



Five Crosses

NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2018

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

Dear Friends,

Just a few days ago we witnessed the wedding of Prince Harry and Meghan Markle, now the Duke and Duchess of Sussex. It was, as weddings are, a lovely occasion. They were blessed by beautiful weather and happy, cheering crowds in the street of Windsor. The service was restrained and joyous and we have prayed for them and wished them well for the future.

One of the main talking points of the day, though, was the sermon preached by the Most Reverend Michael Curry, the Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church of the USA. The internet on the day was abuzz with surprise and shock that such a sermon was preached in England at all, let alone on a royal occasion. People were saying that his sermon was “fire and brimstone” (it wasn’t), that it was powerful (it was), that it made people feel uncomfortable (it did – that’s one of the things we preachers aim to do), that it spelled out what the Christian faith was all about (it did – that’s another thing all preachers try to do, with varying degrees of success).

It was, I think, a very good sermon. It made us think. We were compelled to consider what love really is; we were en-

couraged to see that love is from God and that God’s love can change things, that if we allowed love to take control of our lives, our society and our world the world would be a very different place. For sure, the way that we live our lives would need to change – and some of those changes might be costly or sacrificial – but at the heart of Christian gospel is a God who, in Jesus, became human, suffered, died and rose again to show us what true love is.

His delivery was all American, but his message was pure gospel – the same gospel that is proclaimed throughout England, and indeed throughout the whole world by Christian preachers, Sunday by Sunday and day by day. The same gospel that is lived out by Christians in our villages, towns, cities and world hour by hour and minute by minute.

Something happened in St George’s Chapel, Windsor and throughout our nation and world on 19th May – millions of people heard the gospel proclaimed. To some it was a shock – because they’ve never heard it before; to others it was a joy because it gave a message of hope for the world; to others yet it will be an inspiration to believe that the gospel can be proclaimed in our age and nation and that it can be heard and responded to. (You can

listen to the sermon on our website.)

It may be that the things that Bishop Curry said has got you thinking. If so and you would like to talk over the issues he raised for you speak to anyone from our churches and they'll be happy to talk it over with you, or point you to someone who will.

With blessings in Christ, Fr Peter

A message from The Right Reverend Ruth Worsley, Bishop of Taunton:

Filling the gaps

“We all know the old adage, one volunteer is worth 10 pressed (wo)men. As we celebrate **Volunteer Week 2018** (1-7 June) I want to give thanks for and to the thousands of volunteers across Somerset who love and serve our communities. Former US first lady Rosalynn Carter once said that a nation without volunteers is a nation without a soul. As we experience continued cuts to our local services, it is volunteers who are ‘filling the gaps’. Offering anything from volunteer drivers ensuring isolated older people can get to the shops, to church groups providing space for young families to meet, to share stories and support each other.

Yet they are not only a lifeline for the more vulnerable groups, all our lives are so much richer thanks to our volunteers. Our churches, and the ministry of each, rely heavily on the generosity of our volunteers. Whether working with children and young people, helping serve tea and coffee after a service, delivering a reading or leading prayers, or being part of the flower or cleaning rota. Your vicar may be a volunteer too – as more people are called to serve as self-supporting ministers. Volunteering is at the heart of Christian service and discipleship. It's about the stewardship of our time and talents.

However we are hearing that nationally, volunteering is in decline, and so it may take a rethink in our approach to

release those talents, those gifts. There are many hugely talented people within our churches and our communities but sometimes they may feel reticent about putting themselves forward. People might be too humble, or not confident in their own abilities; feel they are not the right fit or not ‘churchy’ enough to put their hand up. How much more powerful for all of us if someone we know says to us “you'd be great for that, you have a real gift for it.” What an encouragement! By having those conversations we recognise and release those God-given gifts.

And let's be creative. The accountant worshipping in your congregation every Sunday who you have earmarked for the Treasurer role next time around might actually have a passion for creative prayer. Not everyone wants to do their day job in their spare time! Imagine how our churches might be transformed if we create the roles around the people we have and their gifts, rather than the other way around! So **thank you** for your gift of time and talent and be sure to encourage those around you “

News from around the Parishes

TINTINHULL

John Gower writes: “Unfortunately an old white chasuble had fallen into disrepair and had been hidden behind the others, out of sight, for many years. No longer! Hilary Cozens has done a fantastic job resurrecting to it former glory complete with matching stole. It was good to see Fr. Peter wearing it over the Easter period. Poetry and Prose will take place again at St. Margaret's Church in July. Jill Harris founded it 20 years ago. She will be sadly missed at this event but I am sure she would be delighted to see it continue. There will be free admission but donations in aid of Church Funds would be welcome. For the first time, children from the Kingfisher School will join pupils from Tintinhull and Chilthorne Domer schools participating in the event. Please come and

support this light hearted evening either as a participant or in the audience.”

