

# Old Malden News



**The Parish Magazine of  
St John the Baptist, Malden**

**February 2026**

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# Old Malden News

**The Parish Magazine of  
St John the Baptist Parish Church Malden  
Church Road, Worcester Park KT4 7RY**

Please send any articles or other material to:  
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Copy date for the magazine is the 15th of the month and  
please only send submissions in Microsoft Word.

## ST JOHN'S HALL

411 Malden Road  
Worcester Park, KT4 7NY

Large and small halls available for hire with kitchen facilities  
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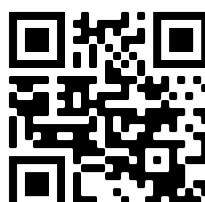
Details from the Bookings Secretary – Pat Sutton  
Tel: 020 8942 8321

# St John the Baptist Parish Church, Malden

## Directory

Vicar	The Revd Michael Roper <a href="mailto:gore_lodge@yahoo.co.uk">gore_lodge@yahoo.co.uk</a>	020 8337 8830
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Reader & Choir Director	Mrs Marilyn Burkett <a href="mailto:m.c.burkett@btinternet.com">m.c.burkett@btinternet.com</a>	020 8337 6017
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PCC Secretary	Mrs Sally Pusey	020 8330 2817
PCC Treasurer	Mr Peter Chugg	07941 842957
Parish Administrator	Mrs Sally Pusey	020 8330 2817
Safeguarding Officers	Mrs Sally Pusey Mrs Margaret Barrington	020 8330 2817 020 8330 2817
Church Electoral Roll Officer	Mr Steve Clarke	020 8337 2392
Hall Bookings	Mrs Pat Sutton	020 8942 8321
Parish Website:	<a href="http://www.stjohnsoldmalden.org.uk">www.stjohnsoldmalden.org.uk</a>	
Parish Office:	<a href="mailto:administrator@stjohnsoldmalden.org.uk">administrator@stjohnsoldmalden.org.uk</a>	

To receive the Parish Mailing please scan the  
QR code with your smart phone camera



## Services for February



### **St John's is OPEN**

St John's is open for worship so please see the Parish Mailing for details. Live Streaming of services will continue so you will be able to see services live via our YouTube Channel.

**Sunday 8am - Said Eucharist**

**Sunday 9.45am - Sung Eucharist**

**Wednesday 11am — Said Eucharist**

Coffee hosted by Mothers' Union after the first Wednesday service of the month ( except August).

Please make sure you are signed up to our mailing list to get up to date information regarding the services.

<http://eepurl.com/gNz4Tf> or scan the QR Code

## Vicar's Letter

No sooner had we recovered from Christmas Dinner than we fell into Waitrose on the 27<sup>th</sup> December to pick up a few bits. I also like to have a rummage through the marked down Christmas food in case there is a bargain to be had. As with last year one was faced with Easter eggs and other Easter chocolates vying for attention. It is quite a mind tangle to be celebrating the birth of Christ and having the baby in mind, to confront the impending doom of Good Friday and Easter. As much as I like my chocs, I shall wait until Easter. But it does serve as a reminder of how quickly the two key celebrations of the Church year come so close together, and how little time there is to prepare for Lent and Easter.

Well this year we will be keeping both as we usually do. Ash Wednesday will see two Communion services with Ashing at 11:00am and 7:30pm. This year the topic for our Lent group will be "*Living the Mystery of Faith*", a resource borrowed from the Diocese of Chichester that explores the theme through Matthew's Gospel. Matthew will be the Gospel we hear most through the coming year since it is for Year A in the Revised Common Lectionary. I thought it would also be appropriate since much of the Christmas story and my preaching over Christmas focussed on what Matthew had to say about the birth and early years of Jesus. The short course consists of five sessions beginning on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> February at 12:00pm. If there are others who cannot attend a daytime course, we may be able to offer an evening one if there are expressions of interest.

