



# Five Crosses

## NEWSLETTER

### MARCH 2018

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

Priest: **The Reverend Peter Down**, The Rectory, Vicarage Street, Tintinhull (829058)

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

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### *Dear Friends,*

I hope that Lent is going well for you. We're two weeks down and four and half more weeks to go. If you haven't already it's not too late to join in with one of our bible study and prayer meetings. They're held in All Saints', Yeovil Marsh on Tuesdays at 10.30 am, in St Mary's, Chilthorne Domer on Wednesdays at 2.30 pm and in St Margaret's, Tintinhull on Thursdays at 7.30 pm. Lent talks at St Peter's and St Paul's, Lufton on Wednesdays at 7.30 pm start on 28<sup>th</sup> February for 4 weeks. The theme of the talks is **Patriarchs, Prophets and Kings**.

It may be that you've given something up for Lent – chocolates, cakes, wine, biscuits – and I hope that you feel it's doing you good. There are many ways that giving things up can benefit us – making us feel a bit fitter (or slimmer!), putting a bit of extra change in our purse, giving us a bit more times to do other things that are important to us or helpful to other people. Lent is about many things and one of them is about getting things in the right perspective in our life. Giving up something can help us to value it all the more, it make us realise how fortunate we are and, consequently, how unfortunate some other people are. Many people during Lent collect money for charities and our Bishops are urging us to do that during Lent. They

have launched the *Bishops' Lent Appeal 2018*. They are asking churches throughout the diocese to raise money to support Lay Ministry in the Diocese of Bath & Wells and in our partner dioceses in Zambia in Africa. The diocese has had a long-standing relationship with the Church in Zambia with exchanges and encouragement and support flowing in both directions. We are holding a collection for the appeal on Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> March in our churches. There will be bowls for donations and gift aid envelopes will be available if you are a tax payer and would like to gift aid your donation. If you prefer you can make a donation online by searching for "Bath and Wells My Donate" or you can text BISH18 and your donation amount to 70070. (To donate £10 your text should read "BISH18 £10.)

25% of the money raised will be set aside to support innovative, lay-led mission initiatives in the Diocese of Bath & Wells.

25% will be set aside to help individuals training for lay ministry roles to pay for books, study materials and travel expenses in the diocese.

50% will directly support lay ministry programmes in the five Anglican dioceses of Zambia.

Lay ministry is increasingly important in the church today. In our benefice we can see how important it is in the way that we are supported by our two lay readers, Sallyann Batstone and Norman Preston.

But there are many other roles that lay people can play, and will need to, if our churches are to grow. A particular focus for us in the future will be in our ministry to the new estates at Brimsmore and Lufton, and no less importantly, in the villages as our population grows. Do support the Appeal if you can, either in church or online or by text.

*Yours in Christ, Fr Peter*

***A letter from the Right Reverend Peter Hancock, Bishop of Bath and Wells: Making Space***

I remember my father once saying ‘as you get older the seconds seem longer, but the years go by faster.’ I think he was right. Perhaps that’s your experience too? In March 2014 I officially became the Bishop of Bath and Wells and began to ‘take up the reins’ and it’s two years since I was appointed the Lead Bishop for Safeguarding. The time has flown by. Even more amazing is that this year I shall have been ordained for 38 years and I thank God for all that he has enabled me to see and do through those years. In my study there’s a picture of a much-younger me, taken at my ordination in 1980. Looking at it reminds me of the Lord’s grace and goodness to me and to Jane through those years.

I will be taking some time some study leave in May and June this year. At one time these were called ‘sabbaticals’ and that word is from the same root as ‘Sabbath’, which means to take time to rest. I am particularly grateful to Bishop Ruth and the Bishop’s Staff who have encouraged me to take this time, especially as it will mean they will have to ‘keep an eye on the shop’. This will give me an opportunity to spend time reading and reflecting on what God may be saying about the priorities and opportunities for the diocese and the wider Church - and time to pray and think more about the challenges which lie ahead of us. During this time Jane and I have arranged to go to Israel. Neither of us has been there before and that in itself will be a wonderful experience.

