

SIX PARISHES NEWSLETTER



for
St Giles' Church. Badger
St Milburga's Church. Beckbury
St Andrew's Church. Ryton



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Rota of Services in the 6 Parishes – March 2016

Sunday	Badger	Beckbury	Ryton	Kemberton	Stockton	Sutton Maddock
March 6 th Mothering Sunday		10am Family Service LT				11am Communion KH (new)
March 13 th	9.30am Communion KH (trad)		9.30am Morning Worship LT	11am Morning Worship KH		
March 20 th Palm Sunday		9.30am Communion KH (new)				11am Matins KH
March 27 th Easter Sunday	9am Communion KH	10am Communion KH	9.30am Communion NM	11am Communion NM	11.30am Communion TD/KH	11am Communion KH

KH - Revd Keith Hodson;

NM - Revd Nene Mason;

TD - Tina Dalton;

LT - Local Team

PRAYER OF THE MONTH (for Mothering Sunday)

God of love, passionate and strong, tender and careful,
Watch over us and hold us all the days of our life
Through Jesus Christ our Lord

Amen



Next Newsletter

Contributions for next month's newsletter to either –

David Tooth at Havenside, Beckbury – 01952 750324. Email - david.tooth2@btinternet.com

Or Ruth Ferguson at Tarltons, Beckbury – 01952 750267 not later than 14th of this month, please.



FROM THE RECTORY

Dear friends,

“It may take some time”. Here is a lovely understatement, as the Archbishop of Canterbury announced to journalists in January that he was engaged in discussions to fix the date of Easter (at least put it on a particular Sunday in April).

Easter Sunday can vary from March 22nd to April 25th because back in 325AD a conference of bishops agreed that Easter should be celebrated on the first Sunday after the full moon after the spring equinox (March 21st). It sounds rather pagan that the Church should follow the movements of the moon and the sun. But the date of the Jewish Passover Festival when Jesus was crucified was determined in their calendar on the cycle of the moon. The Church back in 325AD thought that Easter should remain linked to the Passover festival.

This year Easter is “early” – on 27th March. Other years it is “late”. This is disruptive for schools linking their holidays to Easter. We in church also have to check each year when Easter falls so we can plan our Sunday services.

Pope Francis has been discussing the issue with his council; and the Orthodox Church has also been involved in recent discussions (who add an extra dimension to the debate because they use the old calendar, not our Gregorian Calendar; so they celebrate Christmas and Easter a week later than the Churches in the West).

But fixing Easter has been discussed in the Church since the 10th Century – hence the archbishop’s comment that *“it may take some time”*. I was surprised to learn that there is an [Easter Act 1928](#) passed by the UK parliament fixing Easter on the Sunday after the second Saturday of April. However, the act has never been implemented, and successive governments have left it to the churches to agree any such change.

The archbishop would like to see this happen before he retires, and while it makes sense to most of us, there are leaders in churches in other countries with traditions and strongly held views that are different to ours. That might seem odd to us – but would you for instance like Christmas to be moved to a fixed day of the week rather than 25th December? I can imagine different opinions on that proposal!

This year Easter Sunday is 27th March. The Church retells the story of the empty tomb and the appearance of the risen Jesus to his friends. So we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus, his presence with us today, and the reason for our Christian hope : something that we can indeed do every day

Wishing you all the joy of Easter

Keith Hodson

DIARY DATES FOR March

Wednesday 2 nd	10am	Prayers on Wednesday
Wednesday 2 nd	7.30pm	Beckbury Parish Council meet in Beckbury Village Hall
Sunday 6 th	10am	Mothering Sunday Service at Beckbury Church
Tuesday 8 th	2pm	Friendship Club meet in Beckbury Village Hall
Wednesday 9 th	12 noon	Lent Lunches provided by the Six Parishes at Trinity Methodist Church, Shifnal
Wednesday 9 th	7.30pm	Ryton & Grindle Parish Council meet in St Andrew's Church, Ryton
Saturday 12 th	7.30pm	Stockton Church Quiz Night at Norton Village Hall
Wednesday 16 th	10am	Prayers on Wednesday
Sunday 27 th		Easter Sunday – see front cover for services
Sunday 3 rd April		Memorial Services at Beckbury and Sutton Maddock



CHURCH NEWS

£200.00 was sent to the **Children's Society** from our winter collection and donations.

