

Butlers Marston Village Newsletter

June 2019

Shakespeare:

**A
Midsummer**

**Night's
Dream**



**Saturday 29th
June
2pm**

**Safari
Supper
Saturday
15th June
19:00**



**Next
Marston
Meet-Up**



Friday 7th

**Come
&
Celebrate
Pentecost
Benefice
Service**

**9th June
10:00**

From the Gospel of John 17: 20-23

*“I’m praying not only for them
But also for those who will believe in me
Because of them and their witness about me.
The goal is for all of them to become one heart and mind –
Just as you, Father, are in me and I in you,
So they might be one heart and mind with us.
Then the world might believe that you, in fact, sent me.
The same glory you gave me, I gave them,
So they’ll be as unified and as together as we are –
I in them and you in me.
Then they’ll be mature in this oneness,
And give the godless world evidence
That you’ve sent me and loved them
In the same way you’ve loved me.”*

From *The Message* translation

Thy Kingdom Come (30th May – 9th June) is a global prayer movement that invites Christians around the world to pray for more people to come to know Jesus. What started in 2016 as an invitation from the Archbishops of Canterbury and York to the Church of England has grown into an international and ecumenical call to prayer.



**An Invitation from
Julian & Kim Piercey, Monksbridge to:
A Midsummer Night’s Dream by William
Shakespeare**



On Saturday, 29 June 2019 we will be hosting a performance by The Lord Chamberlain's Men at Monks Bridge. This year's performance is Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and it will commence at 3 pm. The gardens will be open from 2 pm onwards for you to enjoy your picnic and drinks, so please come along and support this event. The cost of an adult ticket will be £5 and for children under 16, £3 and the proceeds will be given to the MS Society this year. Please call Kim on 07709 343598 to reserve your tickets. We look forward to welcoming you back to Monks Bridge for what promises to be another highly entertaining piece of theatre.



The words of the Gospel above are taken from the lectionary (prescribed readings) from Sunday 2nd June. At this time when political leaders appear to thrive upon one-up-manship and scape-goating, and at a time when the division of people according to political, religious or social beliefs seems to be highlighted and magnified by the media, the words of Jesus remind us that we can aspire to be of “one heart and mind” and “mature in this oneness”.

I was particularly moved by the conclusion of the three-episode programme “Pilgrimage”, which aired on BBC2 ahead of Easter. The Pilgrimage was undertaken by seven celebrities, such as Brendan Cole, Les Dennis, Lesley Joseph, Stephen K Amos and more, travelling to Rome, exploring thoughts and perceptions about faith, religion and God. Remarkably, the pilgrims were granted an audience with the Pope at the conclusion of the series. Known for his reconciliatory work, the words from Pope Francis that mainly struck me were:

Giving more importance to the adjective rather than the noun, this is not good... We are all human beings and have dignity... There are people that prefer to select or discard people because of the adjective. These people don't have a human heart.

So, as Jesus commands us to do in the Gospel reading for this first Sunday of June, whatever our individual stances

on faith, let us all actively find our oneness of heart and mind, putting aside those divisive adjectives that our media savour - such as young, old, state-educated, privately-educated, Brexiteer, Remainer - and instead find the common humanity that links us all, in all areas of our lives.

One such area that we find a common ground, on the whole, is in pursuit of a greener world, a cleaner way of living and a desire to cleanse the planet and reverse some of our damage. Later on in this newsletter, you can read Bob's report on our very own village *Green Scene!* Facebook informs me that this week (3-9th June) is 'National Growing for Wellbeing week.' Matthew and I certainly enjoyed our day in the garden yesterday, through rain and shine, pulling up an abundance of prolific weeds and planting all manner of fruit and veg plants obtained from the Newbold plant sale in May. Look out for your sunflower seed for you to plant ahead of the village fete, as per last month's newsletter!

Looking back over May, we enjoyed a fairly quiet month, starting with a BMCS Concert on 5th May. BMCS is hugely grateful to local businesses Shukurs, Loxton Developments, ROC Associates and Retirement Security Ltd for their generous sponsorship during this tenth anniversary year. The first BMCS Concert of 2019 was given by the Arnold Ensemble – music for viola, clarinet and piano. Don't worry if you missed this concert: there are two more this year in Butlers Marston church, and, the Arnold Ensemble are playing in Stratford in December.

On 16th May, Willie Forsyth and Matthew Arnold were sworn in as Churchwardens for this next year, alongside many other churchwardens in this Deanery and Diocese. Many congratulations to Willie and Matthew – and thank you for all that you do and for all that you have done already!

The second Bank Holiday weekend heralded the first of the two Churchyard Teas events for 2019. Huge thanks to Di Burman for organising and coordinating the teas, baking and helpers – and of course to everyone who helped to set up, bake, help and support. A very fine array of cakes was on offer, and not only was more than £190 was raised, but a jolly time was had by all, chattering away! This sum of £190 will cover the parish share for the church for one and a half weeks. As reported at our annual meeting, it costs around £11,000 per year to run our church – or £3.95 per adult per month. If you can donate this sum each month, equivalent to the average price of a pint of beer, please do fill out a form (email Lynn@LynnArnold.co.uk and I will drop one in to you).

Looking ahead to June, we have an exciting and busy month ahead! This Wednesday, a meeting of the Parish Council will be held in the church (as noted later on in this newsletter), and later in the week, Marston Meet-Up hosts a Pudding Night at church. On the 15th, we look forward to our Safari Supper, master-minded by Di Burman & Sarah Mountford, and 18th June is the date for Butlers Marston's *Green Scene* to meet at Ginny's house.

Later in the month, on 29th June, the Lord Chamberlain's Men are once again eagerly anticipated at Monksbridge, for a performance of Shakespeare's 'A Midsummers Night's Dream'. As before, the gardens will be open from 2pm and the play will begin at 3pm. Please see the note from Kim & Julian Piercey earlier in this newsletter.

