

MILFORD Parish Magazine



APRIL 2024

Passion Flower



ALL SAINTS' MILFORD ON SEA
ST MARY'S EVERTON

£1.50

The Parish of All Saints' Milford on Sea with St Mary's Everton

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MILFORD

Parish Magazine

WELCOME

to our Parish Magazine!

We hope you will enjoy reading this issue, with its news and views of the life and the people of our Parish.

PLEASE

Consider making a contribution to the costs of producing the magazine, which is a source of pleasure and a vital lifeline to so many in the wider community.

You can:

- Make a donation direct to the Church bank account:
Account: PCC of Milford on Sea
SCN: 40-30-36
Account number: 41212931
Reference: P Mag donation
- Enclose a cash donation or cheque (payable to PCC of Milford on Sea) in an envelope marked "Parish Magazine" and drop it in to the All Saints' Church office
- Put your donation in the designated cash box at All Saints' or St Mary's

THANK YOU

Valerie and Jackie, Editors
Please contact us for further information

ALL SAINTS' MILFORD ON SEA
ST MARY'S EVERTON

VICAR'S LETTER

'Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience' (Colossians 3:12)

Whilst I write this reflection, Rebecca and I are away at a Church Leadership Conference. The theme for the two days is Holy, Humble and Healthy. We have been encouraged to reflect on what it means for these Godly characteristics to mark our Christian leadership. But ALL who choose to follow Jesus and profess a Christian faith are called to live out these Godly characteristics.

Biblical holiness is defined as being separate or set apart. Though we live in the world, we are separate and set apart as Christians from the world. Our lives should have a different and distinct flavour to them that points to a heavenly kingdom beyond our present earthly one.

In our celebrity culture and society of 'influencers', humbleness is a rare quality. Yet Philippians depicts how Jesus takes a different approach. He stoops low, humbling himself to reach us. Saint Augustine is quoted as saying, 'If you plan to build a tall house of virtues, you must first lay deep foundations of humility'.

Today we are saturated by new health regimes and quick shortcuts to improved health. The latest diet or must have food to improve your wellbeing; the latest fitness app or new-style exercise class. Whilst we might invest much time in caring for our physical wellbeing, how much do we invest in our spiritual wellbeing and inner health. The quick fixes to physical health may seem far more appealing than the longer, harder journey of investing in our spiritual health.

The old familiar hymn 'It is well with my soul' raises that question. Is it well with our souls? May we all take time to reflect on ways we can better invest in our spiritual lives and become more holy, more humble and more healthy people.

Tasha



PRAYER POINTS FOR APRIL 2024

Please pray for:



Peace and love to reign in the hearts of every person



Protection of God's creation and a prompting of our own responsibilities as we give praise and thanks for new life in the world around us



All those who sustain our village community



An awareness of the needs of our neighbours, to turn to them in interest and love



Our leaders and volunteers within All Saints' and St Mary's



For wisdom and discernment at the APCM



Stillness in God's presence

FROM THE REGISTERS

Funerals

Rosemary Herman • Christine Luxon • Iain Boyd
Joyce Glover • Bernard Ffield

FROM THE MAGAZINE EDITORS

**Copy deadline for May 2024 issue:
THURSDAY 4th APRIL 2024 at noon.**

Publication date: Friday 26th April 2024.

Copy to **both editors** please –
vj Kidd302@gmail.com and jackie.parker51@googlemail.com

Advertising enquiries to the Editors

All copy is (to the best of our knowledge) correct at the time of going to press, and represents the views of the contributor alone.



**Check notice sheets and websites
for up-to-date information.**



All Saints' and St Mary's web address:

**www.allsaintsmilford.org.uk
or www.stmaryseverton.org.uk**



ALL SAINTS' + ST. MARY'S
SHARING THE LOVE AND LIFE OF JESUS

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH OFFICE

Please note that the church office will be closed on Friday 29th March, Monday 1st April and Friday 5th April. (Bank Holidays and annual leave)

A Tribute to Gillian



I wonder if it can be said of many people that they have totally and selflessly devoted 30 years of their life to serving their community and their church? Seeing youngsters born and grow, now with families of their own, the not so young now more elderly, maybe in a care home or isolated in their own home but never forgotten, newcomers welcomed and encouraged to become part of St Mary's church family, the suffering supported, the bereaved comforted, companionship for the lonely, rejoicing with those who come forward for baptisms, confirmation and marriage as they journey onwards in their Christian faith.

