

Pews News & Notices for Harbury, Ladbrooke & Ufton

5th July 2020 : Fourth Sunday after Trinity

Websites: All Saints', Harbury - allsaintsharbury.org

All Saints', Ladbrooke - ladbrokechurch.org.uk

WORSHIPPING GOD - GROWING IN FAITH - WORKING IN COMMUNITY

NEWS OF THE NEW INCUMBENT

We, the parish reps of the 3 parishes, are very pleased to be able to tell that you the panel reached unanimous agreement on our preferred candidate to nominate to go forward to be interviewed by Bishop Christopher.

Archdeacon Barry has now spoken to this person, who has accepted our nomination.

We shall not be able to say any more until after the interview with the Bishop and DBS checks have been completed, but we hope to be able to make the official announcement in a few weeks time.

Liz McBride, Amy Pedvin-Lewis, Peter Rigby, Sue Moore & Adelle Spouge. (Parish reps)

MESSAGE FROM REV'D ANN

I hope you are all very well. It's such good news that the representatives from all 3 parishes have unanimously decided on the person to be our incumbent and that he/she accepted the offer. I feel a huge sense of excitement and relief. A real answer to prayer. It's frustrating to have to wait until the official announcement in a few weeks time to know more about him/her but it's so great that we've found someone!! Many many thanks to our representatives and those who drew up the parish profiles and the advertisement for all hard work and huge amount of time they put in. Many thanks too to all who prayed.

It all seems good news this week. Easing lockdown means we're able to see more of family and friends. I'm looking forward to going into Harbury and Ladbrooke churches again for private prayer – it's seemed such a long time since the doors were open. The ministry team and churchwardens are meeting in July to discuss holding services in church from August. Incidentally Bob's next Zoom service has been brought forward to next Sunday – Sunday 12th July and he's promised the Archdeacon and I will make another appearance!!

So lots to thank God for - as well as all the other joys of life around us.
With love and prayer for you all Ann

BLESSING

from the Anglican New Zealand Prayer Book

God be your comfort, your strength
God be your hope and support
God be your light and your way
And the blessing of God,
Creator, Redeemer and Giver of life
remain with you and all those you love
now and for ever.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

taken from "Matthew for Everyone" by Tom Wright – on Matthew 11 25-30 (abridged).
One of his 'For Everyone' series of commentaries on gospels & epistles.

Tom writes on a memorial service for Colin Cowdray. "The service was magnificent. Tributes flowed in around the world but the most moving moment was when one of Colin's sons spoke of his father from his own knowledge. There were many fine things which only a son of Colin could know and tell.

This remarkable passage in Matthew shows Jesus coming to the same recognition about the one he called "father". There things about his father that only he seemed to know and only he could tell. There is a deep mystery here which takes right to the heart of what it meant to be Jesus. As he announced God's kingdom and put God's powerful love to work in healing forgiving and bringing new life, he was discovering that the wise and learned were getting nowhere and that the little people the poor the sinners the ordinary folk were discovering more of God simply by following him, Jesus, than the learned specialists who declared that what he was doing didn't fit with their complicated theories. As a result, Jesus had come to see he was himself acting as a window onto the living God. Where he was, and through his words, people were coming to see who "the father" really was. He had the gift and the task of drawing back the curtain and "unveiling" the truth about God.

Wasn't that a bit daunting for his followers. Isn't rather forbidding to discover the true God can only be known through Jesus? No. It might have been like that if it had been anyone else; but with Jesus everything was different. It gave him the platform from which to issue what is still the most welcoming and encouraging invitation ever offered "Come to me" he said "and I will give you rest"

How could following Jesus really be that easy? Didn't he say himself that people had to be prepared to leave behind family, possessions, even their own life? Yes, he did. But the ease and the joy, the rest and the refreshment he offered all spring from his own inner character, his gentleness and warmth to all who turn to him, weighed down by their burdens - moral, physical, emotional, financial or whatever. He is offering what he has in himself to offer.

When he declares here, in the old translation that he is 'meek and lowly of heart', he isn't boasting that he's attained some special level of spiritual achievement. He is encouraging us to believe that he isn't going to stand over us like a policeman, isn't going to be cross with us like an angry schoolteacher. And the welcome he offers, for all who abandon themselves to his mercy, is the welcome God offers through him. This is the invitation which pulls back the curtain and lets us see who "the father" really is - and encourages us to come into his loving welcoming presence."

Ann Mulley

Assistant Minister: Revd Ann Mulley : 17 South Parade, Harbury. Tel: 613696 E: edannmulley62@gmail.com

Revd Bob Clucas: 4 Highfield Cottages, Station Road, Bishop's Itchington CV47 2SR Tel: 613739

Churchwardens: Harbury: Liz McBride 612421 & Michael Vincent 614806

Ladbrooke : Peter Rigby 259985 & Sue Moore 07770 786981 Email: ladbrokechurch@gmail.com

Ufton: Andy & Adelle 711967 Email: Uftonchurch@gmail.com

Readers: Alison Abbott, Tel: 612939. E: alison@abt1.net Gemma Took & Peter Took. Tel: 614193. E: gemmatook@gmail.com, peter@took.net

Communications Co-ordinator : Elaine Barnden 813654 E: communication@allsaintsharbury.org

Parish Administrator: Sally Sleath E: sallysleath.office@gmail.com

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PRAYER FOR TODAY

"I Come"

"I come to You with empty hands,
with wandering mind, divided heart.
I but half-think the words I pray,
I cannot worship as I ought.

