

# Linking Parish Churches around Bridgnorth **CROSS+LINK**



St Mary Magdalene  
Bridgnorth



SS Peter + Paul  
Tasley



St Calixtus  
Astley Abbots



St Nicholas  
Oldbury



St Mary Magdalene  
Quatford



St Leonards Hall  
Bridgnorth



Bridgnorth  
St James' Hall

Acton Round  
St Mary the Virgin

Aston Eyre  
Aston Eyre

Monkhopton  
St Peter's

Morville  
St Gregory the Great

Upton Cressett  
St Michael's



## Clergy Thoughts from Sarah

During Lent we enjoyed a course of talks around the environment entitled Living Well in the World, and I thought I might explore a little of what that means as Christians. Jesus wasn't a bossy chap, and didn't leave us a lot of complicated rules which are hard to interpret. He said Love God with all you've got, love yourself, love your neighbour, love your enemy and don't worry. That is about the sum of it, though there are ways in which he expands on these basic rules of life to give some guidance in working them out.

As we have learnt together, and with people from the other expressions of church in the town and across the benefice, about some of the troubling issues in our environment I have been thinking more about what it means for us to take our place in the world.

To some extent we choose the position we inhabit, and to some extent we fit in with the expectations of those around us, and our context in life. There are many choices which we can make, which we might not be used to considering.

God places us, each one of us, on the earth for God's delight and pleasure. We are not in existence by accident, and we are not here and now by accident. We are here for God's love and to give God glory, just by being alive. So for me, to live well, means to remember that I am dearly loved by God, as you are, and that I have a place and purpose, just as you do. I honour your place and appreciate you being in the world. This is why so many are outraged by the invasion of Ukraine – because that place and those people have been violated by the unwarranted intrusion and destruction. Many of us have been eager to do something, however little, to try and support those whose lives have been rudely interrupted. It was lovely to see St Mary's church in Bridgnorth full of those coming to give and enjoy a concert organised by the folk group in town recently, others have given generously, have sent supplies out to the refugees, others offering their homes.

This area has a history of being a Fairtrade Town, another way to value the others who produce our food, and are not always so well regarded by big businesses. To live well in the world means to recognise that we are all one – one universe, one earth which we all inhabit together.

*As a poet says – Universe, one voice, whether we like it or not, all sing together.*

And to live well in the world means that we recognise that we are a small part of creation: bacteria, insects, great iconic mammals, and invisible plankton, wide ranging fungi are all part of the interconnected whole in which we take our place. We live well when we remember that everything else has to live here too.

Being dearly loved of God, made with purpose and delight does not make us proud, but causes us to wonder, and to find our place amongst all the other wonderful parts of God's own world.

God bless you this summer time with peace, and the gift of wonder.

*Sarah*

## **News from St Mary's**

I hope by the time you read this you will all have had a very holy and happy Easter although at the time of writing this though we are still very much in Lent.

Like all churches we have been marking Lent and this year our Lent talks have been all about our Environment and what we can do to help protect our environment with particular emphasis on what we can do and what is going on locally. These talks have been very interesting and thought provoking. They have encouraged me to finally visit both the Green shop and the Refill Shop and to give much more thought to what resources I am using on a daily basis.

This month also saw St Mary's having the honour of hosting the town's concert in support of the Ukrainian crisis. This will no doubt be one of the first of many events to support Ukraine and was very well supported by the town. It is good to be part of events which remind us we are the town's church and at the heart of our community life.

Having contributed to Crosslink for more years than I can remember you would think by now I would know when the deadline is but no last month I completely managed to miss it. What this means is that there are a couple of things I would have mentioned last month which are still well worth a mention now.

Firstly I hope that many of you had an opportunity to visit the art exhibition that we were so lucky to have on display during Lent. Sandie Phillips is an amazing artist who generously shares her time and talent with us in so many ways to enhance the life of our church and this exhibition was no exception.

Second I would like to mention an event that which although may now have passed is worth a mention as the event gave us a chance to worship and pray with other Christians in the town. The first Friday of March saw us hosting the world day of prayer/ he service was very well attended and although written long before the invasion of Ukraine the current events in Ukraine gave the service an extra poignancy. It is always good to meet with other Christians. *Catherine*

## Winning tickets for the St Mary's 200 Club April 2022 draw are as follows

£20 Margaret Leach 183  
£10 Christopher Speke 75  
£10 Lorna Shade 21  
£10 Kaye King 161  
£10 Sylvia Robbins 11  
£10 Sarah Griffiths 178  
£10 Marilyn Hammerton 42

## ST MARY'S CONNECT

Our next lunch and get together is on **Tuesday 17th May** In The function room at The Shakespeare Pub **at 12.30** If you would like to join us please contact Helen Howell on 01746 763066 to book your place, these are limited and will be allocated on a first come first served basis. This will take place on the Third Tuesday of every month thereafter.



