The Ridgeway Churches

Childrey: Kingston Lisle: Letcombe Regis: Letcombe Bassett: Sparsholt: West Challow

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MARCH 2016

Revd Leonora Hill Rector of the Ridgeway Benefice revd.lahill@btinternet.com 01235 760112

Dear All

No one has ever said that taking Lent seriously is easy. However, self-denial of chocolate, wine, the pre-dinner gin & tonic or even for a seven year old surrendering his tomato ketchup, is giving up on non-essential pleasures, when alternatives are easily available.

This year Christian Aid suggests instead we look at subjects such as climate change, education, hunger and, of course, emergencies and then count our own blessings. Further information can be found at: http://www.christianaid.org.uk/Images/CYB-adult-Jan-2016.pdf or in this month's edition of The Door.

No human can exist without bread and water for 40 days and as we prepare to celebrate Easter and the ultimate sacrifice let us give thanks for our daily bread.

Sue Worth

FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

BAPTISM

Poppy Hope Grant 31st January 2016 Childrey Lily Joy Grant 31st January 2016 Childrey

SERVICE OF THANKSGIVING

Audrey Roberts 17th February 2016 Letcombe Regis

LENT STUDY COURSE: CHILDREY VILLAGE HALL Thursday 18th February – Thursday 17th March 2016

7:30 – 9:00pm

The Psalms: prayers for today's church
A course in five sessions written by Stephen Cottrell



On Palm Sunday we celebrate the re-opening of St. John the Baptist, Kingston Lisle with a service of Holy Communion at 10:00am led by Bishop Colin. At noon Bishop Colin will be at Letcombe Regis to see the work that has been completed at St. Andrew's Church.

Then at 3:00pm Bishop Colin will enter St Mary's Childrey through the new porch doors, which were given by the Marks family in memory of Tom, before joining us for Evening Prayer with Blessings. The Childrey Village Choir will sing extracts from Vivaldi's Gloria and this special day will end with refreshments in the South Transept of St. Mary's where, like St. Andrew's, we now have a kitchenette and loo!

Do come and join in at some point during the day.

Coming Soon.

Friday 4th March: The Tear Fund Lunch will be held at Cedarwood, West Street, Childrey, from 12.30pm onwards by kind invitation of Linda & Rob Soames. Please come along and support the work of Tear Fund.

Saturday 5th March – the WI in Letcombe Regis is organising a village clean-up to mark the Queen's 90th birthday year. Meet at 10am for coffee in St Andrews Church and instructions!

Sunday 6th March – Mothering Sunday Celebration Services will be held at St Mary's Childrey at 10am; St Andrews Letcombe Regis also at 10am and at Letcombe Bassett at 3pm.

Saturday 12th March – Childrey's very own pop-up teashop will be in St Mary's Church from 10am – 1pm. Come and while away a relaxing Saturday morning with music and scrummy cakes! Lots for the children to do as well, so come along! All proceeds go to Little Ducks preschool. For further info call Suzy 07774686877

Sunday 13th March at 3pm the St James Singers will be at St Mary's Childrey for Choral Evensong, followed by refreshments.

Sunday 27th March Easter Morning Family Service & Easter Egg Hunt at 11am in St Marys Church with the Childrey Village Choir.

And By the Way....!

Kingston Lisle's restoration works are now complete and they look forward to seeing you at their reopening service at 10am with Bishop Colin and Ed Vaizey MP on Palm Sunday 20th March.

St Laurence West Challow is now an official "Small Pilgrim Church" and it is hoped that visitors from different parts of the country will come to see the church. www.smallpilgrimplaces.org.

A system for fundraising for St Laurence Church has now been set up. If you wish to help please text STLA and the amount you wish to donate.

St Mary's Childrey enjoyed having Lenny Cornforth's Art Exhibition last month. **Monday 21**st **April** sees the next arts event which will be a music recital by King Alfred's students at 7pm. Further details next month.

St George's Day fund-raising Supper on Saturday 23rd April – again more details next month!

LOST: Small black folding umbrella after the 10am Service on Xmas Day at Sparsholt church. If found please return it to the porch where Philippa can claim it!

CARER: Kindly carer required to be part of a team to help an elderly lady in Sparsholt. Phone Jane on 01945 461730.

As the Crown Nominations Commission meet again on 7th – 8th March A Prayer for the appointment of the new Bishop of Oxford

Gracious Lord and shepherd of your pilgrim Church, We bless you and praise you that you have gathered us, from across this Diocese, to be one flock, within one fold. By your Spirit, give us wisdom, courage and faith as we seek a faithful pastor who will sustain us on the journey, feed us with word and sacrament and nurture our 'Living Faith' inspiring us to follow you ever more closely. This we ask in the name of Jesus, our loving, faithful shepherd, who is the beginning and the end of all that we are and seek and do.

Amen
Have a Joyous Easter!!

Ridgeway Benefice Church Services for March 2016

	6 th March	13 th March	20 th March	27 th March	3 rd April
	Mothering	Fifth Sunday of	Palm Sunday	Easter Day	Second Sunday
	Sunday	Lent			of Easter
Childrey	10:00am	3:00pm	3:00pm	11:30am	8:30am
	Family	Choral	Evening	Family	Holy
	Service	Evensong**	Prayer	Service at St	Communion
			(Bishop Colin)	Mary's	
West		11:30am			
Challow		Family Service			
		-			
Letcombe	10:00am	10:00am	10:00am	10:00am	10:00am
Regis	Family	Holy	Matins	Holy	Matins
	Service	Communion		Communion	
				3:00pm	
				Baptism	
Letcombe	3:00pm		8:30am	10:00am	
Bassett	Family		Blessing of	Holy	
	Service		Palms + Holy	Communion	
			Communion		
Sparsholt	8:30am			8:30am	
_	Holy			Holy	
	Communion			Communion	
Kingston			10:00am	10:00am	10:00am
Lisle			Holy	Holy	Holy
			Communion	Communion	Communion
			(Bishop Colin)		

** St James Singers will lead Choral Evensong at 3:00pm St Mary's, Childrey

Letcombe Regis	6th March	Matins	Lay led
Letcombe Regis	20th March	Matins	Lay led
Kingston Lisle	20th March	Holy communion	Bishop Colin
Letcombe Bassett	Easter Day	Holy communion	The Revd Paul Faint
Letcombe Regis	Easter Day	Holy communion	The Revd Antonia Cretney
Childrey	3rd April	Holy Communion	The Revd Antonia Cretney
Kingston Lisle	3rd April	Holy Communion	The Revd Paul Faint

HOLY WEEK

24th March	7:30pm	-	The Washing of Feet and Holy Communion	St Mary's, Childrey
25th March	2:00pm	Good Friday	A Service for Good Friday***	The Church of the Holy Rood, Sparsholt
26th March	8:00pm	Easter Saturday	Service of Light	St Laurence, West Challow

***The Benefice Choir will lead our Good Friday Service at 2:00pm at Sparsholt

Please send any items for Signpost to:- Chic Cook 01235 751078 or email: elizabeth@lesters.org.uk by the 15th of each month. Thank you!