



Five Crosses
Tintinhull, Chilthorne Domer, Yeovil Marsh,
Thorne Coffin, Lufton
NEWSLETTER
AUGUST 2018

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Dear Friends,

The World Cup came and went. England did well and made us proud, even though we feel some disappointment that they did not make it to the final. Donald Trump came and went and I don't think that any of us are really sure whether or not that was a good thing or quite what to make of it.

What certainly hasn't come and gone again – at least at the moment is summer. Summer is here and there's no mistaking it. We've seen hardly any clouds, let alone rain, for several weeks. The temperatures have been unusually high for an unusually long period – some of us love it and some of us hate it, but all of us know that we need rain. If we don't get any rain soon (although by the time you read this it might have rained for several days!) we may all need to stop watering the garden or washing the car to save water.

We are very fortunate to live in a country which has a temperate climate, with seasons and a mix of weather which generally gives rain when it's needed and warm dry weather at the right time. Not everyone is so lucky. Parts of the world are in the grip of serious drought, while others

suffer from terrible flooding.

At times like this we are made especially aware there are forces of nature in our world which we cannot control. The ancients told stories about how God affected their lives for the better or for the worse; stories like Noah and the flood, Elijah and the great drought, perhaps the story of Sodom and Gomorrah (a volcano?). Jesus told stories, or parables, about how little control we have over nature; the parable of the sower, the parable of the houses built on rock and sand. While we might have better scientific explanations for why natural events happen and why we sometimes see extreme weather we are no closer to being in control of nature than the people who witnessed the flood all those thousands of years ago.

And while the current extended warm spell reminds us of this we are all aware of the dangers that global warming brings to our world. More extreme weather, more floods in some places, severe drought in others, rising sea levels, higher average temperatures. All of these things affect our survival and the survival of many species on our planet. Our hospitable home might become a lot less

hospitable over the next few decades.

This hot spell, then, is giving us a timely reminder that although we do not control nature we do need to respect it. The story of creation contains the instruction to God's human creation to *be fruitful, multiply, fill the earth and subdue it*. What might appear as an instruction to take advantage of earth's bounty (*subdue the earth*) also contains an instruction to *be fruitful* and to *multiply*. If we are to do that we need to care for our planet. Being fruitful cannot happen without caring and being responsible. This summer challenges us not to take our earth for granted but to take our responsibility seriously. Enjoy the sunshine now and care for the earth always.

With best wishes in Christ, Fr Peter

*A message from the Rt. Rev. Peter
Hancock, Bishop of Bath and Wells:*

Glimpsing the glory of God

Recently Jane and I made our first trip to Iona which is accessed by small boat from the adjacent island of Mull. According to tradition Columba and twelve companions went there in 563AD. The monastery they founded became a centre of mission and teaching and played a crucial role in the conversion to Christianity of Scotland and the Anglo-Saxon Kingdom of Northumberland.

However, during the Viking invasions the monastery was destroyed and abandoned, until 1938 when the Revd George MacLeod re-founded a community there and rebuilt the Abbey. MacLeod was an unconventional and at times controversial figure. He became a pacifist, despite having served in World War One. He saw action in Greece and then at Ypres and Passchendaele for which he was awarded the Military Cross and the French Croix de Guerre for bravery.

After ordination he turned his back on prosperous prestigious parishes to be-

come minister at Govan, a parish in a poor part of Glasgow with considerable social problems. However, he is best remembered for founding the Iona Community as an international ecumenical community which emphasised mission, political involvement, the ministry of healing and worship. Through this he sought to keep the Church connected with an increasingly secular industrial society.

It is whilst on Iona that he is attributed with popularizing the concept of "Thin Places," a concept which comes from Celtic Christianity. Celts believed that in some places God's presence seems more tangible, more accessible than elsewhere. Places where heaven and earth seem to touch, where the holy and the human meet. Places where the Spirit of God is at work in ways that we can sense, where both beauty and brokenness co-exist.

I believe that God can and does meet us everywhere, that he is present with us on every step of life's journey. Nonetheless, for those early Celtic Christians on Iona, looking at where sky and sea met, it must have seemed that they were on the edge of the world, where heaven and earth met. We were only on Iona for a day but as we left I felt I had glimpsed something of the glory of God and that something of the peace of God was coming back with me.

May the Lord be with us all wherever we are and whatever we do.

With warm Christian greetings,

Peter + Bath and Wells

News from around the Parishes

TINTINHULL

From Church Warden, John Gower:
"Tintinhull Open Gardens took place on Saturday 30th June and was very successful due to the hard work of those who opened their gardens. St. Margaret's Church was decorated by our brilliant flower ladies and looked fantastic. Thank you. Thanks also to Simon for the way the Churchyard looked.

