

ST. PHILIP & ST. JAMES PARISH CHURCH WHITTINGTON PARISH NEWS



July & August
2021



JULY & AUGUST 2021

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50p

St Philip and St James' Parish Church, Whittington

A Ninth Century Chapel rebuilt in 1844

In the Worcester South East Team



St Philip & St James Whittington and St Mark in the Cherry Orchard

Vicar

The Rev'd Andy Stand 01905 358150

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Organist:	Mr Richard Goldman	01905 831923
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St. Martin with St. Peter

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Holy Trinity & St Matthew Ronkswood

Vicar Rev'd Rob Farmer

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*For enquiries about Baptisms, Thanksgivings, Marriages and Blessings,
please contact the Team Administrator as above.*

The Team Office is closed to visitors until further notice.

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Our July and August edition sees the easing of restrictions delayed further, but we now hope for release on 19th July, and some return to normality! Ed.

And for those who do manage to get away by air:

The sky at night.....

The scientific theory I like best is that the rings of Saturn are composed entirely of lost airline luggage.

Letter from the Vicarage

July 2021



Hi Everyone,

How are we all doing?

Personally, I have been counting my blessings recently, many of them, of course, linked with the easing of the lockdown restrictions.

We were fortunate enough to be able to go camping (with mainly warm and fine weather!) over the May half-term holiday. We are again looking forward to going camping during the long school summer holidays, so let's hope and pray that we are fortunate enough to be, again, blessed with fine weather - though as I have said before on many occasions, we are going to the Lake District, and you don't go to the Lake District for its weather!

About a fortnight ago, I was, at long last, able to meet and sit with my Mum in the garden at the care home in Birmingham where she lives these days. This was the first time that I had seen her, in the flesh, so to speak, since probably the end of February 2020 - the care home bringing in their own lockdown to keep residents safe a few weeks before the Government brought in the first National lockdown. Given that up to that point in 2020, I would try to make a visit to her each week, and make that a priority within my diary, it has been something of a wrench not to be able to see her for 16 or 17 months! We do though, speak to one another daily on the phone.

There have been other post-lockdown firsts: only this past week, I have made my first visit to Acorns Children's Hospice, as their Volunteer Spiritual Care Adviser, since March 2020, as they too begin to relax their restrictions and begin to welcome their volunteer visitors back. It was good to see some familiar faces, and some new ones too.

Continued.....

I have been able to meet with wedding couples again, and, even today, have conducted my first baptism since Mothering Sunday (March 22nd) 2020 - congratulations and blessings to Sebastian and his family.

Another, post-lockdown first will be the Annual Memorial Service at Whittington, later this month. While I trust this will be a blessing, it is of course one tinged with huge sadness not just for the loss of loved ones connected to members of Whittington parish, but also because of the backdrop of so many deaths associated with the pandemic as well.

For the sports fans amongst us, there is very much, at the moment a treasure trove of sporting riches to enjoy and savour as well as those to look forward to later in the summer: fairly obviously there is the Football European Championships - (could it be “coming home” this time?!); there is the British and Irish Lions tour to South Africa; the cricket season is in full flow, the Tour de France cycling, is proving to be a more interesting and open race than in many previous editions, and we all wait with bated breath still to see whether the Olympic Games will actually be able to go ahead.

I wonder, what blessings are you be counting this Summer? Don't forget to thank God for them!

Every blessing,

Andy



Fall down??

One way to find out if you're old is to fall in front of a group of people. If they laugh, you're young. If they panic and start running toward you, you're old.

Coronavirus - Covid-19

St Philip and St James Whittington

is open for public worship and normal services continue.

For details see "What's on". Arrangements for attending are on page 35

The Worcester South East Team of clergy continue to work on ways of serving the needs of all our parishes.

*Some services are still being conducted on-line by the Team
(see below)*

The Team Office at St Martin's is closed to visitors, except by appointment, but can still be reached by phone and email, see inside cover page.

