

St John the Evangelist

3rd Sunday of EASTER

Signpost Weekly

5th May 2019

Dear Friends,

May has arrived and hopefully a bit more Spring weather. We are in the season of Easter which lasts fifty days till Pentecost. It is traditionally a period of prayer and praise, with a special emphasis between Ascension Day and Pentecost Sunday. We are holding an ecumenical Ascension Day Praise on Thursday 30th May from 7.30pm and joining in a world wide wave of prayer. Do put the date in your diaries.

I'd also like to thank those who have stood for the PCC this year. However, we have only filled half the vacancies and still have five to fill. Please do consider being part of this vital group which shares in the leadership of our church. I hope to prepare and have letters available next weekend which explains the importance.

Rev Preb Sharon



Finding the best in the world

It's Somerset day on Saturday, 11 May. It is an opportunity to profile some of the delights of our county and develop relationships across our communities. It is on this day that we remember Alfred (a failed 'Bake Off' contestant?) taking on the Vikings from the Somerset marshes and winning, thus spawning a 'make Somerset great again' moment.

Now, don't get me wrong, this isn't about us in Somerset trying to prove we are better than anyone else. We have seen plenty in recent days which has sought to divide rather than unite us as a country. Rather, this is an opportunity to value the uniqueness of some of our wonderful people, places and possibilities here in Somerset and across the diocese. I do hope you will join in! See www.somersetday.com for more details.

And surely that is what the Church should be about too. Celebrating all that is good, joyful and abundant in us. It reminds me of those words from Philippians 4:8...

'Whatever is true, whatever is honourable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.'

It is so easy to get caught up with negatives, with the glass half empty syndrome, with stuff that brings us down rather than building us up. I wonder if we might make this month one where we encourage ourselves and others to find the best in the world and people around us. Live life in all its fullness! (*John 10:10*)

Rt Rev Ruth Worsley

Bishop of Taunton

COLLECTS AND READINGS

5th May 3rd Sunday of Easter Acts 9.1-6; Revelation 5.11-end; John 21.1-19

Collect: Risen Christ, you filled your disciples with boldness and fresh hope: strengthen us to proclaim your risen life and fill us with your peace, to the glory of God the Father.

Post Communion: 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 for ever.

12th May 4th Sunday of Easter Acts 9.36-end; Revelation 7.9-end; John 10.22-30

Collect: Risen Christ, faithful shepherd of your Father's sheep: teach us to hear your voice and to follow your command, that all your people may be gathered into one flock, to the glory of God the Father.

Post communion: Merciful Father, you gave your Son Jesus Christ to be the good shepherd, and in his love for us to lay down his life and rise again: keep us always under his protection, and give us grace to follow in his steps; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Our Pastoral Prayers



To include somebody on this prayer list please let Shirley in the office know by 8am on Thursday, making sure the person you wish to be included wants their name in print.

Marriage

Couples recently united, and those preparing for marriage, especially Stuart & Dayna-Rae, Marie & Cameron and

Baptisms:

We pray for parents, godparents and those preparing to be baptised; especially for Ethan and Annabelle who are to be baptised next week.

Those in need of our prayers:

Margaret Moyle, Hazel, Betty Montgomery, Betty Player, Christine Marston, Val & George Crawford Maureen & Ian Thompson

For those who have died: We pray for those who have recently died and their loved ones who grieve their loss.

Those whose anniversary falls this week:

Frank Foley, Virginia Moxey

PRAYER FOCUS

Sunday:

Give thanks today

Monday:

Pray for your neighbours

Tuesday:

Pray for work colleagues or a friend

Wednesday:

Pray for those who care for loved ones at home

Thursday:

Pray for the many families we engage with through Toddlers and Little Angels

Friday:

Those who are living with anxiety

Saturday:

For time spent with family and friends



(Re)discovering God's vision for Highbridge

At our APCM meeting on Wednesday a small group presented plans for a process that we as a church will be undertaking in the coming months.

Please do collect a copy of the outline of the proposed process if you were not at the APCM. Any member of the small group who have been working on this (Neil Biddiscombe, Derick Cooper, Jenny Dolan, Chris Perry with Rev Dan and Rev Sharon) will happily chat to you about our thinking and how we have reached this early stage.

EASTER FLOWERS

A HUGE thank you to Olga and Helen for the wonderful floral displays that enhanced our Easter celebrations. Thanks too to all who sponsored lilies in memory of loved ones.

