

# THE RIDGEWAY BENEFICE

## CONTACT

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

**April 2015**

**VOLUME 3 Issue 5**

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*NB rest day: Tuesday*

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Dear Friends,

April begins in Holy Week and there are a number of different services planned across the Ridgeway Churches. But, let us back track a little because it all starts with Palm Sunday on 29th March.

We are going to mark Jesus' entry into Jerusalem by having our own procession from West Challow to Childrey. After the blessing of palms outside St. Laurence, West Challow we will *Make the Road by Walking* to St. Mary's, Childrey; stopping at the church gate for a welcome drink before the Family Communion Service.

We return to St. Mary's Childrey for Maundy Thursday. In this service we remember the night before Jesus died when Jesus washed his disciples feet and had supper with his friends. The Watch follows....  
Good Friday we join our Methodist friends at 9:00am in Childrey Chapel and then at 2:00pm we join the Benefice Choir for a service of reflection at The Church of the Holy Rood, Sparsholt.

At 8:00pm on Easter Saturday we return to St. Laurence, West Challow for The Service of Light . This Easter Vigil leads us into the celebration of Christ's resurrection and Easter Day when all the Ridgeway Churches will be filled with music, flowers and joy. Alleluia

Have a joyous Easter,  
*Leonora*



## CHILDREY

We are delighted to report we are within £500 of reaching our fund raising target for our *'Bringing St. Mary's into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Appeal'*. Thank you to everyone who has so generously supported and encouraged us. However, it is not too late to make further donations if you wish!

Thanks to everyone who made up the audience for the **King Alfred's 'A' Level Music Evening** and to the students for the excellence and variety of their performances. We look forward to more musical events with the school before too long.

**Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> April** – sees not only Shakespeare's birthday but also St George's Day! Come and join the merriment at a pop-up English Party to celebrate both events with food, fun & frivolity! Tickets £20 for 3 course supper, licensed bar, musical items & fun readings. Proceeds to St Mary's and raffle proceeds to Oxfam Vanuata Appeal.

**Diary Date - 20<sup>th</sup> June Church Fete** in the garden of Childrey Manor from 3.00 – 6.00pm

## WEST CHALLOW

The organ has now been installed in the church many thanks to Jonathon Hewitt for organising transport etc. If anyone has any use for our old one, which is repairable, they are welcome to have it.

A very big thank you to Penny Vaughan-Fowler for organising the talk "Cotton to Gold" for us and to all who helped and provided wine, nibbles, raffle prizes etc.

Appreciative thanks must also go to those who helped tidy and clear the churchyard in readiness for a new seat which has been kindly donated by a parishioner.

## KINGSTON LISLE

Please join us for our last two family communion services before the church is closed for the restoration works: Easter Day (with the Kingston Lisle Festival Choir) and Sunday 19th April.

Congratulations to Tor Saer from Westcot who completed the Oxford Sponsored Abseil Challenge and raised an amazing £1050 + gift aid for Christian Aid!

## LETCOMBE BASSETT

There will be a lay led Compline service held at St Michael and All Angels at 6pm on Sunday 17th May. Compline is a brief service of prayer and reflection lasting about twenty minutes. It is hoped that this arrangement might, in time, help to fill the gaps in the month when there are no services at the Church.

## LETCOMBE REGIS

**Saturday April 11th** a Spring Concert will be held in St. Andrew's Church at 7.30pm. Tickets are £10 (children free) and include a glass of wine and canapés. Tickets available from Christine Birch, Denise Elliott and the Village Shop.

Thank you to all who supported our Lent soup lunch which raised over £225 for The Mission Aviation Fellowship.

### Annual Parochial Church Meetings

*All meetings start at 7.30pm*

**Tues 14<sup>th</sup> April** - Letcombe Bassett in the Village Hall

**Thurs 16<sup>th</sup> April** - Childrey with West Challow in Childrey Methodist Church

**Mon 20<sup>th</sup> April** - Sparsholt with Kingston Lisle in Kingston Lisle Village Hall

**Tues 21<sup>st</sup> April** - Letcombe Regis in St Andrews Church

## The Living Faith Prayer

Gracious God you call us to a living faith in the future as well as in the present; open our eyes to the opportunities before us in our parishes and deaneries, and in our own daily discipleship.

May we sustain and nourish our inner lives so that we can serve others effectively

and offer to all people the transforming love of Jesus Christ our risen Lord.

Amen

On **Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> May** at 6pm Christchurch Cathedral Choir in Oxford will be leading a celebratory service of lessons and carols for Eastertide.

