

The LINK

30p

May 2019



The Parish Church of
St Michael Braintree
www.stmichaelsbtree.co.uk

Sunday 19th May
6.30pm Service
(6.00pm for Tea/Cake)

All-Age Tonight

“Who do you
follow?”





Joseph – proud & foolish to powerful & wise

Dear Friends,

We will be starting a preaching series on the life of Joseph in our 10am services in May. The whole account of his amazing life can be found in Genesis chapters 37-50.

Joseph is one of 12 brothers. The story starts with Joseph as a proud and spoiled teenager, the favourite son of his father Jacob. Jacob gives Joseph a colourful coat, a visible sign of his favouritism. Then Joseph tells his brothers about his dreams – dreams in which his brothers and parents bow down to him.

Joseph's brothers exact their revenge. Originally, some of them intend to kill him, but they then decide to sell him to some slave traders, on their way to Egypt.

Joseph is obviously a highly talented and able individual. But God is developing not just Joseph's talent, but his character as well. Joseph has to cope with huge changes in his situation. He is in charge of his master Potiphar's household, then unjustly thrown into prison, and eventually Prime Minister of Egypt.

The account of Joseph's meeting with his brothers, who come to Egypt to seek food in a famine, is very moving. In it, we see God making sense of Joseph's life. Joseph's position of authority in Egypt allows him to save the lives of his whole family.

It is in the last chapter (Genesis 50) that we see how God has changed and moulded Joseph's character. Jacob has died and Joseph's brothers come to him asking for forgiveness. They remember how they had wronged Joseph, selling him into slavery. They feared what Joseph might do to them now.

But Joseph wept and said these wise words,

“As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring it about that many people should be kept alive.” (Genesis 50:20)

Joseph had changed from being a proud and foolish teenager to a powerful and wise leader. He forgave and did not seek revenge. But he also recognised God's hand in all that had taken place – in the ups and downs of life.

It's a lesson for us today as well. As we look back on our lives, do we see God's hand – God working out his purposes in the ups and downs of life?

