

Sunday 14th April 2024

3rd Sunday of Easter



Come follow Christ in the footsteps of St Chad



“We believe in inclusive church – a church which celebrates and affirms every person and does not discriminate.

Happy Easter – Christ is risen – He is risen indeed – Alleluia!!

Services Sunday 14th April

Holy Trinity Oakengates

9.30am Holy Communion

Holy Trinity Wrockwardine Wood

8.00am BCP Holy Communion

11.00am Family Praise

St Peter's Priorslee at Holy Trinity Academy

4.00pm Holy Communion

St Matthew's Donnington Wood

11.00am Holy Communion

St Georges Telford

9.30am Morning Worship

12.30pm Baptisms of Leo and Alyssa

St Mary & St Leonard's Wombridge

4.00pm Evening Worship

Collect – 3rd Sunday of Easter

Almighty Father, who in your great mercy gladdened the disciples with the sight of the risen Lord: give us such knowledge of his presence with us, that we may be strengthened and sustained by his risen life and serve you continually in righteousness and truth; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Christ is Risen – He is Risen indeed – ALLELUIA!!

Post Communion Prayer

Living God, your Son made himself known to his disciples in the breaking of bread: open the eyes of our faith, that we may see him in all his redeeming work; who is alive and reigns, now and forever. Amen.

Readings 3rd Sunday of Easter

Psalm 4

1st Reading Zephaniah 3.14-end

2nd Reading Acts 3.12-19

Gospel Luke 24.36b-48



Services Sunday 21st April

Holy Trinity Oakengates

9.30am Holy Communion

St Peter's Priorslee at Holy Trinity Academy

No service

St Georges Telford

9.30am Holy Communion

Holy Trinity Wrockwardine Wood

11.00am Holy Communion

St Matthew's Donnington Wood

11.00am Morning Worship

St Mary & St Leonard's Wombridge

11.00am Morning Worship

4.00pm Holy Communion

Services Sunday 28th April

Holy Trinity Oakengates

9.30am Holy Communion with APCM

11.30am Baptism of Bella and Tommy

St Peter's Priorslee at Holy Trinity Academy

4.00pm Holy Communion in the Chapel
with APCM

St Georges Telford

9.30am Holy Communion

11.30am Baptism of Eddie

Holy Trinity Wrockwardine Wood

11.00am Morning Worship

St Matthew's Donnington Wood

11.00am Holy Communion
with APCM to follow

St Mary & St Leonard's Wombridge

4.00pm Evening Worship

Services Sunday 5th May

Holy Trinity Oakengates

9.30am Morning Worship

St Peter's Priorslee at Holy Trinity Academy

No service

St Georges Telford

9.30am Holy Communion

12.30pm Baptism of Ada-Rose

Holy Trinity Wrockwardine Wood

11.00am Holy Communion with APCM

St Matthew's Donnington Wood

11.00am Holy Communion

St Mary & St Leonard's Wombridge

4.00pm Holy Communion

SERVICES WITHIN EAST TELFORD BENEFICE

We are delighted that St George's and St Mary & St Leonard's have joined the East Telford Benefice and look forward to getting to know you all as time moves on.

As we are now a team of 6 some changes have come into effect from January 2024 & these are reflected in the Newsletter each week, so do check carefully.

Services at St Matthew's moved to 11am each week to enable worship leaders to move between 9.30am services and 11am services easily. There are also new service patterns across churches to celebrate the wonderful lay ministry which exists across the Benefice and to build this team as we move forward together.

Praying

Giving

Loving

Serving

East Telford Benefice Churches onsite and online at YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCbMiz9JOB1-3AcBx7-MNz0g>

Our Online Services and Newsletters are available via email as always

or can be found on our Website at WWW.Easttelfordbenefice.co.uk

Vision Prayer

As we follow Christ in the footsteps of St Chad, we pray that the Thirty-Six Thousand people in our Benefice encounter a church that is confident in the gospel, knows and loves its communities, and is excited to find God already at work in the world. We pray for a church that reflects the richness and variety of those communities. We pray for a church that partners with others seeking the common good, working for justice as people of hope. Amen.



Collect for our Benefice

God of mission who alone brings growth to your church.

Send your Holy Spirit to give:

Vision to our planning, Wisdom to our action, and Power to our witness.

Help our churches to grow in numbers,

in spiritual commitment to you and in service to our local community.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



Those in need of our prayers

Please pray for the families of Daisy Dempsey, June Mansell, Brian Gittoes, Barbara Peake, Alan Wood, Alma Austin, Robert Armstrong, Teresa Smith, Raymond Wyatt and all who are grieving at this time.

