



Cotswold Edge

October 2019

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



Benefice Contacts

For information about Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals etc. please contact
the Vicar, The Rev Sally Wheeler

The Vicarage, Church Lane, Marshfield, SN14 8NT

Tel: 01225 892180 Email: marshfield.benefice@gmail.com

Benefice Curate: Rev. Lynne Godfrey 01249 446734

Lay Ministers	Aurea Hart (LLM)	01225 891453
	Mike Strathdee (LLM)	01225 891001
	Andrew Gammie	01225 892392
	Charles Keen (LLM)	01225 892446
Benefice Safeguarding Officers	Aurea Hart	01225 891453
	Sally Kerr	01225 892126

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	Lucy Wylde	01225 892388
PCC Treasurer	Jean Purnell	01225 891274

St Mary Magdalene Church, Tormarton

Churchwarden	Bruce Finnamore	01454 218236
PCC Secretary	Janet Wells	01454 218549
PCC Treasurer (Acting)	Janet Wells	01454 218549

St James' Church, West Littleton

Churchwardens	David Adams	01225 891100
PCC Treasurer	Michael Horgan	01225 891486

Marshfield Chapel

Cotswold Edge:	David Spence	01225 891115
	Paul Sawyer	01225 891436
	<i>(deadline for items for Cotswold Edge – 15th of each month)</i>	

Tormarton Newsletter:	Diana Elliott	01454 218364
St. Mary's House, Tormarton	or email: diana.elliott@hotmail.co.uk	

Websites:

Benefice 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

Another summer has come and gone and we're well into Autumn, temperature dropping and the changing season bringing a glorious array of colour before the stark contrast of winter. I love this time of year, traditionally a time when we celebrate Harvest, stopping to reflect on the beauty of God's creation and all that is provided in his love and goodness to us. There's so much to be thankful for and yet, we take so much for granted too. How often do we stop and truly reflect on how amazing this Earth is and consider what our part might be in helping to keep it from being spoiled any more than it is already.

It's not just about what we can see either. There's so much in this world that is 'invisible' to us but which we can learn about and enjoy through the medium of technology. I have always been drawn to water, especially the sea and can spend hours just sitting and watching the movement of the water, listening to the gentle lapping or the powerful crashing of the waves as the tide ebbs and flows. During those times I often think about life under the ocean, life that we know little or, perhaps, nothing about and I'm truly awestruck at how God has put everything together. His intention being that we coexist in harmony, humans and the natural world. Yet, so much damage is being done by the irresponsible decision-making and lack of social and environmental conscience that exists across the globe.

I've been reminded once again recently, as we look to becoming an Eco-church at Marshfield, of our responsibility to be good stewards of what God, out of his love, has provided for and gifted to humankind. To take time to stop and think about what I can do to help sustain our wonderful planet, consider the changes I can make to help improve the environment. Even beginning with a small change can have an impact and is worth making in showing an appreciation of God's goodness to us and that we value the whole of his wonderful creation not just for ourselves but for the generations who'll follow on.

*Gracious Father, Creator of all,
you have blessed humankind in making us stewards of the earth.
We pray for your world, that we may share and conserve its resources,
and live in reverence for the creation and in harmony with one another,
until all things are made new in Christ our Lord. Amen.
(Taken from New Patterns of Worship)*

Rev Lynne Godfrey

News from the Diocese, Deanery & Benefice

From the Benefice Registers

There were no Baptisms in September

Weddings

Matthew Palmer & Helen Crew, 25th August at Holy Trinity, Cold Ashton

Tomas Anthony Frisby & Isabel Wharton, 7th September at Holy Trinity Cold Ashton

James Murdoch & Camilla Gladwin, 21st September at St Mary's, Marshfield

Funerals

Kenneth Andrews, 12th September at St Mary's Marshfield

Christian Persecution Abroad – Request from our MP: Local MP Luke Hall is asking for our congregation's thoughts, which he will then raise directly with ministers, on the recommendations of the Bishop of Truro's independent review of Government support for persecuted Christians. The Bishop of Truro highlights **3 key targets** for the Foreign and Commonwealth Office:

- **Making freedom of Religion or Belief central** to the Foreign and Commonwealth Office's culture, policies and international operations, such as by developing a clear framework of core values, ensuring there are mechanisms in place to facilitate an immediate response to atrocity crimes, and being prepared to impose sanctions against perpetrators of freedom of Religion or Belief abuses.
- **Using education and engagement**, to develop a religiously literate local operations approach, such as by ensuring that both general and contextual training in religious literacy and belief dynamics is undertaken in all roles where this understanding is important.
- **Strengthening joined up thinking through consistency and co-ordination**, such as by convening a working group for government departments and civil society actors to engage on this issue.

A full copy of the review can be found at:

<https://christianpersecutionreview.org.uk/storage/2019/07/final-report-and-recommendations.pdf>.

Thank you for your consideration of the above recommendations. Please pass on any thoughts to Revd Sally Wheeler.

Exploring Christianity: This is a course offered by the Diocese, providing an opportunity for you to think more deeply about your faith. It also provides a pathway for those who are considering Licensed Lay Ministry. If you would be interested in this deeper study or are wondering if you might be called to a form of ministry in the church, this maybe the course for you. Leaflets on Exploring Christianity can be found at the back of St Mary's. Alternatively, please visit the Diocese website <https://www.bristol.anglican.org/exploring-christianity/> for more information.

Lee Abbey: Come and join us for our next Benefice weekend away from **16th –18th October 2020**. Lee Abbey is set in a stunning 280-acre estate by the sea on the edge of the Exmoor National Park where we are served by their international Christian Community. The weekend is fully inclusive: the price depends on number booking but should be around £130 per person (with discounts for children).

The aim of the weekend is for everyone to return home encouraged and inspired by God – and for our church life to be strengthened Pick up a leaflet available in all four churches and please fill in the form to register an interest as soon as possible. We need an idea of numbers by the end of October 2019. *Aurea Hart* (01225 891453)

Bristol -Uganda Link 50th Celebrations: - Uganda Youth Choir are in concert at 7.30 pm on October 7th at St Andrew's Chippenham. You are invited to this joyful celebration in Chippenham - fun for all ages. Last time they came (2012) we hosted them in Marshfield Church!

Diary, News and Events for October

Marshfield

Mothers' Union: The local branch meets on **Tuesday 15th October, 2.30 pm** in the **Church Hall**.

Eco Church: is an A Rocha UK project, run in partnership with Christian Aid, The Church of England, The Methodist Church and Tearfund. The aim is to support and encourage churches in caring for God's earth in different areas of their life and work. (see www.ecochurch.arocha.org.uk)

St Mary's has signed up to act in 5 key areas:-

- Worship and teaching
- Management of church buildings
- Management of church land
- Community and global engagement
- Lifestyle

One new practical step has already been taken. Two compost bins have been installed near the tool shed in the churchyard. Constructed from unused or re-usable material, they will turn green waste from the churchyard into compost for the formal borders and for use by the community.

If you have any ideas or like to get involved, contact Peter Woodward (891995) or Bob Wheeler (892180)

Cold Ashton

Cold Ashton PCC: meets on **Tuesday 22nd October at 8.00 pm** - venue to be confirmed.

Tormarton

Harvest Celebrations: The Church Harvest Service and lunch will be held at **10:30 am** and **12 noon** respectively on **Sunday 6th October**.

This year, we would like to extend a very warm invitation to all our friends from across the Marshfield Benefice. If you are from outside Tormarton, please come as our guest. Just let us know and we will forward the complimentary lunch tickets to you.

Tickets: (adults £8; children (under 10) £4; and very young children free; are available from: Heather Gent: 01454 218223, Janet Wells: 01454 218549, or Bruce Fynamore (bruce@thefynamores.com)

Sister Teresa from the **Sisters of the Church** in Bristol will be talking about their work at the harvest service - do come and hear about what they do.

