

PARTNERS

weekly newsletter



2nd July 2023 - Trinity 4

It is hard to believe that we are halfway through 2023 and we are at the beginning of July. We had flaming June. Hopefully July and August will have good weather as well. In July we celebrate St Swithin.

St. Swithin's Day is 15 July, a day on which people watch the weather for tradition says that whatever the weather is like on St. Swithin's Day, it will continue so for the next forty days. There is a weather-rhyme is well known throughout the British Isles since Elizabethan time.

Swithin's day if thou dost rain
For forty days it will remain
St. Swithin's day if thou be fair
For forty days 'twill rain nae mair.'

St. Swithin (or more properly, Swithun) was a Saxon Bishop of Winchester. He was born in the kingdom of Wessex and educated in its capital, Winchester. He was famous for charitable gifts and building churches.

A legend says that as the Bishop lay on his deathbed, he asked to be buried out of doors, where he would be trodden on and rained on. For nine years, his wishes were followed, but then, the monks of Winchester attempted to remove his remains to a splendid shrine inside the cathedral on 15 July 971. According to legend there was a heavy rainstorm either during the ceremony or on its anniversary. This led to the old wives' tale that if it rains on St Swithin's Day, it will rain for the next 40 days in succession, and a fine 15th July will be followed by 40 days of fine weather. However, according to the Met Office, this old wives' tale is nothing other than a myth. It has been put to the test on 55 occasions, when it has been wet on St Swithin's Day and 40 days of rain did not follow.

Have a happy summer.

Rev Kate Wilson

St Mary's
Fordingbridge
SP6 1BB

St Mary's
Breamore
SP6 2DF

Holy Ascension
Hyde
SP6 2QJ

St Giles
Godshill
SP6 2JJ

St Boniface
Woodgreen
SP6 2AJ

St Mary's
Hale
SP6 2RF

Sandleheath
Uniting Church
SP6 1PT

We welcome all, especially visitors and those attending for the first time. If you need gluten free wafers at Communion, please speak to someone at the door before the service.

Please take this newsletter home with you for the week ahead. God Bless!

Readings for this Week:

2nd June 2023

Trinity 4

COLLECT:

Gracious Father,
by the obedience of Jesus
you brought salvation to our wayward world:
draw us into harmony with your will,
that we may find all things restored in him,
our Saviour Jesus Christ.

AMEN.

PSALM 13

1. How long will you forget me, O Lord; for ever?
How long will you hide your face from me?
2. How long shall I have anguish in my soul
and grief in my heart, day after day?
How long shall my enemy triumph over me?
3. Look upon me and answer, O Lord my God;
lighten my eyes, lest I sleep in death;
4. Lest my enemy say, 'I have prevailed against him,
and my foes rejoice that I have fallen.
5. But I put my trust in your steadfast love;
my heart will rejoice in your salvation.
6. I will sing to the Lord,
for he has dealt so bountifully with me.

A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans

Romans 6:12-23

Christians have been set free from the power of sin in order to obtain new life in Christ.

¹²Therefore, do not let sin exercise dominion in your mortal bodies, to make you obey their passions. ¹³No longer present your members to sin as instruments of wickedness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and present your members to God as instruments of righteousness. ¹⁴For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace. ¹⁵What then? Should we sin because we are not under law but under grace? By no means! ¹⁶Do you not know that if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness? ¹⁷But thanks be to God that you, having once been slaves of sin, have become obedient from the heart to the form of teaching to which you were entrusted, ¹⁸and that you, having been set free from sin, have become slaves of righteousness. ¹⁹I am speaking in human terms because of your natural limitations. For just as you once presented your members as slaves to impurity and to greater and greater iniquity, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness for sanctification. ²⁰When you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. ²¹So what advantage did you then get from the things of which you now are ashamed? The end of those things is death. ²²But now that you have been freed from sin and enslaved to God, the advantage you get is sanctification. The end is eternal life. ²³For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

At the end, the Reader says:

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

THE GOSPEL READING

Please stand and turn to face the Gospel Reader

When the Gospel is announced, the Reader says:

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to *Matthew*

Glory to you, O Lord.

(Glory be to thee, O Lord.)

⁴⁰ ‘Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. ⁴¹ Whoever welcomes a prophet in the name of a prophet will receive a prophet’s reward; and whoever welcomes a righteous person in the name of a righteous person will receive the reward of the righteous; ⁴² and whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple—truly I tell you, none of these will lose their reward.’

c) *New Revised Standard Version of the Holy Bible*

At the end, the Reader says:
This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

(At the end, the Reader says:
This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Praise be to thee, O Christ.)

POST COMMUNION PRAYER:

Eternal God,
comfort of the afflicted and healer of the broken,
you have fed us at the table of life and hope:
teach us the ways of gentleness and peace,
that all the world may acknowledge
the kingdom of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.
AMEN.