Does this sound all-consuming and draining of time and emotion?

The person who fits exactly this description is of course Gillian, so much relied upon by our community and so much loved by all of us at St Mary's for her leadership, guidance and commitment to our fellowship. It is doubtful that many are able to imagine St Mary's, or indeed Everton, without her, be it a church service, a children's club, a fellowship group, a bereaved family, the village fete, carols at the post office, posies for Mothering Sunday, lunch club and coffee mornings. The list is endless.

Yet now it is the right time for Gillian to enjoy a retirement from living for others twenty four hours a day, seven days a week and to be able to enjoy time for herself and her family, knowing that the foundations she has laid at St Mary's and built upon year after year are solid and will enable us to continue to grow and flourish due to her selfless serving.

A line of a Christmas carol reads: *'In his master's steps he trod, where the snow lay dinted.'* Gillian has certainly left her mark on our church and community and we are determined to tread in her footsteps to continue all she has achieved.

A huge THANK YOU Gillian from us all. We shall miss you but you will still be with us in so many ways. Now enjoy a peaceful stress-free retirement and maybe even learn the pleasure of relaxing and being able to let go! We are all greatly indebted to you in so many ways for so much that you have given us all.

May God bless you in the years ahead.

All Saints' and St Mary's April 2024

Sunday 7th April

9am	Morning Worship	<i>All Saints'</i>
10.30am	Worship Together	<i>All Saints'</i>
10.30am	Holy Communion	<i>St Mary's</i>

Sunday 14th April

9am	Holy Communion	<i>All Saints'</i>
10.30am	Joint Worship Together with Communion	<i>All Saints'</i>

Sunday 21st April

9am	Morning Worship	<i>All Saints'</i>
10.30am	Worship Together	<i>All Saints'</i>
10.30am	Holy Communion	<i>St Mary's</i>

Sunday 28th April

9am	Holy Communion	<i>All Saints'</i>
10.30am	All Together Worship	<i>All Saints'</i>
10.30am	Café Church	<i>St Mary's</i>
6pm	Prayer and Praise	<i>All Saints'</i>

Please check our website for the most up to date information as services can be subject to change www.allsaintsmilford.org.uk

All Saints' Church
Church Hill, Milford on Sea

St Mary's Church
Branwood Close, Everton

NEWS FROM ST MARY'S - APRIL 2024

This month we hear from Sheila Nash of the Everton Community Association:

The Association (ECA) has been in existence for approximately 30 years. Whilst it has seen changes in committee members, its purpose remains the same, to provide activities and events that are inclusive and benefit the social welfare of all Everton residents.

All residents of Everton are members of the ECA and are welcome at any of our committee meetings. This gives the community the opportunity to influence, participate in and support future events. As a committee we always welcome volunteers to help organise these events. I'd like to take this opportunity to extend thanks to those volunteers already supporting us.

Local support from businesses and councillors contributes to our ability to fund and organise events, most recently the Coronation Fete and the Children's Halloween Disco in 2023. However, it is mostly the support of the village and volunteers that has made these and other events a great success.

This year, we will organise events to commemorate the 80th D-Day Anniversary, and rather than a one-day event, the committee decided that smaller activities around the village starting on Thursday 6th June and ending on Sunday 9th June would be more appropriate. The committee will be partnering with The Club, the Church and local businesses to ensure we remember appropriately those who sacrificed so much.

The committee is also working with our local web provider to update our Village Website, with the intention of this becoming an information hub for residents and others to find out about the village and what is happening. The ECA will also be able to post our agendas and minutes, along with our new governance policies, which will enhance transparency between the committee and the village.

As I write this article, we are looking forward to our first event for 2024 which is to host a Coffee Morning on Saturday 23rd March at Everton Pavilion. This will be linked with a 'Village Litter Pick' organised by Hordle Parish Council on the same morning. It will be a great way to work off all that homemade cake at the Coffee Morning to go and join the 'Village Litter Pick'. Thank you to all the wonderful volunteers and cake bakers.

