

AMELCOTE BENEFICE



The Messenger

April 2017

The Rector, The Reverend Marion Reynolds

The Rectory, Pattishall, 01327 830573

Honorary Assistant Priest (Retired), The Reverend Hugh Kent

Readers: Peter Stiling, Nigel Strang, Sue Titheridge

Certified Lay Worship Leader: Jean Pugh

Churchwardens

Cold Higham	Pauline Pearson	01327 830 287
Gayton	David Coppock	01604 859 645
	Andy Hartley	01604 858 360
Pattishall	Gail Stuart	01327 831 534
	Ian Pugh	01327 830 909
Tiffield	Mike Dean	01327 350 077
	Philip Titheridge	01327 351 219

Annual Parish Council Meetings (APCMs) will be held on the following dates in church. All are invited to attend, to find out what has been happening 'behind the scenes' in church over the past year. If you are on the church electoral roll, you will also be able to vote.

6th April 2pm, St Luke, Cold Higham

9th April 11am, St John the Baptist, Tiffield

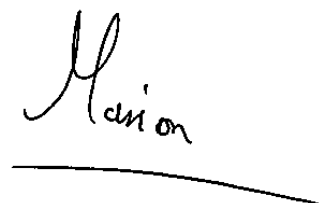
27th April 7:30pm, Holy Cross, Pattishall

From the Rector

Firstly, many thanks for all the cards, flowers, and messages of get well that I've received over the last two months as I started my recovery from the hip replacement. To date the recovery is going well – I'm doing my exercises, not overdoing the walking, just started driving again and generally doing what the surgeon and physios are telling me to do. I am also having to exercise a great deal of patience – something that does not come naturally to me – and am experiencing a great deal of frustration as I just can't do some of the things I usually take for granted. In some ways the last three months have been a very salutary and valuable experience for both Paul and I and we thank God for his many blessings to us. Secondly can I also express my thanks for all the hard work that has been done in my absence, especially by Hugh and Sue.

It's nearly Easter - please check the Messenger for service dates and times across the benefice. On Good Friday we welcome Henry Rankin and his fellow Vine musicians for a performance of Haydn's Seven Last Words of Christ from the Cross at St Mary's, Gayton. It is a special devotional time on the most solemn day of the church year so please do come along at 6pm. Easter is the most joyful time of the year so please do make time to join one of our celebration services on Easter Day.

Immediately after Easter our service pattern across the benefice changes so please do read the Messenger and check the times of the services and what liturgy is being used, when and where. The service pattern has been the same for the last five years so it was time it was reviewed. A small cross-benefice group looked at the services we offer and recommended some changes. The revised service rota was put to each of the four PCCs who passed it along with a new Morning Prayer liturgy and a couple of revisions to our existing liturgies (which had been in use since some time before my arrival in 2012 and which needed standardising). Hopefully the new service pattern provides a mixture of Eucharistic and non-Eucharistic, formal and informal worship. There is always one main Common Worship Holy Communion in the benefice each week; the non-Eucharistic services vary with each of our churches. Can I please encourage everyone to be openminded and embrace what we are trying to do to provide real, meaningful worship to all across the whole benefice, and pray for God's blessing on our endeavours.



Mission

Readings for April 2017

2 nd April (Lent 5)	Ezekiel 37: 1 - 14 Psalm 130	Romans 8: 6 - 11 John 11: 1 - 45
9 th April (Palm Sunday)	Isaiah 50: 4 – 9a Psalm 31: 9 - 16	Philippians 2: 5 - 11 Matthew 26: 14-end27
16 th April (Easter Day)	Jeremiah 31: 1 - 6 Psalm 118: 1 – 2, 14 - 24	Acts 10: 34 – 43 (must be used) Matthew 28: 1 - 10
23 rd April (Easter 2)	Exodus 14: 10 - end Psalm 16	Acts 2: 14a, 22 - 32 (must be used) John 20: 19 - end
30 th April (Easter 3)	Zephaniah 3: 14 - end Psalm 116: 1 – 3, 10 - end	Acts 2: 14a, 36 – 41 (must be used) Luke 24: 13 – 35
7 th May (Easter 4)	Genesis 7 Pslam 23	Acts 2: 42 – end (must be used) John 10: 1 - 10

Supporting our Churches: Ensure that your regular giving to your church is maximised at no cost in money, time, or effort to you by giving through Peterborough Diocese. You can set up a standing order mandate payable to the diocese, who will then give the money plus the tax refund (as long as you are a UK taxpayer) to your church every month. For details ask the church treasurer or Reverend Marion.