Merciful God, be close to all who mourn.
May they know the hope of your promises
and the comfort of your love,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen



Those whose years mind we keep

Priorslee

Sarah Gough, Stephen Thompson, Miles Watkiss, Norman Wilkins, Reginald Jones, Henry Mills, Anthony Wigley, Keith Rowley

Oakengates

Clarice Baker, Terrance Meeson, Frederick Brown, Peter Hall, Heather Yates, Charles Fowells, Annie Roberts, Win Huxley, Frank McClory, Evelyn Jones, Nellie Watson, David Williams, Stephen Philips, Bert Horton, Jack Granger

Wrockwardine Wood

Harriet France, Dennis Stevens, Mary Brice, Derick (Dinky) Jones, David Dorricott, Annie Lane, Jane Colton, Derek Watchorn

This Week please pray for:

- The resurrected Christ to reign in our hearts and lives
- All those who find themselves living on the streets
- Those living with dementia
- God's Peace to bring healing where it is needed
- Peace in our lives, our country and our world
- Pastoral care within the Benefice
- Our Church PCC's as they plan for the future
- Eco Church and environmental issues
- All who find the need for Foodbanks



You have committed to our care those who live in this Benefice, Lord Jesus Christ. Help us to hear your voice and to follow you that we, and all your disciples, may grow in faith and love. Inspire, equip and enable us to play our part in your mission that your kingdom may come here in this Diocese. We cannot know all the different people around us, but we ask that your Holy Spirit will guide us to those situations where we can minister something of your love and compassion. Help us to rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep, and bring practical solutions to problems we encounter, for Jesus Christ's sake. Amen.

Daily Readings

		Morning	Evening
Monday	15/04	Luke 1.1-25	Ephesians 1.1-14
Tuesday	16/04	Luke 1.26-38	Ephesians 1.15-end
Wednesday	17/04	Luke 1.39-56	Ephesians 2.1-10
Thursday	18/04	Luke 1.57-end	Ephesians 2.11-end
Friday	19/04	Luke 2.1-20	Ephesians 3.1-13
Saturday	20/04	Luke 2.21-40	Ephesians 3.14-end



Dates for Diaries This Week (For participation or prayer)

Mon	15/04	9.30-11.30am	Foodshare at Holy Trinity Wrockwardine Wood
		9.30-12.00pm	Warm Space Warm Welcome at Holy Trinity Wrockwardine Wood
		10.00am	Silver Eco Church Committee Meeting via ZOOM
		10.30am	Open the Book at Wrockwardine Wood Juniors
		12.00pm	Clergy Chapter
		2.00pm	Prayer Group at Holy Trinity Wrockwardine Wood
Tue	16/04	2.30pm	Funeral of Daisy Dempsey at St George's Church
		9.30-11.30am	Foodshare at Holy Trinity Wrockwardine Wood
		9.30-12.00pm	Warm Space Warm Welcome at Holy Trinity Wrockwardine Wood
		9.30am	Finance Committee meeting for Mighty Oaks Academy Trust
		10.30am	Open the book at Wrockwardine Wood Infants
Wed	17/04	7.00pm	Deanery Synod via ZOOM
		9.00am	Morning Prayer at Wombridge Church
		9.30-11.30am	Foodshare at Holy Trinity Wrockwardine Wood
		9.30-12.00pm	Warm Space Warm Welcome at Holy Trinity Wrockwardine Wood
		9.30am	Stage 2 Panel for Bishop's Advisors begins
Thu	18/04	10.30am	Midweek Service at St Matthew's Donnington Wood
		12.00-2.00pm	Place of Welcome at HT Oakengates (LL)
		12.30pm	Midweek Service at Holy Trinity Wrockwardine Wood (HC)
		9.30-11.30am	Foodshare at Holy Trinity Wrockwardine Wood
		9.30-12.00pm	Warm Space Warm Welcome at Holy Trinity Wrockwardine Wood
Fri	19/04	1.00-3.00pm	Place of Welcome at Priorslee Scout HQ
		1.30pm	Funeral of June Mansell at Telford Crematorium
		4.00pm	Stage 2 Panel for Bishop's Advisors ends
		7.30pm	Vegas Night at Caseys in aid of St Peters Church
Sat	20/04	11.00-1.00pm	Welcome Saturday at St Matthew's Church
		10.00am	Interment of Violet Hesbrook at St George's Church
		4.00pm	Messy Church at Holy Trinity Wrockwardine Wood

Contact Details

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Licensed Reader: Kerry Debenham

01952 615367 (9.30-12)

admin@easttelfordbenefice.co.uk

Administrator: Kerry Debenham

01952 615367 (9.30-12)

admin@easttelfordbenefice.co.uk

Wanting to take your faith commitment further? Want to be confirmed this summer?

Are you interested in being confirmed and taking your commitment to your faith further. We will be running confirmation preparation classes from the end of April until the day of Confirmation on Sunday 16th June. There will be a youth class running from 6:00pm and an adult class from 7:00pm on Tuesday evenings. If you would like a conversation about taking part in this please do speak to Rev Lisa Harper on 07808924223 email revlisaharper@icloud.com. If you are feeling called to support those candidates going forward and commitment to helping out with the confirmation preparation then please also get in touch. Please do pray for those considering Confirmation and for the preparation evenings

FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE

Holy Trinity Wrockwardine Wood are looking to grow their fundraising committee would you like to join us and help raise funds for our amazing church? If you would please have a chat with Kerry, Tanya or Clergy.

ST GEORGE'S PRAYER GROUP

The Prayer Group meets of the fourth Wednesday of each month between 7pm & 8pm at St George's Church. The next meeting is on Wednesday 24th April and is open for all to attend. During the time together there may be a brief discussion about issues of the day and/or individual concerns and then there is a time of prayer. Sometimes a bible passage is read and following a brief discussion may be used as a focus for additional prayers.

