



Cotswold Edge

May 2019

The Church Newsletter for
Marshfield, Cold Ashton,
Tormarton and West Littleton



Benefice Contacts

For information about Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals etc. please contact
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St Mary's Church, Marshfield

Churchwardens	Eric Pullin	01225 891351
	Paul White	01225 891765
PCC Secretary	Melanie Hardy	01225 891962
PCC Treasurer	Pam Mills	01225 892261
Deputy Treasurer	Mary & Robin Hammond	
Gift Aid/Giving Officer	Peter Brunyate	01225 891508
Church Bookings	Richard Shreeve	01225 891169

Holy Trinity, Cold Ashton

Churchwarden	Monica Green	01225 891669
PCC Secretary (Acting)	Jean Purnell	01225 891274
PCC Treasurer	Jean Purnell	01225 891274

St Mary Magdalene Church, Tormarton

Churchwarden	Bruce Finnamore	01454 218236
PCC Secretary	Janet Wells	01454 218549
PCC Treasurer	Jennifer Woolley	01454 323653

St James' Church, West Littleton

Churchwardens	David Adams	01225 891100
PCC Treasurer	Michael Horgan	01225 891486

Marshfield Chapel

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Cotswold Edge: Paul Sawyer 01225 891436
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Tormarton Newsletter: Diana Elliott 01454 218364
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Websites

Marshfield website

www.marshfieldchurch.org

To book Marshfield Church premises check bookings on website then contact Richard Shreeve.

Tormarton www.tormarton.org

West Littleton www.westlittleton.com

Bristol Diocese

www.bristol.anglican.org/

Church of England

www.churchofengland.org

Information on Christian Faith

www.rejesus.co.uk/

Letter from the Ministry Team

I have just read a gripping book by a couple of distinguished journalists, entitled "GOD IS BACK". They have identified a resurgence in worship throughout the world, most notably in the US and China, the two richest nations worldwide.

In America, it is a return to their roots and the legacy of the Pilgrim Fathers. Religion and politics have recovered their traditional linkage. Evangelism has come back in force; Pentecostalism has exploded nationwide. In China, the number of Christians has risen from 14 million in 1997 to 21 million in 2006. There are 55,000 Protestant and 4600 Catholic churches, countless informal "house churches" and a strong underground movement. In Africa, the number of Christians has risen from 10 million in 1900 to 400 million today.

One significant feature of all this is that progress and modernisation, which, it was assumed, would supplant superstition and clear away the "mumbo jumbo" of religious observance, seems, instead, to have made people think; and thinking has brought out the best in them, teaching them humility in contemplation of the eternal.

Interestingly, 100 million copies of the Bible are printed and distributed each year, making it the most popular book in the world!

The sad thing is that Western Europe seems to be lagging behind, Judging from figures for church attendance, numbers of Christian worshippers are still dwindling (though not, thank God, in Marshfield Benefice!) Perhaps we are still mistaking sophistication for true wisdom; perhaps we too will 'grow up' sometime soon.

I comfort myself, meanwhile, with Christ's depiction of Judgement, in which the ruler commends his worthy subjects for having fed him when he was hungry, given him to drink when he was thirsty, clothed him when he was naked, befriended him when he was sick and in prison. "When on earth did we do those things for you?" they ask. "Inasmuch as ye did it unto the least of these my brethren, ye did it unto me," is his reply. Loving care of neighbour, he implies, is a manifestation of love of God.

The people of this country are commendably generous in their charitable work and charitable giving: they pass that test triumphantly. If only they were not in such a hurry and so preoccupied with the cares and the joys of everyday living, they might rediscover the uplift of worship, and the exhilaration of giving thanks and praise to Almighty God.