From the Registers

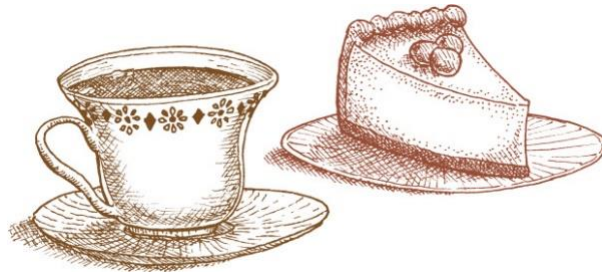
RIP		
2 February	Sheila Mary Emmett	St Mary's, funeral and burial
10 February	John Bower Atkinson	St John the Baptist, funeral and burial
25 February	Lilian Rose Milner	St John the Baptist, interment of ashes
17 March	Isobel Ann Smith	Holy Cross, funeral and burial
17 March	Michael Henry Jones	St Mary's, burial

Food and Fellowship



The Well Group is a small friendly group of Christian women who meet monthly at Astcote Methodist Church to chat over a simple lunch and enjoy short talks on a variety of topics. All are welcome, so do come along and join us. For more information and to book a place please contact Alison albrierley@btinternet.com. Upcoming dates:

- 30 March The Reverend David Bown: Needs and pitfalls of rural
Village Life in South India
- 27 April Margaret Williams: the Challenge of William Carey



Tea and Cakes at Holy Cross

2 April, 7 May, 4 June, 2 July, 6 August, 3 September, & 1 October

From 3.00 until 4.30pm

Enjoy a friendly chat over a delicious homemade cake on the first Sunday of the month from April through October.

All proceeds to the Church Fund.

Thursday April 6th from 10.30 until 12 noon
Lent coffee morning at Hugh and Hilary's
10 Booth Close, Pattishall

Saturday 29th April, 8:30-9:30am

Monthly Prayer Breakfast at The Rectory

A chance to get together to share breakfast and a time of prayer for the benefice and also for whatever is on our heart and mind.

Saturday 6th May 7.30pm

MEDIAVAL BANQUET AT HOLY CROSS

Tickets on sale now! £20 per head from the fundraising committee.

Hog Roast, entertainment, optional period dress and much more! We look forward to welcoming many noblemen & women, vassals, freemen and serfs to our evening of feasting and fun!



Holy Cross Churchyard – Update

Both the churchyard and Old Burial Ground are looking much smarter following their clean-up, however during the works it was found that a number of headstones and tombs may be unsafe.

The next step will be to do a survey and submit a detailed report to the PCC, who will discuss the next course of action. Whilst this is in progress, we ask members of the congregation and public not to walk on the gravestone areas – thank you.

SEASONAL MUSIC

Friday 31st March, 7.30pm

Holy Cross Church, Pattishall

Music for Lent performed by Consensus Vocalis

This concert features music for voices from the Renaissance to the present day portraying the life of Jesus as seen by the Virgin Mary and Mary Magdalene.

Wine & Light bites, Free Entrance

Retiring collection in aid of church funds

9th April (Palm Sunday) 7.30pm

St Lawrence Church, Towcester

The Armed Man: A Mass for Peace by Karl Jenkins

Performed by Towcester Choral Society & South Northamptonshire Festival Orchestra, with Soprano Soloist Morag Boyle

This piece was written for and dedicated to the victims of the Kosovo war and is about the growing menace of a descent into war, interspersed with moments of reflection. It shows the horrors that war brings and ends with the hope for peace in a new millennium, when "sorrow, pain and death can be overcome".

