

THE RIDGEWAY BENEFICE

CONTACT

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

November 2015

VOLUME 3 Issue 12

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Rector of the Ridgeway Benefice

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NB rest day: Tuesday

Dear Friends,

Sunday 29th November (Advent Sunday) marks the beginning of the new Christian year. Our new service rota also begins in Advent, although the changes will not really be noticeable until January. Initial thoughts began several months ago and, by sharing ideas, the new service rota has maintained a number of regular services, thereby enabling us to add new services, as well as keep some space for other initiatives.

I have met a significant number of people who may not attend church regularly but do appreciate that their church is open. This is one reason why St. Laurence, West Challow is applying to become a Small Pilgrim Place. Whilst West Challow has a thriving Family Service every month it is also a sacred space where you will find silence, solitude and simplicity www.smallpilgrimplaces.org.

Similarly Sparsholt will be like a 'festival' church hosting 'special' Ridgeway services. Just two examples of the way our churches are attempting to offer open hospitality to our communities.

Blessings,
Leonora

CHILDREY

The **Harvest Barn Dance** on 26th September was a big success with over 100 tickets sold. The evening made a profit of £283 and this has been sent to the Bishop's Outreach Fund for Syrian Refugees. Many thanks to all those who helped make it a great evening!

Thanks to those who came to the **Gift Day** on 3rd October which raised a further £600 for the Project, a welcome addition to our funds at this stage.

Friday 6th November the Tear Fund Lunch will be held by kind invitation of Satu Marks at Childrey Manor from 12.30pm onwards. All welcome!

Ride and Stride- Very many thanks to everybody involved with the Oxfordshire Historic Churches ride and Stride Day on the 13th September last. The st/riders, greeters, helpers and, especially the sponsors, have raised over £200 towards this charity which has been so generous to St Mary's church restoration appeal in the past.

WEST CHALLOW

It was extremely heartening to see so many villagers help with the beautiful flowers for Harvest Festival. We look forward to help with future events and would be delighted to welcome all to our lovely church!

LETCOMBE REGIS

There will be an informal Shared Supper on Saturday November 21st, 7pm for 7.30 in the Village Hall an early celebration of St. Andrew's Day.

All welcome (Please provide a plate of food, your drinks, plate and cutlery. Glasses will be provided.)

Saturday November 28th between 10am and 12 noon, St Andrews will hold its Annual Gift Day and churchyard clean-up. Rector Leonora will be in the church to meet people and coffee will be served.

LETCOMBE BASSETT

Well done to Michael Bailey and Patrick Grattan who took part in the recent Ride and Stride event and raised the amazing sum of £686 for the Trust. Half of this will go to St Michael and All Angels Church.

CONTACT VOLUNTEERS

Tony and Rosemary Hine have delivered Contact for many years in Letcombe Regis and now it is time for them to hand over to other volunteers. I would like to take this opportunity to thank them very much and, everyone else, who ensures that every household in the Benefice receives a copy of Contact each month.

SATURDAY 5TH DECEMBER

Come along and join in a "**Christingle Workshop**" in Childrey Methodist Church between 10.30am & 12 noon!!

We invite children from all our villages who would like to come and help make the Christingles ready for our service at St Mary's Church on Sunday 6th December.

We look forward to seeing you!!

PS Squash and biscuits will be provided!

PPS Any queries ring Linda 751297

FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

BAPTISM

Henry Richard Thomas	Saturday 19 th September	Sparsholt
Sophie Patricia Wichall	Sunday 11 th October	Childrey
Eleanor Patricia Wichall	Sunday 11 th October	Childrey
Samuel Michael Wichall	Sunday 11 th October	Childrey

We Make the Road by Walking by Brian McLaren

To mark the end of

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

Come to a Bring and Share Supper

Wednesday 25th November

7:00 – 9:00pm

Ridgeway Rectory, Letcombe Regis

RSVP by Friday 20th November revd.lahil@btinternet.com

A Book for Advent

“Walking Backwards to Christmas” by Stephen Cottrell

ISBN 978-0-281-07147-0

There will be a chance to meet and discuss the book on

Wednesday 16th December 7:30pm – 9:00pm

at The Lesters, Childrey

with Mulled Wine and Mince Pies

Monday 21st December 10:30am till Noon

Coffee/Mulled wine and Mince Pies

Ridgeway Rectory, Letcombe Regis

CHILDREY METHODIST SERVICES - NOVEMBER

1st November	11:00am	Terry Adams	from Wantage
8th November	11:00am Holy Communion	Rev Martin Smithson	
15th November	11:00am	Peter Hemmings	from Grove
22nd November	11:00am Family Service with St Mary’s at the Methodist Church	Helen Carter	from Wantage
29th November	11:00am	Marlene Chalkley	from Wallingford

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

Ridgeway Benefice Church Services for November 2015

November	1 st	8 th	15 th	22 nd	29 th
	All Saints' Day	Remembrance Sunday	The Second Sunday before Advent	Christ the King	The First Sunday of Advent
Childrey	8:30am HC B		6:00pm Evensong	11:00am Family Service at Childrey Methodists	
West Challow	11:30am Family Service		8:30am HC A		10:00am Benefice Communion
Letcombe Regis	10:00am HC A		10:00am Morning Prayer on Sunday	10:00am HC B	
Letcombe Bassett		8:30am HC B		6:00pm Evensong	
Sparsholt	12.30pm Baptism	10.45am Remembrance Day Service* 6:00pm "Journey On"*		8:30am HC BCP	6:00pm Advent Carol Service***

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

West Challow	1st November	Family Service	Lay led
Letcombe Regis	15th November	Morning Prayer	Lay led

Sunday 8TH November: Remembrance Sunday

8:30am Holy Communion Letcombe Bassett

*10:45am Service for Remembrance Sunday: The Church of the Holy Rood, Sparsholt

We are most grateful to The British Legion for supporting and organising this benefice service each year. After the service they will be laying wreaths at each war memorial in the benefice: Kingston Lisle, Childrey, Letcombe Bassett, Letcombe Regis and West Challow

**6:00pm: 'Journey On' The Church of the Holy Rood, Sparsholt

This service of readings, poetry and music is an opportunity to set aside time to remember, reflect and light a candle in memory of loved ones.

***Sunday 29th November: The First Sunday of Advent, Sparsholt 6pm Advent Carol Service*

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

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