



# Five Crosses

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

## NEWSLETTER MARCH 2017

Priest: **The Reverend Peter Down**, The Rectory, Vicarage Street, Tintinhull (829058)

Licensed Lay Reader: **Mrs Sallyann Batstone**

Axes Close Farm, Chilthorne (840218)

PTO Reader: **Mr Norman Preston**, Westbury, Chilthorne Domer (840580)

---

**Editor:** Mrs. Hilary Cozens, Little Crofton, Yeovil Road, Tintinhull

Telephone 01935 824220 e-mail [hilary@littlecrofton.co.uk](mailto:hilary@littlecrofton.co.uk)

United Benefice Website can be found at <http://fivecrosses.weebly.com>

---

### ***Dear Friends,***

I wrote last month about fasting during Lent and this is just a little reminder that Lent begins on 1<sup>st</sup> March.

As always we will mark the beginning of Lent with the Imposition of Ash at the Ash Wednesday Eucharist. This, of course, is the ceremony from which the first day of Lent gets its name. In the service we receive the sign of the cross in ash (traditionally from the burning of last year's palm crosses) with the words, "Remember that you are dust and to dust you will return. Turn away from sin and be faithful to Christ." The words remind us, during this penitential season, of our need for repentance and of our mortality. We know that none of us can live for ever, that we shall all die. We know too that none of us is perfect; we all fall short of the standards we set ourselves. It is human nature that we are sinful beings. Lent and Easter remind us that God has dealt with both mortality and sin. Through Jesus's death and resurrection Christians believe that God has acted in order that we may have our sins forgiven and through Christ's victory over death may enter into eternal life with him. Join us if you can to mark the begin-

ning of Lent.

Join us too for some of the other things we'll be doing to keep Lent as a season in which we can renew our relationship with God. There will be a series of Lent talks at Lulton this year. They will be on Wednesday evenings for four weeks, starting on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30 pm. Again this Lent there will be a study guide which this year will take us through the whole of St John's gospel with a daily reading, brief introduction and prayer. It will be available in the churches, on the website as a pdf or as an ebook. It will also be published each day on our Facebook page. This year, instead of study groups, we will hold weekly prayer meetings in St Mary's and St Margaret's – dates and times to be confirmed.

And don't forget Tintinhull's Lent Lunches. The first one is at St Margaret's School on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March. Next month's Newsletter will have full details of the Holy Week and Easter services and information about everything will be on the Benefice website.

As you will have noticed the new estates at Brimsmore and Lulton are now growing quickly. They are both within our

benefice boundaries and it is important that we take seriously our responsibility to our new parishioners. It is also important that we continue to be the village churches we have always been. To help us to do this we are seeking to build a close relationship with St James, Preston Plucknett. St James is a thriving church and has many more resources than we have and are well equipped to minister to the new estates so we are planning to enter into a covenant with them to minster on the new estates. The focus for much of the work we will do will be focussed on the new Community room in Kingfisher School. More details about this as they become available.

***With best wishes in Christ, Fr Peter***  
**A Letter from the Right Reverend Ruth Worsley, Bishop of Taunton:**  
As I write this, in the past week we have been hearing of President Trump's travel ban which includes the prevention of refugees from entering the US. US lawyers have suspended the ban and a fight is ensuing, on Twitter and in the courts. Archbishop Sentamu, and the Bishops of Liverpool and Durham have been among those who have publicly spoken out and reminded us of the Christian charge to welcome the stranger in need.

Bishop Peter and I have made a very specific Bishops' Lent Appeal this year to support the work of welcome to refugees. To support this appeal, every day of Lent there is a story on the diocesan website of someone working for the common good. Amongst them are some specific stories of refugees and those who work to support them. We hope you will take the opportunity to read them and reflect on how they open up Scripture for us through an example of 'living the story'. And in response, we ask you to consider giving something

towards the work we are doing in the diocese and beyond to support such work.

Perhaps you are holding a Lent lunch or taking a special, additional offering each week in your church. Would you consider giving this to the Bishops' Lent Appeal for Refugees? Half of what is collected across the diocese will go to the work here in Somerset. And half will go to encourage the work of a church community in Greece supporting them in providing food and shelter for those in immediate need.

I have been very encouraged to hear of the stories of those who have found practical support and a warm welcome from the people of Somerset in the midst of despair, anxiety and fear. It has been a real joy to see folk gathering together to offer whatever they can by way of befriending, language support, homes to those in need. One primary school has even seen the children collecting money to buy bicycles for two Syrian children. Such generosity! We've now welcomed four families to Taunton with more on the way. In Yeovil and Bath there are young people and families being supported through the government resettlement scheme. And in Nailsea and Taunton, community sponsorship hopes to welcome others. Our diocese has played its part and provided £5000 this past year for training, interpretive support amongst other things. We are committed to doing more this year and would welcome whatever help you can offer. **Ruth, +Taunton**

## **NEWS FROM THE PARISHES**

### **YEOVIL MARSH**

**Church warden Mick Kane writes:** "Book Club changes. We have been holding a book exchange twice a month for the past year and now have to make a reduction to only once a month, from now on it will be on the first Tuesday of each month starting on the 7th of March. I have managed to speak to most of our regular book swappers.

