**Out of the mouths of babes -**    
 There was a blinding flash of lightning and Emily, aged 5, rushed into the house, shouting:

“Mummy, Mummy, God has just taken my picture!”

The junior form was doing a project on the Creation. George, aged seven, wrote:

“God made the first man and called him Adam. Then God made the first woman and called her Madam.”

“Daddy, what’s that?” said the little boy, looking up from their pew at the memorial plaque on the wall.

“That’s in memory of all the brave men who died in the services.”

The little boy scanned the long list of names and asked: “Did they die in the morning or evening services?”

**A drawing of a rainbow and lightning bolt

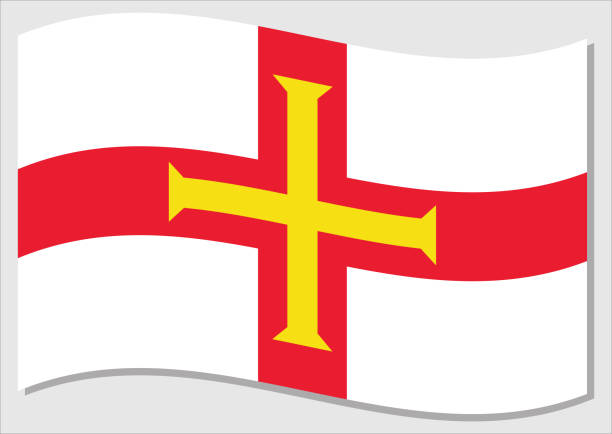
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**Forest**

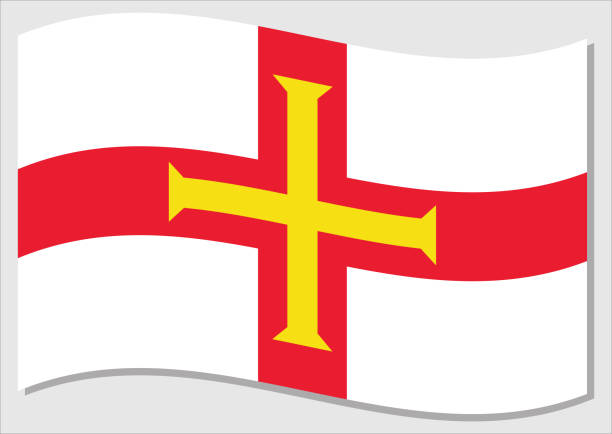
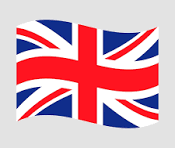
**Methodist**

**Church**

**May Newsletter**

 A green text on a black background

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**Serve Learn Share Praise**

Methodist Church C:\Users\Bryan Guille\Pictures\Church\orb-and-cross-0712.jpg

Bailiwick of Guernsey

**Minister:**

**Rev’d Jacky Cottrell**

**The Manse, 2, Le Chene D’Mont, Le Chene,**

**Forest, GY8 0AL Tel: 234105**

**Email: revdcottrell@gmail.com**

Hello Friends,   
As we settle after our Holy Week walk and Easter weekend celebration, we look forward to more celebrations with the special Liberation of the island, anniversary. Much is happening for us to participate in. Since coming to Guernsey, I have been fascinated by hearing peoples own stories of their memories. I look forward to watching ‘A La Perchoine’ film with you all, please bring along others. I’m told that despite the hardship of the experience, immense courage and fortitude is demonstrated.   
  
Freedom, liberation is what Jesus achieved on the cross, by his courage for all humankind. Freeing us to have opportunity for a direct relationship with God. Like all relationships this needs working at every day, not just Sundays. But even if we let our attention wander, or perhaps we have not let God into our lives yet; he never lets his love and attention of us, let up!

