



Five Crosses

NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2017

Tintinhull, Chilthorne Domer, Yeovil Marsh,
Thorne Coffin, Lufton

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Dear Friends,

It is nearly Easter. We all feel, when we reach Easter, that the long, warm days of summer are not far away. This year, as Easter is quite late, that is (we hope) true. So Easter has a significance for many of us, even if we are not Christians. But for Christians no date in the calendar has a greater significance. It is the date around which our whole year revolves. We count, through Lent, the Sundays before it, and the Sundays after it deep into the summer.

But, of course, its real significance lies in what Easter represents for us. Early in John's gospel Jesus says, *For this is how God loved the world: he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life* (John 3.16). This, in a nutshell, is what Easter means for us. Jesus's dying on the cross on Good Friday and rising on Easter Day is the means by which God grants us eternal life. Through his death and resurrection we are able to live his risen life and enter into the kingdom of God. It is for this reason that Easter is the greatest of all the Christian festivals – it is through what God, in Jesus – did at Easter that we have salvation and eternal life.

Traditionally Easter has been a

day on which we baptize converts. Indeed, in the early Church, it was the only day that converts were baptized unless they were in danger of death. I'm delighted to say that we have a baptism at St Mary's on Easter Day in our Easter Day Eucharist. We will welcome Jonathan Allsopp into the Lord's family. And at St Margaret's we shall celebrate the marriage of Leanne Harvey and James Gower in the afternoon. Please pray for them. Easter Sunday will be a busy day!

Please join us at any of our Holy Week and Easter services. Good Friday sees a variety of services. At St Margaret's on Good Friday we have the ***Together4God Stations of the Cross***, particularly aimed at children and families; at St Mary's we have the traditional ***Good Friday Liturgy***; at St Peter's & St Paul's and at All Saints' we have an hour's ***devotional service*** and at St Andrew's a simple said ***Evening Prayer*** to end the afternoon in quiet reflection. As always the Easter Vigil and first Eucharist of Easter will be at All Saints' in the evening of Easter Eve and at each of the other churches there will be an Easter Eucharist. We'd love to welcome you at any of these services. ***With best wishes for a holy and happy Easter.***
Yours in Christ, ***Fr Peter***

A message from Bishop Peter Hancock:

"I was on the London Underground recently and saw an advert: 'Personal Beauty Delivered to you at your Home'. It was advertising beauty products. It made me think however what it would be like if beauty could be ordered on the internet and delivered to the front door. Could a package that came through our letterbox really transform us? For beauty is of course much more than how we look on the outside. Beauty is a thing of the heart. True beauty comes from within. Indeed everything in God's creation is beautiful. As Confucius said: 'Everything has beauty, but not everyone sees it.' And the Psalmist declared that everyone is beautiful, for we are all 'fearfully and wonderfully made'. We are all made in the image of God himself and God is the source of all beauty.

So as we finish our journey through Lent we need to remember that giving up alcohol, biscuits or chocolate alone won't make us beautiful. And as we come to Easter and the shops are filled with chicks and eggs and Easter bunnies we need to remember that it is not ultimately what we do, how we look, or what we have that makes us beautiful. Beauty, true beauty, comes through the cross and the resurrection. Our lives are changed not by what we stop eating, or what creams we might put on our faces. It is the Holy Spirit who truly transforms our lives, so that we become the people God is calling us to become. When Jesus spoke to the woman at the well he said that the water he gives is like a spring of water welling up to eternal life. Her response was to say to Jesus 'Give me this water'. May that be our prayer too: 'Lord, give us the water of life, that we might become more like Jesus.'

+Peter, Bishop of Bath & Wells

News from the parishes

THORNE

There are quite a few services being held at St Andrew's Church, Thorne during Easter tide in April. Do have a look to see if you could join in. You would be most welcome.

TINTINHULL

From Church Warden, John Gower: "Easter will soon be upon us. The Lent lunches have been well supported although hardly frugal! Our grateful thanks to all who hosted and supported them. Also, special thanks to Richard Gowing for organising them. The one at St. Margaret's School was different with the children making school-made soup and serving it very professionally. We were then entertained with music, signing and poetry. This was on top of the fact that all the children at the school were dressed up as characters from literature as it was National Book Day. I hope the Easter Services will be well attended as well as children enjoying their Easter egg hunts. I am sure the Church will look magnificent on Easter Day and we appreciate the hard work so many people will have done to achieve this. Thank also to those who have taken services over Easter."

Now, a plea from St. Margaret's Church Grounds man, Simon Harris: At Easter time extra flowers are laid on the graves and often are not affixed to anything. Windy April weather means that they are likely to blow away, as indeed are light, fragile containers which cause problems during my church yard maintenance. Could you please kindly bear this in mind when laying flowers. But before Easter let's remind ourselves that St Margaret's Church will be the venue for the *Spring Flower and Homecraft show. Saturday 8th April is just around the corner now* so crack on with your entries – get forms and schedules from Ray (824220) or Tony (824695) Do please try to support this effort to keep the show going during difficult Village-Hall- less times! Staging times are mentioned in the schedules. Refreshments will be available in the afternoon so do come along to view the exhibits.

