

WORD FROM THE CLOISTERS

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The hunt is on for the church that got away

CRUMBS. You weren't expecting that. We're all being bricked in again – but this time we're allowed to creep out to worship in our temples. Best, obviously, to stick to your parish church, lockdown or not: Catholics are encouraged to roll up at their parish church, not to nose around in search of more agreeable sermons or a less annoying choir. Popes, parish priests – we take what we're given. But once we've had our jab and we can get out again it will be time to investigate Elena Curti's *Fifty Catholic Churches To See Before You Die*, handsomely published last year by Gracewing at £14.99 (*Tablet* bookshop price, £13.49).

Elena delivers her slightly unnerving proposition with scholarship, verve and real love for the buildings she urges us to explore. But what has she missed? There's a free copy signed by the author for the reader who comes up with the fifty-first church you should see if you are not out of puff after you've ticked off the buildings on her list. The architectural historian Sophie Andreae will judge the winner.

"I've included most of the Catholic churches



that are Grade-I listed – that's around 30 of my 50 – so readers suggesting a fifty-first church could avoid them," Elena says. Paul Walker of Sheffield has already been in touch to propose St Joseph's, Wetherby, opened in 1986, by Vincente Steinlet of the Steinlet architectural dynasty. It was ingeniously designed to fit on the site of what was a poky garden between an older church and a presbytery, and is worth visiting just for the artwork inside by the Durham sculptor, Fenwick Lawson. What would your fifty-first church be?

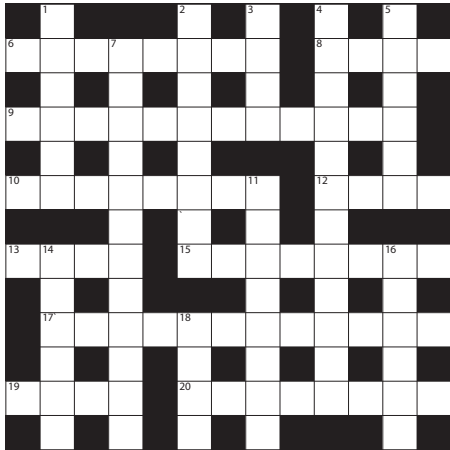
WE'VE HAD A letter from the Centro Geriatrico, a nursing home in the small town of Teulada on Spain's Costa Blanca. "I have now, at the age of 98, taken up what I see as my final earthly residence, and my subscription has become somewhat redundant. I live very much online and access abundant excerpts from *The Tablet* in one or more of the many very modern forms of transmission. My interest in all this is re-enforced by failing eyesight and pending death. Yours sincerely, and somewhat sadly, John Cozens-Hardy."

We asked Dr Cozens-Hardy, for many years an orthopaedic consultant in Sutton Coldfield, when and why he had started to subscribe to *The Tablet*. "Like your long-standing contributor Clifford Longley, I began as a Congregationalist," he tells us. "I was received into the C of E via Dick Milford in the University Church in Oxford; a few years later Michael Hollings received me into the Catholic Church in Westminster Cathedral. I came across and admired *The Tablet* in the 1950s, when the editor was Douglas Woodruff. I took out my subscription then."

His days of scampering around England exploring churches may be behind him, but we hope that Dr Cozens-Hardy will continue to enjoy browsing on our online platform for many years to come.

PUZZLES

PRIZE CROSSWORD No. 738 Axe



Across

- 6 Nationality, in both biblical and modern times, of 12 Across (8)
- 8 In Greek myth, daughter of Cronus and mother of Ares (4)
- 9 Prior to the Christian era (6,6)
- 10 Christian in communion with the see of Canterbury (8)
- 12 Phoenician trading centre named in the O.T. and N.T. (4)
- 13 Hebrew for "delight" (4)
- 15 Member of one of a group of Semitic people inhabiting parts of Mesopotamia from the eleventh to the eighth centuries BC (8)

- 17 Italian virgin-martyr (1890-1912) beatified by Pius XII – one of the youngest to be canonised (5,7)
- 19 Charioteering king of Israel whose name became synonymous with a crazy driver (4)
- 20 Second-century pope (157-168) (8)

Down

- 1 The first part of Paul's ----- Mission, taking in Corinthians, Thessalonians and Galatians (6)
- 2 One of two synods in 359 called to debate the Arian dispute (8)
- 3 Mother of Dinah (4)
- 4 Busy time for St Nicholas? (9,3)

- 5 Mendicant friar or lay brother in a monastery or priory (6)
- 7 Heretic (310-390) who denied the presence in Christ of a mind or soul (12)
- 11 Port in Macedonia where Paul first set foot in Europe (8)
- 14 Consigned to perdition (6)
- 16 Arian sophist (died 366), whose followers were called Anomoeans (6)
- 18 Giant's father, some of whose descendants lived in Hebron (4)

Please send your answers to: Crossword Competition 9 January, *The Tablet*, 1 King Street Cloisters, Clifton Walk, London W6 0GY. Email: thetablet@thetablet.co.uk, with Crossword in the subject field. Please include your full name, telephone number and email address, and a mailing address. Three books – on Saints, Monasticism and Philosophy of Religion – from the OUP's Very Short Introduction series will go to the sender of the first correct entry drawn at random. **■ We cannot process entries or prizes at present. Please keep entering. Winners will be notified and prizes awarded as soon possible.**

SUDOKU | Beginner

9	3				8
2			9		7
		1	4	9	
8		9			
			1		
			7		2
	1	3	2		
	2		4		1
3				4	5

Each 3x3 box, each row and each column must contain all the numbers 1 to 9.

Solution to the 19/26 December puzzle

3	8	1	5	4	6	7	9	2
9	7	5	3	1	2	8	4	6
4	6	2	9	8	7	1	3	5
5	1	3	8	2	4	9	6	7
2	4	8	6	7	9	5	1	3
7	9	6	1	5	3	2	8	4
1	2	4	7	6	8	3	5	9
8	3	7	4	9	5	6	2	1
6	5	9	2	3	1	4	7	8

Solution to the 12 December crossword No. 736

Across: 7 Evadne; 8 Hermit; 10 Okinawa; 11 Heart; 12 Anne; 13 Tawny; 17 Peron; 18 Miro; 22 Cynic; 23 Amadeus; 24 Rupert; 25 Aerial.
Down: 1 Fedroas; 2 Nations; 3 Incas; 4 Methane; 5 Amman; 6 State; 9 Karakoram; 14 Peccary; 15 Sine Die; 16 Consuls; 19 Acorn; 20 Snipe; 21 Jabea.

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