## ST MARY'S COFFEE SHOP

St Mary's Coffee Shop

Every Saturday—10.30am—12.30pm

At the back of church

## NEWS FROM ASTLEY ABBOTTS

We seem to have been enjoying a busy time here at St Calixtus, as I write I am reflecting on yesterday's Palm Sunday Service which was such an uplifting time of worship, so many of us joined together to follow Rev Simon & Red the Donkey up the church path to remember & celebrate with Palm Crosses & jubilant hymns & songs. The children enjoyed toys & colouring in Palm Sunday pictures, many thanks to Rosemary Patey. They also fed Red lots of carrots! Despite the carrots, Red decided not to join us inside church, much to Mr Phillips' dismay, but church was very full anyway so it was probably for the best! We all enjoyed lots of fellowship afterwards over coffee, cake & biscuits. May's calendar looks quite exciting too, Pop Up Cafe on Wednesday 4th May 9-11am & Saturday 7th May 10-12noon, do join us at what has become a really enjoyable social time, everything is free, including crafts for the children in their supervised play area, so Mom & Dad can enjoy some grown up socialising if they wish. We have a wedding on 14th May, we wish you every blessing on your special day & throughout the rest of your lives together Hannah & Kingsley. On Sunday 22nd May we have a Spring Celebration Service in the grounds of Stanley Hall, starting at 10.30am. There will be a children's gazebo too, with songs, themed play & fun. We are really looking forward to this joint service with St Peter & St Paul, Tasley, which will be under shelter but outside so a really different event and the grounds of Stanley Hall look so stunning in Spring. We will enjoy our usual refreshments after the service, with plenty of time for enjoying the lovely grounds too. Please do join us. The following week, Sunday 29th May, Stanley Hall Gardens are open in aid of charity under the National Gardens Scheme so we thought it would be lovely to end the day with a Songs of Praise Service at 6pm in church afterwards, come along for a good sing, let us know your favourite hymns ahead of time so you don't miss out! Refreshments following will be more suited to an evening, we will be fed up of cake by then! Hope to see you there. It really has been so much fun seeing so many of you from the Parish at events and services recently, we hope to see you at some or all of May's services. If you would like to help out at church services in any way, Graham Patey very kindly

draws up a rota of jobs, readings, setting up, serving coffee etc. Please do let him, or one of us know if you would like to be involved, the tasks aren't onerous & you can be on the rota as infrequently as fits in with the rest of your busy life.

Love to you all from St Calixtus

Idonea & Helen

## Quatford News

A reasonably quiet time for us at Quatford, with the lead up to Easter. Our Palm Sunday service was reasonably well supported, and some of our congregation joined Oldbury congregation for the Easter Sunday service, led by Marjorie, which was enjoyed I'm sure by all who attended. Plans are on going for our social and fund raising events for the coming year.

We plan to plant a number of trees ( having lost three in recent years )to mark the Queens platinum jubilee, but that will be later in the year, at the appropriate time.

Further investigations continue into the possibility of solar panels , with a few minor works to be done I am pleased to say that the fabric of the Church is in good condition.

The sheep will visit after the Easter flowers are finished and we expect our late spring visit from the Caring for God's Acre team in May.

With good wishes to to all .

*Anne and Rachel*



### **ASTON EYRE**

Coffee, Cake and Company  
on 14<sup>th</sup> May from 10-12.00.am.  
with a Bring & Buy in aid of the Church  
All welcome

# Quiet Day at St Gregory's Morville



On Saturday 7th May 2022 we will be running a Quiet Day with guided reflections led by Rev. Dr. Sue Foster, the theme for the day is "So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God..... Rev Foster is an experienced guide and will help us explore the day's theme in a variety of ways.

Tea and coffee will be available from 10.30a.m. and the programme for the day will be as follows:

Morning Session - 11a.m. – 1p.m.

Lunch - 1p.m. – 2p.m.

Afternoon Session - 2p.m. – 4pm.

Please bring your own packed lunch, tea and coffee will be provided throughout the day. The cost is £5 per person all enquiries to Jane Peeler who can be contacted via email [janepeeler371@btinternet.com](mailto:janepeeler371@btinternet.com) or phone 01746 767043.

Places are limited and will be allocated on a first come first served basis.

