

The United Benefice
of Tintinhull with Chilthorne Domer, Yeovil Marsh
and Thorne Coffin

✠ **NEWSLETTER** ✠
JULY 2015

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United Benefice Website can be found at <http://fourcrosses.weebly.com>

Dear Friends,

Towards the end of this month the schools will break up and the long summer holiday will begin. I remember it as something I looked forward to as a child (and I certainly looked forward to it as a teacher!). However, by the end of the long holiday I was ready to get back to school, and, if I'm honest, I was quite eager to do so. Life is full of things that we look forward to, but often the anticipation is better than the real thing. Perhaps it is that, in our imaginations, we build things up into something they can never match up to. But something very similar can happen with things we're dreading – perhaps a trip to the dentist. The anticipation makes it seem worse than it really is. There is a lot to be said for living in the moment. Simply accepting what we have now and finding satisfaction in it. Certainly this is something of a theme in St Paul's writing – Ephesians 5.16, 20, *Make the best of the present time, ... always and everywhere giving thanks to God*; Philippians 4.11, *I have learnt to manage with whatever I have*; 1 Timothy 6.6-8; and Jesus, in his Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 6.31) tells not to be anxious about what we shall eat. There is much more like this to be found in the Bible. One of the themes in the parable of the Prodigal Son is about being

satisfied with what we have.

The ability not to spend our lives longing for something that we do not have is a wonderful gift because it allows us to appreciate what we do have, and that, in turn, allows us to be content. This is one of the ways in which our faith operates in a different way to the world. We are surrounded by pressure to get a better car, a better TV, a better phone, the latest gadget, the newest fashion.

The Pope has recently published an encyclical, *Laudato si*, in which he encourages the nations to take real and urgent action to reverse the damage that we have caused to our world and to our environment. He challenges us to adopt policies and practices which protect our world rather than those which exploit it. Crucial to this is being satisfied with what we have and not always desiring more and better of everything. If you would like to read what he says you can download a pdf of the encyclical in the Resources section of the Benefice website fourcrosses.weebly.com.

On the Third Sunday before Lent the Collect is *Almighty God, who alone can bring order to the unruly wills and passions of sinful humanity: give your people grace so to love what you command and to desire what you promise, that,*

among the many changes of this world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord. May this be our constant prayer as we look to find our fulfilment not in material things but in God alone.

With best wishes in Christ, **Fr Peter**

A message from The Revd Preb Stephen Lynas, chaplain to the Bishops of Bath & Wells and Taunton: **Roll on those lazy, hazy, crazy days of summer!**

It was Nat King Cole in the 1960's who sang about his idealised summer break, with ice cream, the beach and good times all round. Your idea of a good holiday might be different.

For some people, it's enough to just escape from 'normal' - to get away from the alarm clock and the daily routine. It's cheap, and you don't even have to go away from home. Others look for adventure or travel- caving, skydiving, and bungee -jumping, or just tasting a foreign culture.

Two thoughts come to mind. Firstly, not everyone can have a decent holiday. Those out of work or with caring responsibilities can't just pack up the car or head for the airport. I'm always inspired by those churches who run holiday clubs: very often the children involved don't get much else outside the home all summer. It's a real gift to take the children off the parents' hands for a day or a week - everyone benefits.

Secondly, holiday is often the time to tackle the big issues in your personal life. Should I change job? Do I want to marry this person? When should I retire? How can I handle this diagnosis? Being away, having time with the right people makes it easier to see things in perspective.

However, it seems to me you can't take a holiday from saying your prayers. Even in summer, having a care for those less well-off or otherwise disadvantaged, for the Christian, calls you to prayer - and action. And wrestling with personal concerns gets a little simpler if

you can make the time to pray through what's bothering you. Often that's easier up on a windy cliff top or while you're idling on the beach.

So, your holiday isn't really an escape from daily life: it's more a chance to look at things through different lenses. We should all have holidays, but God doesn't need one. Whether it's on some exotic beach or just in the back garden, he'll be ready, waiting for you before you get there.

THE UNITED BENEFICE

YEOVIL MARSH

Church warden Mick Kane writes:

For our service at The Elms on the second Sunday of the month I had noticed that most of the residents have trouble following the words in the hymn books, so for our last service I typed out a few hymns on the computer and enlarged them as far as I could to print out on A4 sheets. This did appear to make an improvement for the residents, and I am wondering (having seen the exorbitant cost of large print hymn books) whether anyone in the benefice has a large print hymn book which I could borrow so that I could scan some of the residents favourite hymns and print them off in a readable size? As a two fingered typist who often hits the wrong keys it would save me a great deal of time and effort and make life better for part of God's home-bound congregation. Or better still, if anyone has a dozen large print hymn books tucked away gathering dust in a crypt, cellar or back of a cupboard, we can definitely find a use for them.

