



Five Crosses

NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2020

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

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

Dear Friends,

Lent has just begun and will continue throughout March before we celebrate Easter on 12th April.

Lent began in the early Church as a period of preparation for those who were to be baptised at Easter – the traditional time for baptism to take place. For us it has become a period of prayer, study, reflection and preparation for our celebration of Easter – and the resurrection of Jesus from the dead. It is also, according to the Book of Common Prayer, a period of fasting, and according to Common Worship a period of discipline and self denial. How Christians approach the Lenten fast varies enormously. Many of us *give something up* for Lent – cakes, chocolate, biscuits, wine, a meal every week – others will adopt some form of *extra discipline* – spiritual reading, acts of charity, Bible study, prayer. Whatever we choose to do we find that it can make a difference to the way we think about our discipleship, or the way we see our relationships and our place in the world. Many Christians find that immersing themselves in gospel, or in a time of special spiritual discipline renews their relationship with God and gives their faith a fresh start or a renewed focus. We all know that from time to time we find ourselves feeling in need of refreshment and renewal and Lent can be that time for us.

We will have a number of things

going on in our benefice to help us keep a good Lent. The Archbishop of Canterbury has recommended a book to us for Lent and you might like to purchase a copy of that to study during Lent. It is *Saying Yes to Life* by Ruth Valerio. It is published by SPCK and is available from the Church House Bookshop (and other book suppliers) as a hard copy or as an eBook.

There will be a series of talks on Wednesday evenings at 7 pm in Lufton Church. These will start on 4th March and continue weekly until 25th March. The theme this year will be *After the Acts of Apostles – How the Church began*. We all know the story of the earliest days of the Church from the Acts of the Apostles. That part of the story ends with St Paul in Rome. That may not be quite the end of Paul's story but it is believed that he was martyred soon after in Rome. The task of growing the Church was passed on to others. The story is a fascinating one but largely unknown to most of us, but the early Christians were eager – and effective – in carrying on the work of Paul and the other apostles as the Church spread throughout – and beyond – the Roman Empire, reaching England by the early years of the fourth century. Join us if you can; if you need a lift to get to Lufton please let me know.

I have not prepared a new devotional booklet for this Lent but if you would like to follow one of the gospels throughout Lent they are still available on

the Benefice website (fivecrosses.weebly.com/lent-2020).

The Church of England has Lent Resources available. Search for Church of England #LiveLent. There will also be weekly times of Prayer and Reflection in our Churches during Lent. See the back page for times and venues. Wishing you a holy Lent in Christ Jesus, *Fr Peter*

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

Let's talk

'It's good to talk!' so the old BT advert (other telecommunications firms are available) used to say. I agree. Who doesn't feel better after having a good old chat with a friend, or even after having a quick chat with a stranger when stuck in a tedious queue? It may seem then, that this year's Lent Challenge from Bishop Peter and myself is no great challenge at all as we are simply suggesting that we have conversations with our neighbours, family and friends.

The challenge comes in what we might talk about. We are encouraging all of us, including Bishops, to step outside what may be our normal topics of conversation, and perhaps our comfort zones, and grapple with some simple questions about life, death and everything in between. The challenge is both to listen to someone else's viewpoint and to ask ourselves how our own answers connect to what we believe.

In order to help us have those conversations the Go Team and discipleship team have produced a handy pack of question cards, and by the time Lent begins, we hope that each church will have received at least one of these packs of 40 Everyday Questions. The questions are suitable for all ages so can be used in a whole host of ways – with friends, family, colleagues, in school, with a Lent group, at a 'bring and share' lunch, even in church on a Sunday.

We've already been out and about across the diocese asking people some of the questions on the cards. And you can bet that asking school children questions like 'Should all bad people be punished?' or 'How would you describe God?' has

yielded some very interesting conversations. We will be sharing some of the conversations we've had with a range of people on Face book and Twitter so if you are on social media then do keep an eye out for them during Lent, and by all means let our communications team know how you are getting on using the hash tag #40questions. We really hope the 40 Everyday Questions cards generate some interesting, meaningful and indeed, Godly conversations that will help us hear the point of view of those around us and refresh and deepen our faith in God this Lent.

The Right Revd Ruth Worsley

News from the Parishes

TINTINHULL

From Church Warden, John Gower:
"Pauline Sweet died recently; the Church was full at her funeral service which is a mark of the loving respect with which she was held by her family, friends and people in our Village. Our thoughts and prayers are with her family. Ray Cozens and the PCC, have been doing sterling work towards the submission of our application for a grant from the National Heritage Fund. The history group are being very active in this application. Following the meeting of the Friends of St. Margaret's, donations have started to be given. We were given two generous cheques, a donation from a meeting of the Phoenix Group and an offer of a percentage of the profits from B & B at High House. We are all very grateful. The Church Fitters on the 6th March is a sell out but there are tickets available for **IOLANTHE**. Please contact me for tickets on 01935 592534. Last year's Mikado was well received and very funny, don't miss this opportunity for G & S on your doorstep! At just £10 the tickets are a snip. Do try to help the church and the drama group raise funds. The Annual **Village Flower and Home Craft show** is on Saturday 4th April so please support this and get your exhibits ready (staging is on Friday 3rd). I am preparing myself for another low placing for my Sloe Gin which never seems to be appreciated by the judges! The following weekend will be Easter - always a busy

time in church.”