NEW OFFICE EMAIL

We have now set up a new office email account, so hopefully you should have received your copy of the Signpost this week electronically – if not, please telephone the office to let Shirley know; also, if you would like to be added to the list and help save paper and photocopying costs, just get in touch. Remember that you can also access the Signpost via our website.

Please use this for all correspondence now:

stjohnsofficehighbridge@gmail.com

MUSIC MARATHON

Next month on **Saturday 15th June** we are holding a “mini music marathon,” from 2pm - 10pm. That’s still quite a long time. We are offering cream teas and an evening BBQ.

Tickets for the food will go on sale soon for this event.

Please do two things: spread the word of the event and consider offering to assist on the day.

Safeguarding Training

On Tuesday 16th May we are hosting Safeguarding Training for the deanery in the hall. This will run from 6pm to 8pm. Vicky Christophers from the Diocese will be joining us to deliver the training. It is essential that all engaging with children and vulnerable adults access this important and necessary training. Please let Jo Burridge (Parish Safeguarding Officer) or the office know if you have not yet let Jo know that you will be attending.

CALENDAR

Who's Who at St John's:

Vicar: Rev'd Preb Sharon Crossman 789290
Training Curate: Rev'd Dan Crouch 325194
Churchwarden: Chris Perry 783753

Sun 5th 8am Service of the Word 9.30am Communion

Tues 7th 10am Toddlers in church hall

Wed 8th 9.30am Said Communion & 10.00am Foodbank Listening Place in church hall

Thurs 9th 10.30am Little Angels in church hall

Sun 12th 8am Said Communion 9.30am Family Communion 3pm Baptism

Tues 14th 10am Toddlers in church hall

6pm Safeguarding Training in hall

Wed 15th 9.30am Said Communion & 10.00am Foodbank Listening Place in church hall

7.30pm PCC in Hall

Thurs 16th 10.30am Little Angels in church hall

Sun 19th 9am Communion 3pm Communion & Tea

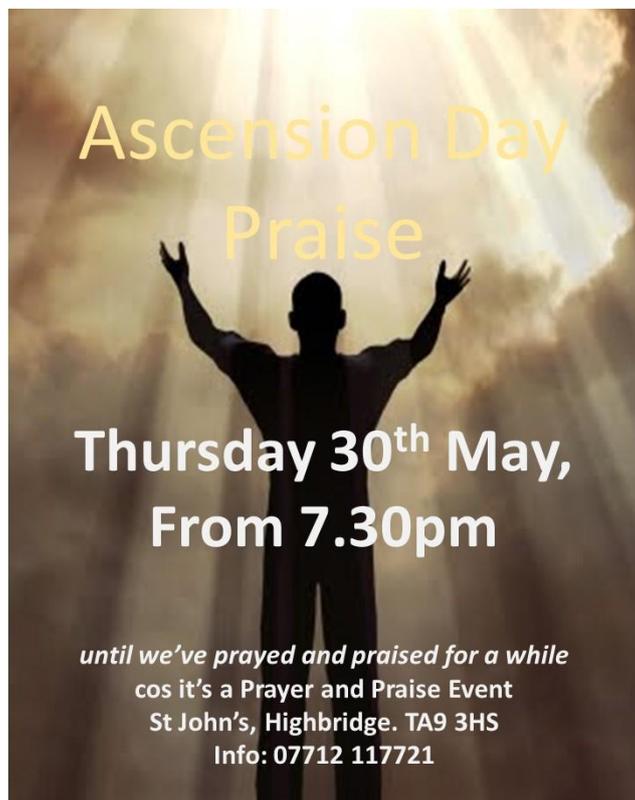
Tues 21st 10am Toddlers in church hall

Wed 22nd 9.30am Said Communion & 10.00am Foodbank Listening Place in church hall

Thurs 23rd 10.30am Little Angels in church hall

Sat 25th 12.30pm Wedding

Sun 26th 8am Said Communion 9.30am Communion



To submit an article for the Signpost Weekly please e-mail:

stjohnsofficehighbridge@gmail.com or leave a message on 01278 780633 by 8am on Thursday

Parish office opening hours:

Weds 8am-2pm Thurs 8am-10am

Fri 8am -noon

Please ring in advance

St Margaret's Hospice Afternoon Tea

You are invited to a cream tea on Thursday 9th May at 2.30pm in Room 3, Burnham & Highbridge community Centre, Burnham. Please see notice in church for further details.

A Churches Together Event. You might as well come along.... In fact be late, be early, come at the end, just come at some point and be part of something for all Christians in our area....