

**The Benefice of Pimperne, Stourpaine and Durweston with Bryanston
With the churches of Tarrant Hinton, Tarrant Gunville and Tarrant Monkton**



Pews News for 31st March 2024

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Services for the next week

Day	Time	Service	Location
31st	06:00	Holy Communion	Holy Trinity, Stourpaine
Easter Sunday	09:00	Communion by extension	All Saints, Tarrant Monkton
(Please remember that the clocks go forward today)	09:15	Holy Communion	St Peter, Pimperne
	11:00	Holy Communion	St Nicholas, Durweston
	10:30	Communion by extension	St Mary, Tarrant Hinton
	10:30	Communion by extension	St Mary, Tarrant Gunville
Monday	09:00	Morning Prayer	Zoom
Wednesday	10:00	Holy Communion	Holy Trinity, Stourpaine
Friday	09:00	Morning Prayer	Zoom
7th	08:00	Holy Communion (BCP)	Holy Trinity, Stourpaine
2 nd Sunday of Easter	09:15	Morning Service	St Peter, Pimperne
	10:30	Family Service Communion	St Mary, Tarrant Hinton
	11:00	Holy Communion	St Nicholas, Durweston
	18:00	Evensong	St Mary, Tarrant Gunville

Collect for the 31st March Week

Lord of all life and power,
who through the mighty resurrection of your Son
overcame the old order of sin and death
to make all things new in him:
grant that we, being dead to sin
and alive to you in Jesus Christ,
may reign with him in glory;
to whom with you and the Holy Spirit
be praise and honour, glory and might,
now and in all eternity. **Amen**

Sunday's Readings

Acts 10.34-43

Gentiles Hear the Good News

34 Then Peter began to speak to them: 'I truly understand that God shows no partiality, ³⁵but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. ³⁶You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. ³⁷That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: ³⁸how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. ³⁹We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; ⁴⁰but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, ⁴¹not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. ⁴²He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. ⁴³All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.'

John 20.1-18

The Resurrection of Jesus

20 Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. ²So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, 'They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.' ³Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went towards the tomb. ⁴The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. ⁵He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. ⁶Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, ⁷and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. ⁸Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; ⁹for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. ¹⁰Then the disciples returned to their homes.

Jesus Appears to Mary Magdalene

11 But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; ¹²and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. ¹³They said to her, 'Woman, why are you weeping?' She said to them, 'They have taken away my Lord,

and I do not know where they have laid him.’ ¹⁴When she had said this, she turned round and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. ¹⁵Jesus said to her, ‘Woman, why are you weeping? For whom are you looking?’ Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, ‘Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away.’ ¹⁶Jesus said to her, ‘Mary!’ She turned and said to him in Hebrew, ‘Rabbouni!’ (which means Teacher). ¹⁷Jesus said to her, ‘Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, “I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.”’ ¹⁸Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, ‘I have seen the Lord’; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

Mark 16.1-8

The Resurrection of Jesus

¹⁶When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. ²And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. ³They had been saying to one another, ‘Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?’ ⁴When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. ⁵As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. ⁶But he said to them, ‘Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. ⁷But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you.’ ⁸So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

Notices

Advance Notice

Holy Trinity Church, Stourpaine

Spring Fair will be on April 27th 2024

at Stourpaine House, Stourpaine, DT11 8TQ.

If you are able to help in any way, then please contact Fran Towil on 07795 117510

Advanced Notice.

The Lay Pastoral Assistant Commissioning Service will take place at **Holy Trinity Church, Stourpaine on Sunday 28th April 2024 at 3pm.** The service is led by Rt Revd Karen Gorham, Bishop of Sherborne. There are 4 members of the Benefice being commissioned along with 1 member of the new Two Rivers Benefice. Refreshments will be served after the service. It would be great to see as many of you there as possible.



Easter Message from Revd Henriët Miell

Dear Friends

The window of the study is ajar, for the first time of the year and through the open window I can hear the songs of birds. I am not an ornithologist nor a bird watcher and I can recognise the song of only a few birds; one of these is the wood pigeon. When we first came to the Chase the wood pigeon's song was very prominent and we could hear it all day long. After a few days we had really heard enough of it. But now I rejoice hearing them again, singing their quite repetitive monotonous repertoire but it is singing – a sure sign of spring and of new beginnings.

This month we begin the Great Fifty Days of the Easter season, which stretches from Easter Sunday to Whit Sunday (Pentecost). The Easter season might be compared to the song of wood pigeons - something quite ordinary and nothing to pay much attention to as the chocolate eggs soon are eaten and we will get on with all the ordinary jobs. But the Easter season is far from ordinary; on the contrary, it is extraordinary. It is the season where we again and again hear about how the love of God changed everything and gave us all a new beginning. God's love conquered death.