As part of my GodTalk initiative, I will be offering a one-off session on 26<sup>th</sup> March at 7:30pm (*the week before Holy Week*) entitled "*Did Jesus Have to Die?*" We will look at the circumstances around Jesus' trial, passion, and death; as well as delve into Jesus' own self-understanding of what he was doing, and how the Church wrestled with this experience and came up with several different theories of what theologians call the Atonement. This session is not intended to be an airy-fairy or highbrow discussion, but more of an open assessment of what we as individuals make of the events around Jesus' crucifixion. No prior knowledge or opinions required!

This year we have the challenge of helping our children engage with Holy Week and Easter when so many will be away enjoying the school holidays. Last year we did something specifically for children on Good Friday, but only had two children. Messy Easter on Palm Sunday was also thin on the ground thanks to the holidays, so I propose that we offer Messy Easter on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> March at 3:00pm if there are expressions of interest. I will make available a sign-up sheet at the back of Church near the time to see if this is viable. The craft materials are expensive and we need to be careful with our resources. So, watch this space!

Finally, it is with great regret that I have to announce that Barry will be stepping down as our organist on Easter Sunday after over 55 years of service to St. John's. Barry has worked tirelessly as a Director of Music managing the Choir and playing the organ, and latterly as organist these last 20 years. He has taught a great number of organists who serve throughout the Church both in Britain and in America. I know one composer who credits Barry with inspiring him to take up a successful career creating music. We owe him a great deal and will celebrate what he has given us over the years on Easter Sunday after the service. In light of Barry's leaving, the PCC and Standing Committee are working out the path forward to take our music and choral tradition into the future. We will be having a Focus Group on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> February at 7:30pm to enable everyone to share their thoughts and what they think we need to help music remain at the heart of St. John's worship.

Holy Week and Easter plans have yet to come to fruition, so do keep tabs on the Weekly Parish Mailing and Pew Leaflet for things to come.

Dates for your diary.....I have reserved spaces at the Cathedral for the Pentecost Confirmation service on 23<sup>rd</sup> May at 4:00pm for anyone interested in being confirmed this year. I will be running a five session preparation course beginning on the 16<sup>th</sup> April at 7:30pm. If you would like to know more, or want to be part of this please let me know.

With all good wishes for a fruitful Lent and joyful Easter to come,

*Michael*

## Sharing a prayer – a confession for Lent

### Chris Benson

*Most merciful God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we confess that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed. We have not loved you with our whole heart. We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves. In your mercy forgive what we have been, help us to amend what we are, and direct what we shall be; that we may do justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with you, our God.*

Hardly a day goes by without hearing in the media someone demanding an apology from a public figure for some alleged failing. Sometimes there is one – of sorts – though often dressed up with phrases such as ‘serious error of judgement’, ‘deeply regret’, ‘if [!] I have offended anyone’...

Yet as Christians, we know that when it comes to saying sorry to God, words alone will not do. There was widespread cynicism when Paula Vennells, the former CEO of the Post Office, became tearful at the Horizon Inquiry.

Regardless of how sincere they were, tears would never satisfy the victims of the Horizon scandal, because they came without any redress, without any sense of anything being done to repair the relationship between the wrongdoer and the wronged.

As John the Baptist put it, merely being remorseful is not enough: we must “bear fruit worthy of repentance” (Matthew 3.8) – be ready to share what God has given you, be honest in your dealings, and content with what you have (Luke 3.10-14). Zacchaeus (Luke 19.1-10), the once-crooked tax collector, shows us how this worked for him: first he invited Jesus into his home and into his life, then gave half his possessions to the poor, and then said, ‘If I have defrauded anyone of anything, I will pay back four times as much.’ This is a reminder that an apology carries little weight, unless something changes as a result.