If you want to get involved, either as a volunteer at events or on the committee, please contact Sheila Nash at ECACommittee@outlook.com



THANK YOU *From the LUXONS*

The family join me in wishing to give a big 'thank you' to everyone involved in any way in giving Christine a fabulous send off at her colourful thanksgiving and celebration service in February. To all who helped or contributed, and we include those who attended and those who could not but sent loving messages. We were overwhelmed and thrilled that so many people have happy memories of her and that she had influenced their lives beneficially. What a testimonial!

May I take this opportunity to apologise if I have not personally thanked anyone for their kind messages, cards and flowers. An outpouring of love and care, thank you.

With love from Alec, Ken, Rachel, Jenny and Pam and the rest of the tribe.



PRAYER CHAIN IN ALL SAINTS'

Prayer life is central to our church and there are a number of different ways to access prayer. The Prayer Chain team consists of 10 people who are committed to praying for those in our community, whether they attend church or not.

'Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.'
(Philippians 4:6)

Prayer plays a vital role in allowing people to feel supported and held, through God's love, in sickness and adversity. We know God hears our prayers. They of course may not be answered as we hope, but knowing God is walking with us can be a comfort. The Prayer Chain team would very much value any updates on prayer requests.

There is a Prayer Chain leaflet available for prayer, which can be found in All Saints' church.

Please use us.

PRAYER MINISTRY IN ALL SAINTS'

The Prayer team is here to serve you in different ways.

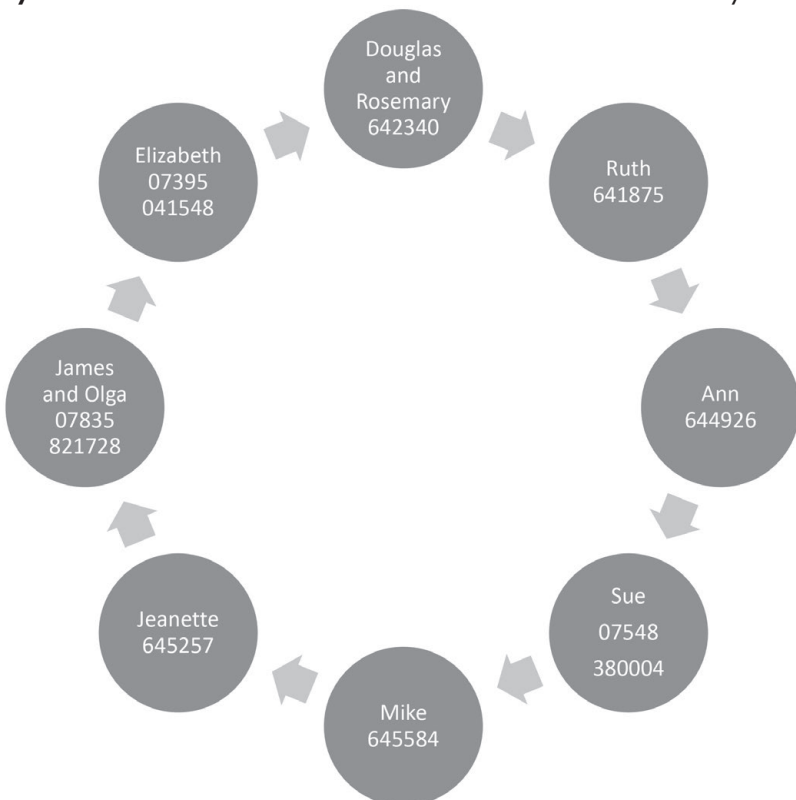
FOR URGENT PRAYER please use the Prayer Chain illustrated below on which are the names of the Prayer Team.

HOW TO USE THE PRAYER CHAIN

Phone any one person on the Chain, don't leave a message if they are out - try another person on the Chain until you speak to a live voice. Your request will be passed on for you by that member of the team to the next person on the Chain. In that way several members of the Team will be praying through the day and into the next. Please give us feedback when you have some news.