Charles Keen

News from the Diocese, Deanery & Benefice

From the Benefice Registers:

Baptism

Theodore Arthur Wheeler 7th April at St. Mary the Virgin, Marshfield

Weddings & Funerals

None to date in the Benefice

Thoughts on BREXIT: Writing for the Diocesan website on 25th March, **Bishop Viv** shared these thoughts:-

“In the coming days our Members of Parliament will continue to face enormous pressure, and have to make decisions which will have a far reaching impact on our nation. The House of Commons has agreed what it does not want (exit from the EU without an agreement with the EU), and in the week ahead must try to agree what the House does want.

As Edmund Burke, the 18th century member of parliament put it to his Bristol electors, this is a time for those elected members to use their judgement, putting the future of the nation before their own futures, using their wisdom and political skill particularly with the needs of the most vulnerable in mind. I am aware that many of our parliamentarians, particularly the women, have already paid a heavy price, putting their safety and well-being at risk as they have tried to bridge the great divide there is currently.

I was living in Yorkshire during the floods of early 2016. As the River Ouse threatened to flood most of York the members of Batley Mosque drove to the city and spent the night filling sandbags. They left, without giving us a chance to thank them, at dawn. Six months later their Member of Parliament was dead, killed by a hate-filled constituent. Jo Cox, in her maiden speech, had affirmed that we are far more united and have far more in common with each other than things that divide us. Please pray for your member of parliament, that they may work, speak, decide and vote this week for the good of our nation. And please pray too for their safety.

*God of reconciling hope, as you guided your people in the past
guide us through the turmoil of the present time
and bring us to that place of flourishing
where our unity can be restored, the common good served
and all shall be made well. In the name of Jesus we pray. Amen.
(prayer written by Andrew Nunn, Dean of Southwark)*

Walk in my shoes' Project: M.A.D.4 Kids

Have your children grown out of their shoes? Many children in Zambia do not have shoes due to poverty and this makes them vulnerable to infection by parasites such as hookworm. Injuries to feet and ankles can lead to ulcers and other conditions.

As a small charity (Reg:1180390) M.A.D.4 Kids aims to make a difference to children's lives. They have launched a new project to send shoes and socks out to The Good Samaritan Ministries School in Lusaka. If you have pairs of children's school shoes or trainers (preferably size 5 up to adult size 3) and socks you would like to donate please **leave at the back of St. Mary's Church, Marshfield**. If you could also help with postage costs by sticking a pound coin to the sole of one of the shoes that would be gratefully received too but this is not essential.

Deanery Confirmation: Thursday 2nd May, 7.30 pm St.Cyriac's Church, Lacock

Please come and support Luke and Scarlett Wyatt from Cold Ashton Parish and join in a wonderful celebration as people around the Deanery take this step in faith at which Bishop Lee will preside. Refreshments after the service.

Diary, News and Events for May

Marshfield

Mothers' Union: The local branch meets on Tuesday, 21st May at 2.00 pm in Marshfield Church Hall.

Generous Giving: A big "Thank You" to all those who have given generously on the following occasions in recent weeks:-

Lent Lunches: at our Churches and Chapel raised a total of £794 to go to Tearfund's Disaster Relief for the victims of Cyclone Idia.

Open Gardens: The Clock Repair fund has been boosted by the kindness of Margaret and Ian Jones who opened their garden at Weir Cottage over the Palm Sunday weekend. This raised an amazing £762.50.

Open-Plate collections: On Mothering Sunday £266.72 was given for the work of the Rise Project (linked to our MU) for support of families in Chippenham. On Palm Sunday a collection of £284.50 was received for the work of Barnabas with Christians around the world persecuted for their faith.

Easter Lilies: The church was full of lilies for Easter in remembrance of loved ones as we celebrated the hope of Resurrection. Thank you to all who contributed towards this

Christian Aid Week, 12th-18th May: In Marshfield, during the week, there will be:-

- A publicity stall at the May Fair on Saturday, 11th May
- Open-plate collections at services at St. Mary's Church on Sunday, 12th May that will go to support Christian Aid

The monthly Coffee Morning at Marshfield Chapel on Saturday 25th May will also be in support of Christian Aid.

