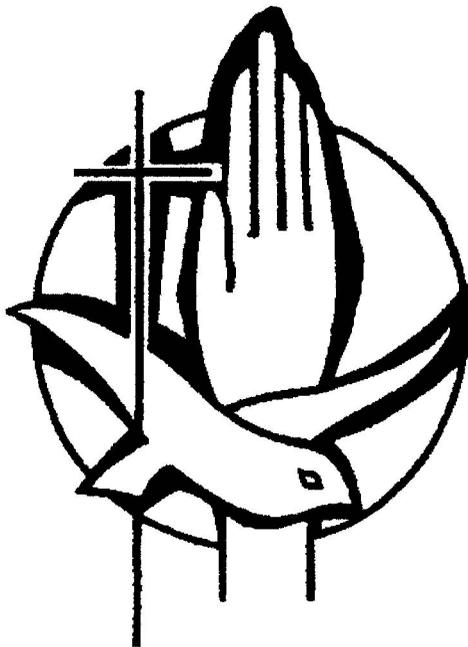




The Parish of
Mitcheldean and Abenhall

Parish News

Pentecost 2017



Pentecost

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)

9.00am Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday; 8.45am Friday **Morning prayer**

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 BCP or CW 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)

Contacts:

Fr David

fr.d.gill@gmail.com

01594 542952

Assistant Curate

The Reverend Lara Bloom

01452 830938

Licensed Reader.

Janet Keene

01594 780655.

Church Wardens:

Sue Lewis

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Items for the next News Letter to Fr David by 15th of this month please.

Don't forget this news letter is available by email or on the church website. If you'd like it emailed please send an email to Fr David

Licenses

Some of you may be aware that the right of presentation to the living for his benefice was suspended before I came to Mitcheldean. This meant that I was appointed as Priest in Charge not as incumbent. (Rector). The living is often suspended when pastoral re-organisation is being looked at. It is much easier for changes to parish boundaries or benefices to be made when the parish priest is not the incumbent.

Following our becoming one parish two years ago I was asked if there was any reason why the suspension should not be lifted. It has taken two years nearly but at last the Archdeacon has arranged to come and re-license me on Sunday 18th June at the 10.00am service, this means that I will then be the Rector of this parish.

There will be only one service on that Sunday so that we can all be together to worship with Archdeacon Jackie.

Songs of Praise: Following last summer's very successful community songs of praise with Forest Gate Church, we are going to do it all again on June 24th at 6.00pm in Mitcheldean Church. This year the theme is Summer Songs of praise. There is an opportunity for an ad-hock singing group to sing one or two songs, if you would be interested in being part of this please contact Louise Jones: louise@forestgatechurch.org 01594 544844 (*Leave a message with your phone number*)

For your Diary: On September 17th Bishop Rachel is visiting the parish. She will be with us at 3.00pm at Abenhall. On that Sunday there will be no 10.00am service at Mitcheldean. We will arrange transport to Abenhall for all who need it.

We are looking forward to the **flower festival** on the 17th and 18th of June. There is still a need for some helpers to be stewards and sell refreshments. Lists in church.

Daily Bible readings:

June:

1st 1John 4. 1-6

2nd 1John 4. 7-end

3rd 1John 5

4th John 20. 19-23

5th Romans 1. 1-7

6th Romans 1. 18-end

7th Romans 2. 1-6

8th Romans 2. 17-end

9th Romans 3. 1-20

10th Romans 3. 21-end

11th Matthew 28. 16-end

12th John 15. 12-17

13th Romans 5. 1-11

14th Romans 5. 1-11

15th John 6. 51-58

16th Romans 6. 1-14

17th Romans 6. 15-end

18th Matthew 9. 35-10. 8

19th Romans 7. 1-6

20th Romans 7. 7-end

21st Romans 8. 1-11

22nd Romans 8. 12-17

23rd Romans 8. 18-30

24th Luke 1. 57-66, 80

25th Matthew 10. 24-39

26th Romans 9. 1-18

27th Romans 9. 19-end

28th Romans 10.1-10

29th Matthew 16. 13-19

30th Romans 11. 1-12

Music, Tea and Swing..... CONCERT Coleford Community Choir

Conductor Sam Davis Supported by The Wind Band

On Saturday 8th July 2017 at 2.30pm

At St Michaels Church, Abenhall

Tickets £8. Including refreshments.

Cream Tea. The Rectory, The Stenders

Sunday July 9th 4.00pm – 6.00pm

Dates.

7th June. 7.30pm PCC. Mitcheldean Church

16th 7.00pm Flower Festival preview.

17th & 18th Flower Festival. Mitcheldean Church.

18th. 10.00am Archdeacon Jackie at Parish Eucharist

24th 6.00pm Community Songs of Praise, Mitcheldean Church

25th 10.00am Forest Gate Church at 10.00am service.

28th 7.00pm Study Group. Rectory

30th 3.30pm Summer Fayre. Primary School



Mitcheldean
Flower Festival

June 16th -18th 2017

9.00am – 5.00pm



Preview

Friday 16th

7.00pm – 9.00pm

Tickets £5

Includes wine and nibbles

Tickets from Sue Lewis 01594 542618

susan.lewis49@yahoo.co.uk



The Diocesan Messenger,

magination: Opening new paths to faith

Placing schools at the heart of our mission with creative connections between churches and schools

Alone we can do so little together we can do so much!