OUR FOODBANK NEEDS YOU!!!

As with other Foodbanks across the country our demand is outweighing our supply – if you are able to help in any way, bringing in tins, packets of food or sending us donations for us to buy food, you would be making so much difference to so many people's lives. We look forward to seeing how you are going to show your love for your neighbour in this way.

FOODSHARE and FOODBANK



Foodshare and Food bank Monday - Friday 9.30 - 12.00 noon Open to everyone

Supermarket surplus stock available daily - stock varies just pop in and see if we have something you can use and save this excess from landfill

Food bank 3 day parcels of tinned and dried foods available on request from warden on duty

DONATIONS WELCOME

WARM SPACE WARM WELCOME



Warm Space Warm Welcome

Monday to Friday 9:30 am till 12:00 pm

Our doors are open and the church is warm so do come and join us for free hot drinks and refreshments. Chat with our volunteers or do some crafts. We also have a foodbank, and clothes bank.

We look forward to welcoming you in.

Logos: Holy Trinity Church Wrockwardine Wood, Dementia Friendly Church, PLACE OF WELCOME, Supported by, Nibud & Winkl, We're IN!

BEN NEVIS ASCENT



We did it!! It was a challenging climb with the snowline being at 700m and a couple of white outs and a blizzard thrown in for good fun. But we are back and if you want to sponsor us please do use the link below – thank you to all of you who have sponsored us already!! Total raised will be published as soon as we have it.

https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/holytrinitywrockwardinewood?utm_source=copyLink&utm_medium=fundraising&utm_content=holytrinitywrockwardinewood&utm_campaign=pfp-share&utm_term=7ce3ee75014b4271bad37d5ea8d7f73e

APCM's

Before you know it the time will be here once again for our Annual Parochial Church Meetings, these are opportunities for us to look back over the last year and look forward to the next in a prayerful and thoughtful way. Dates will be announced in our Newsletter – please do prioritise these services as they allow us to see the big picture in a way that may not be possible at other times. APCM's are also the time when we celebrate our shared ministries and commission people for the year ahead – so if you want to look at offering yourself for a new ministry, wish to extend the ministry you currently offer or want to stand down from the ministry you have been doing for a period then please do speak to Clergy or Wardens as appropriate.

ELECTORAL ROLL

Now is the time for these to be renewed for the coming year. If you are on one of these Electoral Rolls already and have moved house in the last 12 months please can you update our Electoral Roll Officers with your new address.

Holy Trinity Oakengates – Margaret Howells
Holy Trinity Wrockwardine Wood – Dai Maddock
St Peters Priorslee – Chris Harris
St Mary & St Leonards Wombridge – Margaret Afford
St Georges – Alan Talbot
St Matthews Donnington Wood – Julie Gardner

SKITTLES NIGHT

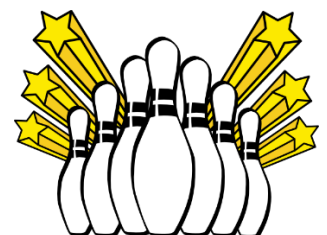
Do you enjoy a game of skittles?

Holy Trinity Church, Oakengates are holding a Skittles night at Maddocks Sports & Social Club, Oakengates on Sunday 14th April at 6.00pm

Tickets £5.00 to inc. refreshments.

Drinks can be purchased from the bar.

For more details please contact Gill Hardman or one of the fundraising team.



VEGAS NIGHT in aid of St Peter's Church

Tickets £10

available from Fiona Barraclough 07873343008

Friday 19th April

At Casey's Cordingley Hall Donnington
Hosted by Caseys Vegas Girls
& Karl Memphis as Elvis

Basket Meal included
Fully Licensed Bar



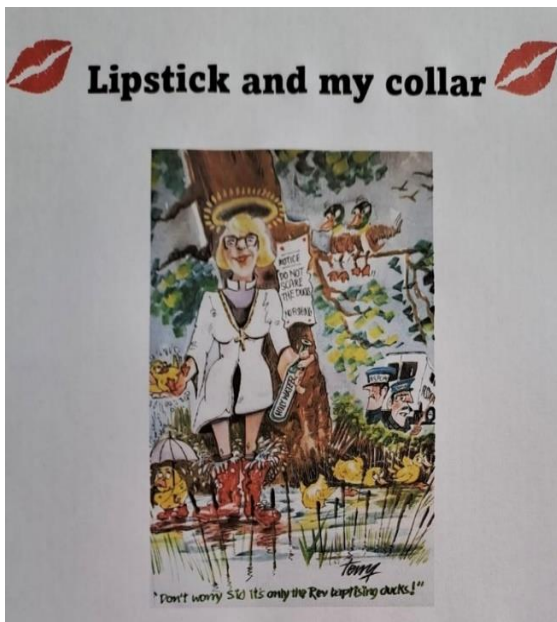
AN AFTERNOON OF COMEDY & 60's MUSIC with delicious refreshments

Join us with Rev Lynne Morris for her hilarious tales of life as a vicar, straight from the comedy clubs

Plus, live music from local singers
Chris Harris and Alfie Hayward

At Priorslee & St Georges Scout Hall Snedshill
Saturday 27th April 2.00pm

Tickets £10 in aid of St Peter's Church
available from Fiona Barraclough 07873343008



Are you hard of hearing?....