I recently joined in the worship at Les Cotils, a few faithful folk meet there, Mon to Sat mornings to hold 30mins worship, all welcome! Mike led us to think about how much God’s attention is on us, when he read from Ps 139, it’s starts with ‘you have searched me and know me’. It goes on to describe how God is everywhere and always present. At verse 17 it says ‘How weighty to me are your thoughts, O God! How vast is the sum of them! I try to count them—they are more than the sand; I come to the end—I am still with you.’ Living near so many beaches, this reading can come alive to us. Mike showed us pictures of magnified sand, so beautiful, (see [https://magnifiedsand.com](https://magnifiedsand.com/)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| [A group of colorful rocks  AI-generated content may be incorrect.](https://magnifiedsand.com/) | [Sand Under a Microscope - Magnified Sand Photos](https://magnifiedsand.com/)  Under microscopic magnification, the unique beauty and individual character of sand grains reveal a diverse origin reflecting geological history and marine life biodiversity.  magnifiedsand.com |

## 

## FACTOR 7

**Please pray wherever you are: at home, work, in your car or shower, pray for**

7 minutes at 7am and/or 7pm

FOCUS THIS MONTH

As we celebrate our liberation 80 years ago, pray that our afternoon teas and the film night will be a time of fellowship and reflection for those who come along

Give thanks to God for the freedom we enjoy today. Remember in prayer those who live in countries where there is war and suffering, that God would bring peace and healing.







**Prayer Pages**

**IN YOUR PRAYERS**  
If you know of someone who would appreciate being on our prayer list, please ensure you have the person's permission before passing their name to Michelle.

Please pray for Ron Gould, Win De La Mare, Karen Harrison,

Rachel Meinke, Caroline Treharne, Joyce Baudains,

Margaret Boden-Heaume, Bob Cartmell,

Rev John Luff and his wife Carole,

Howard Ellis (Sandra’s son), Debbie Hobbs,

Colleen Ogier and Debbie Dorey

Wilfred is now doing really well, and the family would like to thank you for all your prayers.

**Bailiwick of Guernsey Churches Prayer Cycle for 2025**

May 04 States of Guernsey / Parish douzaines and their officers

May 09 ***LIBERATION DAY***

May 11-17 ***CHRISTIAN AID WEEK*** May 11 Holy Trinity / Guernsey Welfare ***(World day of prayer for vocations)***

May 18 La Villiaze Evangelical Congregational church / Rohais Methodist church

May 25 Lay Ministers and Local Preachers

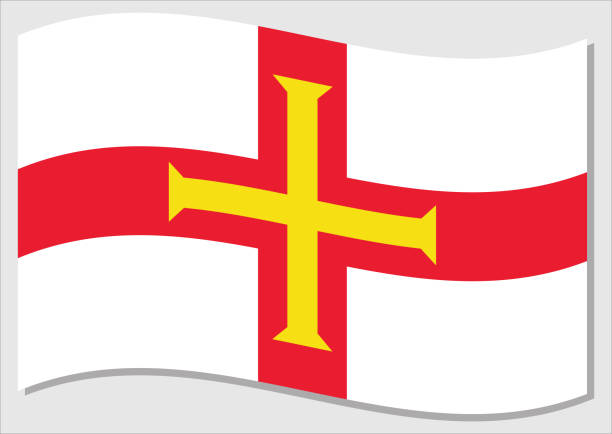
May 29 ***ASCENSION DAY***

May 31 Vale Mission / Newly established and emerging Christian fellowships in Guernsey

However, what was mind blowing is the facts - there are roughly 8,000,000,000 grains of sand per cubic metre of beach, and roughly 700,000,000,000 cubic metres of beach on Earth. That’s 5 sextillion of sand. An incomprehensible number and yet God loves us even more! On top of this, every sand grain is microscopically unique, like a snowflake, no two are the same. Wow! Unique like each of us, now that is something to celebrate! So, if ever you are feeling over-looked, remind yourself, how vast are Gods thoughts for you! 

