

# St Thomas', Trowbridge and St John's, West Ashton Monthly News May 2026



Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? Matthew 6:26

# St Thomas' Church – May Newsletter

Christ Focussed, Community Facing, Church Family

Dear church family,

...and just like that, a year has flown by! Here we are in May, and I'm celebrating my first year as your vicar. It has been an incredibly blessed time. I've discovered a whole new meaning to the term 'good-busy', and most importantly, a whole church family full of new friends. You have welcomed both me and Elle so well; we are very grateful – thank you!

With a fantastic Easter still fresh in our minds, I'd like to remind us all that in the church calendar, every Sunday is a mini-Easter! It's a time of peace and joy—hope in the midst of despair, light in the

FRUITS OF THE SPIRIT



darkness, new life, and new opportunities... This is the Christian hope that is available for us all year round. Not just on the date Easter Day falls. The way the world teaches us to move on so quickly, I know that I need constant reminding. Hallelujah! Jesus is risen!

As we hold on to the joy of Easter, we also turn in May to the next great festival: Pentecost. At Pentecost we remember that, after

Jesus ascended to heaven, the Holy Spirit was poured out to be with us—the birthday of the Church! We celebrate the Spirit who breaks down barriers and grows in us the fruit of the Spirit (can you remember them all?)—love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Which of those speaks most to you this May? Why not ask God what your focus should be right now, and invite the Holy Spirit to strengthen you. Those words come from Galatians 5:22–23— do have a read and be encouraged.

I hope you're enjoying our current series on The Bible Story, in church, in small groups, and/or at home. Studying the Bible has been a real blessing to me. Gaining a better sense of the sweep of Scripture and the nature of God has helped my faith be grounded and flourish. I hope the same for you, no matter where you are on your journey.

Later in the summer we hope to have a service focussed on testimonies and baptism. A chance to share what God is doing and make commitments to step deeper in faith for those who would like to. Do drop me a message if that is something you would like to do – I know we have a church family that would love the opportunity to cheer you on and celebrate together!

As life ticks on, many of us have busy times of challenge and transition right now. It may be a new start, or exam season which is upon us. Whatever this month holds, in and through it all, I pray you find space for God to speak to you, and bless you abundantly with those fruits of love, joy, and peace.

Holy Spirit come.

Amen.

Simon

# St John's Update

April started busy at St John's with Good Friday and Easter Day - there was good attendance at both services. West Ashton School had their Easter service before end of term. The children had written and provided a meaningful service. Suitable decorations were in place - see separate pictures. It was a time of reflection and the hope of new life with its many challenges for the future.

In early April, a site meeting took place at St John's by the DAC Architect, a Contractor and members of the PCC to discuss the damp walls and for a resolve to this long standing problem. A course of action was agreed and quotes would be drawn up for approval, once this was accepted by the PCC a schedule/plan of work could be drawn up. (Hopefully by the end of the summer). St John's will hold their APCM on the 30<sup>th</sup> April at 2pm.

May Services at St John's will be :

Sunday, 3 May - Service of the Word

Sunday, 17 May - Holy Communion.

Both at 10.30am - you would be very welcome.

The churchyard had a profusion of bluebells - a blaze of blue followed the yellow primroses. Spring had certainly sprung. Jesus did many of his teaching out of doors surrounded by the natural world. He used every day familiar and natural elements such as trees; flowers; animals and water to paint the picture of what the Kingdom should be like. Let us marvel in the springtime of God's wonderful creation. Amen.

Jean R



New Signboard at St John's



Good Friday at St John's







Easter Sunday at St John's

# New: Church What's On

We have launched a new "What's On" calendar on our website to publicise all of our church events. Use the "What's On" link on our website homepage, or navigate directly to [stthomastrowbridge.org/whats-on](http://stthomastrowbridge.org/whats-on).

Please do make use of this to keep yourselves informed of what is happening in the church.

Please also help us to keep the information up to date. If you spot anything that's missing or incorrect then let the office know. We want this page to be a reliable source of information.

## Here are the answers to last month's posers

1. 15
2. 2Kg
3. 15 (5 years per syllable)
4. Sister-----Not a 'Carry On' film

## This month's posers

1. I asked a young lady how old she was and she replied that in 2 years time she would be twice as old as she was 5 years ago.

How old is she ?

