



## **South Cotswold Team Ministry**

### **St. Mary's Church Fairford – Newsletter**

#### **Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> October**

3.00 pm Baby Loss Service

#### **Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> October – *Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity***

10.00 am Harvest Service with Holy Communion

*Readings: Mike Godsall          Intercessions: Jane Kidd*

*Coffee: David and Sally Salter*

3.00 Confirmation

#### **Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> October – 10.30am BCP Holy Communion**

#### **Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> October – *Twentieth Sunday after Trinity – Luke the Evangelist***

10.00 am Common Worship with Holy Communion

*Readings: Fiona Gilroy          Intercessions: Lucy Hodson*

*Online worship: Rev Caroline broadcasts 9am Morning Prayer Monday-Thursday and Saturday) on Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/stmarysfairford>*

**From Caroline**

01285 712467 / [carolinesymcox@googlemail.com](mailto:carolinesymcox@googlemail.com)

Readings for Sunday: Joel 2.21-27; 1 Timothy 6.6-10; Matthew 6.25-33

This Sunday we celebrate harvest, giving thanks to God for his blessings to us. Of course, first and foremost our minds go to the agricultural harvest, which here in Fairford of course is a great work that is plainly obvious to us. The farmers among our community have been working immensely hard over the past few months (not that farming isn't incredibly hard work all the time, but the summer and early autumn are a whole new realm of tough), and the rest of us have witnessed that hard work. We've seen tractors on the roads and in the fields all hours of the day and night; we've seen the trailers loaded with grain and hay and straw; we've seen fields slowly emptying as their precious crop is brought safely home.

But harvest is more than this. We take so much from the goodness and bounty of the earth. There is the harvest of livestock, of wool, of honey, of metal and coal and minerals from the depths of the earth. There is the air that we breathe, and the water that we drink. Harvest is a time to consider the riches and goodness of all creation. To be aware of it, to give thanks for it, and to consider our own roles as stewards of the earth. How are we in our turn working with the cycles of nature to make sure they are protected and preserved?

Sometimes we can think of the thanksgiving of harvest as a relieving of fear. We might have been worried about being able to grow or produce what we need, and thus the moment when it is gathered in is a moment of relief. But notice that our readings don't really support that. We are encouraged to be thankful, yes, of course. But beyond that we are asked not to be afraid. Not because we're fine for now, but because our eyes must look beyond that fear for the everyday.

God knows that we need food, water, clothing. He knows that we are fragile creatures, who need things to live. But he asks us not to worry about those things. To work for them, yes. To put in the due effort that allows us to live, day by day. But not to worry – not to be afraid. Because it is fear that drives us toward darkness. It is fear that drives people to hoard, to refuse to share. It is fear and lack of trust that makes people squirrel away their money and resources, keeping them from the world. And it is this fear that makes us take and use more than we need from this good earth – more than it can grow back. Fear is what corrupts and twists our relationships with the world, with the whole of creation, and with each other.

Don't be afraid, God says. Be bold, be trusting, be generous, with all the gifts that he has given us. Because that is what builds the Kingdom of God.

*Rev'd Caroline*

**From Heather:**

Telephone: 01285 712428

Email address: fairfordpcc@gmail.com or [heathergorton31@gmail.com](mailto:heathergorton31@gmail.com).

My office hours are 10.00 to 1.00 Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday

I am also continuing to work from home so you can contact me at either the office or home (712428). The office is closed on Mondays and Michelle will be in on Fridays at 10.00 to 12.00.

Do please keep sending in your articles, photos and amusing stories! **Favourite recipes or garden tips welcome - do need your input!**

**Contacts**

Rev'd Caroline 01285 712467

Rev'd Canon Denise Hyde 01285 713285

Mike Godsal 01285 713101

Christine Benzie 01285 713395

Wendy Graham 01285 711765

**Please remember the following in your prayers:**

**Those that are ill:** Rev'd David Gray, Grace Slack,

**NOTICES****Church Opening Hours:**

The church is now open from 10.00 am to 5.00 pm.

**Special services coming up in October:**

**Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> 10am – Harvest Thanksgiving.** Any food gifts will be donated to the Food Bank, who are currently especially requesting tinned fish, soup, potatoes, fruit and meat; long life juice, milk and sponge pudding, and lunchbox snacks / chocolate treats for children.

**Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> 3pm – Confirmation Service.** We welcome candidates from across the Cirencester Deanery as they confirm their faith, and are blessed and anointed by Bishop Robert.

## October Services

### **Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> October**

10am Common Worship Holy Communion

### **Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> October**

10am Common Worship Holy Communion

### **Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> October**

8am BCP Holy Communion

10am Family Service

6pm Healing Service with Holy Communion

We appear to be getting back to some sort of 'normality' so I think it is time for '**Dates for the Diary**' again.

Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> November – 10.55am Remembrance Sunday

Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> November – 6.00pm Gloucestershire Arthritis Trust Advent Service

Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> December – 7.00pm Fairford and District Choral Society Concert

Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> December – 12.00pm Mike and Alison's Advent Party

### **Saturday October 23rd - St Mary's Church 'Spring Clean' at 10.00am**

Our amazing volunteers who work so hard to clean the church do an amazing job, but since the extended periods of lockdown when nobody was allowed into the church to clean, and notably the bee invasion of the late summer, that job has been made immeasurably tougher. With that in mind, we all want to lend a hand! See below for more details from the wonderful Carol Thompson.

#### *Help Needed Urgently!*

Please could all the wonderful Holy Dusters come to the Church on Saturday October 23rd at 10.00am.

Could you also bring your favourite cleaning medium – i.e. polish, dusters, cobweb brushes, also safe step ladders -- no visits to A&E please.

I will bring an iron and newspaper to melt and mop up dried candle wax.

Could any folk who are able to also bring rubber gloves and a bucket and scrubbing brush, as large areas of the church – such as those where there are squashed bees and bat guano – need really scrubbing. Also the tops of the radiators need lots of attention.

Also if you are able to bring any friends / neighbours who might be able to join a cleaning group (normally 1 hour every 6 or so weeks), that would be great. When I



first began Church cleaning in 1976 there were 12 groups so we only cleaned 4 times a year.

If you also bring a flask of coffee, I will bring the biscuits and we can meet each other socially afterwards.

Thank you all in anticipation for your continuing help.

**Carol Thompson**

Tel 712123.

### **Stewards**

With much help from various people it is good that we are almost covered for visitor stewards now the church is back to being fully opened, however we have a gap of 12 noon to 2pm on a Saturday that badly needs a volunteer or maybe two volunteers who could cover an hour each and would be pleased to hear from anyone who can help. It really is good being there and helping visitors and no knowledge is needed and Saturdays are becoming very busy once again.

### **Working for wellbeing has arrived!**



We are delighted to say we've had a huge success with our Talking Café held at Fairford community centre every Wednesday 1030am to 12pm. The Community Wellbeing coordinator is here to signpost and support you with any issues you may be experiencing within the community. We have a dedicated helpline Monday to Friday with limited hours but you will always receive a call back if you leave a message. Please contact Mary Ann on 07555738138 or email on [coordinator@working4wellbeing.org.uk](mailto:coordinator@working4wellbeing.org.uk)

We are excited to announce that we have some upcoming projects including Walking for Wellbeing - a gentle walk with refreshments by one of our volunteers. We will also be having craft evenings 'I felt fantastic' and Lynn Batemans 'What's your story?' You do not have to be an expert in either as it is for beginners. There is also get back to Active - a new partnership with local fitness teams and groups willing to put on free confidence building workouts.

Please contact the Wellbeing Coordinator (see contact info above) to book a space on any of our FREE Working for Wellbeing projects.

## **Spring Bulb Project**



Inspired by the glory of Spring flowers at my previous church in Lancashire, (photo above), Beth Bruce-Gardner and myself will be planting small daffodil & crocus bulbs in the grassy area at the front of St Mary's, between the noticeboard & the war memorial.

The aim is to enhance the entrance to the churchyard, for the enjoyment of all coming to the church or passing by. Also to enrich the area for pollinating insects at a time of year when nectar is scarce.

Our plan is to start small (1,000 bulbs) and allow them to naturalise and spread over the years (by late mowing), with the possibility of adding to, or including other areas in future. As we have been able to bulk buy the bulbs, the price has been kept to a minimum (£120).

If anyone would like to help with the planting, we are proposing the morning of Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> October, starting at 9.30 am. Please get in touch. Beth promises to bring cake!

Janet Edwards  
(meandhim2uk@yahoo.co.uk)

## **Prayer Requests**

Our Prayer Team is still fully active, praying for the needs of individuals and our wider community. If you have a prayer request for the team, please email Rev Denise on [denisehyde15@gmail.com](mailto:denisehyde15@gmail.com).

## **ONLINE PRAYER AND WORSHIP**

### **Suggestion from Rev'd Denise to help you in your prayer life.**

Over the past weeks I have found the 'Lectio 365' App (which is available to be downloaded for free on both Android and Apple platforms) helpful in my prayer times. It was devised by Pete Grieg (of 24/7 prayer) and focuses on the pattern of P.R.A.Y. (Pause, Reflect/Rejoice, Ask, Yield) as a way of entering into God's presence. Each day's devotion is about 10 minutes long and can be either read or listened to and is a great way to start or end the day.

