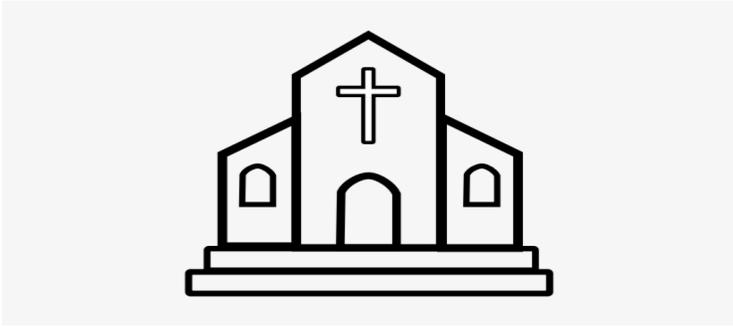


Berkeley Benefice Herald



**The Benefice magazine for
All Saints', Stone & Woodford,
St Mary the Virgin, Berkeley with Breadstone,
Wick & Newport,
and
St Michael's, Hill
June 2022 edition**

About the Herald.....

The Herald is back. After almost three years we felt it was time to bring back this valuable source of information but with a difference. We all like to access information in different ways. There are those who have missed the old magazine, printed on paper, something which can be read with a cup of tea or coffee, then kept for convenience. Others enjoy the new way we have grown to accept communication over the last few years, the email, popping into the Inbox just at the right time.

The Berkeley Benefice Herald will be available each month by email, on our website and in print from each of our churches. There will be no need to subscribe, although you can join the email list if you wish. It is information about our Benefice, for our Benefice, and with no charge.

Our hope is that the Berkeley Benefice Herald will grow over the next few months, with more articles, a wider range of content, and more information about the exciting events in our churches.

If you have information to be included in future editions, please send it to our editing team by the 14th of the month prior to publication. The next deadline will be 14th June for the July edition. Please send articles by email with the word Herald in the title to: revsteve.berkeleybenefice@gmail.com

We reserve the right to edit the content submissions.

Pentecost

We have moved from the season of Easter with its new life and hope to the season of Pentecost, the excitement of the arrival of God's Spirit. The promise of the Holy Spirit, the Comforter, the fulfilment of Jesus promise (John 16), the intimate breath of Christ (John 20.22), and the power which shook the world (Acts 2). We celebrate the moment when the church of God, His body on earth was formed and born. To mark this season, we have a poem from Alice.

*When the Holy Spirit comes, will it be like a rushing wind
Flowing, engulfing, roaring in the ears;
Sweeping away the old life and empowering the new,
Suddenly?*

*Will there be tongues of fire searing and purifying heart, soul, lips,
So a torrent of intimate, ecstatic language
Bursts forth in praise?*

*Or will it come to rest as gently as a dove,
And remain quietly, patiently nurturing,
Imparting its gifts to the soul?*

Will it come at all?

*Is it here already?
Has it seeped into the soul unseen,
Through prayer, trust, and faith?*

*Whenever, whatever;
May the Holy Spirit be our guide, strength and conscience.
God's voice in all the confusion.
And may we learn to listen ever more closely to its words.*

Services in June

Wednesday 1st

11am Coffee & Communion at St Mary's, Berkeley

Sunday 5th Pentecost Sunday

10.30am Jubilee Communion at All Saints', Stone

11am Jubilee 'Eleven' at St Mary's, Berkeley

6pm Jubilee Choral Evensong at St Mary's, Berkeley

Sunday 12th Trinity Sunday

9.30am Communion with Baptism at St Mary's Berkeley

11am Family Service & Baptism at All Saints', Stone

6pm Café Church at St Mary's, Berkeley

Sunday 19th Seeing things God's way 1 - Courage

9.30am Communion at All Saints', Stone

11am Communion at St Michael's, Hill

11am 'Eleven' with Baptism at St Mary's Berkeley

6pm Evening Prayer at St Mary's, Berkeley

Sunday 26th Seeing things God's way 2 - Wisdom

8am BCP Communion at St Mary's, Berkeley

9.30am Choral Morning Prayer at St Mary's, Berkeley

Benefice tent at the Berkeley Show including 'Soak the Vicar'.