LIVE ON-LINE VIDEO SERVICES

For all churches in the South East Team

Churches in the Team are progressively opening again for public worship but we are continuing to meet for worship during the week using the zoom app downloadable from the zoom.us website. To join one of the services please email the host who will send you a link:

Morning Prayer: Monday to Friday at 8.30 a.m. *hosted by Mike Bunclark (mbunclark@tiscali.co.uk)*

Compline: Monday to Friday at 8.30 p.m. *hosted by Mike Bunclark*

Monday Prayer Meeting: 4.00 p.m. *hosted by Joan Hazzard (joanhazz@gmail.com)*

Virtual 'Yew Brew' Coffee Morning: Saturday at 11.00 a.m. *hosted by Andy Stand*

Prayers for Peace and Justice: Saturday at 12 noon *hosted by Joan Hazzard*

For enquiries about Whittington please email the Vicar
andy.stand@sky.com

Sunday Services will be streamed from St Martin's on Facebook, available through their website, and from Whittington on Zoom.

WHITTINGTON NEW BUILDING

The Elizabethan Room



The results of three applications for grant to fill the shortfall in our funding are awaited, with the first expected in July.

Arrangements have been made for the next stage of archaeological survey which is expected to entail a watching brief over construction to see what is revealed. In the meantime all historical data will be reviewed.

In view of the response so far, steps have been taken to prepare for construction, with a start planned for the autumn. On this basis it is hoped the project will be complete by next spring.

Brenda's plant sale 2021.....

The final total raised by Brenda from her plant sale this year is £920! A wonderful effort providing much needed funds for the Church Account, managing without all the usual events during the Pandemic, which help to support our finances. This is undoubtedly a record for this annual event. Ed.



Sponsored cycle ride



The Griffin family (who attend St. Mark's) are doing a fundraising challenge over summer to raise funds for **Cerebral Palsy Sport**. The target is to cycle the equivalent of Worcester to Westminster Abbey and back, 450 km. If you would like to contribute, **the JustGiving** page is: <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/ian-griffin14>



What's on at Whittington July & August to September

Sunday 4 July	Trinity 5	
11.00am	Parish Communion	CW
1.00pm	Baptism	
Sunday 11 July	Trinity 6	
11.00am	Family Service	
Tuesday 13 July		
6.30pm	PCC Meeting on Zoom	
Sunday 18 July	Trinity 7	
11.00am	Parish Communion	CW
6.30pm	Memorial Service	
Saturday 24 July		
1.00pm	Baptism	
Sunday 25 July	Trinity 8	
11.00am	Family Communion	CW
1.00pm	Baptism	
Saturday 31 July		
11.30am	Wedding of Kurt and Victoria	
Sunday 1 August	Trinity 9	
11.00am	Parish Communion	CW
Sunday 8 August	Trinity 10	
11.00am	Family Service	
Sunday 15 August	Trinity 11	
11.00am	Parish Communion	CW
Sunday 22 August	Trinity 12	
11.00am	Family Communion	CW
Sunday 29 August	Trinity 13	
11.00am	Morning Prayer	CW
2.00pm	Wedding of Lawrence and Hollie	
Saturday 4 September		
2.00pm	Wedding of Andrew and Connie	
Sunday 5 September	Trinity 14	
11.00am	Parish Communion	CW



Forest Church at Whittington every month on the first Saturday at 10.00 am

“Please sir, can we have the lesson outside?”

How many times did I (Robin) hear that on sunny days when I was a teacher! But I ‘get’ it. There’s something deep within us that draws us out into the open air, into landscapes filled with fields and woods, bugs and birds, streams and flowers. God’s world is truly beautiful, and precious - it’s our home. And what an appropriate place to worship God! Out of doors. Forest Church is all about taking the lesson outside and exploring ways to offer Christian worship that are not only true to the faith but also attentive to the space around us as it changes through the seasons. It embraces the outside not only in lovely sunny weather but also in snow and rain. Hug the sun and embrace the rain! (Though not literally, as Icarus will tell you.)

The idea originally came to me as a way of doing something for the children that could work during a lockdown. It quickly became apparent, however, that the idea had a lot more potential than a simple quick fix for a temporary problem. It was packed full of possibilities for a fresh and fun way of worshipping that fully engaged not only children but also their parents and grandparents. May Day saw the launch of our new Forest Church service, up in the Churchyard at Whittington Church. We had eight families, giving us a total of twenty-four people participating.

