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Treasurers and church bank account details:

St Clement: Rob Sharp robsharp@fastmail.fm **St Clements Parish Church 40-25-34 84087488**

St Nicholas: Ian Bromley captainimb@aol.com.

Payments for St Nicholas Church have now been clarified and these are the amended bank details for St Nicholas Church: **St Clements Parish Church 40-25-34 94289579**

Please put a note in the 'reference' box for online banking so treasurers know what the payment is for and/or from whom, if that is important. Thank you.

May 7th, 2025

Dear friends of St. Clement and St. Nicholas,

Moving house after 27 years overwhelms the bins with piles of things hoarded - just in case - bubble wrap and old envelopes, leads and chargers for deceased laptops and gadgets... in their place , just space for someone else to store or maybe just be far more tidy and organised than we have been. A welcome but time consuming distraction are the heaps and folders of paper memories - JEP articles about fetes and Bethlehem at the Manor, children enjoying their new school or water dam in Kenya, pancake and firework evenings and reminders of people now parted from us. There is also a photograph of the churchyard from about twenty years ago with a huge tree near the main church door. When it was felled due to root disease we thought about what to replace it with. Don't plant a new tree too quickly was the advice. Bulbs flourished freed from shade, new views opened up, pretty wild flowers flourish. The first question people usually ask me at the moment is 'when will your replacement arrive ?' maybe instead it should be - 'what sort of things can I do to fill in the gaps ?' We never did replace that tree with the same variety in the same place, instead we planted twenty more around the new churchyards. Change is an opportunity and a challenge and I hope as many as possible will make the most of my retirement just as we start filling up the empty cupboards in our new home and collecting fresh memories. Thank you for the times we gave worshipped and enjoyed together.

We hope you are keeping well,

David and Bridget , Ally and Jonathan

A&M: 199

**Christ is alive! Let Christians sing.
The cross stands empty to the sky.
Let streets and homes with praises ring.
Love, drowned in death, shall never die.**

**Christ is alive! No longer bound
to distant years in Palestine,
but saving, healing, here and now,
and touching every place and time.**

**In every insult, rift and war,
where colour, scorn or wealth divide,
Christ suffers still, yet loves the more,
and lives, where even hope has died.**

**Women and men, in age and youth,
can feel the Spirit, hear the call,
and find the way, the life, the truth,
revealed in Jesus, freed for all.**

**Christ is alive, and comes to bring
good news to this and every age,
till earth and sky and ocean ring
with joy, with justice, love and praise.**

Minister: This is the day that the Lord has made

All: Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Minister: We have come together as the Family of God in our Father's presence to offer him praise and thanksgiving; to listen to his holy word and to bring before him the needs of the world. Today we particularly remember with thanksgiving the deliverance of this island from the occupation.

As we remember the sufferings and the joy of those days we are also mindful that who have lost loved ones through war and mindful of this we offer prayers and gifts today for there are parts of the world without freedom, people without homes, food and medicine, people who have lost loved ones through war and mindful of this we offer prayers and gifts today for others in need. But first let us spend a few moments in silence remembering the times we not used our freedom in accordance with God's will. And now we confess together:

All: Almighty God , our heavenly Father , we have sinned against you and against our neighbour, in thought and word and deed, through negligence, through weakness, through our own deliberate fault. We are truly sorry, and repent of all our sins. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, who died for us, forgive us all that is past; and grant that we may serve you in newness of life, to the glory of your name. Amen.

Minister: Almighty God who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Minister: The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy and peace. The Peace of the Lord be always with you.
All: And also with you

Minister: Let us share a sign of peace.

All: May the peace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. Amen.

The First Reading is taken from Acts, Chapter 9, beginning to read at the thirty-sixth verse (Acts 9 36-43)

In Joppa there was a disciple named Tabitha (in Greek her name is Dorcas); she was always doing good and helping the poor. About that time she became sick and died, and her body was washed and placed in an upstairs room. Lydda was near Joppa; so when the disciples heard that Peter was in Lydda, they sent two men to him and urged him, "Please come at once!" Peter went with them, and when he arrived he was taken upstairs to the room. All the widows stood around him, crying and showing him the robes and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was still with them.

Peter sent them all out of the room; then he got down on his knees and prayed. Turning toward the dead woman, he said, "Tabitha, get up." She opened her eyes, and seeing Peter she sat up. He took her by the hand and helped her to her feet. Then he called for the believers, especially the widows, and presented her to them alive. This became known all over Joppa, and many people believed in the Lord. Peter stayed in Joppa for some time with a tanner named Simon.

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God**

CA 649

**The King of love my Shepherd is,
whose goodness faileth never;
I nothing lack if I am his
and he is mine forever.**

**Where streams of living water flow
my ransomed soul he leadeth,
and where the verdant pastures grow
with food celestial feedeth.**

**Perverse and foolish oft I strayed,
but yet in love he sought me,
and on his shoulder gently laid,
and home, rejoicing, brought me.**

**In death's dark vale I fear no ill
with thee, dear Lord, beside me
thy rod and staff my comfort still,
thy cross before to guide me.**

**Thou spread'st a table in my sight,
thy unction grace bestoweth:
and O what transport of delight
from thy pure chalice floweth!**

**And so through all the length of days
thy goodness faileth never;
good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise
within thy house for ever.**

The Gospel Reading: Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John
Glory to you, O Lord. (John 10: 22-30)

Then came the Festival of Dedication at Jerusalem. It was winter, and Jesus was in the temple courts walking in Solomon's Colonnade. The Jews who were there gathered around him, saying, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly."