In the midst of busy, noisy and often crowded lives it is hard at times to make space to read and to pray, to make time to listen to God and to build our relationship with him. I am sure that having this

precious gift of time will mean that I return renewed and refreshed for all that lies ahead as together we seek to live and tell the story of Jesus. Taking care of our spiritual lives is something we all need to do and Jesus took time to be apart with his Heavenly Father. I know not everyone can take study leave, but even a half day will often help to charge the ‘spiritual batteries’. I look forward to sharing with you some of what I have learnt when I get back to the desk.

*With warm Christian greetings Peter +  
Bishop of Bath and Wells*

## **NEWS FROM THE PARISHES**

**Lent 2018** – A series of four **Lent Talks** at St Peter & St Paul, Lufton, 7.30 pm on Wednesdays, beginning on 28<sup>th</sup> February

A series of five **Prayer and Bible Study Sessions** at St Margaret’s, Tintinhull, 7.30 pm on Thursdays, starting on 22<sup>nd</sup> February, at St Mary’s, Chilthorne Domer, 2.30 pm on Wednesdays, starting on 21<sup>st</sup> February and at All Saints’, Yeovil Marsh at 10.30 am on Tuesdays, starting on 20<sup>th</sup> February.

### **CHILTHORNE DOMER**

From Carol Cook: “**Remembrance lilies at St Mary’s**. If you would like to remember someone with an Easter lily, please leave your donation together with the names of family and friends to be remembered at Pound Cottage, next to the church by 25th March. Thank you, Carol”

From Jill Coe: “Thank you to everyone who came and supported our Jumble Sale on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> for “children in Distress”, Romania. We had a wonderful turnout and made £313 profit. The money has been sent to the charity.”

### **TINTINHULL**

**Lent Lunches:** All are welcome from noon until 2pm on Thursday, 8<sup>th</sup> March at Leaches Farm, Vicarage Street, - let Richard Gowring know if you’re coming (824039).

Thursday, 15th March at St Margaret’s School—a **12 noon start** to prompt finish at 1pm. Let Richard Gowring know if you are coming. Please give the hosts a couple of days notice to help with catering.

**From John Gower:** “I am sure you will know that Jill Harris died peacefully recently. She did so much for the village and

even more for the Church. She was a long standing member of the Choir, helped with Sunday School in the past, ran raffles at the post office and at fund raising events. She will be remembered for founding the Poetry and Prose evenings and organising them for about 20 years. She will be sadly missed and our condolences go out to all her family. Pleased to say **Moonraker** is a sell out and we are all looking forward to a great evening."

**From Ray Cozens:** "Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2pm that's the date of **The Fifteenth Spring Flower, Handicraft and Home craft Show**. Show schedules and entry forms are available from Ray Cozens, Little Crofton Yeovil Road Tintinhull or Tintinhull WMC at the Wednesday morning Post Office or Tintinhull Village Hall coffee shop when open. Please support this event, new classes to suit everyone and new trophies this year. Be in it to win it."

**Flowers in St Margaret's Church Hilary Cozens writes:**"You might like to consider making a donation towards Easter lilies in St Margaret's church in memory of loved ones. Just put your offering in an envelope with details of the person to be remembered. You can give it to husband Ray or pop it through my door (Little Crofton, Yeovil Road).

You'll know by now that TOG group are organising open gardens in Tintinhull on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> June this year. I have encouraged our church flower arrangers to offer to decorate St Margaret's with flowers for that weekend in a special effort to join in - eight ladies have volunteered! If you and your neighbours are not opening your gardens this year could you possibly let one of the flower arrangers come to pick greenery and flowers from your garden a day or two before the event so they can be arranged on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> June? It would be lovely to see the church full of flowers grown by villagers. **Interested? I do so hope that you might be;** please let me know soon so that I can marry up Arrangers with gardens. Contact details top of this Newsletter."

