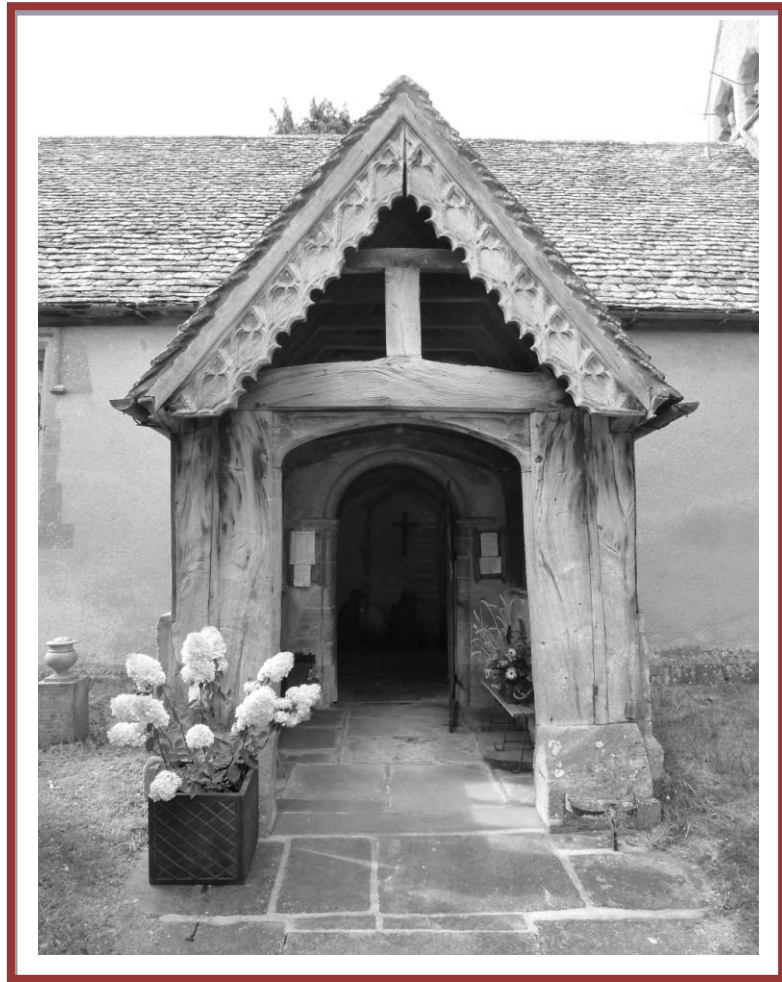


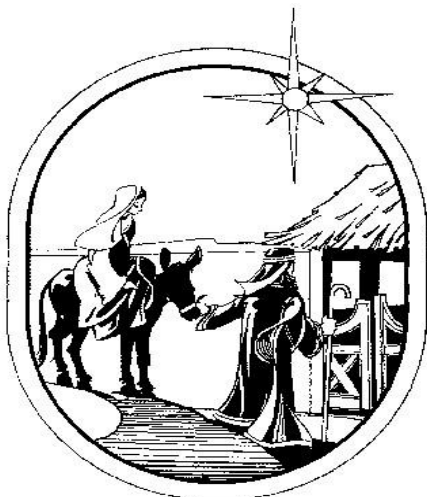
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The Ridgeway Churches

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



DECEMBER 2016



*Revd Leonora Hill
Rector of the Ridgeway Benefice
revd.lahill@btinternet.com
01235 760112*

Dear Friends,

This year a number of friends have become grandparents for the first time. One friend was eight months pregnant when we first met and to watch her cradle her sons' son in her arms was a joy to behold. A priceless gift, treasured and loved.

I know that The Christmas Story is going to be all the more poignant for me this year especially as I am soon to be a grandparent too! So I am delighted that this year we are going to welcome Little Ducks to St. Mary's, Childrey for their Nativity. The story of the Christ Child, a priceless gift to us all.

Blessings,
Leonora



FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

BAPTISM		
Poppie Marguerite Males	12 th November 2016	Childrey
FUNERALS		
David George Davies	11 th November 2016	Sparsholt
Alison Yora Crowther	12 th November 2016	Letcombe Regis

Pilgrim Course

Thursday evenings 7:45 – 9:30pm Childrey Village Hall
What do Christians believe? Sessions 5 & 6 1st & 8th December
How do Christians know & worship God? begins on 5th January 2017.

To find out more visit www.pilgrimcourse.org

Come and join a Pilgrim Walk:

Meet 9:45am on Saturday 17th December at St. Mary's, Childrey.

This will be a circular walk from St. Mary's, Childrey to St. Laurence, West Challow arriving back in Childrey in time for a festive treat at Coffee Corner. Come and walk in the company of others in conversation and silence. Enjoy the beauty of the landscape and experience peace and prayers at St. Laurence, West Challow (now registered as a small pilgrim place www.smallpilgrimplaces.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



COMING SOON...!!

