



St Giles' Church, Bubbenhall: Newsletter for February 2016

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SERVICES IN THE BENEFICE: FEBRUARY 2016

DATE	Bubbenhall	Baginton	Ryton
Tuesday, February 2: <i>The Presentation of Christ in the Temple (Candlemas)</i>			7.30 p.m: Holy Communion.
February 7 : <i>The Sunday next before Lent.</i>	11.00 a.m: Holy Communion.	10.00 a.m: Christingle Service.	9.30 a.m: Parish Communion. 6.30 p.m: Evensong.
Wednesday, February 10 Ash Wednesday.			11.30 a.m: Holy Communion 7.30 p.m: Holy Communion.
February 14: The First Sunday of Lent.	6.30 p.m: Evensong.	10.00 a.m: Holy Communion.	8.00 a.m: Holy Communion. 9.30 a.m: Village Worship.
February 21: The Second Sunday of Lent.	11.00 a.m: Mattins. 8.15 p.m: Holy Communion by candlelight.	10.00 a.m: Holy Communion.	9.30 a.m: Parish Communion. 6.30 p.m: Evensong.

Date	Bubbenhall	Baginton	Ryton
February 28 The Third Sunday of Lent.	8.00 a.m: Holy Communion.	10.00 a.m: Holy Communion.	9.30 a.m: Family Service. 6.30 p.m: Holy Communion.
March 6 The Fourth Sunday of Lent. (Mothering Sunday)	11.00 a.m: Holy Communion.	10.00 a.m: Village Service.	9.30 a.m: Parish Communion. 6.30 p.m: Evensong.
March 13 The Fifth Sunday of Lent. (Passion Sunday)	6.30 p.m: Evensong.	10.00 a.m: Holy Communion	8.00 a.m: Holy Communion. 9.30 a.m: Village Worship.
At Ryton: EVERY WEDNESDAY except February 10 and March 9: 9.20 a.m: Holy Communion. February 10 and March 9: 11.30 a.m: Holy Communion.			
At Ryton: Every Thursday in Lent. 6.30 p.m: Stations of the Cross.			

Next PCC meeting: February 22: 7.30 p.m. at Hill Cottage

February 10: Ash Wednesday

As usual there will be two services of Holy Communion at Ryton, with Imposition of Ashes (for those who wish): at 11.30 a.m and 7.30 p.m.
The 7.30 p.m. service will include hymns.



Christmas Flowers

Many thanks to those who gave their time to arrange flowers, for donations and flowers given for Christmas. The Church looked lovely: Thank you all very much.

Churchyard.



We would respectfully like to remind you to remove Christmas wreaths from your family graves before the end of February. The grass needs cutting in March and the wreaths hinder our progress. Thank you.

Again, many thanks to our wonderful team of volunteers who do such an excellent job keeping our churchyard immaculate throughout the year. If you would like to join them, please contact one of the Churchwardens.

Tuesday February 9: Puzzles and Pancakes.

Our annual quiz for Shrovetide will be at **St Leonard's Church centre, Ryton, on Tuesday 9th February 7.30pm.** Tea/coffee and pancakes served in the interval. Small(ish) prize for the winning team. Tickets **£4**; proceeds to US (formerly USPG)- the oldest of the Missionary Societies.

Could we issue a rallying call to the various groups in our villages to enter a team – e.g. Twirls, Melody Makers, Evergreens, Augmented Choir, Bubbenhall Breakfast Team? The more the merrier- competition between teams could be fierce!

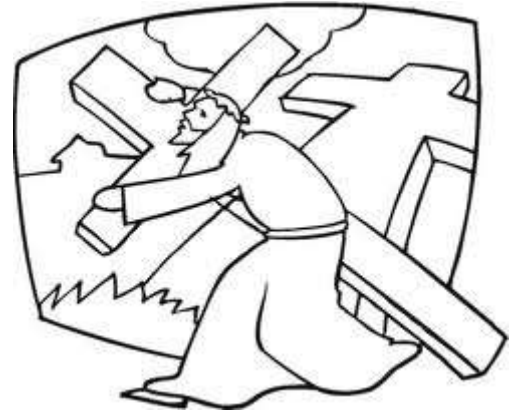


Lent is a penitential time, when we can reflect on our shortcomings and make ourselves ready for Easter. There will be a series of meetings in Lent - a Lent Course. We look at some texts and this year the theme is: 'The Psalms - prayers for today's church', with audio contributions by a number of well-known clergy and broadcasters.

The sessions are well put together and are very good and provoking lively discussion. This year, the Lent Course will take place on Monday evenings in Ryton Church centre, starting with a cup of tea or coffee at 7.30 p.m. The sessions will finish by 9.00 p.m. The first meeting will be at Ryton Church centre at 7.30pm on Monday February 15th . There will be five sessions in all, but do feel free to come to any of them.

Lent Service: Stations of the Cross

On Thursdays in Lent (starting February 11th) we shall meet at Ryton Church to meditate on the Way of the Cross- Jesus' last journey as he carried his cross through the streets of Jerusalem to the place of his crucifixion. Service begins at 6.30 p.m. and lasts about 40 minutes.