Rachel Howie, Diocesan Director of Education and CEO of DGAT

I find it hugely energising to see the creative connections between churches and schools in and around the diocese and I am excited about the possibilities that lie ahead. When parishes and schools work together great things happen.

I am continually surprised by the hidden gems of innovative partnerships that I hear about all over the diocese. From children asking churches for their prayer requests so they can pray for them in their collective worship, to churches providing mentors for children who need some extra support.

Activities such as these are going on around us but often we never hear about them. We need to share these ideas and inspire others to try something a little different in their context. What we take for granted on our own patch will be a light-bulb moment for someone else.

Partnerships between churches and schools don't have to look churchy. Many of the wonderful things I see involve faith in action, children living out the Christian values they learn about, alongside members of local churches. Enjoying each other's company, raising money for the same cause, sharing news from one another newsletters, gardening together, eating with one another, learning together and of course praying and worshipping together are all ways that connections between our churches and schools are being developed. Of course it is not the partnerships for their own sake, these connections and relationships help us all to grow as disciples and learn more about who we are and who others are in Jesus.

Alone we can do so little together church, school and the Holy Spirit - we can do so much!

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Growing links between church, school and community

R The gardening club at Linden Primary School in Gloucester will be sowing a new plot this summer, in the grounds of St Paul and St Stephen's Church. The Revd Ruth Fitter is planning to get her hands dirty and help the children to cultivate a new community garden. The children will learn gardening skills and be able to take the produce that they grow home.

Ruth said: "The church building and grounds are not just for the people who go to church and this is great a way of demonstrating that. The community garden is for all of us to share together.

"My dad is a farmer and an excellent gardener, but unfortunately it hasn't rubbed off on me! I am looking forward to learning more about gardening with the children and getting to know them."

Head of School Eileen Pegram said: "As a school, we believe that children learn through having experiences, so being part of a community garden project is very exciting for us."

A listening ear

Children in the Stroud area are getting a helping hand and a listening ear to get them through tough times with a mentoring scheme. The PSALMS sports ministry team goes into schools to support them. PSALMS youth worker Andy Poole said:

"We work with students that the schools are saying need support, get alongside them, hear their point of view and give them support for dealing with challenges."

One of the schools taking part is Nailsworth Church of England Primary School.

Head teacher Vince Southcott said: "It has been really successful. The mentors see the children once a week and talk about what's gone well, what hasn't and to think about targets and strategies for the next week. The children have a good relationship with their mentors and feel like the sessions are their time. The child is supported to deal with things in school, at home and helped academically. It's Christianity in action and that's fantastic."

The schools report that it has made such a difference in children's lives that PSALMS is recruiting more mentors from local church congregations for a new and separate 'god-parenting scheme.' In this scheme, young people will be linked with people from the local churches for conversation, friendship and support in faith.

The Revd Mike Smith said: "Some of the congregation at St George's feel that their youth work days are passed, but that this is something that they can offer. With the right training, they are able to be that listening ear and an older friend. Since the schools scheme started, the children taking part have had an increase in self confidence and have learnt to deal with issues in their own lives more readily as well as being better able to articulate their feelings."

To learn more about mentoring in schools schemes, contact PSALMS General Manager Fiona Gill on fiona.gill@psalms.uk.net

Events and training

Abundance—resourcing Christian mission in rural communities at Hartpury College
Saturday 10 June, 10am to 4.15pm

Resourcing Christians in working effectively with their local communities, providing inspiration and ideas that are tailored to the rural context. £10 including lunch and refreshments. Booking form www.gloucester.anglican.org/event/abundance

“God, Science and Faith: Richard Dawkins vs CS Lewis on the meaning of life” at Francis Close Hall Chapel, Cheltenham

Tuesday 13 June, 6pm (refreshments from 5pm)

The annual Cathedral-University Lecture with speaker Alister McGrath. Free. Places must be booked at <http://cathedral-lecture-2017eventbrite.co.uk>

Forest Church Quiet Day at the Viney Hill Christian Adventure Centre, near Lydney

Saturday 17 June, 10am to 4pm

Led by Bruce Stanley. A chance for nature to be at the heart of our engagement with God. A practical day and a quiet day. £10 (bring a packed lunch). To book email nkent@glosdioc.org.uk

Social media training at the Oasis Centre, Cheltenham.

Wednesday 21 June, 7pm to 8.30pm

Would you like to become more confident in using social media to promote your church or share your faith story? Come along to one of the diocesan Communications Team’s new monthly deanery social media training sessions. Free— reserve your space by emailing kclamp@glosdioc.org.uk

Have your say

Visit Facebook Diocese.of.Gloucester, email Katherine at kclamp@glosdioc.org.uk, follow us on Twitter [@glosdioc](https://twitter.com/glosdioc), view videos on YouTube Diocese of Gloucester or visit our website gloucester.anglican.org