Several visitors remarked how well the Churchyard was kept. *Poetry and Prose* was held on Thursday 5th July in memory this year of Jill Harris who founded it. It was great to see children of St. Margaret's School taking part and also that several of the Harris family were present. We are grateful to Janet Young for organising it. The evening was reduced to approximately one hour of light hearted offerings followed by refreshments. My sincere thanks to those who made donations which raised just over £163. The next event to look forward to will be our Harvest festival and supper to which all are very welcome"

On Sunday 16th September

St Margaret's Harvest Songs of Praise will be followed by supper in the Village Hall. It would be lovely to see a full church and hopefully many of you will join in the supper which is always a happy occasion. Supper tickets will be available from mid-August in church or from PCC members. Tickets will be priced at £8 for adults and children £4. Any enquiries and offers of help, please contact either Mary on 826584 or Carol on 587593.

From the editor: a reminder that the cut off date for September's issue is **15th August**. Also big thanks to all those who donated garden flowers to the church for our TOG effort. They made such a lovely show which was much appreciated by visitors. Of course not forgetting thanks for all of the thought put in by those who arranged the flowers into such a great display.

Hilary Cozens

Christopher Holmes and Lauren Prior were married at St Margaret's on 23rd June.

YEOVIL MARSH

Christine Salmon writes: "It was a great pleasure to see the Church Hall in Yeovil Marsh comfortably full and buzzing with the enjoyment of the family bingo event in July. Huge thanks go out to all who organised, advertised, arranged and supported

this excellent event. There were so many fantastic prizes all kindly donated by friends, neighbours and supportive local businesses. With profit on the night and generous donations the event raised £611.10 which will go a long way towards getting our repairs and redecoration plans started. There will be a **quiz night** on Friday 14th September and hope you will be able to come along for another great get together. This was your most popular suggestion that was made at the bingo. Watch this space for further details in September. Thank you !!!"

Mike Kane wishes to add his own special 'thanks' to those who made the bingo night such a success: "Our church treasurer Christine Salmon deserves a special thank you for being the driving force behind the recent Yeovil Marsh Bingo night and a big thank you to all the others who helped with the organisation and running on the night."

CHILTHORNE

Angie Clothier writes: "There are a few events coming up so do please support St Mary's Church if you can. Firstly, you'll find us in the *tea tent at the Village Fete* on Bank Holiday Monday. Do stop for refreshments - that's on Monday - 27th August. Then there are two September dates for entry in your diaries: on Saturday **22nd September** there's a *Quiz* in the Village Hall in aid of Chilthorne Church and Yeovil Youth Theatre; followed, on **Sunday 30th September**, by Harvest Festival in St Mary's and then Harvest Lunch at Pound Farm."

On 7th July the wedding of Lewis Morgan and Harriet Chamberlain was held at St Mary's and on 14th July Adam Overy and Kelly Kent were also married there. Congratulations to them all.

LUFTON

Susan Collins writes: "Our next United Benefice Eucharist will be held on Sunday 5th August at 10.30 am. Cont.over

SERVICES DURING AUGUST 2018

| Day | Tintinhull | Chilthorne Domer | Lufton | Yeovil Marsh | Thorne Coffin |
|--|---|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|
| August 5th Trinity 10 | | | 10.30 am Benefice Eucharist | | |
| August 7th | | 10 am Eucharist (BCP) | | | |
| August 12th Trinity 11 | 8 am Eucharist (BCP) 10.45 am Together4God | 10.45 am Matins | 6 pm Evensong | 6 pm Evening Worship | 4 pm Evensong |
| August 19th Trinity 12 | 9.15 am Parish Eucharist | 10.45 am Parish Eucharist | 6 pm Evensong | 10.45 am Morning Prayer at the Elms | |
| August 26th Trinity 13 | 9.15 am Parish Eucharist | 10.45 am Matins | 6 pm Eucharist (BCP) | 10.45 am Parish Eucharist | |
| September 2nd Trinity 14 | | | 6 pm Evensong | | 10.30 am Benefice Eucharist |

Last but not Least: LUFTON continued

Please join us for this special service, which will be followed by seasonal refreshments.

Whilst preparing this copy, we are looking forward to our July Organ Festival Event on the 22nd. These events have been very well attended and of the highest quality. We conveyed grateful thanks to Francis Burroughes in the last Newsletter, but cannot thank him enough, especially for performing his own composition, '*in the spirit of Mendelssohn*'. During August the students and staff at the College will be enjoying their summer break and will not be joining us, as usual on the third Sunday. We are grateful for all their assistance in cleaning parts of the Church and tidying the Churchyard.

Our next 'event' will be our traditional **Harvest Thanksgiving Service** on Sunday 16th September at 6 pm. This service will include all our favourite harvest hymns. Autumn special services and events will follow in the Newsletters."

An apology for last month's glitches. My I.T. wizardry failed! Hilary