Friday 2nd December will see the next Tear Fund Lunch being held at Appleton House, West Street, by kind invitation of Sue & Julian Worth. 12.30pm onwards, all welcome! Christmas cards & gifts will be on sale.

Sunday 4th December at 4pm – Christingle Service at St Mary's Childrey. Everyone welcome especially children and families, for this magical time where we tell the Christingle story with oranges, candlelight and sweets. Collection to go The Children's Society.

Saturday 10th December Christmas Tree Festival Grand Opening from 3pm – 6pm at St Mary's Childrey. This is a new event! St Mary's will be open as usual for you to COME and see beautifully decorated trees sponsored by local groups and businesses. Mince pies, mulled wine and music from the Village Choir. All proceeds to go to the roof repair fund.

Saturday 17th December - St Andrews Letcombe Regis will be holding their Carol Service at 6pm, followed by mulled wine and mince pies! As usual, St Andrews is collecting gifts for children and warm clothes for the homeless. Please wrap and label gifts saying what age group they are suitable for. Thank you.

Sunday 18th December - St Mary's joint Carol Service at The Methodist Church Childrey at 3pm.

Saturday 24th December - Kingston Lisle looks forward to welcoming you to their first Midnight service for many years and on Christmas Day, along with the Kingston Lisle Festival

Choir, as they celebrate their first Christmas in the warmth of their newly restored church.

Christmas Day Crib Service at 10am in St Mary's with the Village Choir leading the singing. A special Christmas morning at St Mary's.

AND BY THE WAY...!

Mary, Joseph and their donkey will be repeating their journey across the Benefice during Advent, arriving in St Mary's on Christmas Eve. If you can offer shelter for the night for the weary travellers, please email Sue Worth on jshkworth@gmail.com

A very enjoyable Cheese & Wine Quiz held at Childrey Village Hall, raised £300 which will go towards St Mary's roof fund.

Letcombe Regis wishes to thank all those involved with the recent concerts, gift day and Churchyard clean up, the help is much appreciated!

However, **St Michael & All Angels Letcombe Bassett** has sadly joined the growing list of churches which have fallen victim to the theft of lead from the roof. There was some collateral damage to the porch lighting and one of the benches. Four men were picked up on CCTV and the police are investigating. The PCC would like to thank very much David Cox and Jim Izzard who came and weatherproofed the roof and repaired the porch lighting.

On a happier note, the tapestry kneelers project is now beginning to show results and the first four kneelers are in place. If anyone is interested in making one, please contact Lindsey Fellingham on 01235 764714 for further details.





Ridgeway Church Services December 2016

	27th November	4th December	11th December	18th December	25th December	1st January
	<i>The First Sunday of Advent</i>	<i>The Second Sunday of Advent</i>	<i>The Third Sunday of Advent</i>	<i>The Fourth Sunday of Advent</i>	<i>Christmas Day</i>	<i>The Naming & Circumcision of Jesus</i>
Childrey	11:30am Family Service	4:00pm Christingle Service	8:30am Holy Communion	3:00pm Carol Service Childrey Methodists	10:00am Crib Service	8:30am Communion by Extension
West Challow			11:30am Carol Service		11:30am Family Communion	
Letcombe Regis	10:00am Communion by Extension	10:00am Matins	10:00am Holy Communion	10:00am Matins	10:00am Crib Service	10:00am Matins
Letcombe Bassett		8:30am Holy Communion		6:00pm Carol Service	8:30am Holy Communion	
Sparsholt	6:00pm Advent Carol Service			8.30am Holy Communion	10:00am Carol Service	
Kingston Lisle		10:00am Carol Service			10:00am Family Communion	10:00am Family Communion

Letcombe Regis	4 th December	Matins	Lay led
Letcombe Regis	18 th December	Matins	Lay led
Sparsholt	25 th December	Carol Service	Lay led
Childrey	1 st January	Communion by Extension	Lay led
Letcombe Regis	1 st January	Matins	Lay led
Kingston Lisle	1 st January	Family Communion	The Revd Paul Faint

**Sunday 27th November: The First Sunday of Advent
6pm Advent Carol Service***

Our Benefice Choir will be leading this candlelit service to mark the beginning of Advent

Wednesday 7th December

7:30pm Taizé Service at St. Laurence, West Challow

Christmas Eve Services at 11.30p: Saturday 24th December 2016

Childrey	Communion by Extension	Licensed Lay Minister: Sue Powditch
Kingston Lisle	Midnight Communion	Associate Priest: The Revd Tony Lynn
Letcombe Regis	Midnight Communion	Rector: The Revd Leonora Hill

Ridgeway Benefice Pastoral Co-ordinators:

Miranda Marsh (Childrey) 01235 751078; email: mirandajmarsh@btinternet.com

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Debbie Webb (Letcombe Regis) 01235 760973; email: debbieleek21@gmail.com