The same applies when we say sorry to God. If we have really not loved our neighbours as ourselves, it is no good just asking God for forgiveness: we have to reach out to those neighbours and do something to repair our relationship with them. If we have not loved God with our ‘whole heart’, it is no good saying sorry if we do not *do* something about it. Perhaps we need to kick that habit which gets in the way of our spiritual life. Perhaps we need to make more of a commitment to our church community. Perhaps we need to resolve to be more diligent in prayer. Lent is a good time to reflect on how we might love God with our *whole* heart, and not just the bit we think we can spare.

The above confession does more than plead for forgiveness. It also asks that we may be helped to *change* (‘amend’) what we are, and it also looks to the future, revealing a positive vision of what our future life might look like with Christ at the centre of our lives: behaving with justice, compassion and humility, in a committed relationship with God fully restored through the death and resurrection of Jesus.

## ***Christmas Day Event 2025***

*(for local folk who would otherwise be alone on Christmas Day)*

Invitations had been sent out, food ordered, drink, chocolates, mince pies etc purchased...Christmas Eve and the hall was decorated... and then it was Christmas Day!

Our cooks had already been busy by the time our guests arrived, to be welcomed with a drink and an opportunity to meet the other guests and helpers, who greeted & socialised with the guests. A lovely buzz filled the air. The guests then moved into the large hall for Christmas dinner just as the Mayor Councillor Noel Hadjimichael, Mayoress Ms Carol Berliner, Deputy Mayor Councillor Sue Ansari and her Escort Mr Jaseem Ansari arrived to chat to the guests. The Mayor thanked our wonderful cooks Jemma Stedman, Gill Holditch, Keith and Martin and the many helpers for putting on this event, emphasising that **this is what 'community' is all about.**





Judy  
thankin  
our  
fantastic  
cooks

A magnificent traditional meal was served to over 35, catering also for vegans & vegetarians, followed by a table quiz, the King's Speech, 'pass the parcel' & bingo, all run by Meg & Reece; then afternoon tea and Christmas Cake, kindly made by Andy, gifts for our guests, and finally carol singing led by St John's singers. At 5pm, cars arrived to take our guests home, complete with their supper bags.

It had been a great day, thoroughly enjoyed and appreciated by guests and helpers alike. THANK YOU to all who made this possible.



Some of the helpers  
11



Thanks also go to the organising team Lynn Sanger, Judy Lawrence and Steve Clark, those welcoming, serving, washing up etc (James & Stephanie, Ailee & Mick, Janet F & Janet J, Janice, Marilyn & Maryam), Marilyn, Stephanie & Natalie for making and donating the supper bags, the drivers, the Malden Parochial School children for making Christmas cards for our guests and St John's congregation for donating towards the event. Sadly, there is insufficient space to thank everyone personally but you know who you are.

Finally, a big THANK YOU also goes to Pat Lovegrove who, after over 40 year's involvement with the Christmas Day Event, greatly helped with the hand over to a new team. Many of our guests missed Pat but after so many years it was only right that Pat should get to spend Christmas Day with her family.

Janet Flemming,

\*\*\* DATE FOR YOUR DIARY \*\*\*

The Fundraising Team are running

## A QUIZ Evening

at the Church Hall, 411 Malden Rd, KT47NY

Saturday 28th February 2026 at 7:30pm

Details to be advised



## **Memories of St John's (circa late 1940s)**

*Local history often resides in the memories of those who lived it first-hand. John Rowe, a long-standing member of our community, shares his recollections of St John's and the role his family played in shaping its traditions during and after the Second World War.*

I have many fond childhood memories connected with St John the Baptist, Malden. I've been sharing some of these with a good friend, a member of the congregation, who has encouraged me to put them in writing. A few relate to artefacts that, as far as I know, are still in regular use in the church today. But first, a little background.

My name is John Rowe. My parents married in 1932 and moved into a new house at 69 Highdown, where I was born in October 1933. When I was nearly five, I joined Malden Parochial Church School. I must have been there a couple of years when I recall the vicar, Rev. Kenneth Needham Ross, visiting the school to speak to us. At the end of his talk he asked if anyone would like to join the church choir. I volunteered and was accepted. My parents were delighted as we were regular churchgoers.

