

POSTLEBURY NEWSLETTER

June 2022

From the Rectory

The month of June opens with a whole host of events to celebrate Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II's Platinum Jubilee. Each of our villages has events planned and advertised on village websites and some of these are highlighted in this newsletter. The idea of a Jubilee when we celebrate significant turning points in a monarch's reign goes right back to the Old Testament. According to the 25th chapter of the book of Leviticus a Jubilee year occurred every fifty years, when slaves would regain their freedom, and land would revert to its former owners.

In the New Testament, Jesus presents himself as the one who brings the old Jubilee to completion, because he has come to "preach the year of the Lord's favour" (quoting Isaiah 61: 1-2).

In the Roman Catholic Church, jubilees began to be celebrated formally around the year 1300 AD. These are years of forgiveness of sins and reconciliation. They are celebrated every 25 years. The most recent year of jubilee was 2000.

Royal Jubilees now celebrate significant periods in monarchs' reigns and the national life. Few British monarchs have achieved reigns of 50 years, so Golden Jubilees are very rare. There are very few records of how - if at all - Henry III, Edward III and James VI celebrated their 50-year milestones. The first British monarch to mark 50 years on the throne in a significant way was George III, followed by Queen Victoria. Our Queen has had significant jubilee celebrations in 1977 (for her Silver Jubilee), 2002 (for her Golden Jubilee) and 2012 (for her Diamond Jubilee).

I remember well the Silver Jubilee. I had just joined the Army and there were numerous parades and celebrations- and even a bit of extra leave! My mother- a proper royalist- was thrilled when a large tapestry she had created, framed and sent to Buckingham palace appeared in a collection of hand-made gifts photographed for the Radio Times, with all the makers listed and where they came from. No Monarch has ever achieved the seventy-year Jubilee of our Queen, whose reign has been simply exemplary. In a time when there is so much disruption in our national and international life, may this be cause for real celebration.

With every blessing, Fr Anthony

Church Services in the Benefices of Stoke St. Michael, Leigh on Mendip and Downhead and in the Parish of Postlebury

3rd June (Friday)

10.00 Nunney Holy Communion BCP

5th June - Pentecost

9.30 Wanstrow Holy Communion

10.00 Stoke St Michael Jubilee Celebration Service (*Chris North*)

10.00 Nunney Jubilee Celebration Service (*Henry Pomeroy*)

11.00 Leigh on Mendip Family Communion

12.30 Witham Thanksgiving Service

9th June (Thursday)

19.30 Wanstrow Compline and Meditation

10th June (Friday)

10.00 Nunney Holy Communion BCP

11th June (Saturday)

12.30 Marston Bigot Wedding of Laurence Ludgate & Grace Merry

12th June - Trinity Sunday

9.30 Stoke St Michael Holy Communion

11.00 Witham Friary Family Communion

18.00 Nunney Soul Food (*Chris North*)

17th June (Friday)

10.00 Nunney Holy Communion BCP

18th June (Saturday)

13.00 Marston Bigot Wedding of James Miles & Clare Cox

19th June - 1st Sunday after Trinity

09.30 Nunney Holy Communion
11.00 Stoke St Michael Family Communion
18.00 Downhead Evensong

24th June (Friday)

10.00 Nunney Holy Communion BCP

26th June - 2nd Sunday after Trinity

09.30 Marston Bigot Matins (*Jonathan Cheal*)
11.00 Cloford Holy Communion

Services conducted by Revd Anthony Dickson unless otherwise stated

From the Registers:

Baptisms

15th May, Nunney - Henrietta Simon
22nd May, Stoke St Michael - Matilda Poppy Nye

Weddings

21st May, Nunney - Richard Wareham & Harriett Freeman
28th May, Marston - Nicholas Holden & Dee Griffiths

Funerals

3rd May, Witham Friary - Robert Godfrey
16th May, Mendip Crematorium - Sean Stephens
25th May, Marston - Margaret Chapman
26th May, Mendip Crematorium - Jane Rose

Events for your diary:

Nunney Church Jubilee Events: Thursday 2nd June: Bric a Brac sale in Church Street 11am-3 pm or in the church if wet. Nunney Churchyard Nature Count – 11am-2pm. Coffee, tea and cakes for sale

Sunday 5th June: 10am - Come and celebrate the last 70 years of village life under Queen Elizabeth II. Service In Nunney Church. With contributions from Nunney First School, Nunney Community Association, Postlebury Bellringers, Nunney Players, Nunney Flower Show Committee.

