



# Five Crosses

## NEWSLETTER

### JANUARY 2019

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)

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 wish you all a very happy New Year.

It's always difficult at the beginning of a year to know how it will turn out. 2019 looks like being no different in this regard – but I think we can say that it will not be boring. The political turmoil at the end of 2018 looks like it will carry on well into 2019 – and perhaps even longer; and what will happen I don't think any of us can predict. But let's begin it full of hope and enthusiasm, for New Year is always a time when we can look forward in the belief that things really can be better. The year ahead will bring up many challenges, and also many opportunities.

As you may well have heard both of our Church Schools are looking for new headteachers. Lesley McDonald at St Margaret's School retired at the end of the autumn term and Theresa Hobbs at Chilthorne Domer Church School will retire at the end of this school year. We wish them both well for long and happy retirements. At the moment the two schools are consulting parents and staff about whether to join together to appoint a single headteacher for the two schools. It is not a merger and the schools will retain their separate identities and characters. It is becoming increasingly difficult to attract people to apply to lead small schools such as ours and the governors of both schools

hope that sharing a headteacher will make it easier to appoint a headteacher with experience by attracting a good number of well-qualified applicants. There might be many other benefits in cooperating with each other and creating opportunities for the children to receive a richer and broader school experience and the governors will explore those with the new headteacher – if that is the path they choose. The decision will be made by the end of January so please keep the two school communities in your prayers.

Elsewhere the new Community Room at Kingfisher School should be open soon. When it does there will be lots of activity starting in that new, fast-growing community. We will be working closely with St James's Church in Preston Plucknett and churches of other denominations to ensure that the Church is a real presence on the new estates.

At St Margaret's we are expecting to start some of the restoration work that is required on our historic and important building. More about that in the future. At All Saints we are already working on repairing the Church Hall and on improving the facilities it offers so that it can be a real benefit to the community. There will be more fundraising events so that we can get the work completed as soon as possible.

Those of you who attend our churches will know that Norman Preston has been missing for some time. He spent a good while in hospital but I am happy to say that he came home before Christmas. Please pray for him and for Jean that his recovery will continue.

With best wishes in the Lord, **Fr Peter**  
A letter from the Right Reverend Ruth Worsley, Bishop of Taunton:

### **“The Joy of Return”**

The country of Ghana is making 2019 ‘The Year of Return’ to mark 400 years of the slave trade. Akwase Agyeman who is heading up this year of celebration said this: *‘We will celebrate the resilience of the African. Like Joseph in the Bible who was sold to slavery and later connected to his brothers, there was a celebration and in 2019 there shall be a celebration for Africans in Diaspora’*

I wonder how we might make 2019 ‘a year of return’. I don’t mean as a return to things past because we mourn a past glory. I’m thinking of the story of Joseph. Joseph was separated from family because his family were jealous of him. His brothers sold him into slavery, out of sight, out of mind. It’s when they have need of food that they inadvertently come across Joseph again, this time he holds their fate in his hands. It would have been so easy for Joseph to seek to get his own back on his brothers. In fact he does play a trick on them. However when all is revealed we find many tears shed and reconciliation is achieved.

I wonder how many families in our communities have faced such a fracture in relationships?

Rembrandt’s famous painting, ‘The Return of the Prodigal’ is one of those iconic pictures which draws us into experiencing the depth of feeling the parable speaks of. The embrace of the father to the kneeling son shows us not only the emotion of a family relationship restored but that of God’s love for us, his wandering people. Many of us have personal experience of discovering the love of the Father for us, his

children. Perhaps this year we could pass on that story to others and help them to find the joy and celebration of a return to the Father who gave everything in order to release them from the slavery of sin.

***Let’s make this not just ‘a year of return’ but rather a lifetime.”***

**From the editor:** “just a reminder that cut-off date for the February issue is 19<sup>th</sup> January so please let me have any contributions by or on that day. Many thanks for your continued support. May readers and contributors enjoy a peaceful and joyous Christmas with good things in the year to come. **Hilary**

### **News from around the Parishes**

“The Children’s Society boxes have been emptied and a total of £564.98p has been sent off to the charity. Thank you to Pat and Barbara for collecting Chilthorne boxes again this year. It is amazing how attached people are to their boxes; I know that some box keepers have owned theirs for thirty years or more. Of course some boxes are returned so if anyone wishes to own a box please contact me on 01935 824220. It doesn’t matter how little you might manage to put in your box by collection time, next November. Together this year we made a difference to young people who need help. Very many thanks from Hilary Cozens on behalf of The Children’s Society.”

**Janice Squire’s writes:** “This year’s Poppy appeal raised £2, 538.54p. On behalf of the Royal British Legion I would like to thank the residents and businesses of Tintinhull and Chilthorne Domer for their generous donation and a huge thank you to all the volunteer poppy collectors for their support and giving up their time for this wonderful cause. I would also like to thank Betty Abbott and Nici Waldron for making knitted and crocheted poppy broaches which helped to raise money for the appeal. Merry Christmas to all”

### **LUFTON**

**Susan Collins sends greetings:** “At the time of preparing this copy, we still look forward with anticipation to Christmas – the Candlelit Carol Service and Holy Communion on Christmas Eve. We thank

all those who will be preparing the Church for the Festive Season and have assisted throughout the year with so many tasks – cleaning, adorning the Church, providing the refreshments following the Carol Service and other events and services. Not forgetting the Lufton College students who have cleaned areas of the Church fortnightly and will soon enjoy their Christmas festivities and break.