Lent Lunches continue to be served at Trinity Methodist Church on Wednesdays, which started on 17th February. The Six Parishes are responsible for making and serving soup on 9th March. Please contact either Angela Chatham or Jacky Butlin.

The **Mothering Sunday** family service at Beckbury begins at 10am.

Good Friday Devotional Services are at 1pm Badger and 7pm Beckbury.

Easter Services for 27th March are detailed in the Services Rota in this newsletter.

On 3rd April we have our annual **Memorial Services** at Sutton Maddock 11am and Beckbury at 4pm, when we remember those who have passed away, especially in the last twelve months.

BAPTISMS

Congratulations to Alfred Billy-Joe, son of Amanda Gunnell, who was baptised at Sutton Maddock Church on 6th February 2016.

Congratulations to Lola Eileen Harris, daughter of Cole and Sarah Harris, who was baptised at Ryton Church on 21st February 2016.

CONDOLENCES

We extend our sympathies to the family of the late Dianne Stokes of Dawley, aged 70, whose ashes were interred at Sutton Maddock Church on 23rd January 2016.

BECKBURY CHURCH - ALTAR FLOWERS ROTA 2016

6 th March	Mothering Sunday – Children from Beckbury School		
3 rd April	Pam Jenks	10 th April	Pam Jenks
17 th April	Sheila Smith	24 th April	Sheila Smith
1 st May	Jean Wood	8 th May	Jean Wood
15 th May	Margaret Pringle-Scott		
22 nd May	Rosemary Wood	29 th May	Rosemary Wood
5 th June	Anne Evans	12 th June	Anne Evans
19 th June	Father's Day – Children from Beckbury School		
26 th June	Freda Breeze		
3 rd July	Beryl Tooth	10 th July	Beryl Tooth
17 th July	Frances Hodson		
24 th July	Janet Solari	31 st July	Janet Solari

If there are any ladies who would be willing to help with altar flowers or perhaps decorate one of the windows in the church for Easter Sunday on 27th March your contribution would be much appreciated. For further details please contact Sonia Handley on 01952 750410 or email Sonia/h13@icloud.com.

SINGERS WANTED

Sometimes irreverently known as 'Rock's Chicks', the Six Parishes Occasional Singers (SPOCS) were formed in 2009. The brainchild of lay reader Bob Hodgins, they are an upper-voice ladies choir, who meet most Mondays for an hour's rehearsal and lead the singing at a service somewhere in the Six Parishes around once a month. While they may stretch themselves occasionally and sing in three parts unaccompanied, much of the music is in two parts with organ support. One enjoyable experience that remains in the memory is a performance of Geoffrey Burgon's *Nunc Dimittis* – with solo trumpet! The services are often those marking the Church's Year. Christmas and Passiontide for example, while the summer term is enlivened by a Sung Evensong and by a "Songs of Praise". For many, the highlight is a visit to Lichfield Cathedral, where, in company with other choirs from all over the diocese, they take part in a Festival Service, giving them a chance to mingle with the men (vocally, at least).

They are always on the lookout for new members to join them. Maybe you've just moved into the area, or perhaps you're a long-standing resident. If you enjoy singing in church, come and join them. You will receive a warm welcome and be well looked after. Any choir member will be happy to give you further details, or you can interrogate the rector or contact the choir director direct (rockbattye@yahoo.com).

SIX PARISHES FRIENDSHIP CLUB

Bingo and a chat were promised for our February meeting and how the members enjoyed first the game and then the chance to talk about anything and everything and, my goodness, how time did fly, it was surprising how many members stopped and said how much they enjoyed the afternoon.