## Tasley News

As the year moves swiftly on and we look towards warm summer evenings, we continue to think of those less fortunate than ourselves home and abroad. Our thanks to Stephen for arranging what was, a most meaningful Lent Devotion Service and to the Astley and Tasley Church Choir for their singing. It was lovely to welcome members of Astley Abbott's congregation. We look forward to joining them for a combined Rogation Service in the grounds of Stanley Hall on the 22nd May. There will be no morning service at Tasley on that day.

Our fundraising for the restoration of the Armorial is fast approaching its target and we look forward to seeing it back in Church in the near future. Come and join us at one of our coffee mornings held on the 1st Monday of each month in Tasley Village Hall between 10.30 and 12.00.

### **Tasley 100 Club winners**

102 Margaret Winwood, 133 Ben Harris, 18 Phillip Gough

*Margaret*

## Oldbury News

Despite some very cold snaps, it does seem that Spring has finally broken through the winter gloom, and we have had some spectacular shows of flowers and blossom to gladden the heart.



Our main news this month is that the work on the toilet extension and re-building of the little kitchen is going according to plan, and is on schedule for the official opening, provisionally on 22nd May. Details will be circulated nearer the time, so please keep your ears open for the village grapevine. We are eternally grateful to all the members of Oldbury's community who contributed in so many ways to this project.

Apart from that, can I also remind you of our next Open Gardens event in June. It will again be held in the grounds of Westwood House and will be in aid of Shropshire Historic Churches Fund; St. Nicholas will provide the teas. We are so grateful to Huw & Roly Trevor -Jones for their generosity in offering us these chances to replenish our funds, which will enable us to keep up with 21st century changes to church life. We look forward to meeting you there, or at any of our now fortnightly services.

*Liz Fisher*



# Farewell from Tom

Dear Everyone,

May 26<sup>th</sup> may not be a particularly significant date to most people, other than, in 1967, being the day that The Beatles released *Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band*. It also marks two years since I arrived in Bridgnorth, and will be the same day when I move on.

It has, we can all agree, been a strange couple of years. Moving here in the middle of the first lockdown was odd enough, not really then being able to meet any of the people that I was working with or ministering to. Of course, with our familiar patterns of life having been so roundly disrupted, it has been unsettling for everyone. There has been a complete mixture of trepidation and loss, sorrow and uncertainty, discovery, togetherness, and resilience. It has also been educational to meet various good and godly people here, and those two years have brought me to the end of my curacy.

I have now been appointed to a new post in Northamptonshire, and since I am moving during the Easter season, when we celebrate the new life we find in Christ, it is perhaps also fitting to move on to something new at this time. I am looking forward to seeing what God has in store for me and the church over there, being a situation not dissimilar to Bridgnorth, with a town parish and a village church to keep me busy. So, as we go, thank you to all those who have helped me and the family while we have been here, and I pray that God richly blesses the Bridgnorth area.

Tom

## REGISTERS

### BAPTISMS

10.4.22 George Thomas Burrows

### WEDDINGS

9.4.22 Paul Mark Hammond/Charlotte Anna McCormack

### FUNERALS

28.3.22 Anthony Robin Blackwell Mouldsdale (Cant.)

31.3.22 John Edward Herbert Williams

31.3.22 Andrew John Morris

1.4.22 Carole Ann Bristow

5.4.22 Rosemary Armistead





# **FOUR CHURCHES FETE**

**IN MORVILLE CHURCHYARD**

**BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY**

**MAY 2<sup>ND</sup>**

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# Week of Accompanied Prayer

**WE NEED YOUR HELP**

**Sunday 26<sup>h</sup> June - Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> July**

The Benefice is holding a week of accompanied Prayer and we are looking for your help.

Are you in a position to provide accommodation for a prayer guide for the week?

Leaflets will be distributed around the churches soon giving more details, please keep the dates in your diary.

If you feel you can help with this please contact Jane Peeler for more details.

Email: [janepeeler371@btinternet.com](mailto:janepeeler371@btinternet.com)

Or phone: 01746 767043

# WEEK OF ACCOMPANIED PRAYER

26<sup>th</sup> June – 2<sup>nd</sup> July

## ***What is a Week of Accompanied Prayer?***

A week of Accompanied Prayer is one way in which we can seek to enrich our prayer life - where in the course of a week particular attention is given to praying, and through sharing with an experienced prayer guide, the nudges of God are noticed and responded to. Many who have participated in Weeks of Accompanied Prayer speak of great richness in their praying afterwards. A team of experienced prayer guides from the diocese will lead the week.