Lent Jars in aid of Motor Neurone Association.



We shall be sending the proceeds from our Lent Jars collection this year to the Motor Neurone Disease Association, which funds research into this devastating disease and offers support to people living with MND and their carers and families.

Please take a jar or Gift-Aid envelope from church (or use a jam jar from home) to collect the money you save from the things (chocolate, gin??) you have given up for Lent.

Please bring your jar or envelope to church at or after Easter. Thank you.

From the Church Register:

January 3rd : The Baptism of Bethany May Scott.

Jesus said: Let the children come to me



Christmas Eve 2015: Bubbenhall Crib Service



We had a Heavenly Host of angels this year!

Joseph, Mary, Wise men, Angels... and Jade looking after some of the younger ones.

At the Crib service, over £100 was collected for the Children's Society and St Giles' church. Thank you all for your generous contributions



MUMMERS

On December 18th , the Mummers, led by our Rector, performed the Ryton Mummers' Play at all the pubs and clubs in our three villages. They thank supporters for donations totalling £138, to be divided between our three churches.

The Bells of St Giles..

“When e'er the sweet church bell
Peals over hill and dell...”

Many of us have been saddened that our fine ring of 6 bells has been largely silent in recent months, apart from several visits by teams from other churches.

But now Susan Sheen is delighted to report that several people have declared an interest in learning to ring the bells. She would be very pleased to hear from anyone else who would like to join them.



So now we need some more enthusiastic volunteers to bring our bell-tower to life again. Experienced and less experienced ringers are welcome, as well as keen beginners young and old. It's not rocket science: the main things you need are enthusiasm, willingness to learn and commitment to being part of a team.

Please volunteer, so that our bells can soon ring out again.
Have a word with Susan and Peter Sheen on 02476 306339.

Breakfast in BUBBENHALL Village Hall.



First Saturday in the month,
from 9.00 – 11.00 a.m.

Full English £5.00, or bacon/ sausage etc. batches,
tea, coffee- priced per item.

Proceeds in aid of St. Giles' Church.

Angela Greenway and Gill Green hope to welcome you **on Saturday, February 6th**.
Do come along and bring your friends!
Many thanks to Angela, Gill, and all those who are helping them in this popular venture.

Tuesday, December 8th 2015:
Visiting Choir returns to St Leonard's.

It seems a long time ago now, but it is good to report that members of guest choir *Musica Sacra*, were welcome guests when they came to St Leonard's to help us celebrate the feast day of the Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

We were also grateful that Barbara Marsh found time to lead a choir practice on the previous Friday, and that St. Leonard's choir members Carolyn Reily and Barbara Marsh came to join the singers at the service.

Our thanks are also due to Ruth Smith, who kindly volunteered to play the organ and to help the choir members to rehearse.

The singers led the congregation in singing the Mass setting by Gregory Murray (the setting we have every Sunday) as well as hymns and responses etc.

As on previous occasions, a jolly party followed, when choir and congregation enjoyed Buck's Fizz, wine, cheese scones and other refreshments after the service.

Many thanks to Janet and Frances , and to all who helped serve the refreshments and clear up afterwards.

Do come and join us when the singers visit us again- provisionally to celebrate Corpus Christi on Thursday, May 26th.



He always started Mattins with :
“Dearly beloved Miss Trodgett”



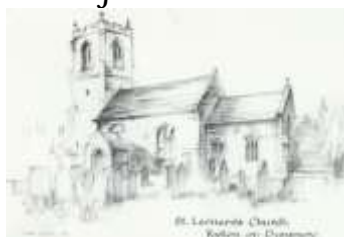
Gift of Children's Bibles from Ryton Church to Provost Williams Church of England School.

Barbara Marsh, Foundation Governor, writes: The suggestion that the PCC give Bibles to the school came from the teachers at Provost Williams who felt that it would be really good if each class could have a Bible which was appropriate for the age of the children. It was agreed at PCC to give the staff a selection of Bibles so each teacher could choose the one they felt was best for their class.

So, on Thursday 22nd October (the closest one to Bible Sunday), a special assembly was held, led by the Revd. David Wintle when the Bibles were presented to the children.

David had carefully inscribed each one with the date and a Bible reference which would lead the children to a verse which would be particularly relevant to the stage they had reached on their journey through school: for example,

Presented to Year 6
of
Provost Williams
Church of England Primary
School
October 2015
by
St Leonard's Church
Ryton on Dunsmore
Joshua 1:9



The children and staff were clearly delighted with the Bibles. It was a heart-warming experience for the members of the PCC who were able to attend.

Children in church.



Although we do not at present have the resources to run regular services for children at Bubbenhall , we love having children in our churches, and there is **always provision for them at the 9.30 a.m. services at Ryton.**

All families with babies and children are sure of a warm welcome whenever they can join us. All Ryton Sunday morning services start **at 9.30 a.m.**, and the pattern is:

2nd Sunday in every month: Village Worship.

The most informal of all our services.