Services in July

Sunday 3rd Seeing things God's way 3 - Salvation

- 9.30am Communion at All Saints', Stone
11am 'Eleven' with Baptism at St Mary's, Berkeley
6pm Choral Evensong at St Mary's, Berkeley

Wednesday 6th

- 11am Coffee & Communion at St Mary's, Berkeley

Sunday 10th Seeing things God's way 4 - Humility

- 9.30am Communion at St Mary's Berkeley
6pm Café Church Special at St Mary's, Berkeley
 Ask the Vicar

Sunday 17th Seeing things God's way 5 - Dominion

- 9.30am Communion with Baptism at All Saints', Stone
11am Morning Prayer at St Michael's, Hill
11am 'Eleven' at St Mary's Berkeley
6pm Evening Prayer at St Mary's, Berkeley

Sunday 24th Seeing things God's way 6 - Endurance

- 8am BCP Communion at St Mary's, Berkeley
9.30am Choral Morning Prayer at St Mary's, Berkeley
11am 'Eleven' with Communion at St Mary's, Berkeley

Sunday 31st Benefice Communion with guest speaker

- 10.30am Communion at St Mary's Berkeley

What's On in June

Friday 3rd June

2pm – 4pm

Woodford Silver Band at All Saints', Stone
Jubilee Tea & cakes in the churchyard whilst
enjoying the music. (Please bring your own
seating)

Saturday 4th June

7pm – 9pm

Phoenix Singers at All Saints', Stone
Jubilee community Sing-along.

Sunday 5th June

2pm – 5pm

Hill Cream Teas at the Village Hall, Hill

Saturday 11th June

7.30pm

Thornbury Orchestra at St Mary's, Berkeley
Summer concert in aid of SARA, performing
pieces from composers Tchaikovsky, Smetana,
Dvorak, & Vaughan Williams. Tickets are £10 on
the door in advance from

www.thornburyorchestra.org.uk

Sunday 26th June

All day event

Berkeley Show in Berkeley Castle Meadow
Featuring Bubbles Inc, Ben Atkinson Liberty Show,
Shetland Pony racing, the Severn Vale Beagles, the
Berkeley Fox hounds, & a Dog show. Musical
entertainment including Bob Fitzgerald. For more
information go to www.berkeleyshow.co.uk

Sunday 3rd July

2pm – 5pm

Hill Cream Teas at the Village Hall, Hill

More than you'd expect

As we wave goodbye to the last two years of lockdown and COVID measures, with two vacancies behind us, it is exciting to see the worship in the Benefice grow. We now have a wide range of service styles to cater for all tastes. As we move through the summer, then on into autumn a new pattern will begin to develop.

Our more traditional Communion services will mostly be finding a home at the slightly earlier time of 9.30 on a Sunday. BCP Communion is making a comeback at 8am on the fourth Sunday of the month. In the evening, there is a monthly Choral Evensong and Evening Prayer. If you would like to join our choir please contact David Furnival.

The more contemporary minded will find opportunity to worship with 'Eleven' expanding to three Sundays in the month, as well as our relatively new Café Church. After the success of our Good Friday Messy Church, the team will be exploring new dates for future events and hopefully we will be able to let you know about this in the July issue.

There are many places to meet friends for coffee or tea in the benefice, but many of these are restricted by space. We have started a Toddler Café in Berkeley every Tuesday morning for those looking after preschool children to enjoy a piece of cake and a coffee or tea, whilst meeting and chatting with others. There are suitable toys and lots of space for children to enjoy. And we can't overlook our monthly Coffee and Communion service every first Wednesday morning of the month.

So there is a lot more than you would expect going on in the Benefice, and if you'd like to get involved, to help serve refreshments, read a lesson in a service or you have a great idea to satisfy a need for the community, do get in touch.

The Messenger, June 2022

Cliffords Mesne Counts on Nature

What are you doing for your #EcoChurchInAnHour this week?

Churches Count on Nature runs from 4 to 12 June and is a time when churches are encouraged to open their burial grounds to the public and encourage people to appreciate and record the nature they find there.

Taking part involves you in some way opening your churchyard to the local community, identifying and registering the wildlife and plants that they find there onto the Beautiful Burial Ground Portal at <https://burialgrounds.nbnatlas.org/>.

St Peter's Church at Clifford's Mesne is managing its churchyard for wildlife, people and environmental benefits and is working towards its silver Eco Church Award. (Watch the video at www.youtube.com/watch?v=aN0977vvS-E)

Churchwarden Nell Credland spoke about the difficulties in balancing opinions in the local community between those who like the grass in the churchyard to be mown short and those who prefer it to be managed for wildflowers.

Local volunteer Simon Barker enjoys using his skills for the site. He said, "I am a professional ecologist, a nature conservation advisor for the National Trust, but what I'm doing here is ... entirely voluntary as an interested member of the local community and someone who appreciates having this fantastic resource almost literally on their doorstep.