## ***Who can Participate?***

No experience is necessary. Anyone can participate, Christian or not, used to praying or not. All you need is a desire to grow closer to God.

## ***Cost***

It costs £25 per person participating to hold the Week of Accompanied Prayer. We ask that each participant contributes what they can. For those not in a position to contribute financially you are welcome to join the Week of Accompanied Prayer with our love and blessing.

## ***Commitment***

We ask that you commit to at least the first and last session.

## ***How do weeks of Accompanied Prayer work?***

Each day through the week the participant commits to spending half an hour in personal prayer and half an hour meeting to reflect on their experience of praying with their prayer guide. The prayer guide's role is to listen and suggest ways of praying that are creative and life giving. Prayer guides do not direct, but affirm and encourage, seeking to recognise the movement of the Holy Spirit. The pattern of prayer and reflection can be deeply rewarding giving attention to God and seeking a deeper experience of God's presence.

## ***Opening Session Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> June 6pm***

Everyone joins together for an introduction to the week, including examples of different ways of praying. Participants will also meet their prayer guides.

## ***Monday - Friday***

We ask that you commit to around 30 minutes per day for personal prayer and reflection. It may be a little less or more and can involve praying with scripture, going for a walk, maybe painting a picture. As well as this we offer a daily meeting with a prayer guide. It is not intended that you pray together but that your prayer guide walk along with you to offer direction and support.

## ***Closing Session with breakfast Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> July 9 a.m.***

A gathering of everyone involved concluding the week. There will be an opportunity to reflect and share some experiences of the week.

## ***How to apply to join the Week of Accompanied Prayer?***

As well as the application form in Crosslink forms are also available from the parish office and will be available in all the benefice churches. Please return all completed forms to Avril in, The Parish Office, St Leonard's Hall Church. Race Course Drive. Bridgnorth by Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> May 2022.

## ***Payments***

Payments can be made by BACS – sorting code 60-03-26 ac.no.36812242, or by cheque, please make cheques payable to Bridgnorth Team Ministry and return them along with your completed application form to The Parish Office.

If you have any questions please do get in touch.

**Contact details:** Mrs Jane Peeler, Email:

[janepeeler371@btinternet.com](mailto:janepeeler371@btinternet.com) or phone: 01746 767043

# APPLICATION FORM

Name.....

Address.....

.....

.....

Email address.....

Phone no.....

I am available to meet with a prayer guide

Afternoons

Evenings

Please note there are no evenings meetings between 6.00pm and 7.30pm

Have you ever attending an Accompanied Week of prayer before  
Yes//No

**Deadline for applications Thursday 26th May**

**Quiet Garden**  
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**at 16, East Castle Street 10am – 3 pm**  
All welcome. Refreshments provided.

May 11th  
June 8th  
July 13th  
August 10th  
September 14th  
October 12th



**ASTLEY ABBOTTS**

**Queen's Platinum Jubilee Beacon Party**



**Thursday June 2<sup>nd</sup> 4.30 pm to 10.30 pm**

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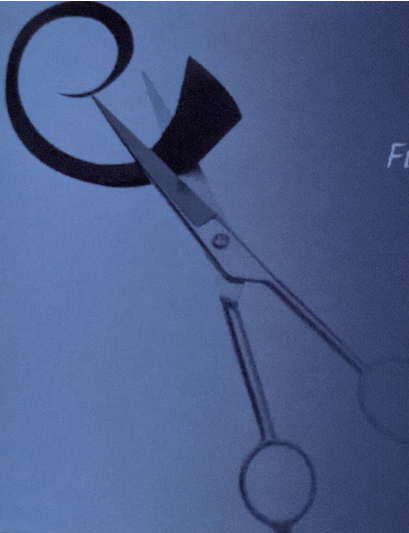
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Castlefields Primary School 764072  
St Leonard's Church Custodian 769720

### **Bridgnorth and Morville Parishes Team Ministry**

Team Office: St Leonard's Hall Church,  
Racecourse Drive,  
Tasley,  
Bridgnorth  
WV16 4NR  
Tel: 01746 767174  
Team Administrator: Mrs Avril Bridges

Open to personal callers:  
Mon - 11.00am - 12.30pm  
Tues - Thurs 8.30am - 11.30am

**Email :**  
bridgnorthteamministry@yahoo.co.uk  
**Website :**  
www.bridgnorthteamministry.org.uk

**Revd Prebendary Simon Cawdell  
- Rector**  
16 East Castle Street, WV16 4AL  
01746 761573  
s.h.cawdell@btinternet.com