Life changed dramatically during the war. On 18th June 1944, a "Doodlebug" exploded in front of our house and destroyed it. By the time peace was declared, we were living quite comfortably in a rented house next to my aunt in Motspur Park. However, when the owners wanted to return, my father went to the Malden and Coombe Council and declared us homeless. At that time, the council had the power to requisition unoccupied properties for families in our position. That is how we came to live in the Manor Farm House, opposite the church, (behind the high hedge at 102 Church Road) which the council had converted into two flats.

Our new home brought us even closer to St John's, and it wasn't long before my father's skills were called upon. His hobby was cabinet making,

so when Fr. Ross mentioned that he wanted to introduce a paschal candle to St John's, my father was the obvious choice to construct the stand. It became a project for three people: the designer, Mr Leonard Birt (possibly Burt), a baritone in the choir and a silversmith by trade; also a Mr Honiker a timber merchant who supplied the wood. He had a substantial business in Hammersmith. Timber was scarce after the war and I believe there were restrictions on its sale to the public. Fortunately, Mr Honiker was allowed to sell "off-cuts". He provided the oak for the paschal candle stand, which I believe is still in use today. Although I can't recall the exact circumstances, I believe Mr Birt was also commissioned to make a chalice for the church. The silver marks would confirm its origin. It may well remain part of the church's communion set.

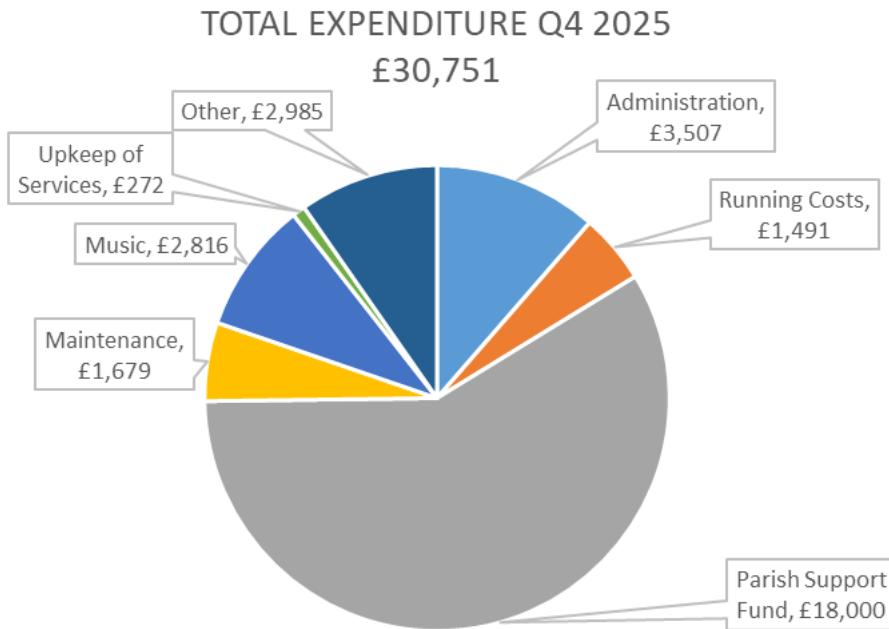
Community spirit was strong in those years, and as now, we held an annual Christmas Fair. With shortages everywhere, homemade items predominated, so knitters and sewers were kept busy. The most popular item, however, was a toy train, made from timber off-cuts by my father and his friend, Mr Honiker. The attic of the Manor Farm House became their workshop, and I remember the excitement these toys brought to the fair.

Looking back, these memories remind me how much resourcefulness and cooperation shaped our lives and our church in those times. St John's was more than a place of worship; it was a hub of creativity and community spirit. I hope these recollections offer a glimpse into that era and contribute to our local history.

