

*Events This week*

**Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup>** Encounters - Charlton 6.30 pm

**Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup>** Holy Communion Tanglely 10 am

**Thursday 27<sup>th</sup>** Compline Charlton 9.15 pm

*Notices from around the Benefice...*

**If you wish prayers to be said for you or a loved one please email [prayers@pastrowbenefice.org.uk](mailto:prayers@pastrowbenefice.org.uk)**

**Ministry Opportunity**

*Could you talk about your faith?*

*We have agreed to form a team who would help the children at Hatherden school in discussing aspects of faith. Could you offer an hour a month, on a Friday afternoon?*

*Full training and support given!*

*If you would like further information please contact Revd Alex on 01264 512161 or*

*[vicar@pastrowbenefice.org.uk](mailto:vicar@pastrowbenefice.org.uk)*

# Grapevine

Issue No 29 Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2017

*In your Prayers please pray for.....*

Those known to us who are ill and receiving treatment to aid their health.

Our service leaders, may God give them strength and understanding to lead us.

All our families, may they be blessed with unity and love.

*Community Diary Dates*

**Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> Sept** – Andover Church Together joint service at the United Reform Church 6.30 pm all welcome.

**Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> Sept** – Deeper Praise youth event for 12 – 18-year olds at St Pauls Smannell Road.

*Readings This Week*

Gen 28 10 – 19a      Ps 139 1 – 11, 23 – 24  
Rom 8 12 – 25      Matt 13 24 – 30, 36 - 43

*Next Week*

Gen 29 15 – 28      Ps 105 1 – 11, 45b  
Rom 8 26 – end      Matt 13 31 – 33, 44 - 52

*Words of Encouragement*

*By Revd Val*

I know that many of you have been on cruises and Philip and I have now completed two. But I'd like to share a story with you about a minister and his young family who were on a cruise ship on their way to America.

One afternoon the ministers family were all standing at the ship's rail looking out to sea, and the youngest daughter suddenly asked the minister, 'Daddy how great is God's love?'

Her father replied, 'Well if you look out here on the port side of the ship as far as your eye can see, and then if you look out to the starboard side as far as your eye can see, and then if you look high above you into the clear blue sky and deep down to the bottom of this great ocean as far as you could possibly go...that's how great God's love is.'

'Isn't it funny,' the little girl said, 'that we're right in the middle of it!'

Sometimes we all need to be reminded that we are right in the middle of God's love...God's love is wide...it is broader than the measure of our minds...and God's love is deep...it is concerned about each one of us totally. We are each one of us special and unique and God loves us all with a love that is as wide as the ocean, that is as high as the heavens above and that is as deep as the deepest sea...that is indeed our Savior's love!

And so when you are on your holidays, and you find yourself in the middle of a vast ocean, or even perhaps at the top of a mountain, or standing on the shore gazing out to sea, just pause to reflect and to remind yourself that you are in the middle of God's love...yesterday, today and forever.

Amen.

*Notes from Pastrow Admin*

To advertise your events email [eventsadmin@pastrowbenefice.org.uk](mailto:eventsadmin@pastrowbenefice.org.uk)