk and Passchendaele  
Cause us to think of times of war,  
When men and boys went bravely out  
They fought, some died and returned no more.

They gave their all that we should live,  
We never should forget such cost,  
Remembering with thankful hearts  
Our freedom gained as lives were lost.

Another Man gave up His life,  
Another war, another fight,  
With all mankind held fast in chains  
As darkness fell as black as night.

The cost was high, a sinless life  
To break the chains and set us free,  
The Lamb of God on Calvary's cross  
Paid that price for you and me.

***To Remember Our Loved Ones  
Our Candlelit "Christmas Tree"***

In Memory of Our Loved Ones our specially made "Christmas Tree" on which we can again light a candle in remembrance of someone special to us. We will require the name of the person to be remembered and the person making the donation. The tree will be displayed in Church; candles will be available at the Christmas Fair and in Church. If you wish to purchase a candle then we would like a donation please of at least £2.00 to cover costs etc., The more candles purchased the nicer the tree looks.

## **200 Club Winners:**

### **March**

22 S.Brooks 39 G.Crow 69 E.Entwistle 196 G.Pennington

### **April**

01 A.Magrath 35 G.Crow 106 C.Holden 107 N.Brown

### **May**

07 J.Appleton 29 L.Woodfield 38 G.Crow 100 B.Lowe

### **June**

55 S.Wright 68 M.Macintosh 134 C.Fox 143 M.Rigby

### **July**

74 P.Turner 93 D.Appleton 108 B.Moss 111 B.Moss

£25.00 01 A.Magrath. £100.00 171 J.Foster.

## **We Will Remember – 80 years on**

This year we've been remembering the Battle of Britain, described by Winston Churchill in August 1940 as 'one of the decisive battles of the war... never in the field of human conflict was so much owed by so many to so few.' It was a dramatic turning point in the history of the Second World War. The occasions for Remembrance this month will provide us times of gratitude for what was achieved in the darkest moments of war.

However, this year we are very aware of our own struggles with the worldwide Covid-19 pandemic. We face an unseen enemy, but the effects on our lives and society are almost as devastating as world war.

Remembering is not just about focusing on past events. It is also about making present past events, as we give thanks for all that took place. The Battle of Britain was fought by the Few and won in the skies over the Channel. In our battle with the virus, we can call to mind the victory of Jesus: 'Remember Jesus Christ, raised from the dead, descended from David.' (2 Timothy 2:8). Jesus secured the victory of death by His cross and resurrection, so that we don't need to fear death, but trust in His loving purposes for our lives.

Currently we can't see clearly what the future holds for us; it may be very different from what we might expect. However, we can pray for God's will to be done and that we will play our part, just as each of those airmen did so many years ago.

'They shall grow not old as we that are left grow old: Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn. At the going down of the sun and in the morning we will remember them.'

***Donations given to Church Funds:***

In Loving Memory of William (Bill) Stringfellow from Leslie. Always in my thoughts

Birthday Memories of a Dear Dad 100 on April from Graham

Loving Birthday Memories 30<sup>th</sup> May of our much loved Son Paul Rutter. Sadly missed by Partner Amanda, Brother Simon & Olivia – miss you everyday Love Mum & Dad.

Paul Rutter Anniversary Memories 4<sup>th</sup> June of our precious Son, Partner, Brother & Uncles from all his loving family

Anniversary & Birthday Memories of Ian from Mum & Dad, Gary, James, Eric & Yvonne

In Loving Memory of Phyllis Buckles and All Loved Ones from Margaret Danify.

In Loving Memory of John & Phyllis Buckles from Janet

Phill Brooks 15<sup>th</sup> October 1998. Phill gone but never forgotten always in our hearts, love always Mum, Paul, Joanne & Leah

In Memory of Margery Goodman from Cynthis Goodman

In Memory of Margery Goodman from Mavis & Bill



In Loving Memory of Alice Knowles from Marjorie, Geoff & Family

***Donations of Flowers & Money give to the Flower Fund:***

Phill Brooks 15<sup>th</sup> October 1998. Phill gone but never forgotten always in our hearts, love always Mum, Paul, Joanne & Leah

Harvest Flowers in thanks for blessings received From Susan.