A special ‘thank you’ to those we may take for granted, who carry out the grass cutting and tidying up in the churchyard and Francis Burroughes who not only provided our wonderful organ, but plays it so well throughout the year at our services and special fundraising events, which he has mostly organised. We are promised more musical events during 2019 to raise funds in order to have a water supply and a composting toilet at our Church. We also look forward very much to being able to utilise the Community Room at the new Kingfisher School in Lufton, hopefully for Messy Church and Community events, when the facility is open for public use.

We hope you are all continuing to enjoy a Happy Twelve Days of Christmas. **All of us here in Lufton would like to wish all in the Benefice and beyond, a Peaceful, Happy and Healthy New Year.”**

**From the Register:** on 11<sup>th</sup> December at St Paul’s, Lufton the burial of the ashes of Basil Hunt took place.

### **YEOVIL MARSH**

**Christine Salmon writes:** “Yeovil Marsh Church Hall repairs are well underway with the kitchen and south side walls remaining to be repointed. Following professional advice, we will be able to look at the redecoration and new curtains inside, once the external repairs are complete.

It was lovely to see the Church Hall full of fun and laughter again on 14th December. Thank you all who prepared the social event and to all who supported and joined in - we do hope you had an enjoyable evening. As a bonus we managed to raise just over £150 towards the repair work. The new coping stones have been placed on the Vestry roof of All

Saints Church and some further pointing completed. We hope this will protect us well for the winter. With our thanks to Geoff Stocker for his specialist work and to Pen Mill Scaffolding for providing easier access for placing those heavy stones.

We also take this opportunity to thank Michael, Susie, Caroline, Viv and Howard for their commitment to delivering our Benefice Newsletters each month - it is hugely appreciated to help us all keep up to date with our local progress and Church services. Sadly due to physical ailment Mike has had to withdraw from delivering future Newsletters so this a plea to ask if anyone would be able to offer 20 - 30 minutes at the start of each month to deliver to the Mobile Home Park and through the main village. So, if you would be happy to help please call Christine on 01935 412927.

**Lastly we would like to wish you all good health and happiness throughout 2019.”**

### **CHILTHORNE DOMER**

*A message of thanks from Angie Clothier:* “A big thank you to Zanne and Ian for hosting another extremely successful Christmas party.

Christmas at St Mary’s started well with a full house for the Carol service, thanks to the talented school choir and the now traditional Christmas choir. *I wish a very happy New Year to everyone.”*

### **TINTINHULL**

*John Gower writes:* “Christmas will be over by the time you read this, but our thanks to all who took the services over the festive period and to those who did so much to make the church so beautiful. I am sure the Carol and Christingle Services will be very well attended. A service of thanksgiving for the life of Margaret Pullen on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> December will surely be well supported too. She was a very long standing member of our Church and held in great respect. Her late husband, Charles, was also a long standing member and Churchwarden for many years. Our condolences to their family; Charles and Margaret are much missed in our congregation. *Cont. over*

## SERVICES DURING JANUARY 2019

Day	Tintinhull	Chilthorne Domer	Lufton	Yeovil Marsh	Thorne Coffin
January 1 <sup>st</sup> 2019		10 am No Eucharist this month (BCP)			
January 6 <sup>th</sup> Epiphany	10.30 am Benefice Eucharist		6 pm Eucharist (BCP)		
January 13 <sup>th</sup> Epiphany 2	8 am Eucharist (BCP) 10.45 am To- gether4God	10.45 am Matins	6pm Evensong	6 pm Evening Worship	4 pm Evensong
January 20 <sup>th</sup> Epiphany 3	9.15 am Parish Eucharist	10.45 am Parish Eucharist	6 pm Evensong	10.45 am Morning Prayer at the Elms	
January 27 <sup>th</sup> Epiphany 4	9.15 am Parish Eucharist	10.45 am Matins	6 pm Eucharist (BCP)	11 am Parish Eucharist	
Feb. 3 <sup>rd</sup> Presentation of Christ in the Temple			6 pm Evensong	10.30 am Benefice Eucharist	

### Last but not Least: Tintinhull continued:

I wish you all a Happy and Healthy New Year “

The New Year will see the beginning of the daunting fund raising programme for church repairs. **Graffiti Classics** are booked in Tintinhull Village Hall, at **7.30pm on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> March** and with foot tapping ease they'll burst the elitist boundaries of the traditional String Quartet with their hilarious all-singing, all-dancing musical comedy cabaret show.

Tickets £17:50 **only** available from St Margaret's PCC, contact Ray Cozens 01935 824220 or [ray@littlecrofton.co.uk](mailto:ray@littlecrofton.co.uk) The evening will be along cabaret lines, a two part show and an interval when a hot meal will be served. (Price includes the hot meal). A licensed bar serving wine and soft drinks only will be available. Tickets are going fast, do not delay.

Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> March Tintinhull Spring Flower Show, schedules will be available from January 2019. Some new classes and new trophies. **BE IN IT TO WIN IT.**