Wishing you every blessing,
Nigel

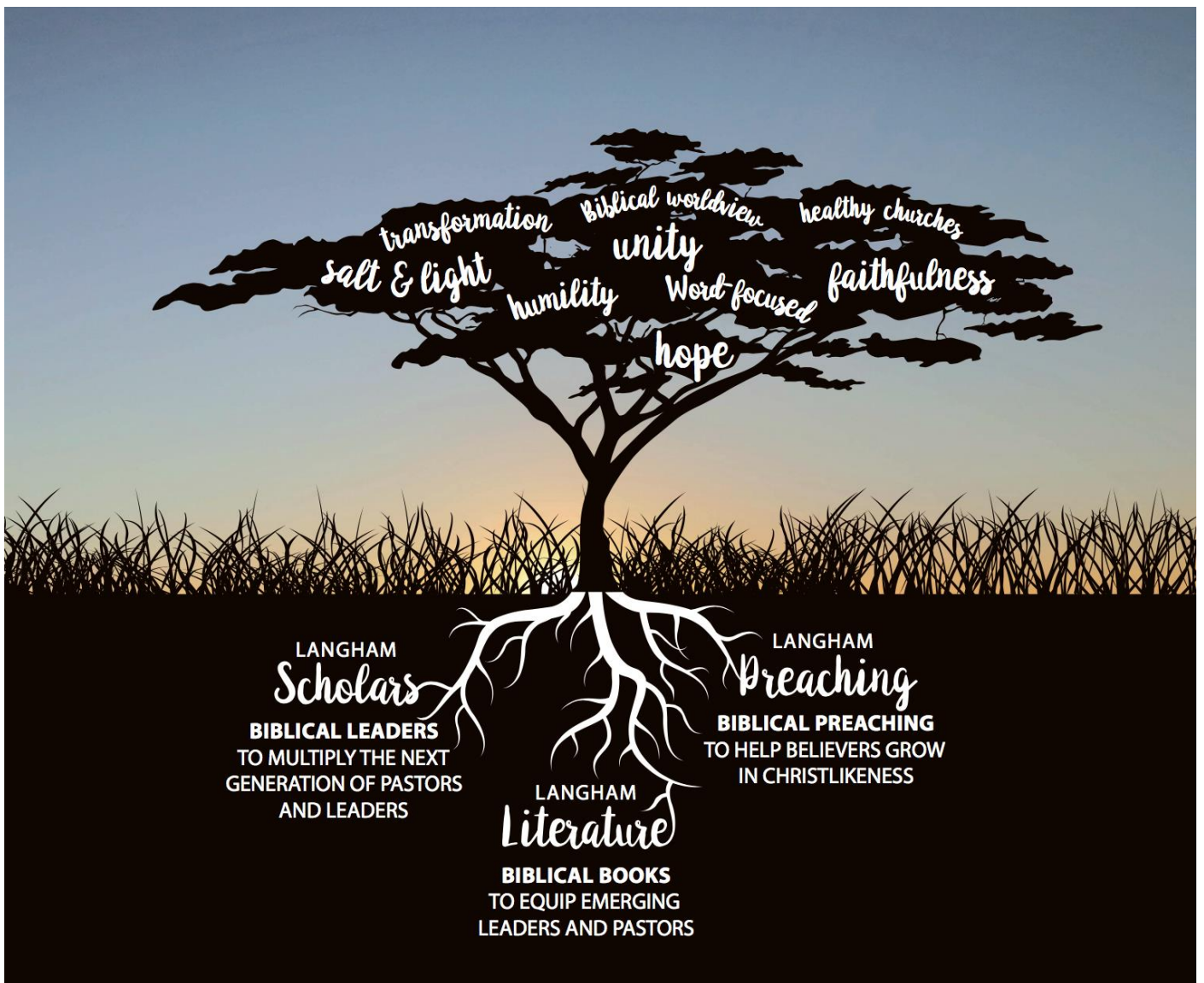
WHITE HORSE TAVERN

Mondays at 7.30pm

13th May	64 Bridport Way	- 'John Newton'. - DVD
20th May	Church House	THE
3rd June	Church House	LETTERS
10th June	Church House	OF
17th June	Church House	JOHN
24th June	Church House	NEWTON
1st July	Church House	PAUL'S LETTER TO PHILEMON.

MISSION OF THE MONTH LANGHAM PARTNERSHIP

Langham Partnership's Vision is to see churches equipped for mission and growing to maturity in Christ through the ministry of pastors and leaders who believe, teach and live by the Word of God. *Our Mission* is to strengthen the ministry of the word of God through: nurturing national movements for biblical preaching (Langham Preaching); fostering the creation and distribution of evangelical theological education (Langham Scholars), especially in countries where churches are under resourced.



DIARY OF A NEW CHURCHWARDEN

20th March

Around this time I am chasing down individuals for completion of the Annual report. I have written the warden's piece and shared it around the PCC for comment. Having produced the report for the last 5 years, this time I get to say more than just publicity. It is a good read to see what does take place and to promote all the groups as well as to see that I might just have to stand up and say some words at the Annual meetings... better start thinking of those words.

25th March

Deep discussions are taking place about the fence on the side of church house by the flats, and how we can get it replaced following it completely failing in the wind. In the end we ordered a lot of picket fencing and posts from a good supplier and started to assemble the fence at the subsequent work party. I think its looking good, just need some help to finish it off.

4th April

Jonathan had worked with the tree surgeon to clear stumps, clear trees that were potentially damaging the boundary walls of church house and to cut back a tree that was nicely leaning on the wired into the building. This will make the garden safer, easier to use and most importantly easier to maintain.

6th April

Work party day and we have had the wood delivered the day before for the fence. A group of 20 of us throughout the day worked on a number of tasks. So now you will see repainted benches, new signage, some repairs to the fencing, garden cutting back and the completion of the current round of PAT testing. Next work party will continue the fence work (if its not done by then) and start to look at the internals of Church House with a view of preparation ahead of getting new carpet in the corridors.

Dave Marriott

SHOEBOXES (OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD)

I have recently heard that the shoeboxes we sent last Christmas went to Romania, The Middle East and Belarus. This shows how the gifts we send can reach children in many different countries and situations.



It won't be long now before we start preparing boxes for next Christmas. Thank you to those who are already knitting and making things. If you would like any knitting patterns for hats, mittens, bags etc: please contact me. I understand that next year we are unable to send toothpaste and sweets so if you are collecting items already please do not buy those.

Jenny Chapman

WORLD WAR 2

Were you alive in World War 2? What can you remember about your life at that time and how it was affected by the war? What stories have you been told by family members and others?

Please can you write these memories and stories down so that we can create church members memories of World War 2 like we have for World War I. We will be very pleased to have copies of pictures too.

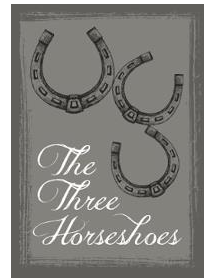
Jenny Chapman, Lin Terris

WALK IN THE COUNTRYSIDE

Last May some of us had the privilege of coming upon woodland carpeted with bluebells as we enjoyed our walk together.

