



Saltford, Corston and Newton St Loe
Three Parishes Newsletter
April 2016

Dear Friends

Over the last few weeks, across the benefice in our Lent Course we have been exploring *The Church as a Community*. So what next, and how do we put into practice what we have discovered?

The first step is prayer. Before we run head first into action we need a time to pray, reflect and sense where God is leading. So this coming month can I encourage you to pray for our benefice, our church and our communities that we would be able to discern where God is leading us and what actions he wants us to pursue.

You can pray on you own, but there are plenty of opportunities for us to pray together (see the notice on page 2) can I encourage you to try one or two of them. There is no pressure in attending, you are able to join in with as much or as little as you feel comfortable with, sometimes our intention to pray, or just turning up is what is important. Praying in a group enables others to carry us and pray for us when we struggle.

Thy Kingdom Come, thy will be done ...

A call to prayer in the week leading up to Pentecost 2016

This coincides with **a call to pray for the evangelisation of our nation** by Archbishop's Justin and Sentamu. They write:

It is impossible to overstate the life-transforming power of the Lord's Prayer. It is prayer that is reassuring enough to be on the lips of the dying and yet dangerous enough to be banned in cinemas. It is famous enough to be spoken each day by billions in hundreds of languages and yet intimate enough to draw us closer into friendship with Jesus Christ. It is simple enough to be memorised by children and yet profound enough to sustain a whole life time of prayer. When we pray it with sincerity and with joy, there is no imagining the new ways in which God can use us to his glory.

How we respond to this call to prayer is up to us, there are lots of ideas. One suggestion is create a prayer space, perhaps in one of our churches or church halls, or even a caravan - which is open 24/7. Another suggestion is to prayer walk around our communities. If you have any ideas, or are willing to be involved in responding and leading others to pray please get in touch.

Evangelism is the work of God, and it begins when we seek him in prayer. So Let us pray.



A Praying Community Opportunities to pray across the Benefice

Monday 9am **Morning Prayer** - we meet with our Local Ministry Group to pray in St Peter's Church Marksbury

Monday 7pm **Silent Prayer** - an opportunity to pray silently with others
In St Mary's Church, Saltford

Thursday 9am **Morning Prayer** in All Saints Corston

Prayer Meetings

Each week in Saltford people meet to pray in people's homes, please see the weekly notice sheet for details of where and when these take place - they are open to everyone.

Prayer Book

If you would like prayer for yourself or for someone else, each church has a prayer book in which you can write the names of those you would like us to remember in our prayers.

One to one

There are people available to pray with you if you have a particular need or find something within the service has challenged or inspired you. Please speak to one of the wardens, readers or clergy and they will find someone who is willing to pray with you. Alternatively, if when you receive Communion, just speak to the Rector and she will pray for you then.

How do you pray?

When we turn aside to speak to God in prayer, many of us become aware of how hard it is to work out how to say what we want to say and to choose the right words. We want to avoid telling God what God already knows, or telling God what we think should be done! As a result, we end up saying a lot less than we want to say. Others of us come to God with hearts full of feeling and emotion about our experiences or the events going on around us and try to express them to God in floods of words.....and as we do this, we find ourselves

rephrasing what we say, changing words, even retracting some of the things we say....all in conversation, as it were, with God.

These changes that we feel we need to make are, we can be sure, the prompting of The Holy Spirit changing our preconceptions, our perceptions and our thinking. This is all part of our prayers. However, we find that words slowly run out or dry up. So, if we speak to God from our heads (minds) we can't find the right words and if we speak to God from our hearts (feelings and emotions), words dry up.

What I wonder might these experiences tell us about the **true** nature of prayer? When the words stop, do we stop praying?

Prayer is a precious privilege, granted by our gracious God and we are talking about it. Let us pray.