The Easter message the angels brought was that the tomb was empty and Christ was gloriously risen from the dead. Angels were the first to bring this message to Mary and a few other women early on Easter Day morning and these women were told to tell it to the disciples and so the Easter message of the Risen Christ spread throughout the region. For all those who heard it, it certainly was a new beginning.

The broken-hearted Mary who wept in distress at the tomb - received comfort; the anxious Peter who had denied Jesus three times - received forgiveness; the doubting Thomas who would not believe without seeing - received faith. They all received mercy because God gave them a new beginning out of unconditional love. Revived and renewed, these disciples started out on their journey to tell the extraordinary Easter story of the empty tomb and the risen Lord. Their testimony we still hear and will be proclaimed repeatedly, Easter after Easter. Until we, as the wood pigeons, can sing it as the song of our hearts: "Alleluia, Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!"

Advanced Notice from Chris Dowie

Dear Friends,

Here are some forthcoming musical events which I hope you may find interesting. It would be lovely to see some of you at one or more of them.

Sunday 14th April **St.Nicholas, Durweston**

Recital of popular organ pieces
Sam Hanson – Organ

Sunday 19th May **St.Peter’s, Pimperne**

English Song
Paul Heaslip – Tenor / Christopher Dowie – Piano

Sunday 23rd June **Holy Trinity, Stourpaine**

Music for Bassoon and Piano
Johnathan Watkins – Bassoon / Christopher Dowie – Piano

Admission to all Soirées Free - Retiring collection for church funds.

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Wimborne Choral Society

In January 1977, a few months after my arrival in Wimborne Minster, I founded Wimborne Choral Society. On November 30th this year I will be laying down my baton after an exciting journey of 47 years. “About time”, I hear some people say!

Next Saturday I will be conducting the choir in the first of three special concerts this year. I would love to see some of you at one or more of them. They are as follows:-

Saturday June 29th 2024

Wimborne Minster

CELEBRATION

Parry “Blest Pair of Sirens”

Dowie : “A Song for Saint Cecilia”

Wimborne Choral Society / Wimborne Chamber Orchestra

Conductor – Christopher Dowie

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Saturday November 30th 2024

Wimborne Minster

Kyrie, Gloria & Dona nobis pacem” Bach’s Mass in B minor

Mozart “Requiem”

Wimborne Choral Society / Wimborne Chamber Orchestra

Soloists

Conductor – Christopher Dowie

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Tickets for Wimborne Choral Society concerts available from Jim Kirk, the Treasurer
07777 666864 / j.kirk.55@btinternet.com



A letter from Bishop Stephen to licensed clergy, LLMs, clergy and LLMs with PTO, parish officers and congregations

Dear Friends

This week, the week before the holiest week of the Christian year, will see the fourth anniversary of the Covid lockdown. It is hard to believe it was only four years ago, as so much has changed in this period. The effects of the lockdowns on us all, and particularly on children and the vulnerable, will be with us for years to come. The Church is still emerging from the effects of closure and in many ways will not be the same again either.

As we enter into Holy Week, we see that those following Jesus were confronted with the same reality of change and things never being the same again. The 'Hosannas' of Palm Sunday quickly give way to the confusion, betrayal, injustice, and agony of the following days. As we come to terms with the fact that 'it is finished' (John 20:19) on Good Friday, we find ourselves at the open tomb on Easter morning. From this moment on, things will never be the same again, but the one constant that we will always have is hope. The hope that is the risen Christ with us; the hope that we are a resurrection people following the risen light of Christ out into the world knowing that as we walk together through the challenges of our age, nothing – not pandemic, war, political strife, or division – will overcome His risen light and our call to make him known. This is our living hope.

Church Commissioners

I want to share with you in this letter that I have been appointed by the Archbishop of Canterbury to be deputy chair of the Church Commissioners. All diocesan bishops get a national role, and this is to be mine. The named chair of the Commissioners is the archbishop, but the deputy chair bears the responsibility for leading in this area, so most of the work will fall to me and the excellent staff team. Though it is a significant responsibility, it has been many years since the role has been taken up by a bishop of a largely rural diocese and I am pleased that I will be able to speak from this perspective.

Please be assured, that my heart and my ministry will always be focussed here, in the diocese where I was raised and grew in faith. I will not be distracted from the value of local mission and ministry.