Would you like to meet up with people in a similar situation?
Then why not join a new hard of hearing group taking place at....

Donnington Methodist Church

Last Wednesday each month 1030am-12noon

Please note next meeting is 24th April 2024

Meeting for fellowship, visiting speakers and refreshments

Just turn up or for more information contact Kath on 07986 490027 (Text only)

All are welcome to come along, you don't have to have hearing problems



PRAY BAKE READ

PRAY....INTENTIONALLY FOR YOUR LOCAL SCHOOL

BAKE....A CAKE FOR STAFF EVERY HALF TERM

READ....1:1 WITH A STUDENT ONCE A WEEK



Would you like to support children at The Lantern Academy, Ketley Bank (former Queenswood School) by spending 1-2 hours a week with year 3 & 4 pupils listening to them read on a 1:1

(Thursday afternoons 1-3pm)

If you are interested please speak to Julia Ayers, Rev Debbie or Rev Lisa.

BAPTISMS WEDDINGS & FUNERALS IN CHURCH

We are always excited to be able to celebrate Baptisms, welcome you for your Wedding or help you through a difficult time arranging a Funeral within our Churches. Funerals are welcomed in Church or at the Graveside and Holy Trinity Wrockwardine Wood are able to livestream funerals to family and friends who are unable to attend in person. Please telephone Rev Debbie to discuss arrangements.

SAFEGUARDING

For all the churches in our benefice, the safeguarding, safety and security of each person is of the utmost importance. We have across all our churches committed to safeguarding and have adopted the national and diocesan safeguarding policies.

It is important that everyone who attends our churches is aware of who their co-ordinator is

Holy Trinity Oakengates – Annette Deakin

St Peters – Fiona Barraclough

Holy Trinity Wrockwardine Wood – Kerry Debenham.

St Matthews – Louise Inwood

St Mary and St Leonard Wombridge – Jacki Hauenstein

Please do not hesitate to contact one of the coordinators if you have any questions and concerns and understand that everyone has a role to play to ensure we achieve our aim of being a benefice who cares and protects all who visit.

NEEDLES & HOOKS AT THE READY!!

The local hospitals are looking for people to help knit or crochet dementia blankets and bonding squares to give to patients.

Currently there are lots of patients in the hospitals with dementia, and blankets created for these patients need to be brightly coloured so they can identify their beds. If possible blankets need to be larger than lap size, ideally 36 inches by 36 inches.

The Neonatal ward require bonding squares, which are around 5 inches square and if crocheted they need to be tightly stitched so there are no little holes for tiny fingers to get stuck in. They also need knitted cardigans for the babies ideally in pastel colours, blue, white and pink please. No Yellow please. Must be long sleeved with buttons for babies weighing 4lbs and upwards. Finished creations can be passed to Gill Hardman or Fiona Barraclough at the Place of Welcome groups.

Thank you again to all our lovely crafters as all donations are greatly appreciated.

Blanket for dementia patients

Double knitting wool (not fluffy) N0.8 or 9 needles

Cast on 2 or 3 stitches

First Row

Slip first stitch then knit into front & back of second stitch of every row.

Carry on until you have 42 stitches on the needle.

Knit one row without increase.

Then slip first stitch & knit two together at the beginning of every row.

Decrease until only one stitch is left.

36 squares are needed to make a blanket.

No need to join them together if you do not wish to do so.

We have ladies who will willingly crochet or sew this part of the process.



Happy knitting

EASY FUNDRAISING

For those who shop online it is possible to help fundraise for your Benefice Church, by using the easy fundraising website to make your purchases from many of the well-known retailers. Why not use this website at no cost to yourself but a money earner for the church!

For more info:

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/stpeterspriorslee>

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/holytrinitywrockwardinewood>

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/holytrinityoakengates>



Speak up!

Christian Aid is offering an opportunity for people in Lichfield Diocese to put their faith into action and become voices for change as it recruits volunteer speakers throughout England and Wales to join a team of more than 100 volunteers who champion global justice by speaking to church congregations and community groups.

Christian Aid Church and Fundraising Engagement Officer for Staffordshire, Christel Langdon-Griffiths, explained you don't have to be a seasoned orator.

"This is a great opportunity to meet people in the area and help Christian Aid spread the word about our work," she said. "Whether you're used to giving talks or are just speaking from the heart, your enthusiasm for Christian Aid's mission is what matters most. The idea is to make a lasting impact and to be the voice of hope for a world free from poverty."

Speakers are given ongoing training from regional officers, as well as the chance to connect with other volunteers at Christian Aid's annual supporter conference.

Anyone interested in applying can email volunteering@christian-aid.org.

THE DIOCESAN DIGEST

The Diocesan Digest was founded in 1989. It is the Sound Magazine for our Cathedral at Lichfield and the Diocese. It is produced and run by volunteers and is a registered charity - number 702995.