Ken Plant

St Mary's Prayer Meetings throughout the month



Thursday 14th April, 5 Vernon Close at 7.30pm
Hosted and led by Julia Norris

Thursday 28th April, 14 Beresford Close at 8pm
Hosted and led by Nigel & Rachel Taylor

Parish Registers

Baptisms

14th February Abigail Bendall, Thomas Drew and Harrison Drew (Corston)
6th March Jack Bendall (Corston)
20th March Sienna Rose Common (Newton St Loe)

Funerals

29/2/16 Mrs Joan Gay (Saltford)
3//3/16 Mr Ronald (Saltford)
7/3/16 Mrs Eileen Jones (Saltford)



Copydate for the Newsletter

Copy date for the next newsletter 10th April at the latest. Please deliver all copy to the Parish Office. If you produce it on a computer, it would be a great help if you would please email it to: scnbenefice@gmail.com.

Are you in a caring role?
Have you a desire to help others?
Would you like to explore what it means to be a
Lay Pastoral Assistant in the church, then why
not join our course to find out more?



Lay Pastoral Assistant

Training course starting on
Monday 18th April 2016, 7.30pm
in St Mary's Church, Saltford

Hosted by
Chew Magna Deanery
For more information
or to sign up
please contact
Revd Daile Wilshire
01225 872275
dailewilshire@live.co.uk
or
Revd Jane Chamberlain
01761 220070
revjanechamberlain@gmail.com

Week 1 - 18th April - Introduction
Week 2 - 25th April - Biblical Images of Pastoral care
Week 3 - 9th May - The Importance of Listening
Week 4 - 16th May - Listening, part 2
Week 5 - 23rd May - Role and Practicalities
Week 6 - 6 June - Visiting the Sick
Week 7 - 13 June - Bereavement
Week 8 - 20th June - The Family
Week 9 - 27th June - Pastoral Care in your Context

Interested in exploring Lay Pastoral Ministry – speak to Daile

Pastoral Visiting

If any one is unable to get to church and would like the Rector or a member of the church to visit them for coffee, to pray with them or to receive Holy Communion, please contact the Rector via the Parish Office. Alternatively, if you are aware of anyone who hasn't been to church for a while, or has a specific concern, with their permission, please pass their names to the Rector, who will arrange for someone to visit them.

Women's World Day of Prayer

Our annual service for the Women's World Day of Prayer was again held in St Mary's Church Hall on Friday 4th March 2016. It was well attended with different denominations meeting together. Each year a different country writes the service and this time it was Cuba.

The theme was "Receive Children, Receive Me" and many of those present did the readings, with the Rector giving us a short enlightened talk."

Barbara Godfrey

St Mary's Saltford

www.stmaryssaltford.org.uk

The Parish Office, St Mary's Office, St Mary's Church Hall,
High Street, Saltford, BS31 3EL Tel: 01225 872275

Email: scnbenefice@gmail.com

Churchwardens: Dave Faulkner 01225 874133

John Norris 01225 872750



Circle of Friends : welcome you to the 7th April Meeting which will be held at 13 Justice Ave at 7.30pm. This will be an informal evening where we will entertain ourselves with various projects, and of course a cup of tea. Any queries please phone Hilary Smedley 873179

Theatre Trips : Tickets are available for **GUYS AND DOLLS** at the Bristol Hippodrome on Wednesday 13th July 2016 at 2.30pm. They are in the stalls priced at £25.00, they need to be paid for by 10th May 2016, contact Olive Wilkinson on 873965 for further details.

HOME GROUPS IN SALT福德

Tues Evening

18 High Street, 7.45pm

Wed Mornings

4 Roundmoor Close, 10am

Wed Evening

14 Golf Club Lane, 7.45pm

5 Vernon Close, 8.00pm

The Rectory 7.30pm

Men's Home Groups

2nd Tuesday of the month 7.30pm

2nd Wednesday of the month at 7.30pm

If you would like information about joining a home group or other opportunities for study across the Benefice, please contact

Robin Dixon Tel. 01225 359014



thefillingstation.org.uk/station/saltford

Meet on the 1st Wednesday of each month at 7.30pm at Bristol Avon Sailing Club, Mead Lane, Saltford, Bristol. BS31 3ER

APCM: Our APCM is on Sunday 17th April 2016. Join us for a shortened service of Holy Communion at 9.30am in Church. This will be followed by refreshments at 10.15am and the APCM will start at 10.30am in the church hall.

