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The Ridgeway Churches

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



**NOVEMBER
2017**

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

Dear Friends

Let us take this opportunity to wish Bishop Peter and his wife Betty our very best wishes as they settle into their new home in Beaconsfield. During his retirement here Bishop Peter has been a great source of wisdom and strength and helped and supported the ministry of the Ridgeway Benefice in many different ways. Forty years after leaving Beaconsfield to become the Bishop of Taunton, Peter and Betty have now returned to where he was a parish priest.


Love and prayers

Leonora

PARISH REGISTERS

FUNERAL		
Winifred Margaret Cynthia Noviss "Bubbles"	19 th September 2017	Childrey
MARRIAGES		
Paul Jonathon Tomos Beacon & Rebecca Catherine Amy Mabbett	30 th September 2017	Letcombe Regis
John James Russell & Georgina Alice Marsland Lee	30 th September 2017	Sparsholt

**A prayer from our Diocesan Bishop:
Bishop Steven.....**
God of gentleness and love, draw near to us as we draw near to you
Dwell in every heart and conversation
Fashion us into the likeness of your Son Jesus Christ
Help us to discern together all that you are calling us to be and all that you are calling us to do
Assist us, by your Spirit, to become a more contemplative,
More compassionate and more courageous church
For the building of your kingdom and the glory of your Son
Amen



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY..!

Friday 3rd November 7.30pm :Science & Faith: *Creation or Evolution*: do we have to choose? Dr Denis Alexander - Faringdon Corn Exchange, admission free.

Friday 3rd November at 7:30pm One World Week: An open meeting in Wantage Methodist Church to help understand ***asylum seekers and refugees*** and the challenges they face. Admission free, but donations to Asylum Welcome & HOST Abingdon welcome.

Saturday 25th November is St Andrew's Annual Gift Day and churchyard clear up. Gifts can be brought to the church between 10:00am and 12 noon and coffee will be served.

AND NOW FOR DECEMBER...!

Tuesdays 5th, 12th, 19th December a three session course on The Beatitudes written by Bishop Steven, 10am – 12 noon at The Rectory, Letcombe Regis. . . Please contact Rector Leonora if you are interested in going along.

Friday 8th December - Tearfund Lunch to be held at Appleton House, West Street, Childrey by kind invitation of Sue & Julian Worth 12.30pm onwards. All welcome and there will be charity Christmas cards & small gifts for sale.

Saturday 9th December Joe Barber will be presenting a programme of organ music for Advent & Christmas in St Andrew's Church at 3pm. Tickets are £5 and available from Denise Elliott, Penny Barber and the Richmond Village Shop.

Sunday 10th December - Christingle Celebration - 4pm at St Mary's Childrey
This is just part of an exciting programme of events to be held over the weekend of 9/10th December to celebrate the spirit of Christmas in our community and where we welcome all the children and families from across our six villages. More details to come next month!

Wednesdays 6th & 13th December – “Re-examining the Christmas Story”.

An Advent study will be held at The Lesters Childrey starting at 7.45pm and finishing by 9.15pm. To find out more or sign up, email Chic using the Editor's email address.

AND BY THE WAY...!!

Thank you very much to everyone who contributed in whatever way to all the Harvest Festival events and services over the last few weeks. The churches were all decorated so beautifully, the flowers were amazing! All the gifts so generously donated have been shared between the Food Bank and other local charities.

Pre-Christmas Nativity Search! - This year we hope to have lots of different Nativity sets around Childrey for all interested folk to look/search for, just like the Wise Men! There will be a display of the Nativity sets at St.Mary's Christingle service on 10th December. Further details in next month's Signpost, but if you already have a set and would like to take part please contact Sue, on 07951065141 or jshkworth@gmail.com

St Mary's Childrey has lots of places for cobwebs to hide! Helpers are always welcome when we have a cleaning blitz which usually takes about an hour and ends with coffee & chocolate brownies! If anyone is interested in helping for an hour or so very occasionally please contact the Editor of Signpost (details on the back page!)

Update on St Mary's Church Roof – It had been hoped to replace the lead on the roof of the south transept before the winter. However, for a number of reasons, one of which is the issue with the bats, this has not been possible. It is now hoped that, with suitable precautions in place to protect the bats, the work may be done between January & April next year, when the bats are hibernating. The specification (for stainless steel instead of lead), has been approved by the Diocese and the contract will be going out to tender shortly.

Ridgeway School's Guide to St Mary's - The children at Ridgeway school have been doing some amazing work designing a new guide to St Mary's church. It's full of historical facts, lovely drawings, quizzes and games too. Do pop into St Mary's and see it for yourselves. Thank you so much to everyone involved in it's production!

Ridgeway Church Services November 2017

	5 th November	12 th November	19 th November	26 th November	3 rd December
	<i>All Saints Day</i>	<i>Remembrance Sunday</i>	<i>The second Sunday before Advent</i>	<i>Christ the King</i>	<i>The First Sunday of Advent</i>
Childrey	8:30am Holy Communion		10:00am Family Communion + Baptism	11.30am Family Service Methodist Church	8:30am Holy Communion
West Challow		8:30am Holy Communion		11:30am Family Service with Baptism	
Letcombe Regis	10:00am Matins + a Baptism at midday		10:00am Matins	10:00am Holy Communion	10:00am Holy Communion
Letcombe Bassett		6:00pm Remembrance Day Service	8:30am Holy Communion		
Sparsholt	6:00pm All Souls Service	10:45am Remembrance Day Service			6:00pm Advent Carol Service
Kingston Lisle	10:00am Family Communion				10:00am Family Communion

Letcombe Regis	5 th November	Matins	Lay led
Letcombe Regis	19 th November	Matins	Lay led
Letcombe Regis	3 rd December	Holy Communion	The Revd Paul Faint

8:30am Sunday 12th November:

Remembrance Sunday

Holy Communion at St Laurence West Challow

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

Our thanks to the British Legion for supporting & organising this benefice service. Afterwards, they will be laying wreaths at our war memorials in Kingston Lisle, Childrey, Letcombe Bassett, Letcombe Regis and West Challow

3:30pm: Richmond Village, Letcombe Regis

6:00pm: St. Michael and All Angels, Letcombe Bassett

Readings, poetry and music to mark Remembrance Sunday

6:00pm Sunday 5th November:

All Souls Service

The Church of the Holy Rood, Sparsholt

Readings, poetry and music creating a space to remember, reflect and light a candle in memory of loved ones.

11:00am Thursday 30th November:

St. Andrew's Day

Holy Communion

St. Andrew's, Letcombe Regis

6:00pm Sunday 3rd December: Advent

Carol Service with the Benefice Choir at The Church of the Holy Rood, Sparsholt

Ridgeway Benefice Pastoral Co-ordinators:

Miranda Marsh (Childrey) 01235 751078 email:

mirandajmarsh@btinternet.com

Ann Brown (West Challow) 01235 762358 email:

ann.r.brown@hotmail.co.uk

Debbie Webb (Letcombe Regis) 01235 760973

email: debbieleek21@gmail.com

Janey Nelson (Kingston Lisle) 01367 820392

email: janeynelson@hotmail.co.uk

Please send any items for Signpost by the 15th of each month to Chic Cook at elizabeth@lesters.org.uk or ring 01235 751078