## CHILDREY METHODIST SERVICES - APRIL

|  |   |
|--|---|
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> April – 9am<br>Good Friday                       | United Service  |
| 5 <sup>th</sup> April – 6pm<br>Easter Sunday                     | 'Emmaus' Supper and Communion with Grove & Wantage Methodist Churches. Revd Martin Smithson |
| 12 <sup>th</sup> April –<br>11am – Local<br>Preachers'<br>Sunday | Andrew Lockley from Grove   |
| 19 <sup>th</sup> April –<br>11am                                 | Marlene Chalkley from Wallingford   |
| 26 <sup>th</sup> April –<br>11am                                 | Family Service at St Mary's Childrey  |

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### FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

#### BAPTISM

|                              |                       |              |
|------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------|
| Claire Rosina Breakspear     | 1 <sup>st</sup> March | West Challow |
| Sophie Robyn Crook           | 1 <sup>st</sup> March | West Challow |
| Luke Martin Albert Ron Crook | 1 <sup>st</sup> March | West Challow |

#### FUNERAL

|                    |                           |           |
|--------------------|---------------------------|-----------|
| Patrick John Upton | 20 <sup>th</sup> February | Sparsholt |
|--------------------|---------------------------|-----------|

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### We Make the Road by Walking by Brian McLaren

#### A Year Long Quest for Spiritual Formation, Reorientation and Activation

During April our two book/bible groups continue to meet on a Monday morning and a Wednesday evening.

Mondays: 10:00 – 10:30am: Coffee, 10:30am – 11:45am: Book Group  
Ridgeway Rectory, Letcombe Regis

Wednesdays: 7:45 – 9:15pm The Lesters, Childrey

If you are interested in following our discussions and these timings are not convenient then please get in touch and notes from the meetings will be sent to you

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This is the time of year when we hold our Annual Parochial Church Meetings. (APCM's). The APCM is an opportunity to ask questions and comment about the finances of the church, the state of the church building or raise matters of concern. It is also when members of the congregation elect the people they want to be on the Parochial Church Council. (PCC)

The PCC has a number of functions including the important duty of controlling expenditure within the parish and looking after the maintenance of the church building. However, it should come as no surprise that the first function of the church is co-operation with the minister in promoting in the parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical.

Please come along to your APCM and if you would like to stand for election to your PCC please get in touch.

## **Ridgeway Benefice Church Services for April 2015**

| <b>April</b>            | <b>5<sup>th</sup></b>       | <b>12<sup>th</sup></b>                    | <b>19<sup>th</sup></b>                   | <b>26<sup>th</sup></b>                                  | <b>3<sup>rd</sup> May</b>                |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------|---|--|---|--|
|                         | <i><b>Easter Day</b></i>    | <i><b>The Second Sunday of Easter</b></i> | <i><b>The Third Sunday of Easter</b></i> | <i><b>The fourth Sunday of Easter</b></i>               | <i><b>The Fifth Sunday of Easter</b></i> |
| <b>Childrey</b>         | 10:00am<br>Family Service   | 10:00am<br>Family Communion               | 6:00pm<br>Evensong<br>BCP                | 11:00am<br>Worship Together<br>Family Service St Mary's | 8:30am<br>HCB                            |
| <b>West Challow</b>     | 11:30 am<br>Family Service  |   | 8:30am<br>HC A                           |   | 11:30am<br>Family Baptism Service        |
| <b>Letcombe Regis</b>   | 10:00am<br>HC A             | 10:00am<br>Matins<br>BCP                  | 10:00am<br>Morning Prayer<br>CW          | 10:00am<br>HC B   | 10:00am<br>HC A                          |
| <b>Letcombe Bassett</b> | 10:00am<br>HC B             | 8:30am<br>HC B                            |  | 6:00pm<br>Evensong<br>BCP                               |  |
| <b>Sparsholt</b>        | 8:30am<br>HC<br>BCP         | BCP<br>Evensong                           |  | 8:30am<br><br>HC<br>BCP                                 |  |
| <b>Kingston Lisle</b>   | 10:00am<br>Family Communion |   | 10:00am<br>Family Communion with Baptism |   |  |

*HC A: Holy Communion in Modern English (Red Book); HC B: Holy Communion in Traditional English (Green Book); BCP: Book of Common Prayer; CW : Common Worship*

|                  |            |                     |                           |
|------------------|------------|---------------------|---------------------------|
| Childrey         | 5th April  | Family Service      | Lay led                   |
| Letcombe Bassett | 5th April  | Holy communion (B)  | The Revd Antonia Cretney  |
| Kingston Lisle   | 5th April  | Family Communion    | The Right Revd Peter Nott |
| Letcombe Regis   | 12th April | Matins BCP          | Lay led                   |
| Letcombe Regis   | 19th April | Morning Prayer (CW) | Lay led                   |
| Childrey         | 26th April | Family Service      | Lay led                   |

### **HOLY WEEK**

|           |        |                 |  |   |
|-----------|--------|-----------------|--|---|
| 2nd April | 7:30pm | Maundy Thursday | The Washing of Feet and Holy Communion | St Mary's, Childrey                       |
| 3rd April | 2:00pm | Good Friday     | A Service for Good Friday              | The Church of the Holy Rood, Sparsholt    |
| 4th April | 1:00pm | Easter Saturday | Family Baptism Service                 | St Michael & All Angels, Letcombe Bassett |
| 4th April | 8:00pm | Easter Saturday | Service of Light                       | St Laurence, West Challow                 |

Please send any items for Contact to:- Chic Cook 01235 751078 or email: [elizabeth@lesters.org.uk](mailto:elizabeth@lesters.org.uk) by the 15th April. Thank you!