Annual Christian Aid Lunch

The lunch, which took place on 3rd March in Saltford Hall, was thoroughly enjoyed by the many people who were able to join us. Over £800 was raised on the day towards our new project to provide healthier futures for women and girls in Ethiopia.

Thank you to those who provided and supported the lunch.

Teen Church Saltford



Teaching, discussion, prayer,
worship, songs.

Make new friends, while having fun!

1st and 3rd Sunday of the month
11.15 - 12.15pm
Refreshments on arrival
(from 11am onwards)

Coffee Shop



The coffee shop meets at Hinton
Close Meeting Room. Saltford
10–11.30am every Friday. Hot
drinks and biscuits only 50p!
All are welcome.

++++

All Saints, Corston

www.allsaintscorston.org.uk

Parish Office Tel: 01225 872275

Churchwardens: Jane Jones 01225 873475

Liz Acton 01225 873955



Saturday	2 nd	10.30am	Village Market, Corston Village Hall
Sunday	10 th	9-12noon	Big Breakfast, Corston Village Hall
Wednesday	13 th	12noon	Soup & Pudding Lunch, Corston Village Hall
Thursday	14 th	7.30pm	Bible Study, 8 Brook Cottages
Thursday	21 st	7.30pm	Corston Annual Parochial Church Meeting
Saturday	23 rd	7.00pm	Quiz Night, Corston Village Hall
Thursday	28 th	7.30pm	Bible Study, 8 Brook Cottages

Big Breakfast

Another Big Breakfast has been arranged on April 10th, Corston Village Hall at 10am – 12noon. This must be the best value meal in the area – and company is good too! Do come.

Bible Study

Our evenings of Bible Study will recommence after Easter. The proposed dates are April 14th and 28th and May 5th, 12th, 19th and 26th. The proposed subject is “Some Old testament” characters including The Messiah. Same time and place 7.30 for 8pm, at 8 Brook Cottages. All are welcome.

Annual Parochial Church Meetings

These meetings will take place at 7.30pm on Thursday 21st April, in Church. These are important meetings in the life of the Church when we elect our officers and you can have your say in the running of this Church. It would be nice to see more people there than there has been in the last few years.

Quiz Night

April 23rd, 7pm for a prompt start at 7.15pm. £5 per person (four people to a team) to include supper. Please bring your own drink, glass and cutlery.

Tickets available from: Emily Groves 01761 47179 Sophie Didcott 07540 518311

Mothering Sunday

Family Service on Mothering Sunday at Corston is always quite special and this year was no exception. The bells rang out, the Church was full, the traditional bunches of flowers were given to all the ladies present and a family baptism added to the happiness of the occasion. At the end of the service Daile presented Bette Parfrey a beautifully framed certificate from the Bath and Well Association of Change Ringers to mark her 70 years of membership of and service to the Association and I am sure, of all readers of the newsletter too. M de J

Preservation Trust Summer Concert

This will take place on Sunday 19th June. Tickets will be £12. Put the date in your diary now – further details next month.

++++

Holy Trinity, Newton St Loe

www.holytrinitynsl.org.uk

Parish Office Tel: 01225 872275

Churchwardens: Rosemary Denning 01225 872617

Ian Tadd 01225 426489



The lease of the Parish Room from the Duchy ended at the end of March, after 45 years use by the Church. It will be greatly missed. Several important events took place in the Parish Room in March – One of the Lent evenings was held at the Parish Room this was led by Teresa and the speakers were Jean Crowther and Meg Gore-Langton - a May Day meeting to plan the Country Market was well attended and Wendy gave an update of the various stalls and other important issues. The hall was used by the Hones family for a ‘ breakfast ‘ prior to the Baptism of Sienna, Gerry and Celia’s great granddaughter on Palm Sunday.

A special thank you to the choir, musicians and flower arrangers for leader our worship over the Easter period and decorating the church so beautifully.

Your church needs you?

We are looking for someone who would act as a minute secretary to the PCC. Could this be you? The task isn't onerous, and involves taking minutes at 6 meetings per year and distributing the minutes, to the PCC members. If you would like to know more, please get in touch with one of the wardens or, our Rector Daile.