Over this period the volunteers have produced a full magazine every month. This sound magazine has given news and conversation for blind and partially sighted people, as well as anyone else who is interested. The magazine is produced monthly, and the recordings are kindly provided through The British Wireless for the Blind, who provide a many Talking Newspaper access through their system.

If you would like to receive the Diocesan Digest, please contact:

Tel: 01543 306030 | 07986 954 859

Email: soundmag@lichfield-cathedral.org www.facebook.com/diocesandigest

IMPORTANT.....BE AWARE!!!

If you get any emails alleging to be from Clergy that ask for money or vouchers or sounding unlikely please **ignore!** We would never ask for these things. Please check with us via other means and never click the links. There are a lot of phishing emails around currently that we cannot do anything to stop.

Please be careful!

What are the key signs of a phishing email?

The most common indicators of a phishing attempt usually involve tone, grammar and urgency in an email message and subject line.

Major warning signs in an email are:

- An unfamiliar greeting
- Grammar errors and misspelled words
- Email addresses and domain names that don't match
- Unusual content or request – these often involve a transfer of funds or request for login credentials
- Urgency – ACT NOW, IMMEDIATE ACTION REQUIRED
- Threats – LAST WARNING, ACCOUNT SUSPENSION PENDING
- Suspicious attachments

On the beat in

Donnington, Trench & Wrockwardine Wood

Safer Neighbourhood Team Newsletter

April 2024

Where we work: Donnington, Trench & Wrockwardine Wood.

Team contact details: Email: wwtd.snt@westmercia.police.uk X: @TelfordCops

Safer Neighbourhood Officer: PC 21765 Beddall Mobile: 07773046907

Police Community Support Officer: PCSO Bowen 6133 Mobile: 07816228574

Police Community Support Officer: PCSO Harrison 6855 Mobile: 07816229067

This month.....Drug Offences.

Drug misuse harms the health and wellbeing of too many people. There are several different criminal offences which restrict the supply and use of harmful substances. It is illegal to possess, supply and produce controlled drugs. It is also illegal to import or export drugs, or to allow your premises to be used for drug production. Controlled drugs fall into three different categories, Class A, B or C, according to their danger or how harmful they are. The sentences for drug offences are different for each class of drugs. Class A drugs are the most harmful and will lead to a greater sentence. Find out more at <https://www.cps.gov.uk/crime-info/drug-offences>

FRANK helps you find out everything you might want to know about drugs (and some stuff you don't). For friendly, confidential advice, Talk to FRANK at <https://www.talktofrank.com/>



If you're concerned about drug-related crime in your area or think someone may be a victim of drug exploitation, please call us on 101. If it's an emergency, please call 999. You can also report it online or contact Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111 or via [crimestoppers-uk.org](https://www.crimestoppers-uk.org).

Spring has sprung, time to think about garden and outbuildings security.

Getting into the garden this month? Many people don't secure their shed or garage in the same way they do their homes - often using an easy-to-break lock or padlock to protect valuable contents such as a car, bike or lawnmower.

An opportunistic burglar will try a shed or garage first because they can find the tools they need to break into the main house. First off, check that your insurance covers the contents of your shed or outbuildings from theft.



Think like a thief! Take a look at your shed and consider how you would break in. It's worth having a good padlock on the door with no exposed screws. Pay attention to hinges, as these are sometimes easily removable. If you have windows then these could be vulnerable unless they're secured with wire mesh or grills. And keep it locked at all times.

Remember! Alarm it, Lock it, hide it or mark it.

APRIL IS
STRESS
AWARENESS MONTH

Stress Awareness Month has been held every April since 1992 to increase public awareness about both the causes of and cures for the modern stress epidemic. Find out more at:

<https://www.stress.org.uk/>

#StressAwarenessMonth #wellbeing #stress

Sign up to Neighbourhood Matters ...



Neighbourhood Matters enables residents, businesses, and community groups to keep in touch with local policing teams. You can choose exactly what type of alert you wish to receive and how you receive them; whether that be by email, text or telephone.

Sign up now at: www.neighbourhoodmatters.co.uk

Look out for these species



Orange Tip



Ruby Tiger



Emperor Moth

Jobs for April in your Wild Space

This month it's all about sowing, The Secret Gardener shares their favourite butterfly and moth-friendly plants and their top tips for growing them from seed.

[Read more](#)



Enjoy



Nurture



Eco Tip - Let it grow this #NoMowMay.

It's just over a month until Plantlife's #NoMowMay and we'd love as many UK churches and households as possible to ... give lawnmowers a month off! You might be surprised by what germinates in your lawn or church grounds by letting things grow. Clover seeds may already be present (they used to be in packets of lawn seed) and other seeds get blown in, or dropped by birds. Over the month (or two if you #LetItBloomJune), plants that have been lying dormant have a chance to grow, bloom and make some pollinators happy!



Wild Daffodils

At this time of year, the yellow trumpets of daffodils brighten up even the dullest spring day. Most of what we see are planted garden varieties, but a real treat is to find wild daffodils (*Narcissus pseudonarcissus*).