Rev Tom Burden As most people will now know Tom is leaving us at the end of July to pursue his vocation in Jerusalem. We will of course send him with our best wishes but we should also like to send him off with a token of our love and appreciation. If you would like to contribute please can you put it in an envelope marked “Tom’s farewell” and take it to the Parish Office. Alternatively everywhere except Fordingbridge please hand it to a churchwarden, and in Fordingbridge church please place it in the wall safe next to the North Door. Cheques should be made payable to “The Parish of Fordingbridge, with Hyde & Breamore & Hale with Woodgreen”. There will be a presentation to Tom after the “Astonishing Acts” play (which begins at 7pm on 15th July, see notice) at approximately 8.15pm to which all are invited to say farewell and toast his success with a glass of something. Thanks
Mark Ward

Gift to Jo Criscenti

If you would like to contribute to a gift for Jo, (who was our Children and Families worker, and then our ordinand, before she moved to Highcliffe), to celebrate her being ordained Deacon on 2nd July, please follow the same instructions as for Tom’s gift but mark the envelope “Jo”.

Salisbury Chamber Chorus concerts: **1st July at St Mary's Fordingbridge & 8th July at the Italianate Church, Wilton.** A wonderful programme of operatic pieces from Shakespeare - Berlioz, Verdi, Vaughan Williams... See Christine Wilson or Salisburychamberchorus.org

SP6 Friendship Group – Our friendship group will be held on **Tuesday 4th July** from 10.00am – 12.00md at the Ship Inn, Fordingbridge High Street. This group is for anyone who is bereaved or lonely and would like a cuppa and a friendly chat. We also organize outings, theatre trips and garden visits. If anyone would like to join us do come. If you need transport, please call Kate Wilson on 01425 540669

The **Ringwood Foodbank** is celebrating its tenth anniversary in the Parish Church of **St. Peter & St. Paul on Friday 7th July at 7.00pm.** It is open to all present and past volunteers, supporters and anybody who has been helped by the Foodbank. There will be light refreshments after the main celebration. The Fordingbridge Distribution Centre, which operates three times a week from the United Reformed Church Hall, is one of three outlets for the Ringwood Foodbank. It began operation in September 2015 and has seen demand increasing each year since then. In the first three months of this year, demand increased by 67% compared with the same period last year.

On **8th July** I will be undertaking a **marathon length hike along the Jurassic coast** in aid of **cancer research.** This is a cause that is very close to my heart not just for Angela my colleague in MFL, but for my father who we sadly lost 11 years ago to cancer and this weekend would have been his birthday. Whilst he was ill, he participated in some trial medications as well so I know he would really want me to do this. I would appreciate it greatly if you could sponsor me for this event via the link below: <https://fundraise.cancerresearchuk.org/page/micheles-big-hike-1>. Many thanks, Michèle Gosling

Hyde Messy Church is having a **BBQ on Monday July 10th** at 3.30 on the cricket field. Any Primary aged children will be warmly welcomed, with parents or carers and siblings. Apart from the delicious BBQ there will be exciting games and crafts with a Bible Story from Revd Tom. So come and join the fun! This is the last Messy Church of the Summer, we start again on September 11th, Contact Heather on 656820 or Sheilah on 470343

ONE VOICE summer concert! Will Sherings local mixed choir are holding their summer concert on **Monday 10th July** at 7.30pm. Venue - URC Salisbury St. Fordingbridge and all proceeds to Salisbury Hospice. Tickets £7 adults/£3 children available from Viv Finch on 01725 512267. Looking forward to seeing you!

'Astonishing Acts!' will be presented in Fordingbridge on **Saturday, 15 July,** starting at 7pm. It is the third play of the trilogy, and so follows on from 'The Nativity', and the 'Passion Play'. This new play presents the birth of our Christian Church at Pentecost, and the 'Acts of the Apostles' in the following few years. A cast of some

fifty costumed actors, will perform on an open stage, at the east end of St Mary's church. Plan to come; note the date, contact friends and even bring a picnic to enjoy beforehand. We are still seeking any more who would like to help present God's word both on stage and on video; if you know of such people please contact Revd. Tom or Jeremy HB directly or via the office.

Sunday 30th July – 5th Sunday We are hoping that all who are not away on holiday or otherwise absent will be able to join a whole parish service at **10am at Hale**. We know some people have travel issues so if you are able to offer seats in your car, or you need a lift please can you contact the church office and either offer seats or request a lift. We will then match you up in time for arrangements to be made. Please provide your usual church attendance location, phone number and if you have one an email address, and if you are a driver, how many spare seats you have, so we can arrange the lifts.

Hyde Fair Trade Please join us for a cream tea on **Saturday 5th August** between 2.00 p.m. and 5.00 p.m. at Hyde Church Community Centre. There will be fair trade groceries, cards and crafts for sale.