### **Prayers from St Mary's**

Caroline's Morning Prayer every day except Friday and Sunday from 9.00 am, and Evening Prayer at 6pm on Sunday:

[www.facebook.com/stmarysfairford](https://www.facebook.com/stmarysfairford)

### **Services from Gloucester Cathedral**

Gloucester Cathedral has been offering high quality online services across this period of lockdown, and continues to do so. You can find their services on their YouTube channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/c/DioceseofGloucester/videos>

### **Daily Hope from the Church of England**

A good option for worship if you can't access the internet. It is a free phone number where you have the option of the prayer for today, hymn for today and reflections. Telephone 0800 804 8044 Sent by Andrena Miles.

**Messy Church** are meeting at 4pm on 10 October in the Community Centre. The theme is Harvest Thanksgiving and sharing. There will be activities and games and a Celebration, finishing at about 5:45pm. We cannot provide a meal, so everyone is encouraged to bring a picnic to eat after the Celebration. All are welcome to join us. For further information or to join our mailing list please contact Sarah Bottomley on 01285712074 or [stmaryslmt@gmail.com](mailto:stmaryslmt@gmail.com)

## **From Ann Nicholls**

God of love, we thank you for your gifts in creation, thank you that you have called us to celebrate your creation, give us reverence for life in your world. Thank you for your redeeming love; may your word and sacrament strengthen us to love as you love us. God creator bring us new life, Jesus redeemer, renew us, Holy Spirit, strengthen and guide us, AMEN

Sing to the Lord of Harvest  
Sing songs of love and praise  
With thankful hearts and voices  
Your hallelujahs raise.

## **From Alison Hobson**

### **The Harvest Festival – Parish News September 22 1901**

Harvest Thanksgiving Services are always popular, and especially so in a season like this when crops have been abundant and the weather all but perfect. It was not, therefore, surprising that large congregations should assemble in our Parish Church on September 22<sup>nd</sup> 1901. In the evening it was full to overflowing, almost every seat being occupied. It was a real pleasure to the well-known harvest hymns sung by some five hundred people. It gives such heartiness to a service when the congregation join so earnestly in it. There are few things more impressive than a hymn sung by a multitude.

The writer remembers having once heard a hymn sung in a building erected to accommodate ten thousand people. It was crammed full from end to end, and the effect of singing was overwhelming. The Anthems at our Harvest Festival, "Praise the Lord, O my soul" by Roland Smart, and "Great is the Lord," by Marchant were most effectively rendered by the choir, the quartets in the latter, "Hungry and thirsty, their soul fainted in them," coming in as a pleasing contrast to the chorus. The vicar was fortunate in securing the assistance for the day of the Rev T A Ludlow Hewitt, the vicar-elect of Minety.

The collections for the Cottage Hospital amounted to the large sum of £11 1s 10d, which had been handed over to the Treasurer. This is £5 5s more than was collected last year at the same Festival. The Church had been beautifully decorated with a profusion of flowers and fruits. The list of those who sent them is too long for the insertion, as it includes more than thirty donors. The fruits and vegetable have now been distributed among the sick and poor.

*Canon Carbonell*



## From Ingrid Morris

Feast of Michael and All Angels falls on 29<sup>th</sup> September. The Michaelmas daisy flowers late, a symbol of light, as was St Michael, against the oncoming darkness.



**"I think sometimes we need to take a step back and just remember we have no greater right to be here than any other animal." - David Attenborough**



## **Another Diana Henry recipe for pears this time....**

(her recipes are simple and uncomplicated)

### **Pear & Hazelnut Clafoutis**

45g blanched hazelnuts , toasted  
30g plain flour  
4 medium eggs , plus 2 egg yolks  
150g caster sugar  
200ml milk  
300ml double cream 2 tsp vanilla extract  
2-3 perfectly ripe pears  
For the topping  
25g blanched hazelnuts  
icing sugar , to serve

Heat oven to 180C/160C fan/gas 4. Put the hazelnuts in a food processor and whizz until finely ground. Add the flour, eggs, extra yolks, sugar, milk, cream and vanilla and whizz until you have a smooth batter.

Halve, core and slice the pears (you can peel them first if you like, but I usually don't). Arrange the pear slices in a 26 x 33cm ceramic, cast iron or copper gratin dish, then pour in the batter. Bake for 30-35 mins, or until the batter is set in the centre, golden and slightly souffléed.

For the topping, toast the hazelnuts in a dry frying pan (keep a close eye on them – they can go from toasted to burnt very quickly), then roughly chop them so you're left with a mixture of halved and more finely chopped nuts. Scatter over the clafoutis, then sieve a little icing sugar over the top. Leave to sit for 10-15 mins (the clafoutis will deflate a little). Serve warm with crème fraîche or pouring cream.