Jesus answered, "I did tell you, but you do not believe. The works I do in my Father's name testify about me, but you do not believe because you are not my sheep. My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one will snatch them out of my hand. My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all^{el}; no one can snatch them out of my Father's hand. I and the Father are one."

This is the Gospel of the Lord . **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Reflection: Tracy What clings more? Kindness or unkindness? Whatever your answer I prefer to remember kindness. This week marks 80 years of Liberation and the island has been remembering.

Last Sunday me and Mum visited the Parish Hall at St. Clement to see an exhibition of Liberation memorabilia – testimony to many precious memories. I was very touched to see a teddy bear in marvellous shape for its years that had travelled from Jersey to Poole (or Sandbanks) and then back again. At another table was a recipe for limpet stew – not a meal I am tripping over myself to construct! At the end of one table I spied a Red Cross parcel that had arrived on the SS Viga. In a typical parcel was: 6oz of chocolate, 20oz of biscuits, 4oz of tea, 20oz of butter, 6oz of sugar, a 20oz tin of milk powder, a 16oz tin of marmalade, a 14oz tin of corned beef, a 143oz tin of ham or pork, a 10oz tin of salmon, a 5oz tin of sardines, an 8oz tin of raisins, a 6oz tin of prunes, a 4oz tin of cheese, a 3oz tablet of soap and 1oz of pepper and salt. The contents of each parcel was meant to last a month! However the kindness represented by each parcel undoubtedly lasted a life time and, for those who are still with us, a constant reminder of the kindness of strangers.

In our reading from Acts the kindness of Tabitha (known also as Dorcas) was well-known and will remain well-known as long as the Bible is read.

As we remember the kindness of others may the kindness we show in our lives cling like a fragrant perfume that will last for many, many years.

This is the Gospel of the Lord **Praise to you, O Christ.**

CA 337

**I will sing the wondrous story
of the Christ, who died for me,
how he left the realms of glory
for the cross on Calvary.**

**Yes, I'll sing the wondrous story
of the Christ who died for me –
sing it with the saints in glory,
gathered by the crystal sea.**

**I was lost but Jesus found me,
found the sheep that went astray,
raised me up and gently led me
back into the narrow way.
days of darkness still may meet me,
sorrow's path I oft may tread;
but his presence still is with me,
by his guiding hand I'm led.**

**He will keep me till the river
rolls its waters at my feet:
then he'll bear me safely over,
made by grace for glory meet.
Yes, I'll sing the wondrous story
of the Christ who died for me –
sing it with the saints in glory,
gathered by the crystal sea.**

Priest: , Do you believe and trust in God the Father, who made the world?
We believe and trust in him.

Priest: Do you believe and trust in his Son Jesus Christ, who redeemed mankind?
We believe and trust in him.

Priest: Do you believe and trust in his Holy Spirit, who gives life to the people of God?
We believe and trust in him.

The Collect for the Fourth Sunday of Easter: Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ is the resurrection and the life: raise us, who trust in him, from the death of sin to the life of righteousness, that we may seek those things which are above, where he reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

As Jesus taught his disciples so we pray: **Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

Prayers of intercession- Lord in your mercy **All: Hear our prayer.**

At this time when we remember the events of Liberation Day let us give thanks for people who were kind and looked out for the needs of those around them.

Let us remember : brave people who put their lives in danger to help others
the kindness of people far away who put together food parcels to make sure people didn't starve
the ingenuity of people who made do and mended.

the people who were faithful and trustworthy and showed the best of what it is to be human

Let us remember and give thanks and pray for our world that it may know peace and that people's needs will be met by the kindness of others.

Let us pray for our loved ones, particularly those we worry about.

Let us give great thanks for those who sacrificed their lives for us and remember those grieving the loss of a loved one. We pray they will know God's peace and comfort for them.

Merciful Father, **accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

A&M 800

The Lord's my shepherd, I'll not want.
He makes me lie in pastures green.
He leads me by the still, still waters,
his goodness restores my soul.

*And I will trust in you alone,
And I will trust in you alone,
for your endless mercy follows me,
your goodness will lead me home.*

He guides my ways in righteousness
and he anoints my head with oil,
and my cup, it overflows with joy,
I feast on his pure delights.

*And I will trust in you alone,
And I will trust in you alone,
for your endless mercy follows me,
your goodness will lead me home*

And though I walk the darkest path
I will not fear the evil one,
for you are with me, and your rod and staff
are the comfort I need to know.

*And I will trust in you alone,
And I will trust in you alone,
for your endless mercy follows me,
your goodness will lead me home*

The Grace: All: May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all evermore. Amen.

The Blessing: Christ crucified draw you to himself, to find in him a sure ground for faith, a firm support for hope, and the assurance of sins forgiven; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always, **Amen.**