**From the Register:** January 30<sup>th</sup> – Funeral of Cherry Isaacs at St Margaret's ; February 9<sup>th</sup> – Funeral of Jill Harris at St Margaret's and

February 18<sup>th</sup> – Baptism of Charlie Mark Alfred Dowding at St Margaret's. Pray for them and their families and friends.

## YEOVIL MARSH

**From Mick Kane:** "as Christians we are asked to be the light of the world, and this thought came to me a few weeks ago. If we are to shine a light into the world then we need to be sure that our light is fit for purpose. If we check the plug the live wire needs to be on the right at the end of the fuse connection. the neutral has to be on the left and the earth has to be connected to the large pin at the top , we also need a fuse in order for the power to flow. If we see this as our relationship with God, He is the live wire, Jesus is the earth because everything was made through him and we are the neutral, we have times when we are near to God and times when we are worldly, we tend to be in the shadows between the light and the dark, sort of sitting on the fence. If we see our faith as the fuse then everything is in place for the power of God to flow through us, the only other thing required is for us to turn the power on. We can do this by stepping out in the belief that God wants us to speak to others about our faith in Jesus or in praying for or with people for the needs they have in their lives. During this period of lent instead of giving up earthly pleasures of cake or chocolate or other forms of enjoyment or comfort, how about us all trying to give up living in the shadows by stepping out into the light.

## LUFTON

**Susan Collins writes:** "Our Church improvements are going extremely well thanks to Francis Burroughes' organisation and hard work. Lent is traditionally a time of quiet reflection and contemplation – not necessarily a time of giving something up, but of giving out, perhaps – of generosity of spirit. A time of preparation for the Easter Celebration of Christ's Resurrection, in glory, to save us. Please contact one of the Church key holders should you wish for private, quiet time in the Church. On Sunday, 1<sup>st</sup> April we celebrate Holy Communion at 6 pm. All are most welcome at our services and talks. See reverse for details"

## SERVICES DURING MARCH 2018

<b>Day</b>	<b>Tintinhull</b>	<b>Chilthorne Domer</b>	<b>Lufton</b>	<b>Yeovil Marsh</b>	<b>Thorne Coffin</b>
March 4 <sup>th</sup> Lent 3		10.30 am Benefice Eucharist	6 pm Evensong (BCP)		
March 6 <sup>th</sup>		10 am Eucharist (BCP)			
March 11 <sup>th</sup> Lent 4 Mothering Sunday	8 am Eucharist (BCP) 10.45 am Together4God	10.45 am Matins	6 pm Evensong	6 pm Evening Worship	4 pm Evensong
March 18 <sup>th</sup> Lent 5	9.15 am Parish Eucharist	10.45 am Parish Eucharist	6 pm Evensong	10.45 am Morning Worship at the Elms	
March 25 <sup>th</sup> Palm Sunday	9.15 am Parish Eucharist	10.45 am Matins	6 pm Eucharist (BCP)	10.45 am Parish Eucharist	
March 26 <sup>th</sup> Monday in Holy Week		7.30 pm Eucharist			
March 27 <sup>th</sup> Tuesday in Holy Week			7.30 pm Eucharist (BCP)		
March 28 <sup>th</sup> Wednesday in Holy Week				7.30 pm Eucharist	
March 29 <sup>th</sup> Maundy Thursday	7.30 pm Eucharist of the Last Supper				
March 30 <sup>th</sup> Good Friday	10.30 am Together4God	12 noon Good Friday Liturgy	2 pm The Last Hour	2 pm Good Friday Prayer & Praise	4 pm Evening Prayer
March 31 <sup>st</sup> Easter Eve				8.30 pm Vigil and First Eucharist of Easter	
April 1 <sup>st</sup> Easter Day	9.15 am Easter Eucharist	10.45 pm Easter Eucharist	6 pm Easter Eucharist (BCP)		8 am Easter Eucharist