Our second gathering was in June. The sun shone as we met once again for our second Forest Church event. We were joined by eight or nine families and our theme was Genesis 1 verses 1–13: Creation - the first three days. We began with prayers of thanksgiving and praise, followed by the Bible reading and a talk from Sian Morgan. During the activity time, our focus was on seeds. By combining clay, compost, and wildflower seeds, we made seed bombs. We took these home to plant somewhere to encourage wildlife, especially bees and pollinators. We also tried to find as many different grass seed heads in the graveyard as we could. We finished the time together with intercessory prayer based on the Bible verses we had read and by saying and singing The Lord’s Prayer together.

Our next Forest Church is on Saturday 3rd July at 10:00 am at Whittington Churchyard. Any children aged 0 to 11 and their families are very welcome. Please remember to book your place by emailing the church office (WorcesterSouthEastTeam@gmail.com) as places are limited due to ongoing COVID restrictions.

Robin and Carol Parry



St Martin's informal

Coffee Concerts are back!

Join us at 10.15am on the 4th Saturday of the month

Saturday 24 July

Adam Place piano

Recent music graduate Adam plays two titans: Bach's Partita No 6 in E minor and Beethoven's Sonata No 23, Opus 57, *Appassionata*.



Adam has kindly offered to support our WOW Appeal.



Saturday 28 August *

The Four Cellos

This Worcestershire based cello quartet present a selection of popular classics, with popular modern hits and pieces written specially for cello ensemble.



In aid of Cancer Research UK

We very much hope that we can serve our usual coffee and homemade cakes. If restrictions are still in place you are welcome to bring your own refreshments and consume them while seated.

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Mondays at 10.30am

26 July - The Lilliput Duo

Part of the Three Choirs Festival - see previous page for details

23 August - Drumlove *

The fabulous drumming duo - **Patrick and Steve McArdle** - bring their collection of African drums for an exciting session of drumming, with hands-on help from your little ones



Saturday 28 August at 3pm

Family Concert - The Musical Storytellers

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Whittington Parish Council

To contact the Parish Clerk or a Parish Council representative please see the Parish Council web site, whittingtonparishcouncil.co.uk.

Whittington Parish Council met on the 22nd of June in the Church, Whittington. Reports were received from District Councillor Rob Adams and County Councillor Linda Robinson. The council were given an up date on the progress work of the Community Hall. This is still on target to be completed mid July of this year. The Parish Council discussed matters relating to the financing of the new hall as well as matters relating to the allotments on Wildmore Estate, a closed off right of way on the new Whittington Walk Estate and matters relating to the forthcoming consultation on potential boundary changes of District Council wards.

For more detail readers are encouraged to visit the Parish Website at whittingtonparishcouncil.co.uk or Facebook com/whittingtonpc.

The next Parish Council meeting is to be held in the Church, Whittington, at 7.30pm 27th July. Press and public are welcome to attend, however, in accordance with current Covid restrictions there are strict limits on attendance. Please contact the Parish Clerk by email clerk@whittingtonparishcouncil.co.uk should you have a matter for the Council to consider.

Whittington Community Hall

Replacing the old Village Hall



The end is now in sight with practical completion expected in mid-July. After that the hall will be commissioned and formally opened



early in September. The 'Whittington Project' is regarded by the senior management team at **Wychavon**

District Council as a 'Flagship Project'.

Whittington 'Village Hall' Management Committee

whittingtonvhc@gmail.com

Responsible for managing and running the new hall.



Love, Learn, Achieve

Whittington CE Primary School

From the Head Teacher, Gary Richards

We are now a month from the end of the summer term and as I reflect on the academic year, it feels like looking the wrong way down a telescope. The changes that children, parents and staff have adapted to have been many and varied. It is this constant change which gives time its unsettling elasticity.

Since September the order of events for schools has been: open with the hope of complete freedom; closed (but not really); open (but very limited); hope of more freedoms (but not yet). Most people thrive when they have certainty and routine, uncertainty is unsettling. This means that our school has tried to maintain predictability for all of our stakeholders. We have done this through keeping our messages simple and clear so that everyone knows what to expect and understand what is coming. To a large degree this has been successful. We have minimised infections in school, our overall attendance is good, and pupils are making progress and enjoying their lessons.