Church @ 4pm

Let us introduce you to Church @ 4pm, on the first Sunday of the month in Holy Trinity Newton St Loe. Church @ 4pm is an opportunity for people to come to church, to see what church is about and for services that are perhaps 'one of a kind'! We promise you a warm welcome and lovely refreshments.

On **April 3rd @ 4pm** we will be holding a service called **A Celebration of Bell Ringing**, celebrating all those who have and do ring bells in church. This will be followed by a BBQ.

There will be no service on May 1st as we prepare for our May Day Celebrations, but we meet again

On **June 5th @ 4pm** as we hold a service called **The Servant Queen and the King she Serves**, to celebrate HRH Queen Elizabeth's 90th birthday. This will be followed by refreshments.

On **July 3rd @ 4pm** we will be celebrating Trevor Ewins 35 years as a licensed Reader in the Benefice, and formally welcoming Revd Sandy with a service led by the Archdeacon of Bath, with refreshments to follow.

Other services planned for later in the year include a traditional **Evensong** and an opportunity to ask God's blessing on our pets, at a **Pet Service!**

++++

A Message from Bishop Peter

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

When we go through dark times, or difficult times, depressing times or perhaps even dangerous times where do we look for help? For many of us it is to God we turn at those times. But we have to admit that sometimes this is a last resort, when we have exhausted all the other options. Sometimes it is out of sheer desperation that we call out to God. That is not, however, the sort of relationship that God intends us to have with him. He

desires to be more than the fourth emergency service, only called upon when all else fails and when self-reliance has run its course.

God wants us to turn to him and rely upon him for everything we do and for all that we are. He is our creator and redeemer. As the Psalmist said: 'The Lord is your keeper; the Lord is your shade at your right hand ... he will keep your going out and your coming in from this time forth and for evermore.'

Do find a quiet moment – why not stop even now – to read and reflect on Psalm 121. It reminds us that God faithfully watches over us, by day and by night. He knows and sustains us, in good times and in dark times. He knows everything that is to know about us and we can put our trust in him. We can take to him our fears and our hopes, our sorrows and our joys. The Psalmist speaks of 'lifting up his eyes to the hills'. That is a confident and bold gesture of prayer. When we lift our hearts and minds to God in prayer we can do so with a trusting heart. And like the Psalmist we can say 'My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth'.

+Peter Bath & Wells

Steve Murray – Mime Artist

The Churches Together in Keynsham and Saltford are delighted to present an evening with Steve Murray of the "Behold" Mime Ministry. Steve was trained at the International School of Mime in Los Angeles, and now lives in Chelmsford Essex with his wife and three daughters. Apart from being a mime artist he is also a professional photographer specialising in covering weddings. Whilst he appears at Churches, Steve also performs at conferences, outreach events and prisons worldwide.

He looks at the Gospel in a fresh, unique and inspirational style. We retain only 20% of what we hear, but 80% of what we see, and Steve, through mime, takes the invisible and makes it visible and the ordinary and makes it extraordinary.

Steve will be in Keynsham for one night only, and will be at Victoria Methodist Church in the High Street on Friday May 6th at 7.00pm. There will be an interval when refreshments will be available. Tickets are £5.00 each and can be obtained from St Mary's Parish Office or Julia Scott (873317).

Those who have seen Steve perform have said "I can honestly say that listening and watching him has changed my overall perspective on life" and "He was very interesting and was able to explain human behaviour and the meaning of things in a way that I could understand".

Buy a ticket and come along and be inspired!

++++

In April 2016 the Queen will reach 90 years of age. To mark this significant milestone, Saltford Community Association plan to hold a Celebration Tea Party at Saltford Hall and, if the weather is good, outside on the green in front.



This celebration will be held on Sunday 15th May from 2:30- 5:30pm. Residents of Saltford are invited to join us for free tea and cakes. There will be other activities such as a brass band, Farandole Dancers, competitions, quizzes, a magic show and craft activities.

We will round the afternoon off with a service of thanksgiving led by St Marys Church.

See the next SCAN for more details.

We are also particularly looking for any residents born in 1926 or earlier. If you know anyone please let us know.

We are also looking for lots of volunteers to make and/or serve cakes.

Come along, get involved and help us celebrate.

++++