Details of where to purchase tickets by calling 01327 353314 or

email: tickets@towcesterchoralsociety.org.uk

A TIME OF MEDITATION ON THE HOLIEST DAY OF THE CHURCH YEAR

Friday 14th April (Good Friday) at 6.00pm

St Mary the Virgin, Gayton

The Vine Quartet will play *The Seven Last Words of Christ from the Cross* by Joseph Haydn

Admission free, with retiring collection

Information from Anna Fox 01604 859444



Calendar of Events in our Benefice – details inside newsletter

Thu 30 March	12 noon	The Well Group at Astcote Church
Fri 31 March	7.30pm	Music for Lent performed by Consensus Vocalis at Holy Cross
Sun 2 April	3-4.30pm	Tea and cakes at Holy Cross
Thu 6 April	10.30am-12 noon	Lent coffee morning at Hugh and Hilary's, 10 Booth Close, Pattishall
	2pm	APCM at St Luke's, Cold Higham
Sun 9 April	11am	APCM at St John the Baptist, Tiffield
Wed 12 April	11:00am-3:00pm	Hansons Antiques valuation day in Cold Higham Village Hall. Refreshments available with profit from sale to St Luke's church
Fri 14 April	6pm	St Mary's - a performance of Haydn's Seven Last Words from the Cross.
Tue 25 April	ALL DAY	Copy deadline for May Messenger
Thu 27 April	12 noon	The Well Group at Astcote Church
	7.30pm	APCM at Holy Cross, Pattishall
Sat 29 April	8:30-9:30am	Monthly Prayer Breakfast at The Rectory
Sat 6 May	7.30pm	Medieval Banquet at Holy Cross
Sun 7 May	3-4.30pm	Tea and cakes at Holy Cross
Sat 1 - Sun 2 July	10.30am – 4.00pm	Annual Art Exhibition at St Luke's, Cold Higham – details TBA, but save the dates!

From the Editor. After the dull days of winter it is a joy to feel the warmth of the sun and to see the new born lambs playing in the fields. It's also uplifting to see how many opportunities we have to enjoy fellowship, food and some good music together in the Lent and Easter seasons – I hope everyone will be able to go to at least one of the many upcoming events.

As always, thank you to all who send content for the Messenger. The copy deadline for the May issue is Tuesday 25 April. Please email kirsten.gibbs@virgin.net, phone 01327 830 707, or give to Reverend Marion. Thank you!



Church Services for April 2017: *New Rota from this Month*

Date	Time	Service	Venue
2 nd April	8:00am	BCP Holy Communion	Pattishall
	9:30am	Informal worship	Pattishall
	9:30am	CW Holy Communion	Gayton
	11:00am	CW Holy Communion (said)	Cold Higham
9 th April	9:30am	Family Worship	Cold Higham
	9:30am	CW Holy Communion	Tiffield
	11:00am	CW Holy Communion	Pattishall
10 th April	7:00pm	CW Holy Communion	Tiffield
11 th April	7:00pm	CW Holy Communion	Cold Higham
12 th April	6:30pm	CW Holy Communion	Gayton
13 th April	7:30pm	CW Holy Communion + Vigil	Pattishall
14 th April	2:00pm	Last Hour at the Cross	Cold Higham
	6:00pm	Devotional Hour	Gayton
16 th April	8:00am	BCP Holy Communion	Pattishall
	9:30am	CW Family Communion	Pattishall
	9:30am	CW Family Communion	Cold Higham
	9:30am	CW Family Communion by extn	Tiffield
	11:00am	CW Family Communion	Gayton
23 rd April	9:30am	Morning Worship	Pattishall
	11:00am	CW Holy Communion	Cold Higham
30 th April	9:30am	Benefice Holy Communion	Tiffield
7 th May	8:00am	BCP Holy Communion	Pattishall
	9:30am	Informal Worship	Pattishall
	9:30am	Morning Worship	Gayton
	11:00am	CW Holy Communion	Tiffield
	1:30pm	Holy Baptism	Pattishall