

Longfield-Links



5th September 2021 - 14th Sunday of Trinity

Hi everyone and welcome to the current edition of the Longfield Links, we hope that you will enjoy the information regarding St. Mary Magdalene Church in Longfield this week.



St. Mary Magdalene Church Lament Tree - *"My God, my God, why have you forsaken me."*

The opening words of Psalm 22, the cry of Jesus, as he was dying on the cross. Even Christ had a moment when he felt he had been abandoned, and he cried out in lament to God in the words of the Psalm.

A cry of lament is more than just a cry of anguish and complaint, is it an appeal to God for help, based on confidence in His character. The last 18 months have tested all of us in some way or another, in ways we have never experienced before.

Please join with us by adding your prayers to our prayer tree as we ask God's loving guidance, strength and support as we all find our way through the times ahead.

The Nations' Climate Sunday service (5th September)

The UK's Climate Sunday service will bring the commitments made by 1,800+ churches across Britain and Ireland before the UK Government and the wider church. Signatures for our common 'ask' of government, the Time is Now declaration will also be presented, (St. Mary Magdalene Church is one). You can join the service, a live broadcast from Glasgow Cathedral consisting of a mixture of worship styles and traditions, with contributions from a range of denominations and organisations. More than 30 denominations and Christian charities have joined together to make Climate Sunday the biggest ecumenical initiative ahead of COP26 in Scotland this year.



Eco Church is taking off. For all the national profile it is now getting, we know that it is ultimately driven by committed individuals in their local churches. This year has seen the highest volume of Eco Church award applications since the scheme's launch in 2016. Every application received represents a church community taking the call to care for creation seriously.



What is Ride & Stride?

The Kent Ride & Stride gives you a chance to visit many unique historic church buildings, see some beautiful countryside, take some exercise and have fun with your family and friends. Kent Ride & Stride is part of a national sponsored event in which people all over England walk or cycle between churches, exploring and enjoying towns, cities and the countryside. The money raised helps to save historic places of worship for future generations by providing funds for urgent repairs and the installation of modern facilities. Each year the event raises over £1 million nationally.

To register as a participant, or ask for further information, or to request a sponsorship form, please contact Pauline Foster at St. Mary Magdalene Church in Longfield.

Bob Patten - You may have already heard that Bob Patten passed away last Thursday and our sympathy and prayers go out to Hilary and her family at this time. Bob was an active member of the congregation at St. Mary Magdalene Church since 1983 and was an enthusiastic team member of the garden clearing parties in the churchyard. He was also along with Hilary a regular attendee at the History Session presentations in the Jubilee Hall. Bob will be sorely missed, rest in peace Bob.



Monday Bible Study

You are very welcome to the Monday Evening Bible Study: On Zoom at 7.30pm

the Monday Bible study is now taking a break and will resume again on the 13th September for further information please contact Anne Philpott [philptanne@gmail.com] or Lawrie Townson for details; [lawrencetownson@btinternet.com] Please contact Paul Thomas at paulinthomas@outlook.com for the Zoom link and a copy of the weekly notes.

Thursday Bible Study Group, Study @1.30pm



Alan and Susan Heads are running a Bible study group on Thursdays at 1.30pm via Zoom.

The Thursday Bible study group continues this week on **Thursday 1st September with the study Topic on 2 Peter, looking at some of the greatest words written in the Bible and the life of St. Peter.** Contact Alan or Susan for more details or the link to Zoom. Susan Heads has joined us as a co-lead as Helen will be stepping down although she will still be very much a part of the group.

Link address is as follows - <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83194076977>

During the Season of Creation (1 September - 4 October), give thanks to our Creator God for his wonderful creation. Take the opportunity to enjoy it. Ask him to give us wisdom on how we, as those made in his image, can better steward the creatures and habitats in his beautiful earth. Give thanks for all the churches across many different denominations that are participating in our Eco Church programme

Please keep yourself informed about what is happening to our world and how you could help care for it in our own local environment.

Talk to members of the RNWK Green Matters group about your ideas to make a difference in our environment. (St. Mary Magdalene representatives - Alan Strachan or Pat Dixon)

Celebrate and pray about what is happening locally and in the world regarding our environment.

Resist the temptation to clear up your garden; allow vegetation to die back naturally and leave seed heads, especially on plants such as teasels, thistles and sunflowers. This provides food and shelter for birds through the coldest months.



Don't totally cut back your perennial plants but trim them instead and leave plenty of foliage at or near ground level for insects and birds. Piling up leaves and other vegetation to create an open compost heap could provide the perfect hibernation spot too.



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