The Church Commissioners exist to support the mission and ministry to the Church of England, in a large way through the wise investment of and distributions from the

CoE investment fund and is governed by statute. It is an in-perpetuity fund that can produce significant funding for the life of the church both now and in generations to come. Currently, the Commissioners are providing about £400 million per annum, £3.6 billion over nine years to support local parishes and the front-line work of the Church of England – a 30% increase over the last funding period. In Salisbury Diocese, we are working hard to submit an application in support of our vision and strategy to be presented to the “Strategic Mission & Ministry Investment Board” of the Archbishops’ Council later this year.

My first meeting in the chair for the Church Commissioners included hearing the report of the independent oversight group which was asked to help shape the response to the fact that research has showed that the Commissioners’ fund has historical links to African Chattel Enslavement, which was an abhorrent sin. The Church Commissioners announced last year that it is allocating £100 million from investments to transfer into a new endowment fund, as you may have heard. It is a way of investing, not simple expenditure, and it is to be spread over the same period as the £3.6 billion I just mentioned. The independent oversight group proposed an ambition for this to grow to £1 billion, an ambition that the Church Commissioners share, in order to bring healing, repair, and justice. The aspiration is that this is achieved through partnership with other organisations, Individuals and institutions internationally who wish to use their investments to build a new future for communities ravaged by transatlantic chattel enslavement are already indicating their commitment to follow this lead.

I know the figures involved have alarmed many who are struggling to make ends meet and pay for current ministry. It is really important to note that this fund is not derived from parishioners’ money, but from the Church Commissioners fund which invested in slavery through the Church Commissioners’ predecessor, Queen Anne’s Bounty in the 18th century. While we rightly commend the role that the Church of England played in abolishing slavery, and do not apologise for spreading the Gospel, we must not allow this to close our eyes to the fact that the Church was also complicit in enslavement and profited from it. Some of these historic funds made through the sin of slavery will now be reinvested to support projects which unleash people’s potential and bring new hope, a potential denied by the sin of slavery.

Changemakers in our elections

Diocesan Synod is made up of ordinary people who are committed to sharing the news of Christ's transforming love with our communities. It is where important decisions which affect the life of the church in the diocese are discussed and agreed. Elections will be held in May and June for new members of synod and we are running a campaign to encourage more people to think about standing. Lay members need only be over 16 and on a church electoral roll to stand.

Synod representatives come from every part of the diocese, which stretches from the North Wessex Downs to the Channel Islands. Synod needs to be represented by all the voices of those the Church seeks to serve across the community – whatever

age, gender or lived experience. When we don't hear from everyone, we are diminished and less able to serve the whole people of the diocese. Being a member of synod also develops skills in shaping policy, advocacy and debating. Find out more about Church Changemakers [on our website](#). Parishes will be sent information packs after Easter with resources, including videos and social media posts, to share with congregations.

Sharing the vision events

In May and June I, Bishops Karen and Andrew and the archdeacons, are hosting four events to explore the Making Jesus Known vision and its five paths. These will also be opportunity to hear more about the new Share model which will be introduced in 2025. You are invited to register your interest for the dates on this [form](#). Do come to whichever is most suitable. I hope to see as many people as possible at these events, which I hope you will find encouraging and supportive of your mission and ministry.

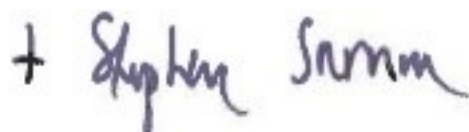
First safeguarding audit

In April the first new national safeguarding audit of dioceses, cathedrals and bishop's offices will be published. Salisbury is first out of the 42 dioceses. Safeguarding is a gospel imperative and should always be victim focused and trauma informed. I am grateful to our safeguarding team for their dedication and professional rigour. Please do seek out the report on the diocesan website and consider it in terms of your own benefice provision. The safeguarding team are readily available if you have any questions or if concerns arise.

Holy Week and Easter

This Holy Week I shall be in both Guernsey and Jersey, leading the clergy and all those who minister there in renewing their ordination vows, and then in the cathedral on Maundy Thursday for the Chrism Eucharist. I shall also be visiting the Christians on board the Bibby Stockholm to pray with them, and then back in your cathedral on Easter Day. As I travel round, I shall be praying for all those parishes and schools in our diocese.

May the God of hope be with you this Holy Week and Easter. My thanks for your partnership in the Gospel.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Stephen Lake".

The Rt Revd Stephen Lake

Bishop of Salisbury

P.S. Remember – the clocks 'spring forward' on Easter Day!