"97 per cent of old meadows and grasslands have been lost over the last 60 to 70 years, so I think collectively churchyards do add up to a really valuable resource for biodiversity and for carbon storage."

Under Simon's guidance, the PCC changed the mowing regime to allow more time and space for wildflowers to grow. It's naturally very free draining and infertile soil which helps the diversity of plants, with over 100 species now having been recorded in the churchyard. They have also noticed a marked difference in the diversity of insects in the churchyard."

Take part with your church – find out more at caringforgodsacre.org.uk/resources-for-love-your-burial-ground-churches-count-on-nature-week and sign up for Eco Church In An Hour at gloucester.anglican.org/eco-church-in-an-hour/

Thy Kingdom Come, 26 May to 5 June

Pray for five people you know

Thy Kingdom Come is a global prayer movement that invites Christians around the world to pray from Ascension to Pentecost for more people to come to know Jesus. Christians are encouraged to choose five people to pray for every day for the 11 days.

Remind yourself of the people you are praying for by writing their names on smooth stones, tying knots in a cord or putting their names on Post-It notes and sticking them around your home.

You could pray while you brush your teeth, while you're on the train or while you enjoy a cup of tea first thing in the morning. Connect with the five people you choose – perhaps invite them out for a drink, send them a card to let them know you're thinking of them or even ask them to church. Find out more at www.thykingdomcome.global

Messy Church Goes Wild

Introducing a fantastic new offering from Messy Church, in partnership with the Diocese of Gloucester.

Pack a picnic and book your place as Messy Church Goes Wild brings you all the best in intergenerational fun, at the Christian Adventure Centre in Viney Hill, 17 September, 11am to 4pm.

Using mostly the outdoor space at Viney Hill, activities will focus on exploring nature, and what we learn about God from noticing creation.

A fun and engaging day for all involved, both families and those engaged in running Messy Churches.

Experience ideas and activities to inspire you to try them out in your own patch. Leaders can show how they can try this in their own community, in an optional half-hour leaders' information session.

Messy Church Goes Wild is the movement within Messy Church which aims to encourage Messy Churches to meet God outdoors, love the natural world, experience a sense of awe and wonder there, and be more eco-aware in all we do for the good of the planet.

Come as a family, or a Messy Church group with leaders. Book your free space here by the end of June <https://bit.ly/3MSDepl>

Events and training

Jubilee Jazz evening with fish and chips St David's Moreton in Marsh, 7pm

The Hot Fingers group will be playing music from the swing era of the 20s and 30s. For more information email mjrees39@mail.com

Jubilee parade, celebration service and Big Jubilee Lunch Sunday 5 June, starting at The Triangle, Cinderford at 10.30am

A free family-friendly event filled with celebration, food and drink, local entertainment, a service to celebrate The Queen's life of service, then a picnic on the lawn at St Stephen's, with opportunities to buy food and drink (or bring your own) plus crafts and games.

www.cinderford-churches.org.uk

Jubilee Tea Dance Sunday 5 June at 3 pm at Discover De Crypt, Gloucester

Live music from the Tea Dance Band and expert dance tutors from Gloster Swing Dance. There'll be Fairtrade tea with homemade cakes served on a vintage tea service.

<https://discoverdecrypt.org.uk/event/the-jubilee-tea-dance/>

Service of Thanksgiving to mark The Queen's extraordinary life of service and faith Gloucester Cathedral

Monday 6 June at 5.30pm

The service will gather up all the community celebrations of the half term and Jubilee Weekend providing an opportunity to reflect on this remarkable moment in our history. <https://gloucestercathedral.org.uk/whats-on/the-queen-s-platinum-jubilee>

Have your say

Visit Facebook f/Diocese.of.Gloucester, email Katherine at kclamp@glosdioc.org.uk, follow us on Twitter @glosdioc, view videos on YouTube Diocese of Gloucester or visit our website Gloucester.anglican.org

Who's who?

All Saints', Stone

Churchwardens	Andy Fryer & Naomi Sargent
PCC Secretary	Eirian Vaughan Lewis

St Mary the Virgin, Berkeley

Churchwardens	David Bainbridge, Julian Dobson, Jenny Frith, & David Furnival
PCC Secretary	Debbie Page

St Michael's, Hill

Churchwardens	Mark Baimbridge & Jane Jenner Fust
PCC Secretary	Jenny Grey

How do I contact the Vicar?

Rev Steve Godsell
Priest in Charge

Email: revsteve.berkeleybenefice@gmail.com

Call: 01453 810294

(Not Thursdays unless in emergency)

Deadline for the July edition of the Berkeley Benefice Herald:
Tuesday 14th June 2022