If you would like to help decorate the church with flowers for the Platinum Jubilee, please bring some along on Wednesday 1st June from 2-4 pm.

Cloford Church Jubilee Events: Sunday 5th June, 12.30pm: Jubilee BBQ for the village of Cloford including Cloford Common, at the Old School House.

Wanstrow Church Jubilee Events: Thursday 2nd June: the church bells will be ringing from 11.30am until 12.00pm, followed by a planting of a Field Maple tree for the Queen's Green Canopy, and to the memory of the Yeoman family from Wanstrow and Ontario, Canada.

Witham Church Jubilee Events: Thursday 2nd June: the church bells will be rung from 19.52 to 20.22 with as many people who want to help, especially the young and young in heart. Please contact George Pritchard if you are interested in helping. On Sunday 5th June there will be a Village Street Party at 1pm, following a short Thanksgiving Service beforehand.

Parish of Postlebury - Key Contacts

Priest-in-charge: Rev. Anthony Dickson, The Rectory, Nunney, Frome. BA11 4LZ
Telephone: 01373 837337. Email: Nunney.rectory@gmail.com (day off is Monday).

PCC Secretary and Administrator: postleburysecretary@gmail.com

PCC Hon Treasurer: Mr Steve Elliott - treasurerpostlebury@gmail.com

**If you would like to come off our mailing list please contact
dataprotectionpostlebury@gmail.com**

manna

From the Church of England Diocese of Bath and Wells ☩

June 2022

Generosity of service - it's contagious!

It's always inspiring to hear how individuals or churches are serving those in their community. Recently the actions of residents of the village of North Moreton in Oxfordshire hit the news when they came together to offer support for 60 refugees fleeing the Ukraine.

Gary Watson, Giving and Funding Adviser for Bath and Wells said, "The idea apparently came from one individual who wanted to help as she has friends in Ukraine. The village is home to around 350 people but it took just one person to start the conversation about how she was going to help. From that, others were inspired and motivated to do the same, resulting in a co-ordinated offering of homes, transport, healthcare and even teaching for children in the village hall while they wait for places at local schools. A fantastic example of how contagious generosity can be!"

Gary adds, "Much of our behaviour is influenced by our observations of those around us. We are led by example, both positively and



HRH Queen Elizabeth II - celebrating a lifetime of inspiring service.

negatively, by words or deeds or their very absence. That's why it's so important for us to have people who will commit to be the examples of generous service needed to influence real change in the lives of our communities. Jesus knew the importance of serving as he humbly washed his disciples' feet, giving us the very example of servanthood and a command to do the same."

This month we celebrate the 70 years of service the Queen has given to our nation and the difference this has made. We could all take this opportunity to reflect on the ways we have (or haven't) served those around us and move forwards with a resolve to be examples of the generous love we have received from God in Jesus ■

News in brief

New bishop announced

On 28 April, Downing Street announced that the Rt Revd Michael Beasley will be the next Bishop of Bath and Wells. Currently the Bishop of Hertford, prior to taking a fulltime role with the church, Bishop Michael was an epidemiologist, a background he was called on to use during the pandemic on the Church of England's Covid task force. He is already familiar with Somerset, his wife Lizzie is from a local farming family, and prior to his interview for the role they both undertook a 60 mile walk around the county ■



