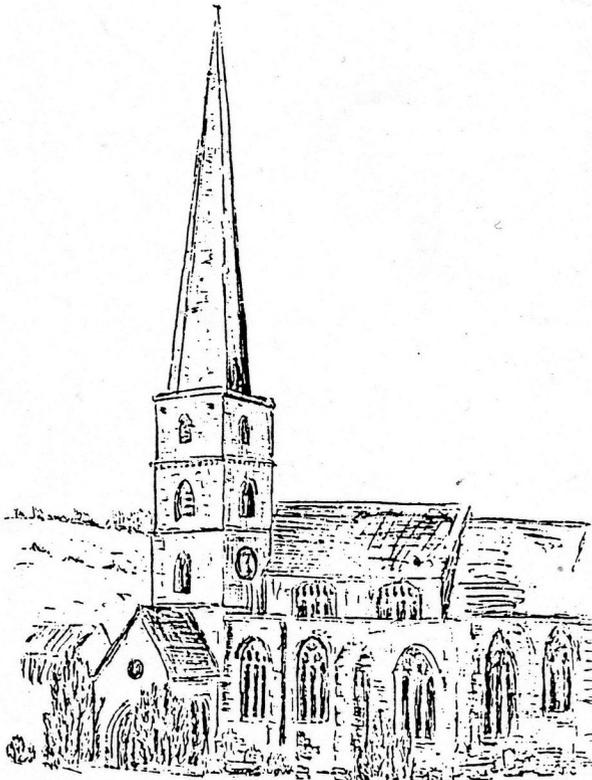


June 2016

Around *the* Spire



St. Michael & All Angels Mitcheldean.

Worship with us

St Michael and All Angels', Mitcheldean

1st Sunday of each month: 8.30am Said Holy Communion followed by

10.00 am Family Service (inc. Holy Communion)

Remaining Sundays: 10.00 am Sung Eucharist

Tuesdays: 10.30 am Holy Communion (said)

Fridays: 12noon Midday Prayer

St Michael's, Abenhall

1st and 3rd Sundays of the month: 3.00 pm Holy Communion

2nd, 4th and 5th Sundays of the month: 3.00 pm Evensong

For Saints Days and other Holy Day services, please see the porch noticeboards or view the website: www.stmichaelmitcheldean.co.uk

(Children and families are very welcome at all of our services)

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Editorial

As we reported in last month's magazine we have been reviewing the place of the magazine in our church life. We believe there to be a place for some form of monthly communication which is distributed further than the weekly pew sheet. However we think this can be done by a monthly news letter rather than a full blown magazine. This will make editing a much simpler role and mean that production can be done in house.

We are grateful and wish to record our thanks to Hugh James who has been editing the magazine for the last couple of years, but Hugh has now become our PCC treasurer (for which we are even more grateful) and has given up his role as magazine editor. I have picked up the editorship for this issue and for the two month summer issue. In the Autumn we will move to a new format which although not finalised will be much more of a news letter.

We also need to record our thanks to Pat Nixon who over I don't know how many years has over seen the printing of the magazine through her work at the Forest Voluntary Action Forum. Pat has recently retired and we wish her well in her new found leisure time...!!!

I am pleased to be able to say that on Saturday July 2nd we will be having a **Songs of praise** service, jointly with our Friends at Forest Gate church. This follows the very successful carol service we ran with them. 6.00pm in Mitcheldean Church (*Time to be confirmed*). Members of Forest Gate will also be joining us for our 10.00am Family Service on Sunday 3rd July

I'm sure many people will remember Anthea Beresford who did a placement with us a little over three years ago. Anthea has been training for ordination and is to be ordained Deacon in the Cathedral on Sunday June 19th. Please keep her in your prayers over the coming weeks.

David Gill

Daily Bible Readings

June:

1st 2 Samuel 1.

2nd 2 Samuel 2.

3rd 2 Samuel 3. 1-25

4th 2 Samuel 3. 26- end

5th Luke 7. 11-17

6th 2 Samuel 4

7th 2 Samuel 5

8th 2 Samuel 6

9th 2 Samuel 7 1-17

10th 2 Samuel 7. 18-29

11th John 15. 12-17

12th Luke 7. 36- 8. 3

13th 2 Samuel 8

14th 2 Samuel 9

15th 2 Samuel 10

16th 2 Samuel 11. 1-13

17th 2 Samuel 11. 14- 27

18th 2 Samuel 12. 1-15

19th Luke 8. 26-39

20th 2 Samuel 12. 15b – end

21st 2 Samuel 13. 1-22

22nd 2 Samuel 13. 23- 37

23rd 2 Samuel 14. 1-20

24th Luke 1. 57 -66, 80

25th 2 Samuel 14. 21-33

26th Luke 9. 51-end

27th 2 Samuel 15. 1-18

28th 2 Samuel 15. 19-37

29th Acts 12. 1-11

30th 2 Samuel 16.



ST. MICHAEL'S, ABENHALL

Last Night of the Proms

Saturday 6th August

In Mitcheldean Church

Coleford Community Choir will be entertaining us, with lots of opportunities to sing along and wave your Union Jacks!

7.00pm, with The Coleford Community Choir.

Ticket to include refreshments.....£5.00 each. On door£6.00 each.