For our next meeting on Tuesday 8th March we will be holding a TABLE TOP OLYMPIC afternoon where you may be asked to play against a friend to beat the Tower of Babel, race against a boa constrictor up a ladder, you could be counting pips on a tile or play for tricks with cards. In short we shall be playing all sorts of games that can be done sitting down, so even if you are not a member why not join us for a pleasant afternoon

BECKBURY PARISH COUNCIL

The Council met on Wednesday 3rd February.

Diane Rawstorne attended the start of the meeting to update the Council on progress with the Community Shop project. Draft plans are available for a small shop building adjacent to the village hall and the set up costs are being evaluated. The Plunkett Foundation has awarded a £2,000 grant to help set up the business structure.

The Chairman reported that a meeting had been held with Miss Docherty, the Lead Teacher, to discuss the problem of car parking on Badger Road outside the school and agreement was reached to erect a new notice on the school gate to encourage parents to make use of the car park.

Progress has been made with the connection to fibre broadband and it is hoped this will be available in March.

The condition of the passing places on local lanes was discussed, the Chairman reported that the dangerous passing place on Badger Road is due to be repaired in March, when Snowdon Lane is also to be closed for road repairs. The Council agreed to conduct a review of other passing places in the Parish.

The non-payment of rents and water rates for the allotments was raised and will be taken up formally with the Allotment Society.

The Beckbury war memorial has been awarded grade II listed building status.

STOCKTON CHURCH PCC

Are holding a quiz night on **Saturday 12th March**
at Norton Village Hall, starting at 7.30pm.

A fish and chip supper will be served during the evening,
and the bar will be open!

So get together with some friends for a good evening out!
Ideally teams of four, but teams can be 'assembled' on the night'

For further details please phone Hilary on 01952 730205.

BEWARE OF THIS CUSTOMS PARCEL SCAM SUPPOSEDLY FROM ROYAL MAIL

Fraudsters are sending out virus infected emails that claim a package has been seized by HM Revenue & Customs upon arrival into the United Kingdom. The official looking scam emails claiming to be from Royal Mail contain a link to a document which will install malicious software on to your computer designed to steal credentials like account names, email addresses and passwords.

An example reads:

Title: Your parcel has been seized.

Royal Mail is sorry to inform you that a package addressed to you was seized by HM Revenue & Customs upon arrival into the United Kingdom. A close inspection deemed your items as counterfeit and the manufacturers have been notified. If your items are declared genuine then they will be returned back to you with the appropriate custom charges.

You may have been a victim of counterfeit merchandise and the RM Group UK will notify you on how to get your money back. Please review the attached PDF document for more information.

Document (RM700213GB).Zip

Please accept our apologies for any inconvenience this may have caused.

To help the spread of the virus, the email also says: “you will need to have access to a computer to download and open the Zip file”. If you receive one of these emails, do not click on any links or download any attachments, and report it to Action Fraud.

Protect Yourself

- Royal Mail will never send an email asking for credit card numbers or other personal or confidential information.
- Royal Mail will never ask customers to enter information on a page that isn't part of the Royal Mail website.
- Royal Mail will never include attachments unless the email was solicited by a customer e.g. customer has contacted Royal Mail with an enquiry or has signed up for updates from Royal Mail.
- Royal Mail have stressed that they do not receive a person's email address as part of any home shopping experience.

If you believe that you have been a victim of fraud you can report it online:

http://www.actionfraud.police.uk/report_fraud

NON-EMERGENCY PATIENT TRANSPORT TRANSPORT OPTIONS FOR PATIENTS IN SHROPSHIRE, TELFORD AND WREKIN

Do you have a medical condition which prevents you from using other forms of transport?

If you are registered with a GP in Shropshire or Telford and Wrekin and have been referred for a hospital or another medical appointment, you might be eligible for help with non-emergency patient transport (NEPT),

To find out if you are eligible, please call: 01743 762650.

The NEPT service in Shropshire, Telford and Wrekin is provided by Medical Services.