Big blessings, Revd Jacky



**A close-up of scones with jam

AI-generated content may be incorrect.**

**With grateful thanks to Les Cotils, Guernsey Dairy and the Co-op for their support of our Liberation events.**

**COME AND JOIN US FOR LIBERATION CELEBRATIONS**  
  
**Bank Holiday Monday 5th May from 2.00pm. - 4,00pm**  
  
CREAM TEAS, CAKES AND PLANTS  
  
 PLUS  
  
**Wednesday 7th May at 7.00pm**  
  
**The film A LA PERCHOINE will be presented  
No charge but donations to our chosen charities  
will be gratefully received**  
Supporting: NIGHTSTOP and GUERNSEY SUICIDE AWARENESS



**MEET & EAT**

This is a house group which meets usually on the first Monday of each month.    We often meet at different participants homes as and when they can offer to host.  There’s usually between 6 and 10 people that come along to enjoy some food followed by a discussion based on the previous Sunday’s G&M but not exclusively.  We meet at 7pm and finish around 9pm.  There is a minimum donation requested of £5 to cover the cost of catering.

**May’s meeting will be at Rosemary’s at 7pm on Monday 12th May**

Should you wish to give us a try you can either put your name(s) on the list in the Welcome Area or call Carole on 07781 438265.

**FOREST LADIES GROUP.**

MAY

5TH LIBERATION CREAM TEAS 2.00 - 4.00PM

7TH FILM ‘A LA PERCHOINE’ 7.00PM

22ND LIBERATION MEMORIES with CHRISTINE GOODLASS 2.00PM

A WARM WELCOME TO ALL LADIES TO COME AND ENJOY FELLOWSHIP

MEETING AT THE FOREST METHODIST CHURCH UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED

ANY QUERIES CONTACT BETH TEL: 263564 / MOBILE: 07781 163564



**Liberation Prayer of Thanksgiving**

For the liberation of this Island from enemy occupation, 80 years ago: Lord, we give you thanks and praise.

For the fortitude and resilience of those who remained here throughout the occupation: Lord, we give you thanks and praise.

For those who were evacuated or deported from Guernsey and returned safely to their homes and families: Lord, we give you thanks and praise.

For those who fought long and hard, and who worked to bring about the liberation which we celebrate: Lord, we give you thanks and praise.

For the bonds of friendship which have been forged over the years, overcoming old hostilities: Lord, we give you thanks and praise.

For the freedom we enjoy in this Bailiwick to order our affairs, and to live in liberty and in peace: Lord, we give you thanks and praise.

Eternal God, the refuge and help of all your people, we give you thanks for all that you have given us, for all that you have done for us, for all that you are to us. In our weakness, you are strength; in our darkness, you are light; in our sorrow, you are comfort and peace.

For all your goodness, we give you thanks.

We make this prayer through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

**Collection boxes**

**Used stamps for charity** **Guernsey Welfare Services**

Collected and sold to raise funds for We collect non-perishable goods to be

The worldwide work of Christian Aid. Passed on to the GWS to support the

If you have any, please leave them in Work of their foodbank. Please leave any

The box in the welcome area. donations in the box in the foyer

A red and white sign

Description automatically generated 



Fairtrade stall at Forest

2nd Sunday of the month

**PARKING FOR THE AIRPORT at Forest Methodist**

We are letting out five spaces, on a first come, first served basis, at a cost of £20 per week or part thereof. These parking spaces will be at the back of the top rear car park and will be delineated.

THIS WILL BE ENTIRELY AT CAR OWNERS RISK

To reserve a space please email [rosemary.willey@gmail.com](mailto:rosemary.willey@gmail.com) and cc to [carolejehan1972@gmail.com](mailto:carolejehan1972@gmail.com).

You will need to provide your car number, dates required and a contact telephone number. Please can you display your Christian name on your dashboard when leaving the vehicle.

It should be noted that on the rare occasions when the car park is full, I.e. funerals, access to your vehicle may be temporarily delayed.

THERE IS TO BE NO UNAUTHORISED USE OF PARKING SPACES WITHOUT FOLLOWING THE ABOVE GUIDELINES.

**Liberation at Les Camps**

Join them for an unforgettable celebration - bouncy castles, fun outside games and delicious food as we mark an incredible 80 years of freedom

**Saturday 10th May 10.00 – 13.00pm**

Les Camps Church, St Martin

You are warmly invited to the **80th Liberation Celebration at Torteval** Church on **Sunday 11th May between 2pm & 5pm** for tea and cake.