From Mary Ostler: "Soup and fruit lunch for the Village Hall funds. A light lunch

will be served in St Margaret's Church to raise funds for the new village hall on Saturday 13 May between 12 noon and 2 pm. There will also be a home produce table for which all contributions gratefully received - home-grown food or craft items. Please bring contributions from 10.30 am or call one of us to collect. No fixed prices for lunch or produce - all donations welcome in support of the hall. Any queries please contact Mary 826584 or Carol 587593. **Christian Aid Week 14 to 20 May 2017** This year is the 60th anniversary of CAW which was started in support of Christian Aid's work with refugees in Europe following the Second World War. You can find out more about Christian Aid's work now and how to donate at <https://www.christianaid.org.uk/christian-aid-week>. There will also be giving envelopes available in St Margaret's Church and from PCC members in May and please watch out for details of a summer event to support Christian Aid in a future issue."

LUFTON

News from Susan Collins: "Please note that there are additional services during Holy Week (mentioned on the reverse). During Lent we have been enlightened by a series of 4 evening Lent Talks given by Father Peter Down. These have discussed the important influence of the Psalms in our Liturgy and in our hymns, during the centuries and how this has varied. We hope to see Church members of our congregation and visitors during Lent and the Easter period. All are most welcome. Our AGM & Easter Vestry will be taking place on Sunday 23rd April (St. George's Day) following the Holy Communion Service. The Church may also be used for private prayer, during Lent and at other times, by prior arrangement with the Churchwardens. Contact numbers for Churchwardens: - Dr. Francis Burroughes (Tel. 01935 429279) & Mrs Deryl Rennie (Tel. 01935 864523). It may also be useful to mention that both Lufton Lane (from the Montacute Road, up to Stone Cottage) and the Montacute Road from the bridge to Houndstone roundabout will be closed for 18 weeks from 4th April. This will not affect access to the church from Thorne Lane & the

benefice if approaching from the back roads.

"YEOVILMARSH

Christine Salmon writes: "Welcome all you avid readers - we look forward to seeing you at the Book Exchange Club this month to be held on the first Tuesday of the month (in April that's 4th) between 2.00 and 4.00pm. With plenty of titles to choose from this is a great chance to meet up and have a chat over a cuppa while selecting your next few reads. See you there.

It is time again for the Annual Parochial Church Meeting and in Yeovil Marsh this is taking place in All Saints Church at 7.00pm on Wednesday 26th April 2017. Come and join us for the annual review of activities and actions by the church and for your say in the planning of the year ahead. We are always very pleased to receive your items for prayer and celebration, feel free to note them in the book provided just inside the church porch. If you would prefer to speak to us about any prayer requests please feel free to call Michael on 01935 420538 or Christine on 01935 412927."

CHILTHORNE

Churchwarden, Angie Clothier writes: "Why not visit St Mary's Church during Easter week and see it at its best with the beautiful flower decorations. Here's a date for your diary: Bank Holiday Monday 29 May is when we usually hold our **Big Breakfast** event. Look out for details next month because we are planning a cross country group walk incorporating breakfast and/or lunch. Join us for the walk, or sponsor someone who is walking, or just turn up for breakfast. All in aid of St Mary's Church.

From Jill Coe: "There will be a Jumble Sale in Chilthorne Domer Village Hall on Saturday 29th April. Doors open at 2pm and entrance fee is 20 pence. Funds raised will go to Christian Aid."

The funeral of Gillian Willis was held at St Mary's on 16th March. Please remember Gillian in your prayers and all those who mourn.

From the editor: if you have any items for inclusion in the May issue the cut off date is 19th April. *A Happy Easter to you all.*

Date	Tintinhull	Chilthorne Domer	Lufton	Yeovil Marsh	Thorne Coffin
April 2nd Lent 6			6 pm Evensong		10.30 am Benefice Eucharist
April 4th		10 am Eucharist			
April 9th Palm Sunday	8 am Eucharist (BCP) 10.45 am Together4God	10.45 am Matins	6 pm Evensong	10.45 am Morning Prayer at the Elms	6 pm Evensong
April 10th Monday of Holy Week		7.30 pm Eucharist			
April 11th Tuesday			7.30 pm Eucharist (BCP)		
April 12th Wednesday Holy Week				7.30 pm Eucharist	
April 13th Maundy Thursday	7.30 pm Eucharist of the Last Supper				
April 14th Good Friday	10 am Together4God Stations of the Cross	12 noon Good Friday Liturgy	2 pm The Last Hour	2 pm Good Friday Prayer & Praise	4 pm Evening Prayer
April 15th Easter Eve				8.30 pm Easter Vigil & First Eucharist of Easter	
April 16th Easter Day	9.15 am Easter Eucharist	10.45 am Easter Eucharist	6 pm Easter Eucharist (BCP)	6 pm Evening Worship	8 am Easter Eucharist (BCP)
April 23rd Easter 2	9.15 am Parish Eucharist	10.45 am Matins	6 pm Eucharist (BCP)	10.45 am Parish Eucharist	
April 30th Easter 3	9.15 am Parish Eucharist	10.45 am Parish Eucharist	6 pm Evensong		10.30 am Benefice Eucharist
May 7th Easter 4			10.30 am Benefice Eucharist		