



28/5/2020

Letter to our church and community

Dear friends, sisters and brothers,
Here we are approaching the Day of Pentecost, when we remember the coming of the Spirit upon the disciples of Jesus gathered for prayer in the Upper room. Some of you have been meeting by Zoom in the Upper Room. Some have joined in the 10 days of prayer alongside churches of all denominations in our city of Wakefield. Ongoing prayer is vital as we begin to move gradually into greater freedom. We need more wisdom than ever to begin to open up safely: our lives, our schools, our communities our churches our futures. Please continue to hold all those making decisions in your prayers.



FAMILY RESOURCES

<https://littleworshipcompany.com>



<https://www.youtube.com/user/worshipforeveryone>



The Little Worship Company
Digital Bible Curriculum
is now **LIVE!**

This action-packed complete set of resources helps equip churches and playgroups to build the foundations of faith in Sunday Schools and play groups.



<https://parentingforfaith.org/parenting-faith-course-trailer>

Celebrating a Diamond Wedding Anniversary

David & Judith Parkin of Sandal were married at 2.30 pm on Saturday 4th June 1960 at Wakefield Cathedral.



A celebration with food and wine took place at the York House Hotel, Drury Lane, Wakefield. Seventy guests were treated to a sherry reception, ham salad, trifle and a toast to the bride and groom, all for the total sum of £38 and 17 shillings (those were the days!).

Judith was employed on the switchboard at County Hall, Wakefield and it was the telephone calls that brought them together.

David started his 40 year career in social work based in Shipley and over the years worked in various parts of Yorkshire. He also worked for the Blind Institute in Batley for many years before retiring.

In 1972 Judith trained as a teacher for Women's League of Health & Beauty' now known as the 'Fitness League' and only retired from this only 12 months ago.

David spent many happy hours amongst friends and growing vegetables on the allotments in Agbrigg. He certainly provided lots of fruit and vegetables which kept the family fed for many years. Judith spent many a weekend podding peas and blanching vegetables for the freezers.

Being a part of St Helens church has been central to their married life, the love and support they receive from the church has been so very important to them both. They truly value the support of the church community.

They have three very proud daughters and 7 adored grandchildren. We thank you Mum & Dad for your ongoing example of love and devotion. Lockdown has meant there will be no shared celebration to mark this occasion, so we ask you their church family to raise a glass and share a prayer to mark the occasion.

Gail Greenwood (daughter to Judith & David)

A Request from Tasawer Samuel on behalf of Christians in Pakistan, 20th May.

Because of the Corona Pandemic, most of the businesses and jobs are closed in Pakistan as well and people are just short of money and essentials like food. You might have heard that different NGO's, mosques etc. are distributing food but our poor Christians have been denied food and other essential stuff only because they are the followers of Christ. They can get the food, by the way, if they renounce their faith. It has been reported in different news papers and International reporting agencies. I'm sending you a link to this news from an authentic source. <https://www.uscirf.gov/news-room/press-releases-statements/uscirf-troubled-denial-food-aid-pakistani-hindus-and-christians>

It was painful to hear about that. The Lord provided us as a few brothers and sisters contributed financially and we distributed food and 1000 Rupees to 50 different poor families at TTI (The Truth Institute) A few pics are attached. We have done it two times but as the problems still continues we want to prepare the third instalment of food parcel

distribution for our brothers and sisters in Pakistan. I just want to request that if possible for the church or anyone individually to give support for the food and some money, kindly consider and let me know. I was just thinking that after three to four weeks we should do the distribution again if people are not fully able to work and run their households. In the meantime I have told the staff and guys at TTI please to keep your eyes open and if there is anybody hungry or in need of help, please reach to him or her.

This is a very uncertain time going on, please keep the Pakistani Christian community in your prayers so that they should stand firm in their faith.

If you have question or query, please let me know.

With love and prayers, Tasawer

Dear Rupert,

Thank you so much for your response. I feel so happy to imagine that our poor and needy brethren will be helped by people from this blessed land called Britain and this will give them a feel of being loved, cared and thought about.

Last time we prepared around 55 food package which includes essentials like rice, cooking oil, pulses, grams, flour, tea, sugar, salt, soaps, etc. and the amount of 1,000 Rupees so that families could buy something themselves they need badly. This time we are praying for 75 to 100 packages, if we are able to collect that much money. Just to keep you updated, let me share with you that so far we have collected around £300 donated by different families and friends here.

I normally transfer money from Western Union because they charge very little transfer money(around £1.99). Should you need any further information, kindly let me know.

With love and prayers,

Tasawer

If you would like to contribute to this situation please can you either put cash in an envelope marked Tasawer Samuels / Pakistan and drop it into the vicarage or let us know and we can do a BACS transfer to Tasawer.



Pentecost from David to Jesus to the Disciples to Paul to Us.

There are six verses in the story of David which I want to focus on, 1 Samuel 16:13-18, and at the end of those six verses, six words.

After Saul has disobeyed God, Samuel is sent by God to anoint a king in waiting. After passing over the seven older sons, he discovers David and immediately recognises him as the one God has in mind: *Samuel took his flask of oil and anointed him, with his brothers standing around watching. The Spirit of God entered David like a rush of wind, God vitally empowering him for the rest of his life.* 1 Samuel 13.

David experiences a personal pentecost that will set him up for life.