THORNE COFFIN

July's United Benefice service will be held in Thorne's pretty church dedicated to St Andrew. The Eucharist service starts at 10.30am on Sunday 5th, so why not come along and enjoy this little jewel of a church in a rural setting. All are very welcome to come to any of the services which are held throughout the four parishes in our Benefice. Details on the reverse of this sheet.

CHILTHORNE DOMER

Angie Clothier, Church warden writes:

"I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone involved in this year's Big Breakfast event. To all the people who worked so hard to make it such a big success and warm atmosphere a really big thank you.. It did help that the weather was warm too. A special thank you to those who slogged away in the kitchen (they know who they are), and to our two young waitresses. Including several generous donations, we collected over one thousand pounds which will go a long way towards keeping St Mary's in good condition. Our next fundraising event will be at the Village Fete on August Bank Holiday Monday."

On 23rd May St Mary's church welcomed Sam Brabbs and Sandra Cleal for their wedding and we wish them a long and happy life together. At the end of May Elissia Musson and Ebony White were both baptised at St Mary's on the same day. Welcome to your church family and may God Bless you and your families.

TINTINHULL

From church warden John Gower:

"HELP REQUIRED. As you know, the new Village Hall is being largely sponsored by the Lottery Fund. However, to obtain that money, the Village has to raise some funds and show the support that the villagers have for this project. St Margaret's PCC has agreed to do three coffee mornings on Saturday July 11th, August 8th and September 5th. These sessions will be between 9am and noon. Please let me know ASAP if you can help run one of these mornings or provide a cake for the raffle. Also, please support these mornings by coming to them.

On the social side, Jill Harris's next Poetry and Prose is on Thursday 9th July at 7.30 pm. These events are always very successful so please do support the evening. There may be time to contact Jill if you wish to do a reading (822320)."

John Gower can be contacted on 823521

POETRY AND PROSE - *an evening of verse and readings to stimulate the imagination!* There is nothing like this event on a fine summer's evening - with the porch door of St Margaret's Church wide open to the outside world with all of the sounds and smells of the countryside flooding in; nature all around us - roses and honeysuckle spring instantly to mind. A cushion brought from home is a helpful comfort aid and as usual the interval refreshments will include a glass of wine or soft drink and nibbles. You don't have to pay to come, there are no tickets to organise - ***you simply turn up and enjoy*** Wheelchair users can easily be accommodated and toilet facilities are available. Children from our two village schools will be coming to perform their contributions which are always fun and well presented. It is often surprising what the adult readers will come up with. So, in anticipation of yet another evening of good entertainment, thanks to Jill for her hard work in organizing it all for the 18th time! Do come along and check out this year's offerings. ***Hilary Cozens***

During May we welcomed Ellie-Jayne MacFarlane to our church family Her baptism was held at St Margaret's on 24th May.

Just a reminder that a ***Bring & Buy at the Post Office*** is being held at the Working Men's Club, Tintinhull on Wednesday 1st July from 10 am to 12 noon. The aim is to raise money for providing flowers in St Margaret's at special festivals throughout the year. You may have seen the arrangements that were put in our church for the VE Day commemoration service and some garden flowers were gathered for decorating St Margaret's in the recent Open Gardens event. Very many thanks to all who helped with supplying greenery, flowers and giving their time to arrange and water them. ***Hilary***

If anyone reading this could spare a couple of hours every six weeks to join a church cleaning team please contact Philippa Loughran on 824298.

SERVICES DURING JULY 2015

Day	Tintinhull	Chilthorne	Yeovil Marsh	Thorne
		No 10 am Eucharist this month		
Sunday 5th July Trinity 5				10.30am United Benefice Eucharist
Sunday 12th July Trinity 6	9.15am Parish Eucharist	10.45am Parish Eucharist	10.30am Morning Prayer	8am Eucharist (BCP)
Sunday 19th July Trinity 7	St Margaret's Day 8am Eucharist 10.45am Together 4 God	10.45am Matins		
Sunday 26th July Trinity 8	9.15am Parish Eucharist	8am Eucharist (BCP) 10.45am Together 4 God	10.45am Parish Eucharist	4pm Evensong
Sunday 2nd August Trinity 9		10.30am United Benefice Eucharist		

Last but not Least:

A late addition to Tintinhull news - all are welcome. Jenni Marfleet will be giving an illustrated talk about her time at the Nepal Leprosy Mission Hospital at the home of Peter and Carol Perry, Heathcliffe, Queen Street, Tintinhull on Tuesday 7th July at 3pm. Please let Carol know in advance if you would like to come Tel: 01935 822370.

In memorium: the funeral of Mr John Vickery was held at Yeovil Crematorium on the 29th May. May he rest in peace.

From the editor: if you have an item for the August issue of the Newsletter please let me have it on or before 19th July. Contributions are always welcome.