A message from St Margaret's Church Choir– An Update:“Two stalwart members have been lost to us. Jill Harris, who passed away recently, will be truly missed in choir and we'll also miss June Whitlock, who after many years has now retired from being a member. Their contribution and dedication has been second to none. This has meant that there are now just three in our choir, when all are available to sing. We four mentioned below, are all hoping that there are singers out there who would consider supporting *the last three standing* when we sing for church festivals, these being Christmas, Easter and Harvest (which is not so very far ahead!) Why not come along and see how you get on? We are not asking for a regular Sunday commitment just join us when we practice and sing festival hymns on these special occasions. Details of prior practices will be published in the Newsletter so do watch out for them. Any support would be much appreciated and very welcome. If you would like to have any questions answered about singing in our choir please contact Lindy Menday on 01935 824468.”

Church Organist *Ann Horsington* and Choir members *Philip Horsington, Lindy Menday and Hilary Cozens*

Church flower arrangers are still hoping you will allow them into your gardens to gather greenery and blooms to decorate St Margaret's for the Tintinhull open gardens event.. The ladies will be asking neighbours and friends to provide them with enough to complete their own arrangements in church. I am confident that St Margaret's will look splendid for all of our garden visitors when it is filled with village flowers. Do come down on Friday 29th June when we will be putting the flowers together. *H Cozens*

A diary date from Janet Young:

On 5th July, a ***Poetry and Prose*** evening will be held from 7pm to 8pm followed by drinks and nibbles. All contributions are welcome from adults and children. Light hearted stories, poems and prose. Your own work is very welcome. Each story, poem or piece of prose is to last no longer than five minutes please. Do please let me know if you would like to take part by the 31st May either by phone on 01935 410239 ; e-mail me on mail@jyoung55.plus.com or speak to me in Church. Please help me to make this a lovely evening in memory of Jill Harris, a much loved member of St Margaret's Church and the Village.

From the editor: Cut off date is 19th June. Please let me have anything for inclusion by that date to avoid being disappointed. Hilary.

CHILTHORNE

Jill Coe wishes to say thank you to everyone who helped and donated to the Jumble Sale for Christian Aid. A wonderful profit of £280 was made for the charity.

LUFTON

“We would like to pay tribute to one of our longest serving members of the Church congregation, Mr. Norman Unwin OBE, who passed away, peacefully at home, just before Easter. Norman had moved to Lufton in 1961, with his family and joined the Church congregation. He had served on the PCC and was the Treasurer for over 20 yrs. He and his wife, Jean, had been generous benefactors, making it possible for some of our repairs and improvements to the Church building to be carried out. Norman enjoyed a long and very interesting life, mainly as an engineer, setting up Unwin Safety Systems locally. He was a very well respected businessman, amongst many other attributes. Many of us attended

SERVICES DURING JUNE 2018

Day	Tintinhull	Chilthorne Domer	Lufton	Yeovil Marsh	Thorne Coffin
June 3rd Trinity 1	10.30 am Benefice Eucharist				
June 5th		10 am Eucharist (BCP)			
June 10th Trinity 2	8 am Eucharist (BCP) 10.45 am Together4God	10.45 am Matins	6 pm Evensong	6 pm Evening Worship	4 pm Evensong
June 17th Trinity 3	9.15 am Parish Eucharist	10.45 am Parish Eucharist	6 pm Evensong	10.45 am Morning Prayer at the Elms	
June 24th Birth of John the Baptist	9.15 am Parish Eucharist	10.45 am Matins	6 pm Eucharist (BCP) *7.30pm see below	10.45 am Parish Eucharist	
July 1st Trinity 5		10.30 am Benefice Eucharist	6 pm Evensong		

Last but not Least:

Lufton continued: a Thanksgiving Service of Celebration for Norman's life at St. John the Baptist Church in Yeovil, which was full; a fitting tribute to a man who will be greatly missed by all who knew him, not least his family, friends and business associates. Both he and his wife Jean (who passed away last summer) would have celebrated their joint birthdays on 17th June. Norman would have been 90 yrs. We shall be remembering them especially on that Sunday."

As part of our Organ Festival, featuring the new Spath/Freilburger Organ, on **Sunday 24th June at 7.30pm** we host **'Music for a Summer Evening'**, with **Marjie Dorling**, **soprano:** a Recital of favourite music, including works by Bach, Handel, Mozart, Haydn and Mendelssohn. Refreshments will be available. Free admission by programme from:- Francis Burroughes on 07730 526166 or e-mail:- churchwarden@lufton.co.uk.

Any young singers aged between 7 and 14 yrs. who would like to help form a Lufton Choir in June, please contact Francis Burroughes for details, as above. "

Susan Collins

On 5th May the wedding of Jarrod Wiseman and Paige Markham was celebrated at Lufton church. May they have a long and happy marriage.