Advance Notice - Church Fete, 22nd June: Please put the date in your diary. This year, the proceeds will go to the Church Clock Repair Fund.

Tormarton

Advance Notice -Tormarton's Big Tea: at the Village Hall on Saturday 8th June from 2.00 pm. It features Lots of activities including a penalty shoot-out, quiz, nature trail, raffle and children's craft table plus a family rounders match and live entertainment. FREE entry (cash bar and refreshments for sale).

West Littleton

Advance Notice - Open Gardens: The gardens in West Littleton will be open on Saturday 8th and Sunday 9th June, 2.00 pm to 5.30 pm. Entry will be £5 (children free). Teas and homemade cakes will be available, as well as a plant sale. Proceeds to the church.

Cold Ashton

Cold Ashton Bible Study group: meets on Thursday, 9th May at 10.30 am. Please contact Revd Sally (892180) for more details.

Congratulations: to Scarlett and Luke Wyatt in their Confirmation at St Cyriac's Lacock on 2nd May at 7.30 pm. All are welcome.

Growing in Faith and Prayer - Home, Youth and Prayer Groups

Home Groups: during May they will meet as follows:-

- 1st & 3rd Tuesdays, 8.00 pm at 86 High St (contact Richard & Sue Shreeve, 891169)
- 1st & 3rd Thursdays, 10.30 am at Willow House, W Littleton Rd (contact Aurea & Christopher Hart, 891453).

“Tormarton Faith Matters”: An informal Discussion Group open to all. For more information on the May meeting please contact Rev. Sally Wheeler (892180) or Bruce Finnamore (01454 218236)

Edward Bear Toddler Time: This meets **every Friday** 10.30 -11.30 am at Marshfield Chapel. All pre-school children with their parents /carers are welcome.

Youth Groups:

- **Bunch** - for 8-11 yrs meets on Sunday 5th May, 5.30-6.30 pm in the Church Hall.
- **Thrive** - for 12-14 yrs meets on Sunday 5th May, 7.30-8.30 pm in the Church Hall.

Prayer Groups: These meet as follows:-

- Village Prayers - weekly on Tuesday, 10.00 am at Marshfield Chapel - except on the 2nd Tuesday when we join in the Village Communion.
- Local House of Prayer - meets weekly. If you would like more details, please contact Sue Shreeve (891169) or Mike & Celia Strathdee (891001).

Chapel Programme for May

Sun 5th	9.30 am	Prayer at Chapel
	10.30 am	Richard Drury* (Own choice)
	6.00 pm	Richard Drury (Own choice)
Sun 12th	10.30 am	Joint Service at St Mary's
	6.00 pm	Peter Foster (Come and Share)
Tues 14th	10.00 am	Village Communion at Marshfield Chapel
Sun 19th	10.30 am	Robert Simpkins (1 Cor 15:1 - 8)
	6.00 pm	Michael Paton* (John 21:15 - 23)
Sat 25th	10.30 am	Morning Coffee at Chapel
Sun 26th	10.30 am	John Schofield (Acts 1:1 - 9)
	6.00 pm	Rich Newman (Matthew 28:16 - 20)

(* Communion services- the offerings will go to “4H”)

Benefice Prayer Diary
Marshfield with Cold Ashton and Tormarton with West Littleton
MAY 2019

A Benefice Prayer

Lord, let us not labour for you in vain. Teach us to pray, deepen our fellowship, enable our ministry, strengthen our benefice, and nurture our children. That, united in Christ, we might indeed become a holy temple in which you dwell by your Spirit. Amen

Week 1: 1st-4th May During the week, please pray:-

- for those people who will be taking a step of faith at the Deanery Confirmation Service on 2nd May
- for other Christians who live in our communities but are not part of our parish churches

Week 2: 5th-11th May During the week, please pray:-

- for the people of the parish of Marshfield, its PCC and churchwardens
- for parents as they face the challenges and dilemmas of bringing up their children.
- giving thanks for the new life Jesus offers us and pray for those who have yet to experience it for themselves.