2. Which is the odd one out ?

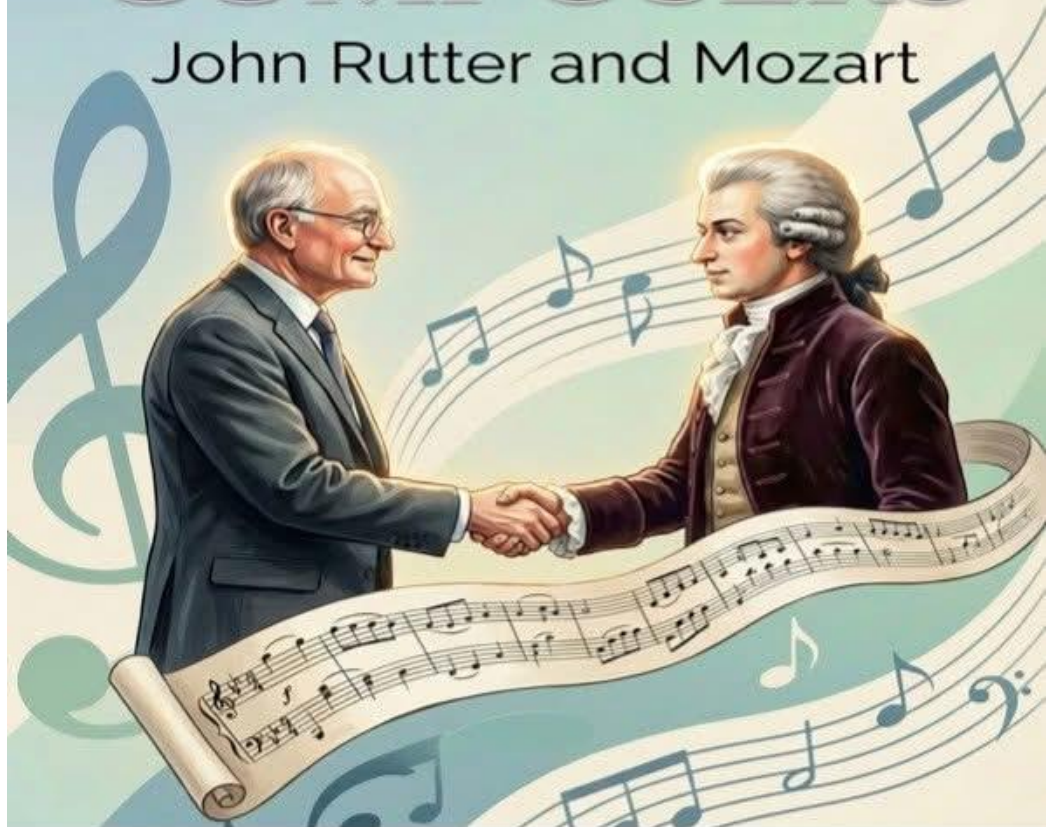
rock, time, bug, clothes, cross, spread,

3. My friend Ahab in Egypt Has 9 camels that were born at regular intervals of 15 months.

If the oldest is now 6 times as old as the youngest, how old is the youngest camel?

# TIMELESS COMPOSERS

John Rutter and Mozart



## Trowbridge Philharmonic Choir

Rutter Requiem and Mozart Solemn Vespers

St James' Church BA14 8DU Saturday 9th May 7:30

Tickets £15:00 on the door

[www.ticketsource.co.uk/trowbridge-philharmonic-choir/t-ejjzqnv](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/trowbridge-philharmonic-choir/t-ejjzqnv)



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AN INSPIRING STORY OF HOW FAITH AND  
FASHION MERGE

WE INVITE YOU TO

## FAITH AND FASHION



**SATURDAY 9<sup>TH</sup> MAY AT 7- 9PM**

NORTON ST PHILP CHURCH, NORTON ST PHILIP,  
BA2 7LY

TO BOOK YOUR SPACE SCAN THE QR CODE OR  
EMAIL [FANDRSTEWART1985@GMAIL.COM](mailto:FANDRSTEWART1985@GMAIL.COM)

### CAN FASHION BE A FORCE FOR GOOD?



MEET FOUNDER JENNY  
ALLAN WHO SET OUT TO USE  
HER SKILLS AND  
EXPERIENCE IN THE  
FASHION INDUSTRY TO  
MAKE A POSITIVE  
DIFFERENCE. AN INSPIRING  
STORY OF HOW FAITH AND  
FASHION MERGE

Jenny Allan, founder and designer of Jenerous will share her story about starting a Fair Trade fashion brand called Jenerous and provide opportunity for Q&A. Jenny has a wealth of experience of the international fashion world, regularly visiting cities such as Paris, New York and Hong Kong as a designer for Debenhams. She founded Jenerous in 2019 after taking a career break to have her family. The event will include a short catwalk show, drinks and nibbles and a selection of her Fair Trade designs available to purchase.



[www.jenerous.org](http://www.jenerous.org)  
[@jenerousfashion](https://www.instagram.com/jenerousfashion)



# WORDSEARCH

Look up, down, forwards, backwards and diagonally on the grid to find these synonyms for 'caring'

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

AFFECTIONATE

GENTLE

PATIENT

ATTENTIVE

GOOD-NATURED

RESPONSIBLE

BENEVOLENT

GRACIOUS

SOLICITOUS

CHARITABLE

HUMANE

SYMPATHETIC

COMPASSIONATE

KIND

THOUGHTFUL

CONSIDERATE

LOVING

UNDERSTANDING



Wiltshire  
YOUTH  
FOR CHRIST

**APPLY NOW**



St Thomas'  
Church  
Trowbridge

**JOIN OUR TEAM IN 2026**  
**JOIN THE DOTS IN YOUTH WORK**

**We Are  
Hiring**



**We are looking for a committed  
and enthusiastic Youth Worker  
to help us develop youth  
ministry in Trowbridge,  
Wiltshire.**

**A shared role with  
Wiltshire Youth for Christ &  
St Thomas' Church**

Contact Wiltshire YFC Director :  
[fergus@wiltshireyfc.org.uk](mailto:fergus@wiltshireyfc.org.uk) or

Rev Simon Pope:

[vicar@stthomastrowbridge.org](mailto:vicar@stthomastrowbridge.org)

Alternatively access the QR Code  
for more information

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**Deadline for June's Magazine:  
Monday 25<sup>th</sup> May**