The next challenge is to restart in September so that children are offered more opportunities to interact and learn with children beyond their class. Specialist staff need to work with children across the school, giving support where it is needed. Parents and other visitors need better access to the school, so they can share in their children's education. In other words, our community which is central to the life of our school needs the opportunity to fully reengage with us, so that children receive a truly rounded education. We are all keeping our fingers crossed!



Love, Learn, Achieve

MEET PIPPA HEENAN...

Pippa has a six-month placement in the Team as part of her studies at Queen's College Birmingham. We will be seeing her from time to time, taking part in our services.



My name is Pippa Heenan and I am your 'Reader in Training' and for anyone who recognises the name sadly, I am not related to the Heenan Works that used to dominate Worcester. My family have a split heritage from Wales and across the water on the Isle of Wight. I was born next to the sea and am never happier than when I am playing on or in the water. My teenage years were spent in Cheltenham before going to Birmingham University to study Dentistry. During my studies I spent some time as a medical Missionary in Uganda based at Kiwoko Hospital setting up a new dental clinic and being thrown in at the deep end of missionary life where running water and sanitation were a luxury. Having backpacked solo around East Africa I came home and married Guy who had patiently waited for me to settle down!!

My Christian Journey started as a young child. Both my parents were religious so Church on a Sunday was deemed normal. My mother was one of the first women Readers and later in life was priested, a calling she has dearly cherished.

For myself I always felt my calling was primarily medical and still do. In worship I was a crucifer since being big enough to hold the cross, and server from my confirmation in May 1985. As an adult I became involved in church administration, starting with ten years as a church Treasurer before becoming Chair of the PCC and finally five years as PCC Secretary following our interregnum. My journey to readership has been a long process taking four years to complete Bishops Certificate, Church Leadership Course and discernment period before I started my Reader Training. I now study at Queens College, Birmingham on a Wednesday and fit reading and worship around my full packed work and home life. Although thoroughly enjoying the course it has widened my eyes and enriched my knowledge of both my faith and that of those around me, the texts we follow and importance of liturgy in the worship we share. My placement in the South East Worcester Team has provided me with a wonderful opportunity to meet and get to know you all better and I have felt very honoured by the warm and supportive welcome that I have received. *Pippa*



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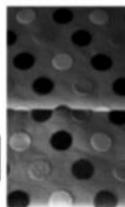
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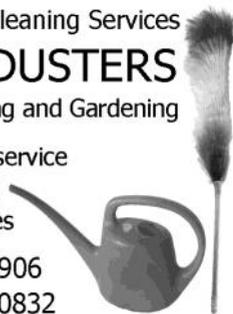
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Bishop John writes for July....



One of the most important – and enjoyable – roles of being a bishop is ordaining people as deacons and priests. I shall be ordaining nine new priests in the Cathedral at the beginning of July. I find it arresting to think that my predecessors – I am the 113th Bishop of Worcester – have been doing the same there for well over a thousand years.

In preparation for the ordination, it's always moving to learn from the candidates of how God has moved in their lives and they have felt his call. Very often that call has been mediated through the encouragement of others. Most people don't think that they are up to the task of serving God in any capacity and they need the prompting and help of others.

Ordination in the diocese takes place at 'Petertide' - around the feast of St Peter, when we give thanks for the 'rock' on which Jesus chose to build his church. I find Peter very encouraging – as we read the scriptures we see him 'getting it wrong' over and over again, even having to be rebuked by Jesus as 'Satan', and then denying Jesus in his hour of need. But Jesus restored him, giving him the confidence to serve and lead.

God's call is a wonderful thing. I wonder how much you have thought about God's call on your life? You might not become a priest, but God certainly has some role in store for you which you will find gloriously fulfilling if you respond to his call. If you have found it, rejoice in it and relish it. If you have not, pray that it may be revealed to you. Only then will you experience life in abundance which Jesus yearns to give you.

Whatever you do, don't succumb to 'imposter syndrome' and think you are not up to serving God as he calls you. Remember Peter and take heart from him!

+John



This edition of Called to Action, small steps to save the planet, looks at Eco Church.