Week 3: 12th-18th May During the week, please pray :-

- in Christian Aid Week, for Christian Aid, Tearfund and other organisations that aim to show God's love in action in a needy world
- for the people of the parish of Tormarton, its PCC and churchwarden
- for the Benefice Ministry Team members - Rev Sally Wheeler, Rev Lynne Godfrey, Andrew Gammie, Aurea Hart, Charles Keen and Mike Strathdee

Week 4: 19th-25th May During the week, please pray:-

- for the people of the parish of West Littleton, its PCC and churchwarden
- for our diocesan Bishop, Vivienne Faull, our suffragan Bishop Lee Rayfield, and for the staff that support them in leading this diocese
- for all those who seek to share the Gospels "Good News" and for those who do so through the songs and hymns they are inspired to write (*the Church remembers the evangelists and hymn writers John and Charles Wesley on Friday*)

Week 5: 26th-31st May During the week, please pray:-

- for the people of the parish of Cold Ashton, its PCC and churchwarden
- for the clergy and people of our link Diocese of Mukono, Uganda
- giving thanks for Jesus, the Way, the Truth and the Life ("Without the Way there is no going; without the Truth there is no knowing; without the Life there is no living" (*Thomas A Kempis, 1380-1471, ascetic monk and writer*).

Please Note: If you would like a prayer to be included in the prayers at our Tuesday prayer group or in this Prayer Diary, please contact Paul Sawyer, 16 Fairfield Close, Marshfield (891436)

Services for May 2019

All services are from Common Worship unless otherwise stated.

Sunday 5th May (3rd Sunday of Easter)

9.00 am	Holy Communion BCP	Holy Trinity, Cold Ashton	Rev S Wheeler
10.30 am	Morning Worship*	St Mary's, Marshfield	Rev L Godfrey
10.30 am	Holy Communion	St Mary Magdalene, Tormarton	Rev S Wheeler
6.00 pm	Choral Evensong BCP	St Mary's, Marshfield	Rev S Wheeler

Sunday 12th May (4th Sunday of Easter)

9.00 am	Holy Communion BCP	St Mary's Marshfield	Rev A Kemp
10.30 am	Morning Worship*	St Mary's, Marshfield	A Gammie
10.30 am	Mattins	St James, West Littleton	C Keen
6.00 pm	Evensong BCP	St Mary's, Marshfield	A Hart
6.00 pm	Holy Communion BCP	St Mary Magdalene, Tormarton	Rev L Godfrey

Tuesday 14th May

10.30 am	Village Communion	Marshfield Chapel
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Sunday 19th May (5th Sunday of Easter)

8.30 am	Breakfast Church	St Mary's, Marshfield	A Gammie
9.00 am	Holy Communion	Holy Trinity, Cold Ashton	Rev S Wheeler
10.30 am	All Age Worship	St Mary's, Marshfield	M Strathdee
10.30 am	Family Service	St Mary Magdalene, Tormarton	Rev S Wheeler
6.00 pm	Holy Communion BCP	St Mary's, Marshfield	Rev L Godfrey

Sunday 26th May (6th Sunday of Easter - Rogation Sunday)

9.00 am	Holy Communion BCP	St James, West Littleton	Rev S Wheeler
10.30 am	Holy Communion*	St Mary's, Marshfield	Rev S Wheeler
5.00 pm	Teatime Church	Holy Trinity, Cold Ashton	Rev S Wheeler
6.00 pm	Evensong BCP	St Mary's, Marshfield	Congregation

**Kids Club at St Mary's, Marshfield*

Light of the World

Light of the world, Infiltrate my darkness.

Light of the world, restore my strength.

Light of the world, illuminate my pathway.

And grant me your peace, that I might

find my way home to you.

(From a prayer card found at St. Peter's, Chippenham)