One of our regular walkers was so delighted by the sight that he suggested we repeat it!

Why not join us on Saturday 4th May as we contour the Colne river valley? We plan to meet for our 5-mile circular walk from 1.45pm to set off at 2pm from outside The Three Horseshoes pub at Fordham (Postcode CO6 3NJ).



Our route takes us to West Bergholt Church passing through Hill House Wood. Here we join the Essex Way which brings us down to the riverside path leading to Fordstreet. Then we head up towards Fordham Church before returning to our starting place.



If you have any questions or you wish to share transport, then just have a word with us.

Terry and Miriam Clark

MAY DIARY

1 Wednesday

- 9.45am Meeting Point Bible Study
- 5.30pm 4th Braintree Beavers, Cubs & Scouts
- 7.45pm Bible Reading Group – Church House
- 8.00pm Lifebuilder Bible Study

2 Thursday

- 10.00am Coffee@StMichael's
- 3.30pm ASK
- 7.30pm Rose Hill Bible Study
- 8.00pm Carry on Exploring Bible Study

3 Friday

- 5.30pm 4th Braintree Beavers, Cubs & Scouts

4 Saturday

- 1.45pm Walk in the Countryside

5 Sunday **3rd of Easter**

- 8.00am Holy Communion
- 10.00am Church Family Worship – Thank you! Keep on thanking God
- 6.30pm Evening Worship – Divine protection
- 7.30pm Focus

6 Monday

- 5.30pm 4th Braintree Beavers
- 7.30pm Bell Ringing
- 8.00pm Badminton

7 Tuesday

- 1.15pm Tiddlywinks

8 Wednesday

- 7.45pm Bible Reading Group – Church House
- 8.00pm Lifebuilder Bible Study
- 8.30pm Men@StMichael's beer and chat – Wetherspoons, Fairfield Rd

9 Thursday

- 7.30pm Rose Hill Bible Study
- 8.00pm Carry on Exploring Bible Study

12 Sunday 4th of Easter
8.00am Holy Communion
10.00am Morning Worship - A dreamer becomes a slave
6.30pm Holy Communion/meditation - My soul thirsts for you
7.30pm Focus

13 Monday
5.30pm 4th Braintree Beavers
7.30pm Bell Ringing
8.00pm Badminton
8.00pm White Horse Tavern – Bridport Way

14 Tuesday JUNE LINK SUBMISSION DUE
1.15pm Tiddlywinks
8.00pm First Priority prayer meeting – Church House

15 Wednesday
7.45pm Bible Reading Group – Church House
8.00pm Lifebuilder Bible Study

16 Thursday
7.00pm Rose Hill Bible Study
8.00pm Carry on Exploring Bible Study

17 Friday
2.00pm Bradbury House Service

18 Saturday
8.00am Men's Breakfast at Yumy's
9.00am Church and Church House work party

19 Sunday 5th of Easter
8.00am Holy Communion
10.00am Holy Communion - Joseph and Potiphar's wife
3.00pm Bereavement Service & tea
6.30pm All Age Worship – Who do you follow?

20 Monday
5.30pm 4th Braintree Beavers
7.30pm Bell Ringing
7.45pm Christianity Explored – Church House
8.00pm Badminton
8.00pm White Horse Tavern – Church House

21 Tuesday

1.15pm Tiddlywinks

22 Wednesday

9.45am Meeting Point Bible Study

5.30pm 4th Braintree Beavers, Cubs & Scouts

7.45pm Bible Reading Group – Church House

8.00pm Lifebuilder Bible Study

23 Thursday

3.30pm ASK

7.30pm Rose Hill Bible Study

7.30pm PCC meeting

8.00pm Carry on Exploring Bible Study

24 Friday

5.30pm 4th Braintree Beavers, Cubs & Scouts

26 Sunday 6th of Easter

8.00am Holy Communion

10.00am Morning Worship – Joseph interprets two prisoners' dreams

6.30pm Evening Worship – Jonathan warns David

7.30pm Focus

27 Monday

7.30pm Bell Ringing

7.45pm No Christianity Explored (half-term)

8.00pm Badminton

29 Wednesday

7.45pm Bible Reading Group – Church House

8.00pm Lifebuilder Bible Study

30 Thursday Ascension Day

7.30pm Rose Hill Bible Study

8.00pm Carry on Exploring Bible Study

8.00pm Ascension Day Holy Communion

31 Friday

7.30pm Flower Club

FROM THE REGISTERS

No entries

Scripture
Union

TEAM BUILDERS

A SCRIPTURE UNION HOLIDAY CLUB PROGRAMME



SMASH CLUB

SM

ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH

SMASH CLUB

29TH JULY - 2ND AUGUST 2019

Church and Church House Working Party

Saturday 18 May from 9:00am

Please let Dave Marriott know if you want to make that difference.

