

Church Without Walls

Issue 23 September 6th 2020

Prayer Requests:

Please pray for **Mathias, Mateo and Caitlin** as they leave for Zambia to establish a farm that will serve the local community. Pray for protection as they travel, good relationships with officials as they import new equipment and that they will be a blessing to the local church.

Pray for **Tina** as she returns to University to teach, **Malita** as she goes to York University to study and **Dondon** as she returns to school

Please pray for **Hannah** as she returns to visit her family in Nigeria that she will have a safe journey and a good reunion with family and friends.



If we're all watching at the same time don't forget we can use the live chat to say 'hello' to each other

Pakistani Christian arrested for blasphemy over pages of Quran found in drain

A Pakistani Christian man has been arrested on charges of blasphemy after a portion of the Quran was discovered in a drain. David Masih was detained on 30th August in the Risalpure neighbourhood of Nowshera after residents found the pages and posted a video of their discovery on social media.

Police say Masih has been charged with committing blasphemy under Section 295-B of Pakistan's Penal Code - part of the same law that resulted in Christian Asia Bibi spending a decade on death row.

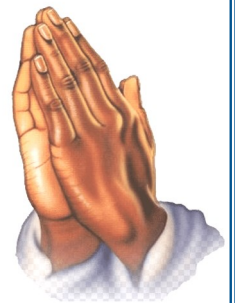
The police have launched an investigation into Masih's actions, though they have yet to release any information connecting him with the drain discovery. If he is found guilty, Masih could face life in prison.

There are currently 25 Christians being held in 22 blasphemy cases across Pakistan, which is known for its extremely harsh Islamic blasphemy laws.

Please pray for David, and for other Christians accused under Pakistan's Blasphemy laws.



God,
We ask that you would comfort David Masih during this scary time.
Strengthen his faith, Lord, and help him know that you are near.
In Jesus' name,
Amen



Read more about this [here](#)

Remember to give this number to anyone you know who would appreciate being able to hear a message of hope at this time



A free phone line of hymns, reflections and prayers

Preston Churches in Prayer

On Tuesday mornings at 7.30
join Christians from around
Preston for prayer on zoom
Email Andy Pratt for an invitation:
andrewpratt1@btinternet.com



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Ordination of David Hargreaves

Please pray for David as he will be ordained as a deacon in the Church of England on Sunday 27th Sept.



Sandwich-eating Outreach

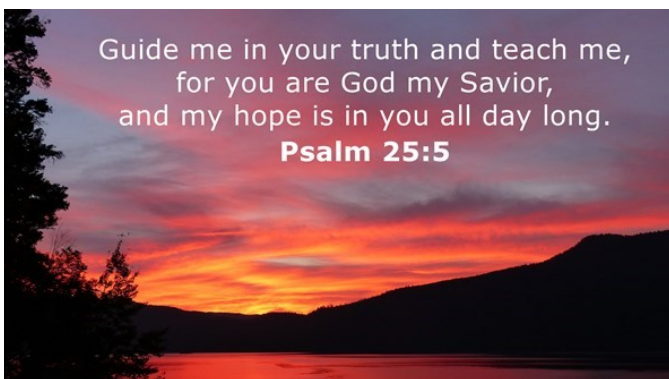
'Nutty Butty' at 66A Fishergate (a few yards up from Stanley Place - opposite County Hall) is the only sandwich shop in the parish.



Like many businesses it has seen a large drop in sales in recent months. They sell very yummy sandwiches at very reasonable prices. My favourite is the Roast Beef & horseradish / Coronation Chicken / Cajun chicken depending on my most recent visit. If every person reading this were to make just one visit to buy a sandwich and say to the staff that they are located in St Stephen's Parish, I am sure that it would make quite an impact on them, more than just financial. In December, when we try and deliver a Christmas card to every address in the parish it would help cement the relationship. Look upon it as low level, bridge - building (sandwich eating) outreach. Their opening hours are 7.30 - 1.30 Monday - Friday.

Michael Edmondson

It is good to be supporting local businesses - next week we will have a review of Origin Juice & Brew Bar on Fishergate Hill



Approximately 1 in 5 people worldwide do not have the Bible translated into their own language - that's 1.5 billion people in total. However, there is some good news...

**Wycliffe
Bible
Translators**

A new milestone has been reached as the Bible has been translated into its 700th language. The milestone is indicative of the acceleration that is happening in the work of Bible translation – to the extent that it is impossible to state which translation was actually the 700th, as there were several launches of physical Bibles as well as several being made available online and via apps, all at about the same time.

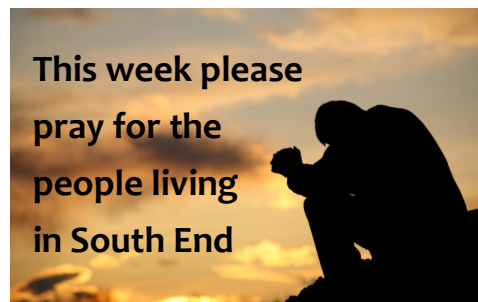
James Poole, Executive Director of Wycliffe Bible Translators, says: 'This is such exciting news, and represents the tremendous work that Bible translators are doing across the world. Every time we hear of the Bible being translated into another language, we know that means that for the first time the people in that language group can fully access the complete picture of God's story.'



Photo: © Bible Society of Malawi

James says: 'It's amazing that there is so much Bible translation going on that we can't pinpoint the 700th Bible. We live in exciting times, when the vision that all people will be able to read or hear God's word in their language is becoming a reality.'

You can read more about this [here](#)



 **St Stephen's**
LEARNING TO LOVE AS JESUS DOES