Eco Church is a structured award scheme which recognises and encourages the environmentally positive steps that churches can take. We have committed to becoming an Eco Diocese and would like as many churches as possible to get involved and earn their bronze, silver and gold awards!

Eco Church records practical steps in 5 areas of church life:

- *Worship and Teaching*
- *Buildings*
- *Land*
- *Community and Global Engagement*

Lifestyle

It is adaptable and ecumenical and is suitable for a wide range of church buildings and communities. Awards are also available for groups of churches such as Eco Diocese and Eco District.

Eco Church creates a positive buzz within churches and opportunities to engage with your local community on green issues.

If you have any queries or would like to be put in touch with a church near you who are already on the Eco Church journey, do get in touch with the Diocesan Climate Crisis group at: environment@cofe-worcester.org.uk

Useful links:

[Find out about Eco Church's online questionnaire and resources.](#)
[Print off or order leaflets about Eco Church, or request a speaker.](#)
[Talk to others about what you have found out.](#)

Use [Eco Church's interactive map](#) to find out which churches have joined Eco Church near you and put your church on the map when you register.

Commit to joining Eco Church in your [Climate Sunday service](#), before COP26 in November.

Bishop John's Lent appeal for the Diocese of Peru

Thank you to everyone who has donated the Lent Appeal, which has raised almost £10,000 for our partner diocese.

The money will support the work of churches across Peru, which has been hit extremely hard by the Coronavirus Pandemic. The poorest have inevitably been the hardest hit and it is in these communities that most diocesan work takes place.



Over the past year, the Diocese of Peru has had almost no income and clergy have been receiving reduced stipends at best. Some months they have simply not been paid.

Chair of our Peru Task Group, Phil Bradford said: “Peru continues to suffer with ongoing lockdowns and lack of access to vaccinations. There is no real equivalent to our welfare state, which means that many people have faced the impossible choice between observing lockdown and earning enough for food and basic essentials. In addition, the country is about to hold the second round of its Presidential election and is currently very polarised. Bishop Jorge has particularly asked for our prayers for Peru at the moment.”



In response to the donations given during Lent, Bishop Jorge said:

“On behalf of the whole Anglican Church of Peru, please tell Bishop John and all the churches in the Diocese of Worcester that we are very grateful for this generous gift and for your solidarity with us at this difficult time. It is great news at Pentecost.”

It is still possible to donate [via the online giving page](#):

Notice?...There will be a procession in the grounds of the monastery next Sunday afternoon. If it rains in the afternoon, the procession will take place in the morning.

Deanery Church of the Month:
July 2021 St Martin in the
Cornmarket – Benefice Name:
St Martin in the Cornmarket
with St Swithun & St Paul

[St Martin In The Cornmarket](#) or
[Old St. Martin's in Worcester, UK](#)



Saint Martin-of-Tours is the patron saint of beggars and infantrymen, noted for dividing his riding cape whilst a young man outside the gates of Amiens giving half to a deserving beggar. The cloak being restored the next morning after a night-time vision of our Lord wearing the donated half. Why was a saint born in Hungary, the patron saint of France, chosen to be honoured at this church? Perhaps it had something to do with the building being at the location of one of the principal gates of the original city wall and a place where beggars were given alms? The model shows the location of a 1250AD church building just inside the City wall. Tradition has it that there has been a church here since before Norman times and the present one is believed to be the third church on this site, and



dates from 1768.

A Georgian building, constructed at a time when we still owned the American colonies following a decision in 1727 not to spend any more money on the previous dilapidated building. The church tower though was not completed until after 1780. Whilst the outside of the church could politely be described as austere, the inside is tastefully decorated with beautiful plasterwork.

Amongst the several lovely stained-glass windows are 'The Resurrection' by Hardman and 'The



'The Transfiguration' by Preedy. The tower has fixed bells which are rung as part of the clock system and an electronic carillon is attached. There are 10 modern bells in the tower which are used for training.

More information about this local church is available if required. Ed

Exploring the Big Questions: Scientists and theologians share their views



It's important to have debates about science and Christian faith and to dig into the hot topics, but we can't exist solely on a diet of controversy. I find it helpful, at times, to simply enjoy the wonders revealed by science and the big questions they raise about meaning and purpose. What's the universe for? What do you do with your feelings of awe and wonder? Where do we get our sense of the value of the living world from? I had the privilege of meeting a group of Christian scientists and theologians who shared thoughts about these big questions, and will share some of their thoughts here.