Prayer Chain

February 2024



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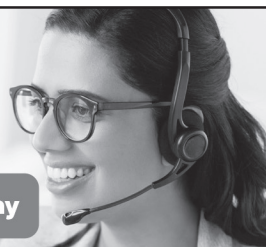
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It's a **privilege** to look after our patients

Donna has worked for Oakhaven for eight years as a Health Care Assistant in the In-Patient Unit, allowing her passion for end of life care to benefit patients and their loved ones at the most difficult of times. Donna says 'We are there to support our patients with dignity and respect, both emotionally and physically. We laugh and joke, we pamper them, we sit and hold their hands and we listen.'

Donna is part of an amazing team at Oakhaven who all support each other 'we laugh, we cry and we get through it all together. I am so proud to work at the hospice.'

We are able to care for one in four people thanks to gifts in Wills.

Leaving a lasting legacy to Oakhaven in this way ensures we will be able to continue caring for those in our community when they need us most, helping us to make every moment matter.

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MILFORD BAPTIST CHURCH DIARY

Milford Baptist Church, 01590 645469 or chrisden1943@outlook.com

April

- 7th Sunday worship with communion at 10.30am led by Rev Martin Poole
- 14th Sunday worship at 10.30am led by Jenny Yates (leadership team)
- 21st Sunday worship at 10.30am - Mission Sunday with speaker from BMS and Southampton City Mission
- 28th Sunday worship at 10.30am led by Rev Alan Harvey from New Milton Evangelical

MESSAGE FROM THE BAPTIST CHURCH

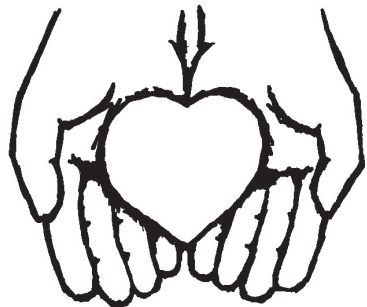
Philippians 1: 3-11

I do enjoy musical theatre. I recently had the opportunity to watch again a performance of Fiddler on the Roof and particularly the love scene between Tevye and Golde, when Tevye asks his wife 'Do you love me?'

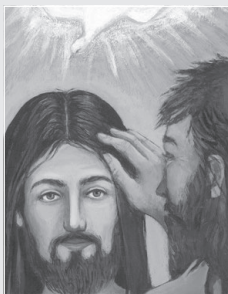
I guess that is why we need Mothers' Day and Fathers' Day, birthdays and anniversaries. We need to know that we are loved, that we matter. Jesus never hesitated to say I love you: *'and by this all people will know that you are my disciples if you love one another'*. As we meet together in fellowship we marvel at the ties and affection that bind us together in our families, in our churches and in the tasks we share together in love. It is amazing what people see in us as we live out Jesus but it is far more amazing that God, Creator of Heaven and Earth, sees so much in us that He not only entrusts the stewardship of His world with us but also the Gospel of Jesus Christ. One of my favourite Bible books is Paul's letter to the Philippians, not an open letter but one carefully addressed to those who love Jesus. *'I thank God every time I remember you, and every time I pray for you because of the way you have helped me in the work of the Gospel.'*

As we approach this most sacred of seasons and come together as a church family, may we wonder again at God's gift of His Son and His ultimate sacrifice of love for us.

Chris Steadman, Church Secretary MBC



FAMILIES AND SCHOOLS



Hopefully you've enjoyed a wonderful Easter and are full of anticipation for the joys of summer, which must surely be on its way after such a wet winter. The run up to Easter has been a very busy time, possibly even more so than Advent. A highlight was exploring the Godly Play material, *Faces of Easter*, in the infant classes at school. As children heard, through pictures, the story of Christ's journey to the cross and resurrection they considered times when they have felt Jesus close to them:

'When I was born'

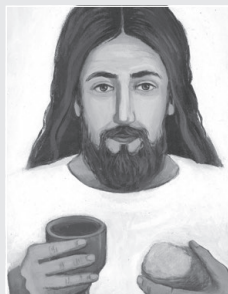
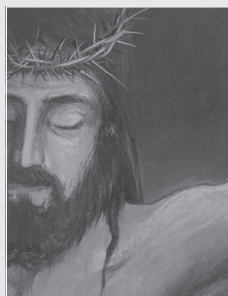
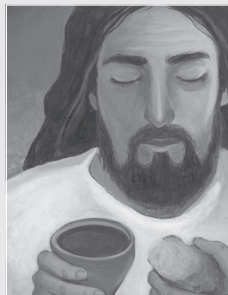
'When my mum hugs me'

'When I help other people who are hurt'

'When I'm happy' and
'When I'm sad'

How wonderful that these youngest of children know and feel the presence of Jesus in their lives; and aren't afraid to say so.