A Service of Thanksgiving will be held **at 11am.**

There will be a display of accounts from the 2nd World War about the occupation, the evacuation and the Liberation.

We do hope you are able to join us for this celebration on May 11th



A group of hats on a table

AI-generated content may be incorrect.

**Forest Ladies Group looking resplendent in their Easter bonnets**



**Liberation Connection!**

A memoir from Debbie Dorey.

This is a picture of my 97-year-old mum Margaret White from Liberation Day 5 years ago, and she relayed a story to me about her WREN days.

She was based in Bristol and worked as a cinema operator during the war showing gunnery training films to the Merchant Navy to keep them safe. This work was based in Hotwells on HMS Flying Fox and she lived on Clifton Downs. One day she was looking at the notice board, and she spied a current affairs course  which was held at Exeter University which interested her. She was allowed to go and stayed at the university as the students were on holiday. Anyway on the course was a Sergeant in the Army called Peter Mesias and she formed a friendship with him and kept in touch with him for a while. One day she had a letter from him from Guernsey and it turned out he was one of the Liberating soldiers. I don’t think she realized that 15 years later she would buy a house in Guernsey and spend the rest of her life here!

An old person sitting in a chair

AI-generated content may be incorrect.

**Liberation**

“Today we’ll be free” Up went the cry. “Let’s go to town, freedom is nigh”

“We’ve got to get there quick as we can. Mac next door said,

“We’ll take the van.”

The old ones got in, the young clung to the sides.

“Can’t we go faster,” everyone cried.

“We want to be there for the start of course.”

**“Oh heavens above, we’ve forgotten the horse.”**

Out we all got, put the horse in the shafts.

“Get cracking Betsy, they’re coming at last.”

“Tomorrow it’s oats for your breakfast old girl.”

Her ears pricked up, her tail did a twirl.

She took off from home at breakneck speed,

around the Vale castle we went on two wheels.

We needed no compass; we headed due south.

Our goal was the Weighbridge near the old harbour mouth.

The British were coming, hip hip hooray,

what a wonderful feeling, what a real happy day,

The days of starvation were over at last,

potato peels cooking were a thing of the past

And just think, for a drink, the taste of real tea,

no more scrambling in hedges for blackberry leaves.

We headed back home and fell straight into bed.

**“Oh, thank you dear God, we’ll soon have some bread”**

Maud Hurford

**Preaching & Duty Stewart Schedule**

God & Marmalade is at 8.45am

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Date** | Preacher | Steward |
| **May 4th** | Keith Le Parmentier | Carole |
| **May 11th** | Jacky Cottrell (HC) | Nev |
| **May 18th** | Stephen Dallin | Sarah |
| **May 25th** | Jacky Cottrell | Rosemary |

**Evening Service**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Date** | **Preacher** | **Steward** |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **May 4th** | Howard Stringer | Sarah |
| **May 11th** | Jacky Cottrell (HC) | Beth |
| **May 18th** | Stephen Dallin | Pam |
| **May 25th** | Jacky Cottrell | Beth |

**Flower Rota**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Date** |  |
| **4th May** | **Noella Hann** |
| **11th May** | **Judy Wade** |
| **18th May** | **Wendy Paint** |
| **25th May** | **Cindy Le Messurier** |

**G & M Breakfast Rota**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Date** | Breakfast | Setting up |
| **May 4th** | Debbie/Rosemary | David |
| **May 11th** | Sandra/Ian  Jenny | Carole/Nev |
| **May 18th** | Carole/Nev | Steve/Jan |
| **May 25th** | Sarah | Leon |

Welcome Steward Rota

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Date** | AM | PM |
| **May 4th** | Sandra | Beth |
| **May 11th** | Andrea | Brian |
| **May 18th** | Sarah K | Beth |
| **May 25th** | Jenny | Sarah P |

**With grateful thanks to all who give their time to the service of the church**

**☼**

Notices/articles for next month let Michelle know by **Friday**

Tel no: 01481 266019/07781 166019

email: [mgilson\_gsy@hotmail.com](mailto:mgilson_gsy@hotmail.com)