My father, Albert Charles Rowe, also served as Secretary to the PCC and was the Vicar's Church Warden

John Rowe  
December 2025

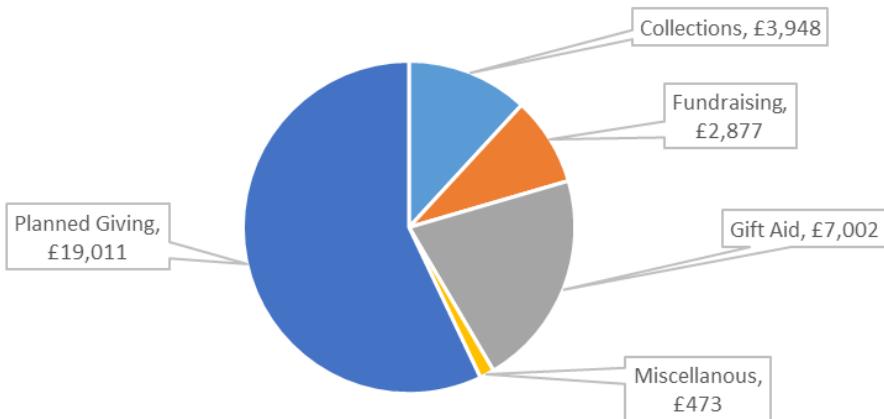
# WHERE DID WE SPEND YOUR MONEY IN THE LAST QUARTER OF 2025 ?



Expenditure for the quarter was about £1,850 below budget target of £32,600, and this is primarily due to Running Cost being £1,500 below budget, although some 55% or £830 is down to timing issues. (Gas and Electric bills being received and paid in 2026 but are in the 2025 budget will appear in the 2025 year end accounts.) Some other items were higher than budget. As always, Expenditure has been well controlled. The largest payment, made to the Diocese, is the Parish Support fund and this is fixed on an annual basis at £18,000 per quarter. As explained last month, this necessary expenditure pays for the Diocese to provide us with an Incumbent, his salary, housing, pension, together with all the other parish support services such as training, advice and administration. Ideally, the Diocese would have liked us to contribute £23,600 per quarter in 2025, and this will inevitably be higher in 2026.

## TOTAL INCOME Q4 2025

£33,311



Whilst total Income was above Budget by about £750 for the quarter, it is disappointing to see that Planned Giving was about £1,070 below target for the period. Income was significantly increased by a few generous donations, better than expected fundraising, and good Gift Aid recovery. The Emergency Stewardship Campaign in November also had a good impact, with an increase of about £1,200 between November and December, and hopefully further increases may be recognised in January. Donations are always very welcome, but they are difficult to predict with any accuracy and so cannot be accurately budgeted for. There were no Legacies received in this period.

So, in summary, a good Quarter which will contribute some £2,500 towards any surplus this year. However, it is clear that whilst this might be seen as a “good” result, without some generous donations and very good fundraising, this could very easily not be the case, and so we must concentrate on maintaining and developing our Planned Giving which forms a critical base at the core of our income. We thank those who are already members of PGS (Parish Giving Scheme), and need more people

to join them in making a regular contribution and so sharing the financial load more evenly. For information on how to do this, please contact the Stewardship Team ([stjohnsoldmalden.org.uk](mailto:stjohnsoldmalden.org.uk)).

And **Finally**, would you like to write the next quarter's update like this for the OMN? We are looking for a person to be the deputy treasurer to help the treasurer out with some of the activities. So if you enjoy numbers, and clearly you do if you have read this much of the article, then please contact Peter Chugg ([treasurer@stjohnsoldmalden.org.uk](mailto:treasurer@stjohnsoldmalden.org.uk)) who will be more than happy to talk you through the type of things you would be doing. It is also an excellent way to improve your presentation and communication skills whilst at the same time helping out your Church.