I come to You in angry hurt,
with clouded mind, tormented heart
at this world's evil, grief and pain,
I cannot trust You as I ought.

I come to You in dark despair
at wayward mind, at fickle heart.
I fail and fail and, try in vain,
I cannot love You as I ought.

But you are He who died to take
my sin, my guilt to give me life.
You welcome me with open arms
for I'm Your love and that is all.
by Ann Mulley - 2005 but still so true today

HARBURY CHURCH

Although no date has been agreed, I am looking at ways we can safely open Harbury Church for private prayers only. Every person entering the church building will have to use hand sanitiser and sign in their name and phone number on a contact sheet.

After praying, and if you have sat in a pew, you will be asked to leave a sheet of paper there. This indicates to anyone coming after you where you have been and also, on closing the church, that pew will be cleaned. The north door will remain locked which means the toilets cannot be used.

Obviously social distancing needs to be kept in church and care to be taken on entry and exit as we will only have the one main door open. If the main door is kept open and the inner door permanently hooked back this avoids everyone touching the handles. (The door through the vestry will be open for emergency use only)

I don't wish to alter the feeling of space and tranquility we have in our church by roping areas off and it is easier to social distance if the whole church is accessible. (Children's corner excepted).

Liz McBride, Churchwarden

NEW WEBSITE : <https://allsaintsharbury.org/>

We now have a colourful and informative website. You will find current information such as opening the church for prayer as well as the current pewsheets and the Thought for the Day. We also have a donation button on this website which is currently set up to receive "collection". The Church of England have paid for some of the costs of this scheme so every £10 donated via the website only costs us 20p. You can also gift aid which adds to the "collection"

Liz McBride

If you would like to contribute to the Thought for the Day on the website or social media pages, please email Ann Clucas at clucasann@hotmail.com.

NOTICES

SUNDAY, 12TH JULY : Revd Bob will be hosting an informal family Zoom service at 10.30am continuing the story in Acts. Further joining details to follow.

LADBROKE : We will be having a Zoom 'Pause & Pray' fortnightly whilst the church is closed, on 1st and 3rd Mondays, 7.00 – 8.00 p.m. Please email ladbrokechurch@gmail.com if you would like an invitation.

DAILY HOPE is the FREE DAILY DIAL-IN WORSHIP PHONE LINE set up by the Archbishop of Canterbury offering music, prayers, reflections and full worship services 24 hours a day on 0800 804 8044. It's been set up particularly for those unable to join online church services. Do dial up and do please pass this on - particularly to anyone you know who doesn't do online.

COVENTRY DIOCESE WEBSITE is now up and running <https://www.coventry.anglican.org> We are told that the the Equipping Disciples section has some great resources for prayer and wellbeing.

***Please remember in your prayers this week:-
Jeff, Mike, Chris, Caroline, John, Karen, Olivia,
Kate, Sue, Nora Ellis, Emma Paine,
Eveline Tennant & Melissa Smith.***

***Please remember in your prayers:
the continued efforts of all our NHS staff,
health carers etc***

If you would like anyone added to the Prayer List, with their permission of course, do let Sally know.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Don Darkes will be 90 years old on Friday, 3rd July.



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Congratulations to
Anne & John Moore
who will be celebrating their Diamond Wedding Anniversary
on Saturday, 4th July.

ON-LINE WORSHIP

- **Coventry Cathedral** at 9:15 am on Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/coventrycathedral>
- * **St Michael's Church, Bishop's Itchington**
www.stmichaelschurch.co.uk
- * **St Nicholas Church, Radford Semele**
www.stnicholasrestored.co.uk
- **St Mark's Coventry** at 10:30 am on YouTube - <https://www.stmarkscoventry.org/online>
- **St Paul's, Leamington** at 10:00 am <https://stpaulsleamingtonspa.churchsuite.co>
- **St Mary Magdalene, Lillington** lillingtonparishchurch.org click on streaming and all their services
- * **St Andrew's Shottery, Stratford-upon-Avon**
<https://www.saintandrewshottery.org> (Sunday service via Zoom)

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Are you a Pillar or a Buttress? The Heat, Light and Sound Appeal

'I am not a pillar of the church, but a buttress. I support it, but from outside.'
Winston Churchill, speaking to his Private Secretary in the 1950s.

Unsurprisingly, there has been a great initial response to the appeal for the repair and renewal of Harbury Parish Church. After all, this is Harbury.

As many gifts are from parishioners who attend church rarely, if at all, as from regular churchgoers.