Once widespread, the wild daffodil is now much rarer, having mysteriously declined during the 19th century. It now has a disjointed distribution – for instance it is found mainly in south Devon, pockets of the Black Mountains in Wales, stretches of the Gloucestershire-Herefordshire border country, the Sussex Weald, Farndale in Yorkshire, and the Lake District. Elsewhere, even in suitable habitat, it only occurs in small patches, many miles apart. For example, in churchyards. The wild daffodil's status as a popular flower was particularly celebrated in the area around Newent, Dymock and Ledbury on the Gloucestershire-Herefordshire border which acquired the nickname of 'The Golden Triangle.' In the 1930s the Great Western Railway ran 'Daffodil Specials', from London

for weekend tourists to walk amongst the 'golden tides' and to buy fresh bunches at garden gates. Many farmers and orchard-owners used to have them as a cash-crop, harvested on a 'Pick Your Own' basis. At the end of April, the meadows went back to their function of growing hay or fruit.

A 1930's guide to a village in the Golden Triangle wrote: *They are picked by the local women and children and were sold to an agent, who sends them to South Wales, where they find a ready sale for Mothering Sunday and also for Palm Sunday, for many places the old (Welsh) custom of 'flowering the graves' on that day still persists. The daffodils are also sent to northern industrial towns.*

Information from Flora Britannica by Richard Mabey

How to spot a wild daffodil - The wild daffodil is smaller than horticultural varieties, with paler petals and a deeper yellow trumpet-like tube. The leaves are grey/green, flattened and around 15mm wide. It is relatively short (30-35cm) and forms clumps which carpet the ground. A top tip is that unless there are several hundreds of them looking particularly small and washed out, they probably aren't wild!

Please help us to map the churchyards containing wild daffodils by taking a photo on the iNaturalist app and posting it on our Beautiful Burial Grounds project within iNaturalist.

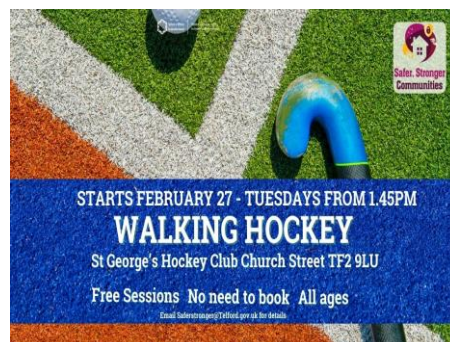
All the best, Harriet

Diocesan Churchyard Environmental Advisor, harriet@cfga.org.uk, www.caringforgodsacre.org.uk - individuals and groups in the diocese receive 20% members discount on all CfGA materials. Use the discount code **diomem22**

SAFER & STRONGER COMMUNITIES



STARTS FEBRUARY 27 - TUESDAYS FROM 1.45PM
WALKING FOOTBALL
St George's Hockey Club
Church Street TF2 9LU
Call coach Gary for more info 07854 715 351
Free Session No need to book All ages



STARTS FEBRUARY 27 - TUESDAYS FROM 1.45PM
WALKING HOCKEY
St George's Hockey Club Church Street TF2 9LU
Free Sessions No need to book All ages
Email: subscribers@telford.gov.uk for details



DEMENTIA FRIENDLY
songs of praise
TUESDAY 23 APRIL 10.45-11.30, LICHFIELD CATHEDRAL
you're invited...
Join us for an informal service for all those impacted by dementia. We will be joined by Tony Christie and Cathedral choristers.
This informal service of worship will be filmed for BBC Songs of Praise.
Contact Canon David for further details or to register your interest:
E: david.primrose@lichfield-cathedral.org
T: 07946 222657



Citizens Advice are moving
From Monday 19th February 2024, we will be located at the following venues:
Monday, Tuesday & Thursday:
Wellington Library
Larkin Way
TF1 1LX
10am - 4pm
Scan below for directions:

Our website also has information & self-help guides
www.citizensadvice.telfordandthewrekin.co.uk
You can call us on **0808 278 7988**
or contact us via the form on our website above.
citizens advice Telford & the Wrekin Telford & Wrekin Co-operative Council

BENEFICE EMAIL NEWSLETTER

If you would like to receive this newsletter and service links via email regularly please contact newsletter@easttelfordbenefice.co.uk requesting you would like to receive it weekly.

PLACES of WELCOME at HTO, HTWW & St PETERS



Hot drinks and light refreshments available

Tea/coffee or cold drinks
Cake and biscuits

Gluten free and dairy alternatives available

Midweek church Service starts at 12:30 pm

MORE INFO:

Kerry Debenham
Admin@eastlefordbenefice.co.uk
01952 615367

Holy Trinity Church
Church Road
Wrockwardine Wood
TF27AH

Places of Welcome has now been running for the past year at both Holy Trinity Churches and St Peters.

This new outreach is something which has helped bring our community together and we are always pleased when new people attend. The format is simple – a short service, a shared lunch (soup and roll or sandwiches), chat/board games/puzzles/craft etc.

However, we do need people willing to volunteer to make soup or sandwiches – is this your gifting? If it is please speak with Clergy, Kerry Debenham, Fiona Barraclough, Annette Deakin, Liz Brayne, Linda Ingham Mary Metcher or a Warden.