The story then reveals a different spirit which has afflicted Saul: *But the Spirit of the Lord departed from Saul, and a harmful spirit from the Lord troubled him.* Saul's servants suggest they bring someone who can play music to soothe him during these times when he is troubled. *One of the servants answered, 'I have seen a son of Jesse of Bethlehem who knows how to play the lyre. He is a brave man and a warrior. He speaks well and is a fine-looking man. And the Lord is with him.'* 1 Samuel 18.

David has all the gifts required, he is musical, brave, articulate and good looking, but most importantly, the six words that speak volumes;

And the LORD is with him.

The key to our lives as followers of Jesus is that *the Lord is with us*. That helps us to cope with anything. It is the best gift we can bring to anyone. It is what will help us through the stormy times, Jesus being in the boat with us. The Lord is here. *His spirit is with us.*

As we approach the celebration of the day of Pentecost, it may feel more muted than usual without our worshipping together. Yet we have been through a journey of prayer alongside other churches, and we recognise that the *Lord is with us always*. Every day is a day of Pentecost. Every day has the potential of Pentecost to change us and others with the transforming life of the Spirit of God. We can live, walk and pray in the Spirit all the time.

And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people. Ephesians 6:18

Not some of the people, some of the time with some prayers. But all, all, all.

And then the personal request of Paul: *Pray also for me, that whenever I speak, words may be given me so that I will fearlessly make known the mystery of the Gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it fearlessly, as I should.*

Ephesians 6:19-20.

We are not in prison, but our movements and activities have been curtailed. The challenge is to see this time as an opportunity not a setback, a time when we can share the unconditional love of Jesus in beautiful ways with all those whose hearts may be longing to receive this message of grace.

May the Dove of the Spirit hover over you,
may the Wind of the Spirit invigorate you,
may the Fire of the Spirit energise you,
may the Spirit of Jesus inspire, refresh and empower you
every day to be alert to the opportunities that arise
to bring to others the Good News of Jesus,
believed, lived and shared.

Amen



With all our continuing
love and blessings,

Sally and Rupert

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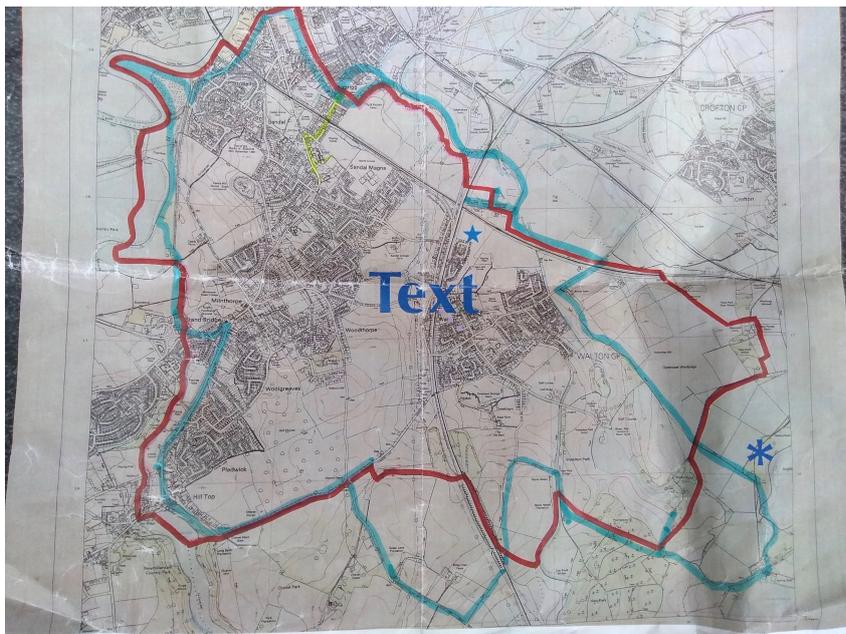
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On the southern edge of the Parish during our Cycle ride around the Parish on Ascension day.



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Hands of Hope and
Prayer outside St
Helen's, made by
Jodie Gabriel with the
help the children of
Portobello during a
recent Gala day.



Scarecrow Salute to our Heroes

Monday, May 25 to Sunday, May 31

The SCA thanks all the participants for creating scarecrow tributes to key workers during the Covid-19 pandemic. Some families have made two, three or even four! Enjoy following the trail around Sandal.

5 Pinfold Lane	Christine the Postlady
3 Malt Kiln Croft	Nadine and Eugene queue for the Vaccine
4 Malt Kiln Croft	Dirty Bertie the Bin Man; PC Rob Banks
22 Sandal Avenue	Dustman
24 Sandal Avenue	Postman
9 South Drive	Nellie the Nurse
31 South Drive	Chief Medical Officer
St Helen's Church (near church gates)	Hands of Hope
49 Sandal Cliff	Teacher
2b Walton Lane	PC Clark Kent and Nurse Fluorescent Florence
52 Walton Lane	Penny the Fire Fighter and Up on the Roof (garage roof, that is!)
84 Walton Lane	Postie
81 Mountbatten Avenue	Doctor A. Tchoo
4 Churchill Grove	Farmer Feedall
5 Sinclair Garth	They Who Would Valiant Be (group of four)
Woolgreaves Garth (Displayed in back garden on Pledwick Lane opposite golf course)	Jonny the Doctor; Willow the Nurse; Chase the Police Dog
18 Woodthorpe Lane	Farmer Fred
10 Pledwick Rise	Miss Honey and Jemima
8 Pledwick Drive	Reliable Roger, the Delivery Driver
28 Standbridge Lane	Mr S Claus (key worker) turning up for Covid testing