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*The Ridgeway Churches*

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



*St Mary's Church, Childrey*

**AUGUST 2016**

*Revd Leonora Hill  
Rector of the Ridgeway Benefice  
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*A summary of a letter from the new Bishop of Oxford:  
The Right Revd Dr Steven Croft*

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

It's an enormous honour and privilege to be appointed to this role and I look forward very much to serving the communities of Berkshire, Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire in the coming years. Please pray for me: pray in the words of the ordinal that my heart may daily be enlarged to love this great Diocese to which God has now called me.

Ann and I hope to move to the new See House in Kidlington at the end of August and I will be working to a normal diary in the diocese from early September. My inauguration is set for Friday 30<sup>th</sup> September in the Cathedral. There will be a Welcome Eucharist at which I will preside and preach in the Dorchester Archdeaconry at 15:30 on Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> October in Dorchester Abbey. I would like to meet as many people as possible over the first few weeks in post so please put the date in your diary and I look forward to seeing you there.

Based on the listening I have done so far, I will focus my ministry across the whole Diocese in three areas in the early years: on engagement with children, young people and young adults; on enabling lay discipleship in the world and on engaging with the poorest communities across the Diocese.

I believe that the Christian faith and the Christian church will become ever more central in the life of our nation and the world in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century as people seek again for meaning, for values, for purpose and for hope.

I look forward very much to meeting you, to knowing you and being known and to working with you,

In Christ

+Steven Oxford

Email: [bishop.oxford@oxford.anglican.org](mailto:bishop.oxford@oxford.anglican.org)

Twitter: @Steven\_Croft Blog: <http://blogs.oxford.anglican.org/>

### **Bishop Peter's Pilgrimage Prayer**

O Lord God, from whom we come, in whom we are enfolded, to whom we shall return: bless us in our pilgrimage through life; with the power of the Father protecting, with the love of Jesus in dwelling, and the light of the Spirit guiding, until we come to our ending, in life and love eternal. Amen

## **DIARY DATES:**

**Monday 1<sup>st</sup> August** will be the next book/bible meeting at 3 Orchard Gardens, West Challow, from 10.15 to 12.15 all are welcome.

**Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> August** - "**Summer of Flowers**" in West Challow – see flier for further details!

**Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> September** will be the date of the next Tear Fund Lunch – venue to be advised.

**Friday 16<sup>th</sup> September** – Back by popular demand! St Mary's is holding another Harvest Barn Dance on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> September at Pond Farm (many thanks to Andrew & Lynda!). We look forward to being entertained by the fantastic local folk & ceilidh band "Pandemonium" – do come and join us! Tickets will be available from the Childrey Village Shop soon!

## ***AND JUST TO SAY ...!***

The sun shone brightly on **Letcombe Regis Gardens Open afternoon!** The event raised £2,300 for the Village Hall Fund & St Andrew's Church.

**St Mary's Fête in Childrey** raised an amazing £4,000 which is a fantastic achievement.

Thank you to everyone who helped in whatever way to make both occasions so successful!

**Our thanks to Ruth Nye** - After 15 years at the Ridgeway C E Primary School, 10 of them as Head Teacher, Ruth retired at the end of the summer term. We would like to add our gratitude to the many other tributes to Ruth, thanking her for all she has done for the school, and wishing her a long and happy retirement. With very best wishes from the Open the Book team.

Still on a school note, **Reading Partners for King Alfred's Academy** – thank you very much to those who have already volunteered, more still needed! If you are interested, please contact Revd Leonora.

It is with much regret that we have to report that last month a large quantity of lead was stolen from the roof of the South Transept in St Mary's Church Childrey. This has happened despite additional security having been installed. This section of roof is over the area which covers the new kitchenette and loo which luckily were not damaged. The culprits have been apprehended but unfortunately this will not help the cost of replacement materials. As this is the second claim within two years, the insurance excess will be substantial. We will update you in the next newsletter when we should have more exact details.

On a more positive note, we now have two people in training to lead **Communion by Extension** in the absence of a priest: Jan Balkwill and Linda Soames. On **Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> August** Linda will be leading a service of Communion by Extension at 8:30am in Childrey. (The Rector will preach). Please come and support Linda as she begins this new ministry.

And last but not least - **Kingston Lisle** still has 679 organ pipes awaiting your sponsorship at £10 a pipe! Please ring Angus on 751552 if you would like to help with this!

## Ridgeway Church Services August 2016

	<b>7<sup>th</sup> August</b>	<b>14<sup>th</sup> August</b>	<b>21<sup>st</sup> August</b>	<b>28<sup>th</sup> August</b>	<b>4<sup>th</sup> September</b>
	<i>11<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity</i>	<i>12<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity</i>	<i>13<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity</i>	<i>14<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity</i>	<i>15<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity</i>
<b>Childrey</b>	8:30am* Holy Communion		10:00am Family Communion	11:30am Family Service Methodist Chapel	8:30am Holy Communion
<b>West Challow</b>		11:30am** Family Service		11:30am Holy Communion	
<b>Letcombe Regis</b>	10:00am Matins	10:00am Holy Communion	10:00am Matins	10:00am Holy Communion	10:00am Matins
<b>Letcombe Bassett</b>			8:30am Holy Communion		
<b>Sparsholt</b>		6:00pm*** Evening Prayer			
<b>Kingston Lisle</b>	10:00am Family Communion				10:00am Family Communion

Childrey	7 <sup>th</sup> August	*Communion by Extension	Lay led
Letcombe Regis	7 <sup>th</sup> August	Matins	Lay led
Letcombe Regis	21 <sup>st</sup> August	Matins	Lay led
Childrey	4 <sup>th</sup> September	Holy Communion	The Revd Antonia Cretney
Kingston Lisle	4 <sup>th</sup> September	Family Communion	The Revd Paul Faint
Letcombe Regis	4 <sup>th</sup> September	Matins	Lay led

\*\* The Family Service at West Challow will take place in the churchyard – weather permitting

\*\*\*6:00pm Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> August Sparsholt – The preacher will be Rob Soames

*Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> August 7:30pm  
Taizé service at St Laurence West Challow*

Pilgrim Course – [www.pilgrimcourse.org](http://www.pilgrimcourse.org).

We are planning to start running this course in November. There will be more information next month but in the meantime you may like to check out the website.

Please send any items for Signpost by the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month to Chic Cook at  
[elizabeth@lesters.org.uk](mailto:elizabeth@lesters.org.uk) or ring 01235 751078