Bishop Michael meeting the Jenkins' family on their farm

Celebrating together

St Petrock's in Timberscombe, Exmoor, is just one of our churches who will be celebrating the Platinum Jubilee with their community. They are holding a three-day Village and Church Heritage Exhibition on 2-3 June, and on 6 June for local schools. Churchwarden Marion Jeffrey says, "It is our hope that visitors and



Bishop Michael with pupils from St Mary's Church of England Primary
A warm welcome

On the day it was announced that he is to become the 80th Bishop of Bath and Wells, Bishop Michael undertook a 10-hour, 84 mile tour of the diocese. He met with a variety of people, undertook media interviews and attended a host of events at churches and in the community. The children of St Mary's primary in Bridgwater were delighted to be the first to hear the news of his appointment at 10am.

Find out more at: bathandwells.org.uk/new-bishop ■

villagers who may not normally enter the church will be able to visit and enjoy this event along with others."

On display will be historic church documents and some recent archaeological findings. Alongside this will be the school's Platinum Jubilee creative work and villagers' royal memorabilia ■

Guided by faith

By Michael Beasley, Bishop Elect, Diocese of Bath and Wells

Visits undertaken, trees planted, ambassadors welcomed, honours awarded, miles travelled!

Just a fraction of what our Queen has done. When, on her 21st birthday, Elizabeth II pledged herself to our service her whole life long, she could scarce have imagined the commitment she was making.

What has enabled all the achievement that we celebrate in this year of the Platinum Jubilee? Her reign has seen joy and sorrow, triumphs and setbacks. The Queen gave an insight into what has seen her though in 2002 when she said:

"I know just how much I rely on my faith to guide me through the good times and the bad. Each day is a new beginning. I know that the only way to live my life is to try to do what is right, to take the long view, to give of my best in all that the day brings, and to put my trust in God ... I draw strength from the message of hope in the Christian gospel."

I'm inspired to be coming to Bath and Wells during this Platinum year that sees us celebrate the

Queen's steadfast service that flows from her Christian faith. Just as the young Elizabeth II couldn't know what lay ahead as she looked to the future, neither can we. As we emerge from COVID, see war in Ukraine and confront a cost of living crisis we live in challenging times. To face our days we'll need all the faith and experience, creativity and skills of everyone in Bath and Wells. Above all we have the hope of the Christian Gospel that has stood our Queen in such good stead throughout her long life. It's the faith I'm looking forward to serving and celebrating with you as together we live and tell the story of Jesus.

Every blessing
Bishop Michael



50 years supporting children

Margot Sampson MBE has just stepped down as chair of The Children's Society Winscombe St James Fundraising Committee.



Margot Sampson (centre) with the Children's Society's Jess Meale and Mark Russell

How did you get involved with the Children's Society?

It has played a significant role in my life for over 50 years. It all began when I was a young mother, when our then vicar, Revd Bernard Salmon approached me when the existing representative retired. At that time there were just six charity boxholders who met once a year.

How did you get on at first?

I felt committed to ongoing support once I discovered what it was all about. My own background did not prepare me for what I was to learn about the lives of so many of the young people with whom I had lived and gone to school. It was a learning experience for which I was totally

unprepared and it mortified me.

How have things changed over the years?

We have learned to adapt to the changing needs and attitudes of society. We used to knock on every door for our annual collection but now we collect at local supermarkets. At our height we had 127 box holders.

What has been a highlight?

Paul and Mo's Open Garden Days is one. Their ability to communicate Christian love and fellowship through superb food and comradeship is incredible. We were also one of the first churches in the UK to introduce Christingles -because we live in a cider area, we represent the world with an apple from the church orchards.

And your time overall?

It has been for me a truly meaningful and appreciated part of my life. Because of my involvement with the Children's Society I have learned so much and I give it – and always will – my deepest thanks and love.

Find out more at childrenssociety.org.uk

Follow us on



@BathWells



bathandwells



churchofengland_somerset



DIOCESE OF
Bath & Wells

Living the story. Telling the story.