Richard Burkett

Peter Chugg, Treasurer

To celebrate International Women's Day the two Inner Wheel Clubs in the Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames are hosting an evening with three inspiring speakers: Emily Tredget - co-founder and co-CEO of "Happity" website helping new mums to feel less lonely, Heather Palmer - founder and CEO of African Vision Malawi supporting orphans and vulnerable communities, and Julia Muir - Director of Supply Chain Operations at Network Rail. Three women who can influence and motivate by telling their stories.

Friday, 6th March, 2026 ~ 7 for 7.15 pm

at FuseBox, an exciting new venue

2 Buckland's Wharf, Kingston upon Thames, KT1 1TF

Tickets: £13.50 (plus £1.50 booking fee)

Information: [innerwheelclub\\_kot@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:innerwheelclub_kot@hotmail.co.uk)

*or me: Bobby Child ~ 07946 532 846*



# E

How well do you know characters in the Bible?

This month, we reach the letter E and here are a few names which you may recognise...

You may think of others.....

**Eve:** The first woman created by God, symbolizing life and motherhood. Her name MEANS 'life giver' in Hebrew.

**Elijah:** A prominent prophet known for his miracles and unwavering faith.

His name means 'Yahweh is God'.

**Elisha:** A prophet and the successor of Elijah.

**Esther:** A Jewish queen of Persia who played a crucial role in saving her people from destruction. Her name means 'star.'

**Ezra:** A scribe and priest who led the return of the exiles from Babylon and helped restore the Jewish community in Jerusalem. His name means "help" or "helper."

**Enoch:** A figure known for his close walk with God; he was taken to heaven without experiencing death.

**Elkanah:** the father of the prophet Samuel.

**Eli:** A high priest and judge of Israel who mentored the prophet Samuel.

**Ezekiel:** A prophet known for his visions and messages during the Babylonian exile.

**Eber:** An ancestor of Abraham and a significant figure in the genealogy of the Israelites. His name means "the region beyond."

**Eglon:** A king of Moab who oppressed Israel and was killed by Ehud.

**Elisabeth:** a descendant of Aaron, was the wife of Zechariah and the mother of John the Baptist.

See if you are able to discover additional names....

MCB



## THE RESTORE PROJECT IS NOT OVER YET!

**Phase 1, the buttress repair may be over but there is still a need to complete repairs to;**

- The tower brickwork
- The broken tower roofing & parapet
- The leaking nave roof & dormer window
- The leaking vestry roof
- Internal damp.



The overall cost of repairs remains about £450,000, although this sum has been reduced by our ability to fund the buttress repairs from grants from Marshall's Charity and the Surrey Churches Preservation Trust.

Nevertheless, to make the overall project financially feasible it is being undertaken in stages (Phases).

Repairs apart, we want to expand our community support by

- Opening our building to wider community use as a hub for use by heritage, nature, and environmental organisations.
- Building on our current social care activities, such as supporting carers' of family members and friends with dementia, and offering ways of helping people prepare for the death of loved ones (Dying Matters/ GraveTalk).
- A greater involvement with our local schools by hosting school groups exploring our rich historical and natural heritage.

These are dependent on having structurally safe and sound buildings.

**The next stage is PHASE 2, which will;**

- Complete the repairs to the tower and tower parapet
- Repair the pitched nave roofs
- Start at least one new activity benefiting our local community – a dementia carers support group is most timely as is the hub.

Estimated cost for the tower repair is £227,000 (ex VAT), the roofs £60,500 (ex VAT), totalling £287,500 plus VAT £57,500. Costs for the social care and hub activities will be on top. Final tenders will up-date these estimates.

**To fund Phase 2**, our grants committee is putting together applications to a number of external funding organisations. It is a time-consuming

complex process, requiring explaining who we are, what we do, what we want to do, the need for urgent building repairs, how our social activities will benefit the community, our partnerships (what our hub users will do), and providing detailed costs and other financial details.