Rebecca Webb



BOOK REVIEW

Grandparenting for Faith: Sharing God with the children you love the most

Becky Sedgwick, BRF £9.99

Grandparenting brings the opportunity to walk spiritually alongside our grandchildren, offering tools and skills for the journey. Whatever your circumstances, God has positioned you to be a unique voice, speaking into your grandchildren's lives, helping to nurture them into the reality of a relationship with the God who loves them. This book will help grandparents to encourage and equip their grandchildren to know God better.

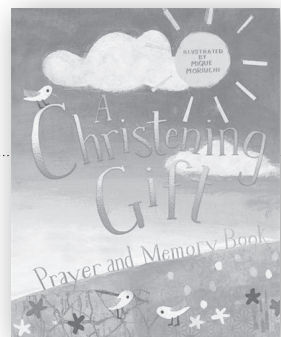


A Christening Gift Prayer and Memory Book

Various authors, SPCK £8.99

This book could be a good gift for a grandparent, godparent, or family member, to give to a young child. It is an illustrated gift book to commemorate a young child's christening. It includes a collection of prayers, Bible verses, and pages for recording details, memories, and messages of the special occasion. Parents can add their own memories, with spaces for photos and special blessings from the guests, as well as recording key milestones in their child's early years.

Parish Pump



METHODIST CHURCH SERVICES

Services for April are as follows:

Sunday 7th April 10:45am	Revd Tom and Mrs Christine Stuckey
Sunday 14th April 10:45am	Revd Peter McNeill - Holy Communion
Sunday 21st April 10:45am	Pastor Jenny Yates
Sunday 28th April 10:45am	Revd Roger Gisborne

NEWS FROM AROUND THE PARISH

MENMEET

Thursday 4th April 7.30pm -
MenMeet Plus



This is when we explore questions of Christian faith, this time asking 'What is God saying to us, and through us, when''Christian Consensus No Longer Underpins Society?' This is the third in this series and will be led by our friend Eddie Donaldson.

Venue - Oak Apple Cottage, Barnes Lane, Milford on Sea.

Thursday 18th April 7.30pm - MenMeet at The Beach House.

We return to a popular topic - Aviation. Author Chris Thomas will talk about the role of '**Fighter Bombers in the Forest**'. There will be the usual option of a pre-meeting meal (must be pre-booked).

All men are welcome.

More details from Tony Styles 07790 447090, stylest@hotmail.co.uk

ACTIVATE WOMEN'S DAY EVENT

'TELL OTHERS OF THE NIGHT
AND DAY DIFFERENCE HE MADE
FOR YOU' (1 Peter 2:9-10)

Saturday 13th April 9.30pm
- 3.30pm All Saints' Hall £22
includes lunch



We believe God has put YOU in a unique position to make connections and He has a special purpose for you. Look forward to engaging talks and seminars, worship, tips, tools and testimonies, time to chat and meet new people, and a well-deserved break from your usual Saturday routine. Lunch, drinks and refreshments will be provided.

Kate Pinnell

Book direct: <https://www.activateyourlife.org.uk/milfordon-sea-day-away/> (do ask the church office if you need help)

Wednesday 17th April in All Saints' Church Hall at 2pm



A HISTORY OF THE POOR IN NEW MILTON

by John Lay-Flurrie, including the effects of the Poor Law in 1834

As John is an ambassador for The Honeypot Children's Charity for young carers, there will be a collection pot for voluntary donations.

FRIDAY MORNING AT DEL'S

We don't meet regularly now until October but we will be having a cream tea together in my garden on Friday 24th May at 3pm, an opportunity to relax, share news and pray together, if you wish. Even if you haven't been before, all ladies are welcome to come to Keir Cottage, Barnes Lane, Milford on Sea for this get-together.

Del Jenkins 01590 642794



A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY.....

