



Five Crosses

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

NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 2019

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Dear Friends,

We're right into the holiday season now – the schools are closed, the days are sunny and warm (I hope) and life is just a little bit slower.

Traditionally it's the time of year when bizarre and strange stories appear in our newspapers – they call it the silly season. Of course, we've got used to bizarre news lately. Our political life has appeared to be in turmoil for a long time. A major topic of conversation lately has been about the latest bizarre news from the House of Commons and the inability of the government to get anything done. But they're all on holiday now so perhaps we can relax a little and just let the world go by.

It's very important for us to find time in our lives when we can relax and forget the stresses and worries of every day life. Time when we can recharge our batteries. Time when we can get away from it all – even if it's only a few days.

Life doesn't stop, it just needs to change pace and be full of different things, things we don't usually do.

Whether your idea of the perfect holiday is a fortnight on a Spanish beach, or a cruise around the Canary Islands, or a few days hiking around the Yorkshire Dales or a city break visiting art galleries and museums and enjoying the local cuisine a complete change always does us good.

We've just got back from our holiday in the Cotswolds. It was all the things you want a holiday to be – relaxing, enjoyable, and a break from the routine and we've returned refreshed.

For some though a holiday is not an option. Money can be tight for very many in our society. For some families the long summer school holidays are not something they look forward to with relish. Having six weeks during which they need to find things for the children to do, perhaps having to pay for extra childcare when they are already on a tight budget, needing to buy new school uniform and make up for the lack a free school meal every day can put additional stress on an already difficult life. Then there are the people who are caring for sick, elderly or dis-

abled relatives. Finding time, money and alternative care makes their lives more stressful and challenging.

For families and individuals whose lives are constrained in these and other ways the summer can be a really difficult time. Perhaps, we might be able to find ways to help. We might be able to offer help to a neighbour who struggles with childcare in the summer, or with somebody who cares for an elderly relative. We might be able to support a charity providing summer play schemes with a donation or by joining in a fundraising activity. Or a charity that provides respite for carers.

It's easy to think that everybody looks forward to the bucolic days of summer – but for some they're a time of extra stress and anxiety. We can't do much, perhaps, but every little helps and an act of kindness makes such a difference if you're at your wits' end.

*With best wishes for a great summer,
Yours in Christ, Fr Peter*

Letter from the Right Reverend Peter
Hancock, Bishop of Bath and Wells:

“Always with us”

On 20 July 1969 the world watched something extraordinary. This was when the Eagle lunar module landed on the Moon's Sea of Tranquillity. This was the very first time that anyone had been to the moon. But astronauts Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin had to do something hard. After years of preparation and their long and hazardous flight they had to wait. They were about to open the door of their lunar lander and step onto the unknown surface of a completely different world. But for now, their mission ordered them to take a pause, to wait and prepare for that 'First step'. That hour-long downtime period was designed to let the astronauts recover from their space flight and prepare for their moon walk.

It is now well known that Buzz Aldrin spent his time praying, reading the

Bible and taking Holy Communion. Aldrin was an elder at Webster Presbyterian Church, and before he headed into space in 1969, he got special permission to take bread and wine with him into space and to give himself communion. As the men prepared for the next phase of their mission, Aldrin spoke to the ground crew back on Earth. "I would like to request a few moments of silence," he said. "I would like to invite each person listening in, wherever and whomever they may be, to contemplate for a moment the events of the past few hours and to give thanks in their own individual way."

He then reached for the wine and bread he'd brought to space—the first foods ever poured or eaten on the moon. "I poured the wine into the chalice our church had given me. In the one-sixth gravity of the moon the wine curled slowly and gracefully up the side of the cup," he later wrote. The words he read were those of Jesus: 'I am the vine, you are the branches. Whoever remains in me, and I in you, will bear much fruit, for you can do nothing without me.'