All grant giving organisations have strict rules stipulating;

- what they fund
- how much they will give
- how much the applicant (**us**) must raise themselves prior to making an application.

While we have so far been successful in raising our own funds, we have also had to employ architectural and advisory professionals and fund Phase 1.

It is critical we continue fundraising to meet the grant giving organisations rules. However, the success of the Restore Project is not only dependent on monies from grant giving organisations, but on us too.

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We acknowledge and thank everyone who has donated to the Restore Project – well done!

## WORD SEARCH PUZZLE No. 7 CHRISTIAN WRITERS

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

ANSELM	AUGUSTINE	BONHOEFFER
BUNYAN	CALVIN	CLEMENT
CLIMACUS	CYRIL	EUSEBIUS
GREGORY	IGNATIUS	JEROME
JULIAN	JUSTIN	KEMPIS
LEWIS	LOYOLA	LUTHER
MORE	ORIGEN	PASCAL
PAUL	POLYCARP	PTOLEMY
TERESA	TOZER	WESLEY

Words can go in any direction.

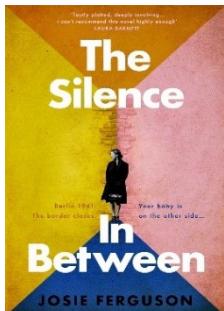
Words can share letters as they cross over each other.

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MCB

# St John's Reading Group 2026

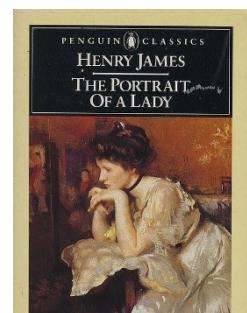
## FEBRUARY



At our last meeting we discussed **The Silence In Between** – set in 1961 Berlin and flashbacks to wartime Berlin. Although harrowing at times, the author had researched to the time periods very convincingly. When the Russians arrived in 1945, they heralded a frightening and brutal era which had grave consequences for Lisette's family. When Berlin was divided in 1961 with the building of the wall, memories were revived and a new struggle ensued when the new-born baby is in hospital on the wrong side of the wall. Lisette's teenage daughter, Elly, has always struggled to understand the distance between herself and her mother. Both have lived for music, but grief and loss have made music disappear for her mother. Elly is the key to breaking this silence. This is a very moving novel showing the resilience of women in harsh times.

Average score 9/10. It is a debut novel by Josie Ferguson and was shortlisted for the Waterstones Debut Fiction Prize. To be recommended.

After much discussion, we selected our 'classic' for February is **'The Portrait of a Lady'** by Henry James. Not a short read. The young woman in question is Isabel Archer, a beautiful spirited American, who is brought to Europe by her wealthy aunt with the expectation that she will soon marry. Instead of opting for one of the two suitable suitors, Isabel chooses Gilbert Osmond, who turns out to be domineering and emotionally abusive. This is quite a long read – and at the time of writing, I still have a long way to go.



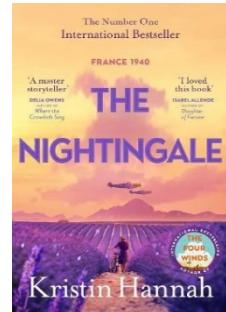
I have just finished reading the latest Anne Cleeves novel, *The Killing Stones*, which is our choice for May. So no spoilers here – other than to say that I

enjoyed the setting in Orkney, especially with the return of Jimmy Perez.

Our reading programme for the next couple of months  
The Nightingale by Kristin Hannah for March. The story  
of two sisters set in WWII occupied France.

For April – yet to decide

For May – The Killing Stones by Anne Cleeves (out in  
paperback on April 23<sup>rd</sup>)



With the recent film release of Hamnet based on Maggie O'Farrell's novel, you may wish to re-read this great novel which we read in the Reading Group last year.

I am intrigued by the title of Ken Follett's recent novel, Circle of Days – describing the troubled times around the building of Stonehenge. Mr Follett does not write short novels, as we know: this is a mere 608 pages. I think I shall add it to my list for 2026.