Please do let your friends and neighbours know about these Places of Welcome especially those who live alone or those who are looking for a place to meet new people. You will find a warm welcome at each of these Places of Welcome. We look forward to meeting you!

Please note St Peters meets at:
Priorslee Scout HQ, Snedshill Way, TF2 9QQ

**Wednesday
12 - 2 pm**

12.00 Midweek Service
12.30 Lunch
13.00 Games and chat with a cuppa

**Join us for all or some
Everyone Welcome
Free for all**



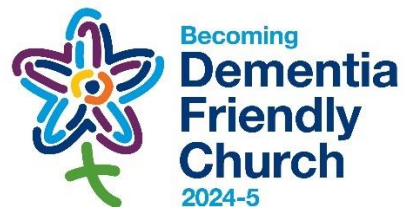
St. Peter's Priorslee Community

Every Thursday
at Priorslee Scout HQ, Snedshill Way, TF2 9QQ
1.00pm - 3.00pm

- Informal Service
- Light Lunch
- Craft & Chat with a cuppa & cake

**Join us for all or some of the time
Everyone Welcome
Free to attend**

Do you know someone who might like to meet up with others?
Invite them to Place of Welcome.....
More information email: stpeterspriorslee@btinternet.com





Our next Deanery Synod is on Tuesday 16th April at 7pm on ZOOM, if you are a Synod Rep please do put this date in your diary.

Speak up and be voted

So often diocesan synods are perceived as boring, dry and bureaucratic. This should not be the case! Rather they should exist to serve the mission of the wider Church, to make strategic decisions, and to encourage the growth of mission and ministry in our diocese. So, are you passionate about these things and want to play a more active role in embedding our vision and strategy in the life of all our churches and communities? Then please read on...

What is Diocesan Synod?

Diocesan Synod is our primary elected, representative body and brings people together across the Church of England in Staffordshire, north Shropshire and the Black Country. It holds the diocesan vision, drives mission, sets strategy, elects and appoints a range of positions on boards and committees and shapes priorities.

It may respond to questions put to it by the General Synod and is an advisory and deliberative body. It considers the important topics facing our diverse and unique diocese and the wider Church. It is a statutory institution which serves not only our diocese but influences and helps to direct the national church on matters of church, public and government policy. It also includes some mandatory governance items such as approval of the budget and the annual accounts. The membership consists of three houses: the House of Bishops; the House of Clergy; and the House of Laity.

The current three-year term is due to end on 31 July. The next synod members will be elected in the summer of 2024 and serve a term of three years. Meetings are held in March, June and November.

The agenda for 2024-2027

Themes for the next three years will include embedding our diocesan vision and strategy, taking forward the Growing Faith initiative in relation to schools and families; a continuing focus on growth in numbers and depth of discipleship, including new Christians, and new worshipping communities; actively engaging with our local communities, determination to continue to focus on safeguarding, diversity, racial justice and the environment.

What skills and qualities do representatives need?

- **Vision:** Do you have a vision for a flourishing Church and a passion to work with others to share your Christian faith and deepen the discipleship of those around you?
- **Commitment:** Are you ready to seek God's will through prayer and reflection, with a heart for growth, mission and engagement across boundaries?
- **Openness:** Are you open to trying new approaches while learning from others, embracing change and the bigger picture and to sharing inspiring feedback with your deanery, PCC and wider church family?
- **Enthusiasm:** Members of Synod are encouraged to speak and challenge confidently, enabling change whilst leading and encouraging others.
- **Good communication skills:** Do you have a listening ear? Are you receptive and open-minded and have the ability to share your passion?

Do you have — or could you develop — some of these qualities to serve the Diocese of Lichfield? If so, can I encourage everyone reading this who is on the electoral roll of your church, is over 16 years of age and an actual communicant to prayerfully consider whether this is something God is calling you to do?

I would be happy to talk to anyone considering this and answer any questions or concerns you may have.

Julie Jones is the Diocesan Secretary/Chief Executive Officer for the Diocese of Lichfield and can be contacted at julie.jones@lichfield.anglican.org or on 01543 306291. More can be read at lichfield.anglican.org/diocesan-synods/

From the Diocese

Sharing each others' gifts for the growth of the church

Lichfield Diocese was well represented at the second Intercultural Church conference, hosted this year by Bishop Martyn Snow in Leicester Diocese just before Easter.

The Anglican Network for Intercultural Churches (ANIC) was launched last year, with the hope of enhancing the capacity and understanding for effective intercultural mission.

The focus of the conference was to advocate for Racial Justice, promote global culture awareness, to champion God's great commission to all nations, and encourage rehearsals for the heavenly worship.



Among attendees were Revd Gilbert David, a member of our Racial Justice and Inclusion Task Group and Jules Smith, our Strategic Ministerial Development Officer. Revd Ray Gaston, vicar of St Chad & St Mark Wolverhampton was among the speakers and Canon Sharon Prentis (another RJITG member, Deputy Director of the C of E Racial Justice Unit and Canon Theologian at Lichfield Cathedral) gave one of the keynote talks, emphasising the importance of unity in diversity, bringing people together from different backgrounds under one roof, and sharing each others' gifts for the growth of the church.