100 Club:

March Winners:	No' 16	Mr T Davis	£29
	No 28	Mrs H Hopkins	£15
	No 4	Mr J Gurney	£5
April Winners:	No 98	Mrs M Cottrell	£29
	No 54	Mrs J Fisher	£15
	No 66	Mrs D Clayson	£5
May Winners:	No 19	Mrs G Jones	£29
	No 26	Mrs D Grevatt	£15
	No 96	Miss E Rhodes	£5

Abenhall Flower festival

June 11th and 12th 10.30 until 5.30

In Abenhall Church

The Theme is Favourite Childhood Books

and we are pleased that children from our school will be involved.

stalls, cakes, tombola etc and also a raffle.

Light refreshments will be available.

garden on a plate competition

Cream Tea

Fund Raiser and Social Event

Saturday June 25th

From 4.00pm at the Rectory, The Stenders

Tickets £5

from Sue Lewis or Fr David

Dates;

June 11th and 12th Flower Festival. Abenhall

June 15th Magazine Deadline

June 25th 4.00pm Cream tea, The Rectory

July 1st. School Summer fayre. From 3.30pm

July 2nd Songs of Praise. Mitcheldean Church

August 6th 7.00pm. Last Night of the proms. Mitcheldean Church

the messenger

From the Diocese of Gloucester

June 2016

**Thanksgiving and celebration, by Shahne Vickery,
Assistant Diocesan Director of Education**

Each June Gloucester Cathedral opens its doors to two and a half thousand Year Six children from the C of E primary schools right across the Diocese. It's definitely **my** favourite week of the year but most importantly the **children** say that it's one of the highlights of their entire time in primary education.

The services are first and foremost a celebration. They offer a unique opportunity for children to thank God for the teachers and friends who have supported them throughout the last seven years and to pray for God's blessing on the future as it opens up before them with all its opportunities and challenges.

At each service, different schools dance, sing and share their prayers on the particular theme for the year. This time the theme is *Making a Difference*. We will be celebrating the Queen's 90th birthday and reflecting on her amazing example of service to our nation. We'll also be considering how we will use the gift of our **own** lives to change the world wherever we are.

Over the last decade the Cathedral Leavers' Services have become more and more popular and have grown in number from two to six. We are hugely grateful to the Dean and Chapter as well as the staff in the Cathedral who cheerfully accommodate all our sound equipment and screens along with technicians, and Christian actors, dancers and storytellers (this year Bob Hartman will join us) not to mention the hundreds and hundreds of children each day. Hosting these acts of worship is a massive feat of organisation and I have a very dedicated support team who will pretty much begin organising next year's services as this year's conclude on 9 June.

Please pray for all our Church schools. They touch the lives of thousands of families and offer to children an education rooted in Christian faith and values which, of all the things they experience at primary school, is the gift beyond price.

Journeying Together—Next steps, conversations

Until 20 July, conversations are taking place across the Diocese, the outcomes of which will help shape our key diocesan priorities for the next five years.

We want to hear from you—who you are having these conversations with and where, so we can share your stories with others. The conversations will be focused around three key questions for the church community and three questions for the wider community which are listed below.

1. What is your impression of the Church of England in your local community?
2. What is your hope or vision for your local community in the next five years?
3. How might the Church be a part of this?

We need your response to these questions so please visit our dedicated website www.vision2016.org.uk to download feedback forms and discover other ways of responding. You can also tweet @GlosDioc using #JTV2016, email vision@glosdioc.org.uk or What's App us on 07592 626870.

Never too soon to pray, by the Revd Jo Wetherall, Children and Families Officer

My pregnant daughter hugs her growing tummy. 'Mum, when should I start sharing books with my baby?'

My simple answer is 'it's never too soon.' A longer answer would emphasise that sharing books is too important to leave to others or to chance; it should be something we do naturally and every day. This question can be asked about sharing prayer with our children and I would give the same answers. Like books, prayer takes us on a journey of exploration into God, ourselves and the world around us. Through prayer we create a safe place together where we can discover our identity in God, develop relationship, develop empathy, make connections about the world, and learn to create, even to play. The Young Families Prayer Calendar uses everyday language and situations from the world of the child to help families reflect and pray as part of their daily lives. It values the chatter and exploration which comes naturally to children and encourages them to use this in their encounters with God. To find out more, visit www.gloucester.anglican.org/church-outreach/children-youth-and-families/family-prayer-calendar

Events around the Diocese

Saturday 11 June, 3pm

Queen's 90th birthday celebration

Gloucester Cathedral

A summer garden party in the Cloister Garth with champagne afternoon tea, music and flowers. Tickets £15 from 01452 528095.

Saturday 11 June to Sunday 12 June, 10am to 5pm, Flower festival

St Peter's Church, Siddington

Flower Festival to celebrate the 90th birthday of HM the Queen. Refreshments and raffle. Songs of praise at 6pm on Sunday— all welcome.

Saturday 18 June, 10am to 3pm, a day of prayer and reflection

St Andrew's Church, Churchdown, GL3 2JT

Led by the Revd Canon Mark Oakley, Canon Chancellor of St Paul's Cathedral. Bring a packed lunch. Hot drinks are provided.

£12, tickets from Mrs Penny Lidstone,
01452 741410 penny@lidstone.net

Friday 8 to Sunday 10 July, Parry Festival

Venue: Church of the Holy Innocents, Highnam

A weekend of events celebrating the life and works of local composer Hubert Parry in the church built by his father. Events include concert by the Oriol Singers on Friday evening, exhibitions in the church over the weekend and a big sing where everyone can sing Parry's most famous piece of music, Jerusalem. For more information visit www.highnamchurch.org