Someone once described a church congregation as being like a series of concentric circles. On the inside, the 'bull' of the target, are the committed church attenders, the weekly regulars, the parochial church council members, the bell-ringers, those who clean, maintain and decorate the church. They are relatively few.

In the ring outside them are the less frequent attenders, the monthly congregation who bring their families to children's services or to the services they feel touch them most – evensong, perhaps, or the Celtic service.

Then there are occasional worshippers. These may include the congregation for Christmas and Easter, for Remembrance and services like All Saints that bring to mind those we no longer see. In a wider ring still are those who attend weddings, christenings, confirmations and funerals.

And wider yet are those who seldom, if ever attend, but to whom the church matters at the centre of our village community.

In Churchill's terms, you might call these people the 'buttress' of the church. The church matters to them more than many might realise. They may seldom analyse why it is so important to them. It may represent the presence of God in our community. It may be a feeling that cannot be expressed in words. But when the village church is at risk, as it is now, they respond with generosity.

It is ironic that a buttress is so important to All Saints, Harbury. On the south-west corner of the tower, easily visible from the road, is a huge supporting buttress. Without it, the tower would fall down. In fact, it has been suggested that tower and buttress support each other.

An envelope put through every door in Harbury has a flyer detailing what we plan to do, together with an appeal form. You can respond with cash, a cheque, or an online transfer. No gift is too little; no donation is too much. But if you love our church, you have probably already given.

Thank you.
All Saints Harbury Parochial Church Council

PHYSICAL DISTANCING

It's ok that you didn't clean the house today,
It's ok that you didn't run six miles,
It's ok that you don't know how to make soufflé,
Or that you're not always full of smiles,
Don't worry that you haven't learnt to crochet,
Don't worry if you feel a little blue,
It's ok to relax sometimes,
Just do the things that make you, you.
Take this time to re-evaluate,
The things you really need,
Enjoy the sun that's right outside,
Read that book you want to read,
Chat to a neighbour that you've never met,
Re-read your favourite bible verse,
Make sure that you're eating well,
And just remember it could be worse.
Remember you are loved,
Remember to be safe,
Phone a friend, say a prayer,
Remember to have faith.
(Leah Plant)

**Saint Swithin's Day if it do rain
For forty days it will remain.
Saint Swithin's Day if it be fair
For forty days t'will rain nah mair.**

St Swithin's Day, 15th July, is probably the most famous of the Saints' days for weather lore. He was the Anglo Saxon Bishop of Winchester c.852-852AD and he started his interest in weather by requesting that he be buried in a churchyard where rain from the church eaves might fall on his grave. This was done but later his body was removed to Winchester Cathedral on 15th July 971. From that day it rained for 40 days 'til the 23rd August. That is the legend.

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ANSWERS TO 28TH JUNE 2020 QUIZ

1. Hudson Bay
2. Honolulu
3. Gironde
4. Keith Fletcher
5. Cabrera
6. Estee Lauder
7. Al Green
8. Edinburgh
9. Stieg Larsson
10. Gertrude
11. SpaceX
12. Boris Yeltsin
13. Bethesda
14. Impresa
15. Scrofula
16. Agincourt
17. Lusitania
18. Tequila
19. Strawberry
20. Shillelagh

THIS WEEK'S QUIZ

1. Lake Titicaca is on the borders of Peru and which other South American country (7)
2. The riyal is the currency of which Middle Eastern country (5,6)
3. The Stoosbahn, the world's steepest funicular railway, is in which country (11)
4. Which long-abandoned Middle Eastern city was described in 1845 by the English poet and clergyman John Burton as "a rose-red city half as old as time" (5)
5. At sea, what unit of length is equal to three nautical miles (6)
6. Maltese, saltire & papal are all styles of what (7)
7. What is the name of the exhaust emission device in a car that consists of a ceramic core coated with precious metals (9,9)
8. Elliptical, spiral and lenticular are all types of what celestial feature (6)
9. What word links a type of Caribbean music with a nymph who enchanted Odysseus (7)
10. What medical instrument was invented in France in 1816 by Rene Laenne (11)
11. In mythology, which creature sprang from the blood of the Medusa (7)
12. What style of coffee consists of an espresso with a small amount of foamed milk (9)
13. Which savoury item made from flour, eggs and milk is similar to a crumpet but thinner and flatter (7)
14. The bitter-orange flavoured liqueur curaçao is named after an island of the same name, which lies off the coast of which country (9)
15. Which is the world's largest breed of brown bear (6)
16. What Rat Pack singer said "You're not drunk if you can lie on the floor without holding on" (4,6)
17. What American abstract artist was famous for his drip-style of paintings (7,7)
18. Ernest Hemingway's *The Old Man and the Sea* (1952) tells the story of a struggle with a giant marlin by a fisherman from which country (4)
19. Jacob ..., rugby player who set a new record for the most tries in the Six Nations Championship in 2018 (9)
20. The annual half-marathon, the Great North Run, starts in which UK city (9)

In order to ensure we keep you connected & informed during this time we have adapted Pews News accordingly. If you would like us to include more information, please let Sally know. In the first instance this will be circulated electronically.