



# **Five Crosses**

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

## **NEWSLETTER**

### **OCTOBER 2020**

Priest: **The Reverend Peter Down**, The Rectory, Vicarage Street, Tintinhull (829058)  
Licensed Lay Reader: **Mrs Sallyann Batstone**  
Axes Close Farm, Chilthorne (840218)

---

**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,***

As I write these words it is clear that there is a good chance that we shall soon have imposed upon us new restrictions due to COVID-19. As things stand places of worship are unaffected by the “Rule of Six”, although by the time you read this that could have changed. These changes will come in response to a rising number of daily positive tests, an increasing number of hospital admissions and, most sadly, a rising number of fatalities.

For now, details of our services are to be found, as usual, at the back of this newsletter. You should check the Benefice website for the latest news about what we can, and cannot, do on a Sunday. Now, and for the foreseeable future, I shall continue to provide online services on the Benefice website every Sunday morning from 9.15 am.

I have been delighted that our schools have re-opened following almost six months during which they have had to remain closed to most children. Both Chilthorne Domer Church School and St Margaret’s School have done sterling work in keeping as many children as possible in touch with their teachers and providing good quality work for them to do at home with their parents. As well as this they worked hard to provide a safe and inspiring environment during lockdown for the children of essential workers and at-risk children. As we started to come out of lockdown a number of children from some year groups were also welcomed back to school.

During the summer holiday the head teachers and staff spent a lot of time and energy preparing the school buildings to admit all of the children back to school from the beginning of the new school year. I can say, as someone who lives next door to a school, that it has been a joy to hear the sound of happy children playing their games in their break times, and while the weather has been warm and dry working in their lessons outside. Our schools are not back as they were, but the “new normal” for the schools is an important step in the right direction for the good of our children’s education and for their mental health. In

St Margaret's Church you can see a display of some of the work that the children did during lockdown.

As part of our getting back to normal our churches will be holding their Annual Meetings this month. More details will be announced very soon.

Another part of our getting back to normal has been the first weddings of this year. At St Margaret's Luke and Laura Moffat were married on 12<sup>th</sup> September, and on 26<sup>th</sup> September Anna Batstone and Sam Thomas are to be married at St Mary's. The ceremonies are not quite the ones which they imagined but they are lovely occasions all the same.

These are all small steps that make us feel that life can be normal again. Please remember in your prayers all those who are trying to get life back to normal and who are fighting COVID-19, and those who are still suffering because of effects – people who have been bereaved, who are ill, who are anxious, whose businesses are struggling to survive or whose jobs are at risk.

*With blessings in Christ, Fr Peter*

***A Letter from the Right Reverend Ruth Worsley, Bishop of Taunton:***

“I was expecting to be on sabbatical as I write this but of course you will all now be aware that Bishop Peter is receiving treatment for leukaemia and thus I am back in the diocese. He is as cheerful as ever and very much values your care, thoughts, prayers, cards, flowers and so many warm messages. Thank you! Please keep praying for him, Jane and the family.

Coping with the ‘unexpected’, whether it is news about health, the pandemic or a personal diagnosis like +Peter’s; or a change of plan such as my sabbatical, can set us in a spin. We don’t always know how to respond. It requires us to adapt, to change, to rethink how we will live.

I’m reminded of the story of Elijah who felt overwhelmed by the circumstances around him. A national drought both from rain and faith left him feeling vulnerable and alone. And although God made Himself very evident in the events of Mount Carmel, Elijah still felt under siege and fearful, wanting to die rather than face the wrath of Jezebel. And so he ran! And in the book of Kings we find God meets with him. First of all bringing him refreshment of body and mind through sleep and food. And then, when his well-being is restored, he discovers the voice of God, not in the strength of storm or wind but in a ‘still small voice’.

I wonder where and how you might hear the voice of God? Across the diocese we are entering into a listening project to hear what God might be saying to us, in and through the strange times in which we now live. We welcome your thoughts so please do share them with us.

