

STANGROUND & FARCET C OF E CHURCHES  
**NEWSLETTER**

14<sup>th</sup> August 2022



**READINGS FOR  
SUNDAY**

**14<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST**

Jeremiah 23: 23 - 29

Hebrews 11: 29 – 12: 2

Gospel Reading:

Luke 12: 29 - 56

***A HOMILY FROM THE REVEREND ANDREW AVERY***

Even for non-sporty people the Commonwealth games in Birmingham has been a remarkable spectacle. And did you know that England achieved only 2 medals less than Australia – what an achievement!

Sadly, I did not sit down from morning until nighttime watching the games, although I did catch up with highlights most evenings. So many events stood out for me, and I guess many of you had a favourite moment (or two or three!). One of mine was the T37/38 women's 100m final won of course by Olivia Breen of Wales, with 20 metres to go she smiles and then beamed as

she realised, she was going to win – and did so in a personal best time of 12.83 seconds. Not bad for someone who was primarily a long jumper! In an interview a little later, not only had her smiles increased but so had the realization of her achievement. She said that she just did her best and ran as fast as she could, and no-one could ask more than that!

I wonder what the writer of the letter to the Hebrews would have made of her achievement. In Sunday's reading we read that we should, "run with perseverance the race marked out for us". That's our spiritual race, our faith in God through Jesus Christ, fixing our eyes on him and the prize of this Kingdom. I wonder if we see our spiritual journey as something of a sprint, or maybe a marathon, or even a steeplechase with hurdles and hazards along the way. For Olivia, she had a team of people helping and encouraging her and picking her up when she felt down and struggling. She had the grace, in one interview, to say that she could not have achieved her success without her coach and family. She persevered and ran the race set out for her. We shouldn't see our own spiritual journeys as something we have to do by ourselves, or even something that we need to rush into and get it over and done with. Our 'race' is life long and is often fraught with difficulties and challenges and hardships. Like all athletes we need a coach, a mentor and encourager; someone who we can talk to and pray with.

When I was an athletic coach (many, many years ago now) it was always acknowledged that the athlete should ask you to coach them, and not the coach offering themselves. And so it should be with our own spiritual coaches, those people who you think can support, encourage and pray with you as you develop that deeper relationship with God. So let us all fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, and seek out those who can support us on that journey.

**ON SUNDAY 28<sup>th</sup> AUGUST THERE WILL BE A BENEFICE SERVICE AT  
ST JOHN'S CHURCH, STANGROUND**

### For our Prayers this week

#### Those who are sick

Carol Highe, Marie Le-Hair,  
Joan Pawlak, Kath Davies,  
Karen Quinn, Doreen Spires,  
Victoria Puar, Don Taylor &  
Pat Abbott

#### For the families of those who have died

Roy Bradley

### St Mary's Church Fete

St Mary's Church, Farcet will be holding their Church Fete weekend at the start of September. It will begin on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> September from 7 – 9 pm with a Cheese & Wine evening with entertainment from 1940's GI Band with a Raffle & Sing along. On Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> September there will be a Church Fete from 10 – 2pm with various stalls and a Raffle. The weekend will end with a Songs of Praise Service at St Mary's on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> September at 11 am. All welcome

### This coming week's events:

#### Monday 15<sup>th</sup> August

11 am Food & Fun  
St Michael's Church & Hall  
7.30 pm Ladies Bible Study  
St Michael's Church

#### Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> August

9 – 2 pm Community Café  
St Michael's Church  
There will be activities for the children from 9 – 11 am this week.

#### Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> August

St John's Church will be open until 2 pm. Rev Carol & Rev Andrew will be there from 12 – 2pm.

#### Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> August

9.30 am St John's Church  
Stanground  
9.30 am St Margaret's Church  
Fletton  
11 am St Mary's Church  
Farcet  
11.15 am St Michael's Church  
Stanground

## Community Café

St Michaels Church, Mace Road, Stanground



To give our volunteers a much-needed break. We will be closing the Community Café for 2 weeks. We will be closed on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> & 31<sup>st</sup> August.

We will be back on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> September with lots of homemade treats and a welcome smile for all our customers.



### BINGO

We will be holding a Bingo evening in the Parish Hall on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> August doors open at 6.15 pm with eyes down at 6.45 pm.

### St Michael's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration

Please also put the weekend of 24/25<sup>th</sup> September in your diaries. We are beginning to plan events and activities to celebrate this dedication. We will be holding a Celebration Fayre on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> September from 11 – 2pm. The Community Café will be open, we will be having various stalls, games for the children and more in the planning! On Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> September we will have a celebration Service in the morning followed by a community meal, and we will end the weekend with a Songs of Praise at 4pm.

### Hope into Action

We are thrilled that from Friday 5<sup>th</sup> August we formed an official relationship with Hope into Action and are looking forward to an investor buying a house in Stanground that will house a family who need care and stability. We will then be able to work with Hope in Action to care and nurture this family to be able to move in life with confidence. More news to follow.

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