If you are a fan of the light-hearted 'Royal' books by S J Bennett, then you may wish to read the latest novel: Death on the Royal Yacht. Another aspect of cruising maybe?

Following the success of her book 'The Stolen Crown' about the succession of James I after the death of Queen Elizabeth I, Tracy Borman will be publishing her new novel in May entitled The House of Boleyn. Ms Borman has written many books on the Tudors as her speciality subject.

So Happy Reading at the start of this New Year!

Our February meeting will be on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> February at 8.00pm in the Church Coffee Lounge. You are very welcome to join us.



**There are boxes on the church porch bench for  
your donations to the Foodbank.**

**Foodbanks are now vital to so many people  
and our support is really important.**

**Please donate if you are able.**

Tinned meat, Long-life milk, Coffee, Rice, Pasta sauce, Squash, Instant mash, Tinned vegetables, Pot Noodles, Oils, Ketchup and mayonnaise, Sanitary towels, Toilet paper, Washing up liquid, Household cleaning products, Washing machine tablets, Shaving foam , Men's and women's deodorant, Tinned potatoes, Crisps and treats, Tinned tomatoes, Shampoo and conditioner, Tooth paste and toothbrushes, Biscuits, Jam , Pasta , Cereals, Pulses, Baked beans , Soup ,Tea.

## Additional events/commemorations in 2026

Following the long list in last month's OMN, here are some additional dates which may be of interest:

Louis Clerambault (1676-1749)

Louis Couperin (1626-1661)

Johann Bernard Bach (1676-1745)

S S Wesley (1810-1876)

Henry Hiles (1826-1904)

Arthur Wills (1926- )

A huge omission from last month's list is the 490<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the death of **William Tyndale**, an English biblical scholar and Protestant reformer who produced the first printed English New Testament. This was translated directly from Greek and large parts of the Old Testament from Hebrew. When his work was banned in England, he fled to Germany and later Brussels where he was arrested in 1535. Betrayed by a former friend, he was executed by strangulation and then burned at the stake at Vilvoorde, near Brussels in 1536. His last words were to pray that the King of England's eyes be opened.

William Tyndale believed that the Bible alone should determine the doctrines and practices of the church and that all believers should be able to read the Bible in their own language – including the plough boy! With the huge increase in printing and with financial support from wealthy London merchants, Tyndale continued to produce new editions in Germany. At the time of his death, 18,000 copies of his New Testament had been printed; however, only two complete volumes and a fragment remain today, at the British Library. It was so ironic that as early as 1539, Henry VIII authorised the first English translation of the Bible known as The Great Bible, to be distributed to every parish church and to be read aloud at services by the priest. This translation was made by Myles Coverdale under Cromwell's supervision and was largely based on the earlier translations made by William Tyndale. Tyndale's work also laid the foundation for the King James Version of 1611. A great translator, reformer and visionary whose contribution to scripture should not be underestimated.

(image from npg.uk)





## The Men's Thing

Spring/summer programme of talks held on the 2nd Saturday of each month in the church extension. Tea, coffee biscuits etc. available from 10am for a 10.30am start. Men and women are all welcome.

**February 14th** - A talk by Malcom Sutton titled Life and work on a desert island.

**March 7th** - A talk by Richard Barrett :- Cacti, a lifelong passion.



# Bereavement Café

In partnership with Princess Alice Hospice , St John's runs an informal support group for all those experiencing the loss of a loved one. The next meeting will be in the coffee lounge at St. John's on Tuesday 17th February 2:00- 3:30pm.



With things opening up again please help raise much-needed donations for St John's Old Malden - Repairs Fund when you plan ahead and arrange things to do! From booking staycations and getaways to tickets for concerts or other fun activities, remember to use #easyfundraising to raise FREE donations for us. Book now: <http://efraising.org/fx3w1QPP7u>

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