

THE RIDGEWAY BENEFICE

CONTACT

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

August 2015

VOLUME 3 Issue 9

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Rector of the Ridgeway Benefice

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NB rest day: Tuesday

Dear Friends,

This month marks our first pilgrimage. Pilgrimage is a spiritual tradition found in the history of nearly every major religion and has become particularly popular in recent years. It is a journey inward as well as outward: *A transformative journey to a sacred centre*. For our first pilgrim walk these words seem most appropriate.

*We shall not cease from exploration
And the end of all our exploring
Will be to arrive where we started
And know the place for the first time.*

Extract from Four Quartets (1943) by T.S. Eliot

We meet at 1:45pm on Sunday 23rd August in the porch of St. Michael and All Angels, Letcombe Bassett and will begin our walk at 2:00pm. The pilgrim walk is a circular route (5 miles approx) from Letcombe Bassett to the Devil's Punchbowl. The plan is to be back in time for tea and cakes at the village hall before walking the last leg up to the church for our Celtic Style Service at 6pm. (Tea and cakes will be served from 4:00pm for those who will not be joining us on the walk).

Walkers please wear stout shoes and trousers are advisable! Carry some water and pack some rainwear. Don't forget some monies for tea!

Blessings,
Leonora

CHILDREY

The building works to install the kitchenette and WC in the South Transept are scheduled to start in August. External work is also being undertaken to improve the drainage and guttering. We plan to run services as normal during this period.

Church Fête – Thanks to all who helped us make a grand total of £5,008.28, one of our best years ever. The next **Tear Fund Lunch** will be in September, venue to be advised.

WEST CHALLOW

St Laurence Gift Day will be held on Saturday 8th August from 10am – 12 noon. Coffee and biscuits will be available. It is also hoped to have our 14th Century Chalice on show. The Chalice, although belonging to St Laurence church, is normally kept at Christchurch Cathedral.

KINGSTON LISLE

The £315,000 restoration of our church is now under way, supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund and 15 other grants (see the "Church" page at www.kingstonlisle.net). We're only a few thousand pounds away from reaching our fundraising target and it's not too late to sponsor a roof tile so please contact Serena Sissons if you haven't done so already!

LETCOMBE BASSETT

Thank you so much to all those who contributed to the success of the Open Gardens Day on 14th June. An amazing £1061 was raised for the church, for which we are all very grateful.

LETCOMBE REGIS

WANTED! POSTCARDS OLD AND NEW
We are again collecting postcards for the Mission Aviation Fellowship who

are able to sell them to raise money for their vital life-saving work throughout the world. Please support this by placing your unwanted postcards in the box provided at the back of St. Andrew's church.

ST PETER & ST PAUL'S CHURCH, WANTAGE

On the 4th August at 6pm, there will be a celebration of Choral Evensong to mark the 10th anniversary of the death of Celia Teare (Dr) and all those who have lost loved ones. The service will be led by Canon John Salter and assisted by Canon James Hawkey - late of Westminster Abbey, with music by a special choir from London.

PRAY FOR OX12 AND BEYOND.....

Wantage Community Church have invited us to join them to pray for OX12 (and beyond). You can find more details on the Wantage Community Church website www.occ.org.uk/node/4839. The idea is to pray for every person in our area. The resources on the website provide lots of practical ideas about how to make this happen and there are specific prayer ideas too.

During August I will be taking part in this prayer initiative by setting aside time to walk around the parishes of the Ridgeway Benefice that include Childrey, Kingston Lisle, Letcombe Bassett, Letcombe Regis, Sparsholt, Westcot and West Challow. Most households are in OX12 but there are some with a RG postcode so quite a few miles to cover. If you have a specific prayer request please get in touch. revd.lahill@btinternet.com or tel: 01235 760112. The Revd Leonora Hill (Rector)

FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

BAPTISM

Ava Hope Daggett	28 th June	Letcombe Regis
Phoebe Maria Koscielak	28 th June	Letcombe Regis
Esme Hogan	5 th July	Childrey
Oliver Adrian Edward Frost	12 th July	Letcombe Regis

MARRIAGE

Colin Patrick Webb & Debbie Ann Leek	27 th June	Letcombe Regis
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FUNERAL

Susan Goodchild	1 st July	Letcombe Regis
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We Make the Road by Walking by Brian McLaren

The Wednesday evening book group is taking a break during August and will resume again on Wednesday 9th September.

The Monday group continues through August but not on Bank Holiday Monday
 Mondays: 10:00 – 10:30am: Coffee, 10:30am – 11:45am: Book Group
 Ridgeway Rectory, Letcombe Regis

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

Childrey Methodist Services

2nd Aug	6:00pm	Revd Martin Smithson
9th Aug	11:00am	Helen Carter from Wantage
16th Aug	11:00am	Derek Morton from Grove
23rd Aug	11:00am	Family Service St Mary's
30th Aug	11:00am	HC with Revd Alan Grist from Abingdon



Ridgeway Benefice Church Services for August 2015

	2nd August	9th August	16th August	23rd August	30th August	6th September
	9th Sunday after Trinity	10th Sunday After Trinity	11th Sunday after Trinity	12th Sunday after Trinity	13th Sunday after Trinity	14th Sunday after Trinity
Childrey	8:30am HC B	10:00am Family Communion with Baptism	6:00pm Evensong BCP	11:00am Family Service		8:30am HC B
West Challow	11:30am Family Service		8:30am HC A			11:30am Family Service
Letcombe Regis	10:00am HC A	10:00am Matins	10:00am Morning Prayer on Sunday	10:00am HC B	10:00am Benefice Communion HC A	10:00am HC A
Letcombe Bassett		8:30am HC B		6:00pm Evening Prayer (Celtic style)*		
Sparsholt	11:30am Baptism	6:00pm Evensong BCP		8:30am Holy Communion BCP		

HC A: Holy Communion in Modern English (Red Book); HC B: Holy Communion in Traditional English (Green Book); BCP: Book of Common Prayer; Matins: Morning Prayer from the Book of Common Prayer; Morning Prayer on a Sunday from Common Worship

Sunday 26th July 8:30am Holy Communion (BCP) Sparsholt Apologies for this omission in July Contact

* This evening service is taking from *A Wee Worship Book* published by Wild Goose Worship Group.

The Wild Goose is a Celtic symbol of the Holy Spirit. The service will follow on from our pilgrim walk that begins at 2:00pm, St. Michael and All Angels, Letcombe Bassett.
See the Rector's letter for more information about the walk.

West Challow	2nd August	Family Service	Lay led
Letcombe Regis	9th August	Matins	Lay led
Letcombe Regis	16th August	Morning Prayers (CW)	Lay led
Childrey	23rd August	Family Service	Lay led
Letcombe Regis	30th August	Benefice Communion	The Revd Antonia Cretney
West Challow	6th September	Family Service	Lay led

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