SONGS OF PRAISE AT KEYHAVEN 2024 will be on **Sunday 7th July at 5pm**. It's been tricky to find a date that fits with tides and avoids clashing with other events so it is a bit earlier than usual this year. Keep the date free – more information to follow.



Continued on page 16 ►

NEWS FROM AROUND THE PARISH

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EASTER FLOWERS

Sincere thanks to the many people who contributed to the wonderful displays of flowers in our churches this Easter - both the arrangers who gave their expertise and those who donated towards the costs of the flowers. What joy to see those colourful blooms and foliage in designs created with such talent at All Saints' and St Mary's.



Thank you everyone.

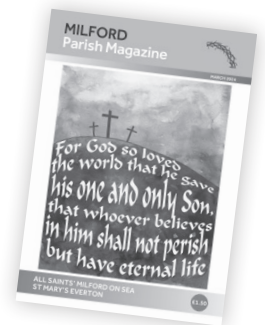
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Contact Jackie Parker NOW to pay your subscription, on 01590 641493 - jackie.parker51@googlemail.com



COFFEE MORNINGS IN AID OF NCF

Future dates and venues are:

Saturday 6th April - Rosemary Marcuse, 12 The Orchard, Milford on Sea

Saturday 4th May - Joyce Rhoden, 78 Swallow Drive, Milford on Sea

There is NO coffee morning in June as many regular supporters will be at Lee Abbey.

Saturday 6th July - Joyce Rhoden

Saturday 3rd August - Joyce Rhoden

Saturday 7th September - Florence and Michael Iles, Rafters, 7 Lucerne Road



UPDATE FROM FRIENDS OF NCF

The NCF team send their love and deep gratitude for all of the loyal and life changing support from All Saints' Church and our amazingly generous donors.

Another memorable time spent at the NCF project in Kampala, Uganda in February. It was a privilege to be joined by Sue, Kate and Lucy for their first experience of NCF. They added to the richness of the trip in many ways and their own lives have been impacted as a consequence. Thank you for all of the prayers and encouragement.

There are many ways of supporting the work of NCF. One great opportunity is to join us in opening your garden to visitors on the afternoon of Sunday 14th July. This is always a favourite annual event. We are looking for new people and new gardens to add to the variety of the event. Your garden doesn't have to be immaculate or spectacular, it's the friendly welcome and willingness to partake that counts. If you would like to do this or you would just like to find out more then please either speak to Steve Jennings or send me an email at matthew@thebearleys.net

'Change a life and change lives'.



Many thanks from Matthew, Nicola, Liz, Steve, Sue and John (Trustees)





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Nigel Beeton writes: 90 years ago, on 3rd April 1934, a very clever man named Percy Shaw patented a device that he'd invented called a 'cat's eye' - a pair of reflectors mounted on a well between the white lines in the centre of a road or between lanes on a dual carriageway (which were few and far between in 1934!)

CAT'S EYES

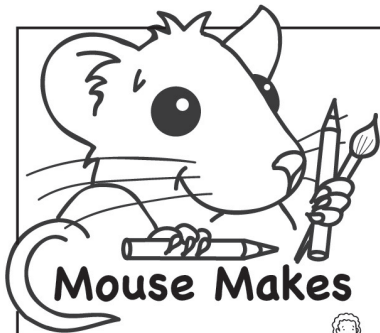
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At all times of day
And drive with no fear of the nights!

Nigel Beeton





Some time after Jesus had risen a few of His disciples met together to go fishing. They fished all night but caught nothing. As the sun rose a man on the shore asked; "Have you caught anything?" "Not a thing" they answered. He said to them "Throw your net out onto the right side of the boat and you will catch some."



So they did and they caught so many fish they could not pull in the net. Then John recognised the man, "It is the Lord!"



READ

the story in **John 21**



How many times had the risen Jesus revealed himself to the disciples before this?

Read John 21:14



How many disciples were there? Who were they?

Read John 21: 11

How many fish did they catch? Read John 21: 11

A large illustration of a fishing net filled with fish. Inside the net is a word search grid. The words to be found are listed at the bottom of the page.

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The five petals and five sepals represent the 10 disciples who remained steadfast (Judas and Peter both abandoned Jesus). The corona is the crown of thorns. The stigma is the cross or nails, and the five stamens are the number of wounds Jesus received.

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