Greenbelt Christian Festival - 24th - 27th August at Boughton House, near Kettering. (Approx 140miles from Woodgreen!) A group of us are once again going to Greenbelt, it's an amazing experience, so we wondered if anyone else would like to join us? Over the 3 days there will be speakers on all aspects of faith & spirituality; poetry; comedy; music of all kinds. workshops for children. In fact, a kaleidoscope of all aspects of our Christian faith. Set in the glorious grounds of Boughton House in a variety of open spaces tents, marquees etc. Concessions are available for people on benefits, volunteers come free if you register to help out. Why not bring your tent, camper or choose other accommodation which is available. More details on www.Greenbelt.org.uk or from Ruth Crosland 07855210769. (Sadly, not dog friendly- so Mollie will be going away too!)

Are you ready to make a difference in your Church for **Climate Justice**?

Applications are now open for Christian Aid's Prophetic Activist scheme for those aged 18-30. It is a volunteer scheme where you will gain experience in campaigning through a residential weekend away, online workshops and a group project. If you're interested, you can find more details and apply through their website: <https://jobs.christianaid.org.uk/vacancy/prophetic-activist-scheme-2023-24-4203/4221/description/> If you'd like to know any more about it or what the experience was like please feel free to contact me on 07593822570. Bethan

Winchester Cathedral passes We received 6 free passes for Winchester Cathedral entry which can be used by us until the end of March 2025. They are at the church office and can be borrowed by any of the congregation wishing to visit (with family or friends), but if you do borrow them please ensure you return them! You will need to arrange with Zoe to pick them up.

St Mary's Fordingbridge – Keys. We are trying to resolve all of our keys of which

there are many for the church and the hall. If you have keys that you currently use there is no need to do anything. If you used to have a key for something you no longer need that key for please can you put it in an envelope with “Keys” on the front, ensuring the key(s) is/are labelled and drop it into the church office.

Foodbank Donations. Food banks are struggling to keep up with demand at the moment. If you are able to afford one extra item when you go shopping could you help to provide: long life milk, tinned fruit, jam/marmalade, household cleaning products and shaving foam? The difference between getting a job and not could be a good shave before the interview – it’s that simple. You can drop off at Fordingbridge Co-op, at Woodgreen Church and at Fordingbridge Church. Please continue to help if you can. Please don’t donate items not on the list, they need the ones above.

Please note the Church Office will be shut Friday 30th June Thank you, Zoe

ITEMS FOR PARTNERS need to be sent to the Church Office (e-mail address below) by 5.00p.m. on **Wednesdays**. Please put ‘Partners’ in the e-mail subject line. Thank you, Zoe

Churchwardens’ News

It seems that there is always yet another event on the churchwarden’s calendar. This week will have been no exception. On Sunday, 25th June we saw the licensing and installation of our new Archdeacon of Bournemouth Jean Burgess at Winchester Cathedral. As she begins to get to know her new patch, please remember to hold her in your prayers. This Sunday, 2nd July will see Jo Criscenti being ordained, also at Winchester cathedral. We wish her all the best as she continues on her faith journey which began here in the Avon Valley family of churches.

Slightly closer to home our Churchwardens were at Christchurch Priory for the annual Archdeacon’s visitation to be sworn in for a year of service to our churches across the AVC. It is always a moving service with an opportunity to meet and share news with fellow Churchwardens.

Even closer to home we had our Churchwarden’s meeting on Friday. Sadly, we have had no responses to our second advert. This is not the news we would want to be sharing with you. However, we need to maintain a positive outlook and continue to pray and work hard at finding the right person to take up the post.

Looking ahead there are plans afoot during the summer to enable younger members of our communities to come together and share a picnic on Wednesdays in August across the parish. If you are able to help or support in any way Irene Canton would be pleased to have your support.

Lynda Warne

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED TO VISITORS EXCEPT BY APPOINTMENT

Contact via Email : Office@AvonValleyChurches.org.uk or call 01425 653163 between 10.30 am and 12.00 or leave a message Website : www.AvonValleyChurches.org.uk

Trinity 4

2nd July

Online services available via Facebook or Website
at 'Avon Valley Churches'

Sunday	8.15 am	Fordingbridge	Holy Communion
2nd July	10.00 am	Breamore	Morning Service
	10.00 am	Fordingbridge	Allsorts
	10.00 am	Hale	Holy Communion
	10.00am	Hyde	Holy Communion
	10.45 am	Sandleheath	Morning Service
	6.00 pm	Fordingbridge	Six O'Clock Service
Monday Wednesday Friday	10.00 am	Online	Morning prayer (<i>Meeting ID: 846 5168 7529, Password: 764200</i>)
Wed 5 th	10.00 am	Fordingbridge	Holy Communion
	10.00 am	Heather Cottage	Bible Study
Sunday	8.15 am	Hyde	Holy Communion
9th July	10.00 am	Breamore	Holy Communion
	10.00 am	Fordingbridge	Sung Eucharist
	10.00 am	Woodgreen	Iona Service for Sea Sunday
	10.00 am	Hyde	Morning Service
	10.45 am	Sandleheath	Morning Service
	4.00 pm	Hyde	Four O'Clock Service
	6.00 pm	Fordingbridge	Evensong