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### **News from the Parish – 30th August and 6<sup>th</sup> September 2020**

After last week's excitement of the announcement of the new Rector, Reverend Pete Molloy, this week's newsletter will always be a bit of an anti-climax and, to further your woes, there will be no newsletter next week as this Editor takes a break.

We have no firm date yet for the arrival of Rev Pete and his family, nor yet of his formal induction (by the Bishop) and installation (by the Archdeacon), but rest assured that diaries are being consulted!

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As schools return for the start of term, with all the hard work and preparation that the teachers and other staff will be putting in (I know, being married to a teacher), the children themselves will have mixed emotions. There may be disappointment at the end of the holidays, anxiety of a new school, or excitement of being with their friends again.

In the village that I grew up in, the old school building – having been empty for a number of years – was being demolished. My father (also a churchwarden) was given the engraved stone sign from above the front door, which we then placed in the churchyard wall, so that all could see it as they approached the church.

*"Suffer the little children to come unto me"*

Three of the gospels have this story, about when the disciples had tried to stop the children from being brought to Jesus, but he was having none of it. The verse continues (in Mark 10: 14) :

*"..and forbid them not: for such is the Kingdom of God"*

Something to ponder upon



## Church services

The services for this Sunday (30th August) will be slightly different, for a fifth Sunday :

8.00	St Margaret's	Holy Communion
9.00	St Mark's	Parish Eucharist (see below, re Anne Yarrow)
10.00	St Margaret's	United Service ( <u>no</u> service at St Mary's)

The services for the following Sunday (6<sup>th</sup> September) will be :

8.00	St Margaret's	Holy Communion
9.00	St Mark's	Parish Communion
10.00	St Margaret's	Parish Eucharist
11.15	St Mary's	Parish Mass

And just to show willing, the services for the Sunday after that (13<sup>th</sup> September) will be :

8.00	St Margaret's	Holy Communion
9.00	St Mark's	Jubilate Communion
10.00	St Margaret's	Said Mattins
11.15	St Mary's	Parish Mass

There will be the usual Thursday morning communions at St Margaret's, starting at 10.00.

*Please note* : The Walsingham Cell Mass, on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> September, has been cancelled, given a number of absences.

Please be reminded that face coverings are required in Places of Worship, unless you have a health reason for not wearing one, and we do need to continue to practice social distancing and hygiene and keeping a record of who has attended.

There has been a change in the guidance about singing. Whilst congregations are not permitted to sing (on health grounds, rather than musical ability!), singing is permitted for small groups of performers in a physically distanced and safe way. Deputy wardens and the associated leads will be discussing this and seeing how we can take this forward.



### **Farewell to Anne Yarrow**

The 9.00 service at St Mark's on 30th August will be Anne Yarrow's last service in Hadlow Down after four decades with us. She and Chris are moving to Lewes (so not that far away) and they leave with all our thanks and best wishes.

In light of her service to the church and village we have agreed to add in an "extra" service for her, and Fr David Milnes has agreed to squeeze in an extra service in his schedule.

### **Churchyard work party**

There will be a work party on the morning of Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> September at St Margaret's, starting at 9.00, to work on areas of the churchyard that the regular army of helpers can't get to – and get it bedded down for winter.

Volunteers, if only for an hour, would be welcome and there are a range of activities to be covered that will suit all types of help!

Whilst this is at St Margaret's the other churches would always welcome some help, if you feel the need to expend some energy.

### **Harvest Thanksgiving**

As announced last week, Harvest Thanksgiving this year will be on Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> September, but we don't think that we can hold the usual Harvest Supper and Harvest Lunch, due to the pandemic restrictions on gatherings.

There is a thought that if the forecast were for fine sunny weather we might think about an ad hoc picnic, but .....

We would still like to collect food offerings at each church for distribution to food banks and those in greater need, as well as decorate our churches to give thanks for the harvest, so do please start to think about this.



## Readings for this Sunday

Readings for this Sunday are :

Exodus 3: 1 - 15

Romans 12: 9 - 21

Matthew 16: 21 - 28

Readings for the following Sunday (6<sup>th</sup> September) are :

Exodus 12: 1 - 14

Romans 13: 8 - 14

Matthew 18: 15 - 20

## Prayers

In our prayers this week we bring to mind Norman Longley, recovering in hospital after a fall, and the family of Nicola Whitehead, whose funeral was held this week, as well as all those known to us who require our prayers.

We also pray for the start of the new school year; for teachers, staff and pupils.

We continue to pray for peace in our troubled times.

## Providing support

Until Rev Peter Molloy is formally in place, Fr David Milnes continues to provide spiritual support, by email and telephone, and we know that a number of you have appreciated this. His details are him at :  
[FRMILNES@aol.com](mailto:FRMILNES@aol.com) or 01825 830076 .

*But do you, or someone you know, want pastoral support of any kind? Or, alternatively, would you like to offer support; be it just a voice at the end of the telephone? Please let your churchwardens know.*



PARISH OF BUXTED & HADLOW DOWN  
ST. MARGARET THE QUEEN • ST. MARY THE VIRGIN • ST. MARK THE EVANGELIST

## **The Virtual Collection Plate**

Whilst there will be a collection plate at services (whose contents will be quarantined before counting and banking), however the guidance gives a clear preference for on-line giving.

If you are able to make a donation, then our bank details are :  
*HSBC Account: Parish of Buxted & Hadlow Down PCC A/C No: 11454064 Sort Code: 40-45-32.* If you wish to gift aid then please ask for a form from the Treasurer ([treasurer@bhdchurches.co.uk](mailto:treasurer@bhdchurches.co.uk))

Alternatively, the Planned Giving Scheme is where you can make a monthly direct debit and Gift Aid is automatically calculated. You can sign up by telephone (0333 002 1271) and all you will need are your bank details and the Parish name (Parish of Buxted and Hadlow Down) and our PGS number (which is : *103080519*).

Thank you, in advance.

## **Future Fundraising**

We have received a number of generous donations over the last few months, for which we are grateful, but – inevitably – we will need more. We usually run a range of fund-raising events in the autumn to help our finances.

Do you have any ideas about how we might fund-raise in a safe and secure way – which might also be slightly innovative? Thinking caps on and do let us know what you come up with.