**Revd Sarah Cawdell - Team Vicar**  
01746 761573  
sarah.h.l.cawdell@btinternet.com

**Revd Tom King –Team Curate**  
01746 552101  
[revtrex@icloud.com](mailto:revtrex@icloud.com)

**Anna Chaplain/Reader**  
Mrs Jane Peeler 767043

**Honorary Assistant Minister**  
**Revd. Marjorie Brooks** 01746 761942  
[marjorie.brooks47@googlemail.com](mailto:marjorie.brooks47@googlemail.com)  
**Revd. Clive Parr** 767023

**Local Ministry Development Group**  
Mrs Sandie Phillips 769271  
Mrs Kay Prior 768259  
Miss Sheila Royle 766577

**St Mary Magdalene, Bridgnorth Churchwardens**

Mr David Oxtoby...766053

Mrs Jane Parr...766984

**Secretary** Miss Catherine Wilson...761786

**Treasurer** Mrs Nicky Cooper ....762487

**Vergers** Mr Roger Taylor...767345

**Organists** Dr John Turnock...716282

Mr Oliver Clarke...07545756869

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Mrs Liz Fisher ... 764059

**Treasurer** Mr Quentin Leiper...764559

**Organist** Mrs Carol Wall...764365

**St Calixtus, Astley Abbotts Churchwardens**

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Mrs Helen Holding....07813 584469

**Secretary** Mrs Juanita Gennard...768674

**Treasurer** Mr Michael Payne....07790 610441

**Organist** Mr Stephen Lomas...768648

**St Gregory the Great, Morville PCC Vice Chair**

Mr Tim Morris...789271

**Secretary** Helen Smith ....01952 883599

**Treasurer** Mrs Kathy Renshaw...789271

**Aston Eyre Churchwardens**

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Mr Dafydd Jenkins....07703 457839

**Treasurer** Mrs Shelley Caine...714362

**St Mary Magdalene, Quatford Churchwardens**

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Mrs Anne Wenlock... 07773608556

**Vergers** Mr Bob Curtis....766126

**Secretary** Miss Rachel Edwards...766146

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**Organist** Mr Stephen Lomas...768648

**St Mary the Virgin, Acton Round Churchwardens**

Mrs Bridget Chappuis...714035

Mr Thomas Kennedy...714360

**Secretary** Mrs Jayne Madeley...785571

**Treasurer** Mrs Susan Kennedy...714203

**Upton Cressett Monkhopton Churchwardens**

Mr Terry Fellows...01902 564748

Mr Ed Pugh....01746 789685

**Treasurer** Mr Roger Wilson ..07785 996630

**St James' Hall Church**

**Booking Secretary** Mrs Liz Fisher...764059

elizabethfisher29@icloud.com

**St Leonards Hall Church**

**Booking Secretary** Rachel Connelly...767660

**Tasley Village Hall**

**Booking Secretary** Rachel Connelly...767660

**Astley Abbotts Village Hall**

**Booking Secretary** Charles Morris.....762029

**Deadline for Cross+Link articles for**

**June issue**

**Wednesday May 18th 2022 by 1.00pm**

If you would like to contribute to the magazine, please send to Avril at the Office on [bridgnorthteamministry@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:bridgnorthteamministry@yahoo.co.uk). If you would like to advertise please also contact Avril on the above details

<i>HC = Holy Communion</i> <i>MP = Morning Prayer</i>	Easter 3 1st May	Easter 4 8th May	Easter 5 15th May	Easter 6 22nd May	Easter 7 29th May
St Mary Magdalene Bridgnorth	8.00 HC 10.30 HC	8.00 HC1662 10.30 HC	8.00 HC 10.30 HC	8.00 HC 1662 10.30 FS and Baptisms	8.00 HC 10.30 HC
St Mary Magdalene Quatford		10.30 HC		10.30 HC	
St Calixtus Astley Abbotts	9.00 HC	9.30 FS	9.00 HC	10.30 Spring Service at Stanley Hall	18.00 Songs of Praise
St Nicholas Oldbury	10.30 FS		10.30 HC	15.30 Tea Service	10.30 MP
St Peter and St Paul Tasley	10.30 HC	10.30 FS	10.30 HC		10.30 HC
St Leonard's Hall Church	10.30 FS		10.30 FC		
St Gregory the Gt Morville	11.15 MP	11.15 HC	18.30 EP	11.15 HC	
Aston Eyre		10.00 MP		10.00 HC	
St Mary the Virgin Acton Round		10.00 HC			
Monkhoppton	10.00 HC		16.00 Tea time church		