The Oxford-based theologian Alister McGrath shared that “science is wonderful at asking questions. Some of those questions can be answered, but very often when you do answer them, they simply open up yet more questions. But of course, there are some more fundamental questions I think science simply cannot answer...questions like, ‘Why am I here?’”

Rhoda Hawkins, a physicist at Sheffield University, has had a similar experience. “I never cease to be amazed at quite how impressive the world is, and how impressive the mechanisms are for how things work...It really is beautiful in many ways, and it leads me to think about God. I'm not saying that I have any proof, but I'm saying that by looking at the world around me it tells me more about God and it leads me to worship Him.”

Another scientist who appreciates beauty is Jeff Hardin, who explained that “studying the wonders of the living world is an exercise in art appreciation. For me, God is the creator of everything... so the joy of discovery is also the joy of appreciating the world that God has made...and leads me to thank God for the amazing world that we have to enjoy and to explore.”

I will close with some words from Jeff Schloss, who – like the others quoted above – finds that Christian faith makes science more satisfying for him. “Once I became a Christian...I had the sense that I was studying the marvels of the natural world, which are marvellous in their own right but become more profoundly engaging and enticing when one thinks that you're studying the works of God.” Perhaps if we can spend more time listening to people like this, our discussions about science and faith will also be richer and deeper.



St Mark in the Cherry Orchard Diocese of Worcester



News & Views from St Mark in the Cherry Orchard

St Marks is open on Sunday (9.30am) and Wednesday (10am) mornings albeit still with restricted seating and services until events get back to normal which we all hope will be very soon. In the meantime in the church hall, pre-school has kept going throughout and more recently, PADS, the group that trains dogs and their owners, and Rainbows, Brownies and Guides all made use of the garden when the weather was accommodating. Thinking about Rainbows, the group is for girls aged 5 – 7 years and all about developing self confidence, building friendships, learning new things and having fun whilst doing it so if you have a little one who is interested, they meet for an hour on a Tuesday from 4.45 to 5.45pm and Lesley Hartley should be contacted in the first instance 01905 357771.

Ladies Club will recommence in the church hall at 7.30pm on Wednesday, 1 September 2021 with a social evening so that members can catch up on their experiences during the past eighteen months. Please get in touch with me for details of the new programme that includes talks about Severn Valley Railway and St Paul's Hostel. If you are someone who might be considering joining us, we are a very friendly bunch so you can be sure of a warm welcome.

The **Chat & Cuppa Club** will open up again on **Tues, 7 Sept, at 2pm** but we are **moving upstairs to use the church** for meetings instead; in addition, there are new groups joining and details of all hall hires are on St Marks website.

Fancy singing with Opera Worcester and taking part in their opening concert? Then you are invited to join the Opera Worcester Community Choir! You don't have to be able to read music so if you just enjoy singing and socialising why not pop along? The monthly sessions will be led by Musical Director, Wilhelm Theunissen, and will include music from the shows. The first will be on **Saturday 4 September** in **St Marks Church** from **12.30pm to 2.00pm**. Each session costs £5 and refreshments will be provided.

Focal Pointe is a new Cheerdance group for children of all ages meeting on a Weds in the hall. Classes are fun and dance based (non-acrobatic). Following the UKA dance syllabus, they work towards assessments and positive performance experiences. *Continued.....*

For more information please contact Zillah Dimmock on 07853089895 / zillahdimmock@gmail.com

Oddfellows is one of the new groups **meeting in the church hall on the 2nd Monday of each month beginning on 13 September from 2 – 5pm.** It is one of the largest friendly societies with branches world-wide and over 305,000 members in the UK and 211 years of history of making friends and helping people. Every year the Worcester Branch supports groups and makes donations to local and national charities. For a full copy of their brochure, programme and newsletter please contact Secretary Mrs Sandra Loynes, 3 Windsor Avenue, St. John's Worcester. WR2 5LZ or ring Sandra 01905 422591 or e-mail sandra.loynes@oddfellows.co.uk