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

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

- 1st, 3rd and 5th Tuesdays, 8.00 pm at 86 High St (contact Richard & Sue Shreeve, 891169)
- 1st and 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 October 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 6th October, 5.30-6.30 pm in the Church Hall.
- **Thrive** - for 12-14 yrs meets on Sunday 6th October, 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 Blessing Prayer - meets weekly. If you would like more details, please contact Sue Shreeve (891169) or Mike & Celia Strathdee (891001).

Chapel Programme for October

Sun 6th	9.30 am	Prayer at Chapel
	10.30 am	Trevor Brain* (Acts 14:8-28)
	6.00 pm	Jim Davis (Acts 15:1 - 35)
Tues 8th	10.00 am	Village Communion at Marshfield Almshouses
Sun 13th	10.30 am	Cafe Church with Trevor Ranger
	6.00 pm	Michael Paton (Acts 16:6-15) (Eric and Rosemary Barrett)
	Sun 20th	10.30 am
	6.00 pm	John McNicol* (Acts 17:16 - 34)
Sat 26th	10.30 am	Morning Coffee at Chapel
Sun 27th	10.30 am	Tim Lewis (Acts 18:1-17)
	6.00 pm	Mike Strathdee (Acts 18:18-28))

(* Communion service - the offerings will go to Open Air Mission)

Benefice Prayer Diary
Marshfield with Cold Ashton and Tormarton with West Littleton
OCTOBER 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-5th October During the week, please pray:-

- for the people of the parish of Marshfield, its PCC, and churchwardens
- for other Christians who live in our community but are not part of our parish churches

Week 2: 6th-12th October During the week, please pray:-

- for the people of the parish of Tormarton, its PCC, and churchwarden
- giving thanks for the freedom we have to worship God publicly and without fear. Pray for those worldwide who do not enjoy such freedom.
- giving thanks for those who decorate and clean our churches week by week. Pray for those who visit our churches that they may experience God in the peace and beauty that they find

Week 3: 13th-20th October During the week, please pray :-

- for the people of the parish of West Littleton, its PCC and churchwarden
- for our linked CMS mission partners Jimmy and Katia Rocks and their family Joanna and Davi and their ministry of outreach in Brazil
- for those in prison, and also those involved in their care and resettlement. Pray also for prisoners families, also serving a sentence in a different way

Week 4: 21st-28th October During the week, please pray:-

- for the people of the parish of Cold Ashton, 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 the Benefice Ministry Team members - Rev Sally Wheeler, Rev Lynne Godfrey, Andrew Gammie, Aurea Hart, Charles Keene and Mike Strathdee

Week 5: 29th-31st October During the week, please pray:-

- the "Brexit"prayer:-

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)*

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 October 2019

All services are from Common Worship unless otherwise stated.

Sunday 6th October (16th Sunday after Trinity)

9.00 am	Harvest Holy Communion BCP	Holy Trinity, Cold Ashton	Rev S Wheeler
10.30 am	Morning Worship*	St Mary's, Marshfield	A Hart
10.30 am	Harvest Service	St Mary Magdalene, Tormarton (with the Sisters of the Church)	Rev S Wheeler
6.00 pm	Evensong BCP	St Mary's, Marshfield	Rev S Wheeler

Tuesday 8th October

10.00 am	Village Communion	Marshfield Almshouses	
----------	-------------------	-----------------------	--

Sunday 13th October (17th Sunday after Trinity)

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 BCP	St James, West Littleton	C Keen
6.00 pm	Evensong BCP	St Mary's, Marshfield	C Kemp
6.00 pm	Holy Communion BCP	St Mary Magdalene, Tormarton	Rev B Pettifer

Sunday 20th October (18th Sunday after Trinity)

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 & Baptism	St Mary's, Marshfield	Rev S Wheeler
10.30 am	Morning Worship	St Mary Magdalene, Tormarton	A Hart
6.00 pm	Holy Communion BCP	St Mary's, Marshfield	Rev L Godfrey

Sunday 27th October (Last Sunday after Trinity - Bible 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)