The time will remain at 2pm to 4pm as usual and tea and coffee will be available free of charge as always.

We have had several delays with reinstalling the bell but are now hoping to be ready this summer. We have put a structured service in place for our second Sunday in the month service at The Elms, and while we are there the church remains open for anyone who wants to have a time of quiet prayer. We also have a very flexible evening service on the third Sunday of each month. We also provide prayer support for anyone who needs it whether they come to our church or not, and requests can be made via the book in the church porch, or by phoning 01935420538 where you can leave a message if we aren't available to answer."

## LUFTON

**Susan Collins writes:** please note that Father Peter Down will be celebrating our Holy Communion Services at 6pm on each fourth Sunday in the month from this January so this month our 6pm eucharist will be on Mothering Sunday, 26<sup>th</sup> March. During Lent Father Peter will be giving a series of 4 Lent Talks in Lufton They will be on Wednesday evenings for four weeks, starting on 8<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30 pm. We hope that the Lufton College students enjoyed their half term break and we look forward to worshipping with them on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> March. Please let either the Churchwardens, or another key holder know if you would like to use the Church for private prayer during Lent, or at any other time."

## TINTINHULL

Churchwarden John Gower writes: HELP! St. Margaret's Church is looking for additional volunteers to become readers and/ or sidesmen. You are free to tell the person doing the rota when you are not available so the inconvenience to your personal life is minimal and swaps can always be arranged. There is also a shortage of people willing to open and

close the Church. If you are willing to offer your services, please contact any member of the PCC. Jill Harris is again organizing her annual POETRY AND PROSE evenings which will be on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> July. This is always a great evening but she is looking for people to read either their own or their favourite pieces of poetry. Please contact Jill (822320 if you are interested in taking part. "

**Flowers for Easter Day** are being planned as we run up to Lent. If you would like to make a donation, of say £3, for an Easter lily, in memory of a dear one or may be for another reason, please let Church flower organizer, Hilary Cozens have your donation envelope (Little Crofton, 1 Yeovil Road). All money donated will be put towards the festival flowers and names of those remembered will be displayed. If anyone reading this would be interested in getting involved with church flowers do call Hilary on 01935 824220 – total novices can be encouraged by tried and tested hands. We are in need of young legs able to climb upon pews!

**Entry forms and schedules** are now available for the Spring Flower and Handicraft Show to be held in St Margaret's Church on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> April. Show Secretary Tony Brunt and Ray Cozens, show Administrator, can be contacted on 824695 and 824220 respectively. Copies will be available at the Wednesday morning Coffee Shop in the Working Men's Club (10am – 12noon). Do please have a think about entering and help them to keep this popular annual event alive whilst we await the new build hall here in Tintinhull.

## THORNE

It must be nearly time for the primroses to bloom in St Andrew's churchyard. Your editor notes that on 2nd April there will be a Benefice Eucharist in this pretty church starting at 10.30am. It would be lovely to see you there now that the weather is improving. I hope you'll enjoy the spring flowers and perhaps some warm sun shine.

## SERVICES DURING MARCH 2017

Date	Tintinhull	Chilthorne Domer	Lufton	Yeovil Marsh	Thorne Coffin
<b>March 1<sup>st</sup> Ash Wednesday</b>	7.30 pm Benefice Eucharist and Imposition of Ash				
<b>March 5<sup>th</sup> Lent 1</b>		10.30 am Benefice Eucharist	6 pm Evensong (BCP)		
<b>March 7<sup>th</sup></b>		10 am Eucharist (BCP)			
<b>March 12<sup>th</sup> Lent 2</b>	8 am Eucharist (BCP) 10.45 am Together4God	10.45 am Matins	6 pm Evensong	10.45 am Morning Prayer at the Elms	4 pm Parish Eucharist
<b>March 19<sup>th</sup> Lent 3</b>	9.15 am Parish Eucharist	10.45 am Parish Eucharist	6 pm Evensong	6 pm Evening Worship	
<b>March 26<sup>th</sup> Lent 4 Mothering Sunday</b>	9.15 am Parish Eucharist	10.45 am Matins	6 pm Eucharist (BCP)	10.45 am Parish Eucharist	
<b>April 2<sup>nd</sup> Lent 5</b>			6 pm Evensong		10.30 am Benefice Eucharist

**Last but not Least:  
CHILTHORNE**

St Mary's welcomed Cheyanne, Eileen Cooke for baptism in February and it is sadly noted that the funeral of Simon Fraser took place at Yeovil Crematorium on 14th February. Please remember these families in your prayers and bring comfort to Ginny and all those who mourn.

**Lent Lunches:** Tintinhull 12 noon to 1.30pm unless stated otherwise:—

- 1) School 2nd March, Tel. 822686 at **12 noon -1pm**
- 2) Little Crofton, 9th March, Tel. 824220, Hilary
- 3) Leaches Farm, 16th March, Tel. 824039, Richard
- 4) Broadleaze Farm, 23rd March, Tel. 840374, Ann & Pat
- 5) Stone Pippins, 30th March, Tel 822320, Jill.