Another new group is **The Worcester Heart Support Group** that will meet on the third Monday of each month beginning on **20 Sept from 2 – 5pm.** It was formed over 30 years ago by Sister Adelle Cripps, who set up a meeting with eight people in the Boardroom at Ronkswood Hospital. Having a heart problem can be a lonely and frightening experience and the Support Group is able to demonstrate that you can still enjoy life after a heart attack by offering mutual support. Unfortunately, they have been unable to meet for 18 months because of Covid 19, but are hoping to welcome back members, both old and new. For further details of meetings and programme of events, please contact Chairman, John Bradley, telephone 07816205837 or e-mail jb@johnbradley33.plus.com

It has been very strange not to have been in regular contact with the many friends that I have made with those who hire the hall. Things are constantly changing so to find out about the return of all the hire groups, please see the church website www.stmarksworcester.wordpress.com I will endeavour to keep it up to date and, of course, you can always contact me.

Personally, I am still a volunteer painter and decorator down in the Swan Theatre and Huntingdon Hall and I love doing it!! The hall is currently closed, opening up at the end of July and the Swan has limited capacity (I do hope this changes very soon). However, **Shakespeare at the Commandery** will host an outdoor play loosely based on the bard's work from **30 June until 11 July** when Worcester Live presents **'Elsie & Norm's Macbeth'**. Tickets from the WL Box Office 01905 611427 - BYO seats and prepare yourself for a very different version with fun and frolics!!

Finally, more genuine typos made by a 'church lady with a typewriter'

1. Miss Charlene Mason sang 'I will not pass this way again,' giving obvious pleasure to the congregation. *Continued.....*

2. For those of you who have children and don't know it, we have a nursery downstairs.
3. Next Thursday there will be try-outs for the choir. They need all the help they can get.
4. Irving Benson and Jessie Carter were married on October 24 in the church. So ends a friendship that began in their school days.

Jan janvale810@gmail.com 01905 351392

Music to make your heart sing!

Opera Worcester hires the church hall on Monday evenings and their opening concert for the 2021 season is a celebration of wonderful melodies to make your heart sing!



After a year of no music-making because of the pandemic, Opera Worcester wants to welcome both singers and audiences back by presenting a programme of musical favourites from across a range of genres, from popular films to musicals and opera.

Join them on :

Saturday 4th December at St Georges's Church, Barbourne, Worcester 2.30pm – 4.00pm
followed by refreshments.

Further information & tickets are available from Opera Worcester

Box Office: 07396081426

(Image by Gerd Altmann from Pixabay)

And finally

Obvious?...A Sunday School teacher asked her class why Joseph and Mary took Jesus with them to Jerusalem. A small child replied: "They couldn't get a baby-sitter."



Three Choirs Festival at St Martin's ~ July 2021

Saturday 24 at 5.00pm
Shanna Hart Organ Recital
£14

The first of three recitals showcasing talented young performers from the Royal College of Organists. Shanna's programme spans the centuries from Bach to the present day.

Sunday 25 at 2.30pm
Worcester Wags and Wagers

£22, £16

Steve Williams, Zeb Soanes (BBC Radio 4), Ben Cooper (BBC1 Bargain Hunt) and other familiar faces present anecdotes and characters from past Worcester festivals, with rare pictures, music and songs.

Monday 26 at 10.30am
Tiny Tunes for babies & toddlers
Adults £6, children FREE

The Lilliput Duo presents 'Atlantic Drift' Kate Fawcett and Kate Skeet bring their violins and violas to perform a lucky dip of tunes from the British Isles and the Americas.

Tuesday 27 at 10.30am
Paul Greally Organ Recital
£14

Paul's programme showcases a range of composers well known for their contributions to the organ repertoire - Brahms, Schumann, Hindemith & Rheinberger.

Tuesday 27 at 2.30pm
Beet(Who)ven

£7, under 5s FREE

Who was Beethoven? In this whistle-stop musical tour, violinist Krysia Osostowicz and pianist Daniel Tong reveal the story of Beethoven's fascinating life. *Family concert - ideal for children and adults of all ages*

Tuesday 27 at 4.15pm
Beethoven Reflected
£25, £20

Krysia Osostowicz and Daniel Tong present three of Beethoven's violin sonatas alongside companion pieces that create conversations between Beethoven and living composers

Thursday 29 at 1.45pm
**Clair de Lune: Louis Vierne
and the Turn of the Century**
£25, £20

Erika Mädi Jones *soprano* and Panaretos Kyriatzidis *piano* explore Vierne's little known catalogue of songs, and texts from renowned poets, with settings by his students, colleagues and fellow organists.