After the resurrection, as Jesus ascended back to heaven, he gave a promise to his disciples that he would be with them always, wherever they were and wherever they went. As Buzz Aldrin took communion on the Moon he too was aware of that promise. It is a promise that is also true for us today and so whatever each day may bring let us remember to 'wait' before we step out into the day and ask that Jesus may indeed be with us. As we say in Communion: 'The Lord is here.' 'His Spirit is with us.' *With warm greetings,*

Peter + Bath & Wells

NEWS FROM THE PARISHES

YEOVIL MARSH

Mike Kane writes this reflection: "We as a country had an ambassador who advised us on the state of government of the nation where he had been sent to as our representative, The authority in that country didn't like the views which our ambassador expressed to us and refused to work with him. It strikes me that we have a similar situation with God sending His

ambassador, Jesus, to advise us on the state of our lives. None of us really like or listen to all the things that He said to us, so we are all selective about what we believe and choose to reject. I know that applies to me and I try to change and accept the messages given by Jesus and act on them but all too often fail miserably. That is part of being a Christian and we all fall short of the way God would like us to be but it doesn't do any good to pretend that everything is okay. We can't deny that we all could be better if we walked nearer to God, and that applies to all of us from popes and archbishops all the way down to you and I, and it won't get any better until we all accept that we fall far short of how God wants us to be and start to make changes in our beliefs and knowledge."

Socially in Yeovil Marsh Church Hall we are planning an event for September; possibly a village ramble followed by Hog Roast on Saturday 7th September, happy to help or share ideas please call Christine on 412927.

TINTINHULL

From John Gower: "Fr. Peter has returned to the Benefice after a well deserved break in glorious weather. In his absence, we were very grateful to Rev. Lawrence Meering who took a memorable service at St. Margaret's on the 2nd July and to Rev. Roger Redding who officiated at the United Benefice Service at Chilthorne Domer the following week. Our application for a Lottery Grant has been submitted but further details will need to be given. Please remember that Mary and Carol are hosting Church Teas at St. Margaret's on Saturday 10th August from 2.30 to 4.30pm in the Churchyard or inside if wet. This is in support of Christian Aid. If you are able to attend, we would all be very grateful"

A diary note from Mary Ostler: "Our Harvest Supper follows a 6pm service in St Margaret's Church which will be held on Sunday 22nd September. This year the Stanchester Quire will be joining us to sing

some traditional harvest songs. Tickets will be available in early September."

LUFTON

Susan Collins writes: "A full Church on 23rd June enjoyed the 1st of our summer events 'H.M.S. Pinafore' which was a real novelty, taking us back to an age free from television, cinema and computers. A miniature theatre linked to a screen for clearer vision (via 21st C assistance!), with wonderful music and sound effects. We were amusingly entertained, as indeed our forefathers would have been, in small gatherings, if they were fortunate enough. On 25th August at 7.30pm we shall enjoy the third of our 3 Summer Concerts, 'Favourite Songs & Airs' - Marjie Doring sings a programme of music for late Summer. All are most welcome & there will be Free admission by Programme (generous donations invited) which will include refreshments. For details & to reserve tickets please contact Francis Burroughes on either e-mail:- churchwarden@lufton.co.uk or on 07730 526166. Please do join us and assist in raising essential funds. Parking (with care) is on The Church Green only and car sharing is advised.

We hope to be joined by Benefice parishioners for our United Benefice Eucharist on Sunday 4th August at 10.30 am, to be followed by refreshments.

On 14th July we welcomed Arthur Mark Bailey to St Peter's and St Paul's on the occasion of his Baptism. We remember him in our prayers and pray for all of his supporters. "

In our Benefice we also note that in June the funerals of Eric Lowman of Chilthorne Domer and Eliea Cornelius of Tintinhull were held at Yeovil Crematorium. May they rest in peace and rise in glory.

FROM THE EDITOR: the cut off date for the September issue of the Newsletter is on 19th August so please send me your items for inclusion on or before that day. Hilary.

SERVICES DURING AUGUST 2019

Day	Tintinhull	Chilthorne Domer	Lufton	Yeovil Marsh	Thorne Coffin
August 4th Trinity 7			10.30 am Benefice Eucharist		
August 6th		10 am Eucharist (BCP)			
August 11th Trinity 8	8 am Eucharist (BCP) 10.45 am Together4God	10.45 am Together4God – Baptism of Meredith Strak	6 pm Evensong		4 pm Evensong
August 18th Trinity 9	9.15 am Parish Eucharist	10.45 am Parish Eucharist for the BVM	6 pm Evensong	10.45 am Morning Worship at the Elms	
August 25rd Trinity 10	9.15 am Parish Eucharist	See Yeovil Marsh	6 pm Eucharist (BCP)	11 am Parish Eucharist – Yeovil Marsh & Chilthorne Domer	
September 1st Trinity 11			6 pm Evensong		10.30 am Benefice Eucharist