***Praying God’s blessing on us all , Bishop Ruth***

***From Hilary, the Editor:*** Once again The Five Crosses Newsletter is on line only, apart from copies which will possibly be found in church porches or notice boards. I have sought advice regarding printing and delivery and the consensus is that, with a covid spike expected and new rules, we continue still on line. ***Cut off date for the***

*next issue is on or before 19th October so please let me have any submissions in good time. Kind regards and I wish you all well. Hilary.*

## **NEWS FROM THE PARISHES**

### **TINTINHULL**

**From John Gower:** "The exhibition in St. Margaret's by the schoolchildren was amazing and is well worth seeing. This was pertaining to the lockdown and pictures were sent to the residents of Wisteria House and to the children's ward at Yeovil hospital, along with other places. Fr. Peter is on holiday and his usual online service was replaced by a C of E service which did not compare in quality and being geared locally. Sadly I have to report that Ann Horsington has retired as our organist. We shall miss her music but thank her for the very many years she has played in our Church. Regrettably I have just heard of the death of Pam Perrin. She was a long standing member of our congregation and will be sadly missed. She was very well known in our community, particularly for her pottery and cheerful disposition. I have had a minor disaster severing a tendon in my thumb which has just been operated on. It was caused sharpening a knife! The sharpener is in my rubbish bin and my daughter has sent me a much safer sharpener. Please do not make my mistake. Finally, the Annual Parochial Church Meeting, which should have been held in April, will now be held probable in late October. Please inform me if you wish to stand for any office."

#### **Travels in Central America by Motorhome presented by Ann and Clive Barker**

Our adventures travelling by motorhome through all the countries of Central America. This presentation will include highlights such as the Pyramids, Lost Ancient Cities, the wonderful Sunday Market in Chichicastenango, the Panama Canal and shipping to Colombia.

**7.00pm Wednesday 21 October 2020**

Doors open 6.30pm.

Tickets **£5 in advance only** by contacting Ann & Clive by email: [ann@cliveandann.com](mailto:ann@cliveandann.com) or phone: 01935 829761

**Please note there will be no refreshments served this time**

Phoenix ladies are kindly hosting this event

Tintinhull Village Hall, Vicarage Street, BA22 8PY

All profits to the restoration fund for St Margaret's Church, Tintinhull

**places are limited due to social distancing requirements.**

**Please do not attend if you have any symptoms of Covid 19**

### **LUFTON**

**From Francis Burroughes:** "By the time you are reading this, Lufton will have celebrated its Harvest Thanksgiving, with Harvest hymns, for which we were joined by members of the congregation of St. Mary-le-Tower, Ipswich. Our other visitors from nearby parishes enjoyed the story of Arthur, the Church Mouse, read for us by Griff Rhys Jones. Gifts of groceries were sent to The Lord's Larder. Services will continue as normal in October, every Sunday evening at 6.00.p.m. to which all are warmly welcome. While we are unable to sing hymns, we have a Middle Voluntary instead, so that there is an element of music in our worship."

## CHILTHORNE DOMER

**From Angie Clothier:** “ Things are quiet here in Chilthorne, but we have enjoyed holding Anna Batstone’s and Sam Thomas’s marriage ceremony in St Mary’s - so we are now looking forward to being able to celebrate other happy weddings in our lovely church very soon.”

## YEOVIL MARSH

**Christine Salmon writes:** “Despite the worrying new ‘Covid spike’ situation with new restriction measures there have been, and still are, glimmers of helpful positivisms shining through. The online services offered each week by Fr Peter have kept us together and for me they meant I was able to keep in touch even when I was away from home. Now, throughout the Parish, there has been a change to only having online services on the website for all at home; we are now also coming together on a rotation around most of the churches of the Benefice sharing socially distanced worship together – see the services offered below.

Keep going everyone - we are coming through this together!”

SERVICE DURING OCTOBER			
Sunday	Morning Worship	Evening Worship	Online Worship
Sunday 4 <sup>th</sup> October Trinity 17	10.30 am – St Mary’s, Chilthorne Domer	6 pm – St Peter’s & St Paul’s Lufton	7 pm – All Saints
Sunday 11 <sup>th</sup> October Trinity 18	10.30 am – All Saints, Yeovil Marsh	6 pm – St Peter’s & St Paul’s Lufton	7 pm – St Margaret’s
Sunday 18 <sup>th</sup> October St Luke the Evangelist	10.30 am – St Margaret’s, Tintinhull	6 pm – St Peter’s & St Paul’s Lufton	7 pm – St Mary’s
Sunday 25 <sup>th</sup> October Last Sunday after Trinity	10.30 am – St Mary’s, Chilthorne Domer	6 pm – St Peter’s & St Paul’s Lufton Holy Communion.	7 pm – All Saints
Online Services are recorded on Saturday evenings at 7 pm. You are welcome to be present and receive holy communion if you would like to. Please let Fr Peter know if you intend to be there.			