Friday 30 at 2.30pm
**Daniel Mathieson
Organ Recital**
£14

Two contrasting examples of 19th century symphonic organ writing, with three lyrical miniatures in between. Harwood Sonata No 1 in C sharp minor; Bridge Three Pieces for Organ; Reubke Sonate: Der 94ste Psalm.

Full programme details on 3choirs.org
Box Office: 01452 768928

*St Martin's CaféBar will be open for
all concerts, if restrictions allow*

How climate change could affect your cup of tea!

Now here's something that will send you straight to your kitchen to put the kettle on: the Great British cup of tea may not taste quite so good in the future.

It seems that extreme weather and rising temperatures could lead to inferior leaves in the future, according to Christian Aid.

Kenya, the world's foremost exporter of black tea, is now affected by erratic rainfall, floods, droughts, and rising temperatures. India, Sri Lanka and China, also major tea producers, face climate change problems as well.

Climate change has been predicted by some as likely to cut production in Kenya's best tea-making areas by as much as a quarter by 2050. Even areas of only average growing conditions could see production fall by 39 per cent.

As one tea farmer in Kenya's Western Highlands, explained: "We cannot predict seasons anymore. Temperatures are rising, rainfall is erratic, often accompanied by unusual hailstones and longer droughts. If this continues, it will make growing tea much harder."

Ivy on your house is not really so bad after all

So says the Royal Horticultural Society (RHS).

In an effort to restore the plant's reputation, the RHS has been showcasing the species at its flagship garden in Wisley, Surrey. It hopes to set a new trend, and to get people to stop seeing ivy as 'the enemy.'

At Wisley you can now see 390 varieties of ivy, with a vast array of leaf shapes, sizes and colours. The RHS wants people to see that ivy can be an attractive and even eco-friendly addition to your home.

RHS experts say that ivy is a 'super plant' that not only has insulating benefits, but also offers habitats for a variety of wildlife, as well as being a food source for birds and pollinators during months of the year when there is very little else for them to eat.

<https://www.rhs.org.uk/press/releases/New-research-shows-ivy-is-the-most-effective-plant>



St Philip & St James, Whittington Sunday Worship Arrangements

Welcome to our Sunday services. Please note the following arrangements for your own safety and that of others. Anyone showing symptoms of coronavirus should not attend church, and those who have been shielding or are clinically vulnerable should take particular care to minimise contact with others.

- When entering the church by the main (side) door please sanitise your hands, and again on leaving. The West (back) door is the emergency exit and disabled access.
- Seating in alternate rows of pews or on chairs will be at a social distance of two metres. Please sit where directed.
- Children are welcome to attend, supervised by parents or guardians.
- It is a government requirement to wear a face covering inside the church building unless medically exempt. This may be removed to receive communion.
- To support the NHS Track and Trace system a record of names and phone numbers of those attending will be collected on entry. This is optional but providing details gives consent to sharing them with NHS Track and Trace if asked. Details will be kept securely for 21 days, after which they will be safely disposed of.
- The service will include live instrumental or recorded music but no singing by the congregation.
- Communion in one kind (bread only) will be received standing from a central point. Please come forward in a single line when directed and keep socially distanced. Those receiving a blessing instead should carry something as a sign to the vicar. Please speak to a Warden before the service to request a gluten free wafer or to have communion brought to your seat.
- At the end of the service please remain in your seat until directed to leave.
- As you leave the church an offertory plate for cash or planned giving envelopes will be at the back. Please gift aid any donations if possible.
- Please take any paper orders of service away with you, if asked.
- After the service is the opportunity to greet others in a socially distanced manner outside. It is not possible to serve refreshments at present.
- The toilet will be open. Please observe careful hand washing after use and dispose of the paper towels in the bin provided.

Whittington Parish Magazine

July & August 21 Edition