"I personally think it was a successful conference" says Revd Gilbert "as it fully outlined and explained the goals and objectives set by the organisers. It was a good networking exercise through which people built new connections and learned many skills to help build Intercultural churches, which are now needed more than ever now that the United Kingdom has become a multi-cultural country, and people from all over the world have come here."

Bishop Tim Wambunya, the Chairman of ANIC Training and Consultancy, Intercultural Mission Events, and Affirmation for Intercultural Ministries, welcomed people from the wider Anglican Communion from around the country. The Conference was sponsored by the Racial Justice Unit of the Church of England. The Conference was hosted by the Bishop of Leicester, Bishop Martyn Snow, together with Bishop Lusa Nsenga-Ngoy, Bishop of Willesdon, and Bishop Saju Muthulay, Bishop of Loughborough. Many Intercultural Clergy and Lay leaders who are actively involved in the promotion of Intercultural Mission were invited to share their views.

The conference concluded with three Mission Actions Points which could be adopted by parishes:

1. To promote an environment of unity and fellowship within diverse church communities, based on biblical principles.
2. To encourage genuine and authentic relationships based on love, respect, and understanding, whilst challenging injustice by being intentional about it.
3. to promote a better understanding of intercultural community life, recognising the strengths and limitations of concepts like *Communitas* (the spirit of community), *Ubuntu* (humanity to others) and *I-Thou* (treating others as unique and equal), and how they might apply in Intercultural Mission.

Following the conference Regional Teams have been formed and a team has been appointed to create a training tool for the development of Intercultural Churches. The first follow-up Zoom meeting is schedule for the 10th April 2024.

Jules concludes: "This was a very insightful and deeply encouraging conference. I learnt what intercultural church could look like, as well as embracing the stories and cultures of others as Anglicans."

[compiled from reports from Revd Gilbert and Jules: photos from the conference organisers]

Further information available via the Article link below.

Article taken from: <https://www.lichfield.anglican.org/news/sharing-gifts-for-growth.php>

Lichfield Diocese Prayer Diary: Issue 208

discipleship
vocation
evangelism

Our prayers continue for the implementation of Deanery visions, developed during the Shaping for Mission process, within the context of the varied roles and ministries across the Diocese. As 'People of Hope,' we remember those impacted by natural disasters; those in Ukraine suffering grievously, along with the people and leaders of Russia; and for a lasting peace for the people of Palestine and Israel.

Sunday 14th April:

Give thanks for the diverse work and ministry of United Christian Broadcasters (UCB), a Christian media charity that exists to offer every person, in every place, every moment of the day, the opportunity to hear, watch or read the Word of God in a relevant and engaging way. Pray especially for the [UCB Kingdom Academy](#), designed to uniquely equip the church for growth using a blend of five pillars: Media, Ministry, Mission, Management and Music; for those preparing for an open day tomorrow, and for all who will attend to learn more about the Media Programme. For further information email training@ucb.co.uk.

Monday 15th:

Pray for the discernment process for the nomination of a new Bishop of Wolverhampton; especially for members of an Advisory Group meeting with Bishop Michael for the first time today, and for all those they will meet as part of this process; that through the Spirit's guidance the right person may be found to serve as the Fifth Bishop of Wolverhampton.

Tuesday 16th: *(Isabella Gilmore, Deaconess, 1923)*

We pray for Eccleshall Deanery, for Rural Dean, Revd Doug Heming and Lay Chair, Jonathan Jones; giving thanks for the prospect of having a full cohort of incumbents in our Deanery after almost a decade since this was the case. Pray for Revd Phillip Johnson in Eccleshall as he settles into his new post; and for Revd Dr Peter Jones who is preparing to move to the Benefice of Whitmore, Chapel Chorlton and Maer.

Wednesday 17th:

In this exciting time for the diocese with the launch of the new strategic framework, which builds on the Shaping for Mission initiative; pray for the recruitment for three key roles – Director of Communications, Strategy Programme Director and Project Manager – Net Carbon Zero. Further details [here](#). Pray for possible candidates and all involved in the recruitment process that God will place His right people in His right places.

Thursday 18th:

We continue to pray for Eccleshall Deanery, especially for the rural farming community and the grave situation caused by unprecedented rainfall and its consequences. Pray for farming families with difficulties, including stock desperately needing to be out and causing overstocked housing with all its problems or risk of perishing in the rain; escalating feed and fuel costs due to world affairs causing bankruptcies; arable land unsown and so very much more. Pray for the people who give their everything, to feed us, they so much need the love and the arm of our dear Lord around them at this time to guide them to better days.

Friday 19th: *(Alphege, Archbishop of Canterbury, Martyr, 1012)*

Lord Jesus Christ,

who willingly walked the way of the cross:

Strengthen your church through the example and prayers of your servant Alphege

to hold fast the path of discipleship;

for with the Father and Holy Spirit you live and reign, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Saturday 20th:

We continue to pray for Eccleshall Deanery, especially for the churches which do not have a full cohort of church officers and PCC members and even some who have no PCC at all. Pray that an obvious direction which accepts realities, but remains hopeful, might be embraced through local conversation and through engaging with the Diocese's 'Shaping' conversations and strategies.