We start in the Church Centre (warm and welcoming) with workshop activities for children, and coffee, puzzles and chat for grown-ups to get to know one another.

At about 10.00 we move into church for a short and child-centred service.

There is no need to be there on the dot of 9.30- people drift in as soon as they can make it.

4th Sunday in every month: Family Service.

An all-age service of readings, songs and activities with everybody young and old in church together.

Children always participate in the readings/ drama sketches etc. and several people bring instruments to accompany the songs. (and any other musicians among you and your children would be very welcome to join them)

Tea/coffee and cake after the service in the Church Centre.



1st and 3rd Sundays in every month: Parish Communion with Sunday School.

Tea/coffee and the chance to socialise after every service. Children start the service in church with their parents, and after the first hymn go out for Sunday School activities in the Church Centre, returning to receive a blessing at the time of Communion. Parents are welcome to accompany their little ones to Sunday School and stay with them if they lack confidence at first.

Families from Bubbenhall are especially welcome at all these services.

Village Worship and Family Services at Ryton: for young and old!

Second and Fourth Sunday in every month at 9.30 a.m..



At the Advent Workshop and Village Worship service, we had fun getting ready for Christmas.



Thought for the Month: Ash Wednesday and Lent.



On Ash Wednesday, (which this year falls on February 10th) many of us come to church and kneel at the altar rail to receive a smudge of ashes on our foreheads. A smudge in the shape of a cross.

The first time that most of us had the sign of the cross made on our foreheads was when our parents brought us to the font and we were baptised.

That first time, the cross was made in pure, clean water- a symbol of pure, clean little souls, washed in the cleansing water of the sacrament of baptism.

The Ash Wednesday cross is made in dirty black ash, a symbol of- well, several things, among them our no-longer-clean souls, sullied and dirtied by our sins.

Pure water at baptism, dirty ashes today.

But- and it's a very important but- the sign and the gesture is the same.

A cross on the forehead.

A reminder today that, whatever we have done to dirty and spoil that baptismal innocence, we are still, despite everything, what it says in the catechism:

Members of Christ,

Children of God,

and inheritors of the Kingdom of Heaven.

Ash Wednesday, with its earthy, primitive, ritual smearing of our bare, vulnerable foreheads with dirt, Ash Wednesday brings us up short and makes us think of what we really are.

Ashes to ashes, dust to dust.

Words we hear more and more often as we grow older, our friends and loved ones die, and we attend their funerals.

Dust thou art, and to dust thou shalt return, said God to sinful Adam as he sorrowfully turned him out of the Garden of Eden.

Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return, each of us hears on Ash Wednesday as we receive the smudge of ash on our foreheads.

The question is, what are we going to do with the days that are allotted to us between this Ash Wednesday, and the day when the words: "Ashes to ashes, dust to dust" will be spoken over our coffins?

The obvious answer, especially at the beginning of Lent is: Repent.

Repent is a beautiful word, for a beautiful thing.

Repent doesn't mean grovel.

Repent doesn't mean be "ever so 'umble" like Dickens' Uriah Heep.

Repent means: "Turn back!"
Turn back to the person you really are.
Turn back to God.

There is great joy in Heaven, said Jesus, when one sinner repents, just as there was great joy in the heart of the Prodigal Son's father when his lost son got up from the bad place he was in and returned home.
Repent means: turn back to God and be his son, his daughter once more.



Let's pray that during the weeks of Lent, we may experience the joy- joy on both sides- as we return to the Lord with all our hearts.
As we wash away the dirt of our sins in the water of repentance, and become again what we really are;
Members of Christ,
Children of God,
and inheritors of the Kingdom of Heaven.

Ryton History Group

We meet in the Village Hall on the fourth Friday of each month at 7.30 p.m.

All meetings and events are now covered on the Ryton on Dunsmore Parish Council's Website.

For more information ring Steve Garrett 76639228 or Ann Garrett 76 302695

Tailpiece



Freddy goes to church and listens to the preacher. After a while, the preacher asks anyone who needs to be prayed over to come forward.

Freddy goes up and the preacher asks: "Freddy, what do you want me to pray about for you?"
"Vicar," says Freddy, "I need you to pray for my hearing."

The preacher puts one finger in Freddy's ear and he places the other hand on top of Freddy's head and prays and prays and prays.

After a few minutes, the preacher removes his hands and stands back.

"Freddy, how is your hearing now?"

"I don't know, Vicar," says Freddy. "My hearing's not until next Wednesday."

CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE MARCH NEWSLETTER BY FEBRUARY 20th PLEASE!

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- Email version normally reaches you before the printed version.
- Less work for our committed volunteer deliverer, (to whom we are most grateful)
- Easier to read.
- No charge.
- Email version often contains material which there wasn't room for in the printed version, e.g. extra news, pictures, cartoons, jokes...
- Environmentally friendly if you choose not to print it out, instead saving it to refer to when you want to.
- Rosemary's email is rosiking2963@gmail.com
- If you would like to receive the newsletter by email, but aren't yet on the recipients' list, please just get in touch.