Jobs planned include:

Church:

- Gutters cleaning
- Clearing out cupboards



Church House & Garden:

- Clearing out cupboards
- Transportation of rubbish to recycling
- Fencing
- Cleaning and dusting
- Jet wash footpaths?
- Decorating corridors



Church House:

- Supporting the team with Tea/Coffee
- Lunch catering





**Men's
Breakfast**

St. Michael's Church
Braintree

Saturday 18th May, 8.00am
Cooked breakfast at Yummy's,
8 Little Square, CM7 1UT
Colonel Dr Simon Tustin speaking
RSVP by Tuesday 14th May.



Tickets, £6 each, available from Roger Cooke, Richard Hollis, David Hart or Nigel Adams by Tues 14th May. All men are very welcome.



*Everyone
Welcome*
10am-12noon

Coffee@StMichael's

**Come and join
us on the
First Thursday
of the month in
St Michael's Church**

BELFRY BULLETIN

BELLS RESTORATION UPDATE

The paperwork for the Faculty application have been accepted, they will now go to the Diocesan Chancellor for the final approval. The Bat report will restrict the timing of the work.

For Evening Worship on Sunday 24th February Lin Ould 1, Gareth Davies 2, Ellie Gray 3, Debbie Hill 4, Ellis Whitehouse [c] 5, Peter Smith 6, rang 1260 changes of Plain Bob Doubles in 44mins. This was 1st as conductor for Ellis, congratulations. Happy Birthday to Ellis, Lin and Gareth.

On the evening of Saturday 2nd of March 14 members of the Essex Association Northern District attended the District meeting at St. Michael's with good ringing after which a constructive business meeting was held. The District were back for their monthly Advance Practice on 16th March with 5 of our ringers taking part in some enjoyable ringing.


Prior to the 6.30pm Service on Sunday 24th March 1260 changes of Plain Bob Minor was rung in 44mins Gareth Davies 1, Peter Smith 2, Ellis Whitehouse 3, Ellie Gray 4, Bradley Hill 5, Debbie Hill [c] 6. This Quarter Peal was dedicated to the memory of Sheila Smith Peter's Sister in Law. Birthday Wishes to Debbie Hill and Karen Gray Elli's mum. 1st in method as conductor for Debbie.






Gareth Davies called his 1st touch of All Saints Bob Doubles for Church Family Worship on Mothering Sunday 31st March. A QP was attempted but after 1416 changes it failed to come round.

Before practice on Monday 1st April the QP was successful. 1296 changes of spliced Plain Bob and Little Bob Minor Ellie Gray 1, Debbie Hill 2, Vicki Elliot 3, Ellis Whitehouse 4, Bradley Hill 5, Simon Ward [c] 6. For Mothering Sunday.

Peter Smith

PATTERN OF SUNDAY SERVICES

The Book of Common Prayer is used for the services marked 
Common Worship is used for all other services

Sunday in the month	8.00 am	10.00 am with crèche	6.30pm
FIRST	 Holy Communion	Church Family Worship (all-age)	Evening Worship
SECOND	 Holy Communion	Morning Worship	Holy Communion
THIRD	 Holy Communion	Holy Communion	All-Age Tonight
FOURTH	 Holy Communion	Morning Worship	Evening Worship
FIFTH	 Holy Communion	Holy Communion	United Service

FOR CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE:

First Sunday: 10am **Church Family Worship**

Third Sunday: 6.30pm **All-Age Tonight**

Other Sundays: 10am in Church House:

Followers (3-5s), **Adventurers** (5-10s) & **Next** (10-13s)

Every Sunday: 7.30pm in Church House **Focus** (13-18s)

Tuesdays: 1.15pm in Church House – **Tiddlywinks** for pre-school children & parents/carers

**The above is subject to change at festivals
Please check Diary section for exact details**

St. Michael's Church is located in:

St Michael's Road, Braintree, Essex, CM7 1EY

Facebook: [stmichaelschurchbraintree](https://www.facebook.com/stmichaelschurchbraintree)

Web: www.stmichaelsbtree.co.uk