The new **Tintinhull Luncheon Club** has had its first gathering and was well attended and really appreciated by Hilary and Derek Ford who enjoyed the company. Held in the meeting room of the Village Hall, lunch is open to the over 65s who live in Tintinhull who would like to come and enjoy a sociable meal with an opportunity to meet up with others from the village. The next date is **Thursday 19 March 12 midday until 3pm** with two course lunch served at 12.30pm. £5.50 per person. It must be booked in advance - numbers limited due to size of room. To book your place please phone Ann Barker 829761 or Jo Hunt 823182 between Monday March 9th and Friday March 13th.

St Margaret of Antioch's Church, Tintinhull needs at least £350,000 for repair work to stop it crumbling away, so every penny we can raise is wonderful. The PCC and congregation are very grateful for every effort that has been forthcoming to raise money already and proudly present the following fund-raiser - (hearty thanks to Ann and Clive in advance and the Phoenix ladies) Do try to support what will be an enjoyable event:

Ann and Clive Barker's next fascinating photographic talk is in Tintinhull Village Hall on **Thursday 2nd April** so another amazing adventure is in store - this time in their company, we are travelling through Central America. This will be a one hour talk, which will start at **8pm with doors opening at 7.45pm**. There will be the usual refreshments and delicious home made cakes afterwards, supplied by Phoenix Ladies. Entry will be **£5 on the door** and all profits will go to the Restoration Fund for St Margaret's.

From the Register: In January the ashes of Raymond Hinkley were buried at St Margaret's and in February the Funeral of Pauline Sweet was also held in Tintinhull Church.

CHILTHORNE DOMER

From Churchwarden, Angie Clothier: “Spring is coming, hopefully. It's time to tidy up the churchyard again. Lots to do. Pick up debris ready for mowing, edge the paths, clear the gullies etc. I would love some help on Saturday 28 March from 9.30am. If wet or not finished we will do Sat 4 April. Thank you.

Keep Bank Holiday Monday 25th May free for Chilthorne's Open Garden event in aid of new YDH breast cancer unit. St Mary's will be holding a flower festival on the same day. We would love to see you all there. *Angie* “

From the Register: the Funeral of Arthur Guppy was held at St Mary's in January and in February the Funeral of Mary Harvey was also held there. May they rest in peace.

YEOVIL MARSH

Christine Salmon writes: “All Saints at Yeovil Marsh are sorry to have to cancel the service at The Elms this month on Sunday 15th March due to no service leaders being available. However if people in Yeovil Marsh are looking for a service that morning and are able to get to Chilthorne Domer they will be made most welcome to the Eucharist Service there at 10.45am, for other options please refer to the service grid on the back page of this newsletter. We are aiming to resume the service at the Elms on Sunday 19th April.

LUFTON

Susan Collins writes: “Our services continue as normal in March, with the addition of 4 Lent Talks, given by Father Peter Down, commencing on Wed. 4th March at 7.00pm. and each Wednesday until 25th March. These talks will be based on The Acts of The Apostles – ‘Story of the Early Christian Church in the first 3 centuries.’ There will be a special Mothering Sunday Holy Communion at 6 pm on Sunday 22nd March.”

From the editor: the cut off date for the April issue of the Newsletter is on the 19th March. Please let me have any item you may have for inclusion before or on that date. Many thanks, *Hilary*.

SERVICES DURING MARCH 2020

Day	Tintinhull	Chilthorne Domer	Lufton	Yeovil Marsh	Thorne Coffin
March 1st Lent 1		10.30 am Benefice Eucharist	6 pm Evensong		
March 2nd Monday				7 pm Lent Prayer and Reflection	
March 3rd Tuesday		10 am Eucharist (BCP)			
March 8th Lent 2	8 am Eucharist (BCP) 10.45 am Together4God	10.45 am Matins	6 pm Evensong	10.45 am at Chilthorne Domer	4 pm Evensong
March 9th Monday		7 pm Lent Prayer and Reflection			
March 15th Lent 3	9.15 am Parish Eucharist	10.45 am Parish Eucharist	6 pm Evensong	10.45am join with St Mary's in Chilthorne Domer	
March 17th Tuesday					7 pm Lent Prayer and Reflection
March 22nd Lent 4 (Mothering Sunday)	9.15 am Parish Eucharist	11 am at Yeovil Marsh	6 pm Eucharist (BCP)	11 am Parish Eucharist	
March 24th Tuesday	7 pm Lent Prayer and Reflection				
March 29th Lent 5	9.15 am Parish Eucharist	10.45 am Parish Eucharist	6 pm Evensong		
March 31st Tuesday			7 pm Lent Prayer and Reflection		
April 5th Palm Sunday			6 pm Evensong		10.30 am Benefice Eucharist