Last but not least, there is a meeting of Deanery Synod (all 27 churches in Shipston Deanery) on June 25th, which will be Rev. Jill Tucker's final meeting as Rural Dean of Shipston Deanery. We are hugely grateful to Jill for her guidance and wisdom over the last ten years and wish her well in the Next Chapter!

Wishing you a splendid June,
Lynn
Treasurer

Butlers Marston's Green Scene: Action!

As a result of the Green Scene meetings, Su and Dick Leaper have two compost bins in their vegetable field in Fish Lane which they have made available for use as a community composting facility.

Please ensure that ONLY vegetable waste is put in the bins.

Butlers Marston's Green Scene

At our latest meeting we discussed the subject of food: what we choose to eat, where we buy it and what we expect from those selling it to us - and not wasting what we do buy! In the spirit of our meetings, no-one was trying to convert anybody, just saying what they were doing and leaving it to others to decide whether to try it themselves.

Vegetarian and vegan diets had their advocates both for animal welfare and personal health reasons – not forgetting that growing food to feed to animals so that they can be fed to us might not be the most efficient form of land use. But even those not going the whole hog were supportive of the idea of eating less meat so as to reduce the pressure on intensive livestock rearing.

On similar grounds there was general support for organic produce, whether animal or vegetable based, although some clearly thought that 'non-organic' seasonal vegetables grown in this country might be a better option, on environmental grounds, than organic produce flown in from the other side of the world. And, of course, there is always the perfect solution: grow your own!

Buying locally was a popular preference – at least in theory – although quite what this meant was interpreted differently, with some doing their shopping at supermarkets which they passed anyway on commuter or school runs, whilst others, disillusioned by the stranglehold that large companies have on food supply, opt when practical for local shops or farm shops. Some felt that ordering groceries on-line, to be delivered to your door by drivers on a round, might be better in environmental terms than a lot of individual trips to supermarkets – a topic we have touched on before – although, quite honestly, nobody really believed that that's why the supermarkets are doing it.

The shocking figures about wasted food seem to have had an effect on us: nobody, it seems, takes much notice of 'Best Before Dates' when reviewing the contents of their cupboards. In fact, some confessed to routinely ignoring 'use by' dates as long as the food in question passed the 'smell' test!

A better option, as was pointed out, was not to buy more than you actually need within a reasonably short time frame.

The topic for our June meeting will be energy use – particularly how we choose to heat our homes and what we try and do to keep costs down. However, we use the energy supplied to us in a variety of ways so other appliances might come into the equation too – such as freezers, the pros and cons of which we didn't get round to discussing last time round. We will be meeting at Ginny White's this month (Bryher Cottage, Bridge Road) on 18 June, starting at 8.00pm. Do come along!

Bob Bearman



From the Rectory

Thy Kingdom Come

was the initiative of the Archbishops of Canterbury and York in 2016 inviting the country to pray those words which come from the Lord's prayer in diverse, creative, new and traditional ways. It soon caught the imagination of the church worldwide and has become a global movement of prayer inviting us again to commit as the first disciples did to pray between Day of Ascension until the Day of Pentecost, which **in 2019 is from 30th May – 9th June.**

In a recent conversation about prayer, I was reminded that we should pray as we can, not as we can't! There are so many different ways to pray and however we choose to express ourselves to God, with words, or no words, in activity or creativity, the one common strand is that He is listening and longs for us to come to Him!

There are many ideas on the website thykingdomcome.global where you can register and access lots of prompts, passion and people who are also praying! Locally in the Stourdene group, I am inviting gathering for Evening Prayer, which is a simple short Anglican liturgy followed by prayer walking, which may be done individually on your way home or with the group strolling round the village. A prayer walk is just that – not about being seen to pray, but about seeing and praying. However we go, whether silently and alone, or conversationally in the company of others, we listen, look, give thanks and praise, bless and

pray for the communities where our churches are located.

Want to join? At 6:30pm for Thy Kingdom Come, Sharon will be at Alderminster on Monday 3rd June; Halford on Tuesday 4th June; Newbold on Wednesday 5th June; Ettington on 6th June (delaying her own prayer walking until after Sow Good which meets to sing from 7 – 8:15) and Pillerton Priors churchyard on 7th June. Butlers Marston and Pillerton Hersey will have had Rogation services on 26th May with the "beating of the bounds" – at 11:15 and 10am respectively. Prayer walking is a bit of a rebrand, I think, building on traditions such as Rogation!

Want to explore prayer more? Join our **Summer School** and do the **Prayer course**, which includes online input from Pete Greig from the 24-7 movement. The first four Tuesdays in July at 7:30pm in Ettington church, a summer to practise, before joining together again similarly on all four Tuesdays in September. Let Sharon know if you are thinking of coming.

sharon.goble@stourdene.org

01608 682 282

07799220407

Sharon,

Reverend Sharon Goble

From our Deanery:

Not quite in June, but if this reaches you before the end of May, don't forget the Deanery Ascension Day Service, on Thursday, May 30th at 7.30 pm, which this year is in Stretton, with Bishop John preaching and presiding. As ever, if the weather permits, we will start outside for the first few minutes.

There will be a Confirmation Service, led by Bishop Christopher, on Sunday, June 23rd at 4.00 pm at Tysoe Church.

Finally, there is a Deanery Synod on Tuesday, June 25th at 7.30 pm in Long Compton Church. Richard Cooke was hoping to come to speak about Luke, but he has had to re-schedule his visit, and hopefully will be with us in the autumn.

This Synod is my last Synod as Area Dean, so we are going to take the chance to celebrate the life of Shipston Deanery, to look back over the last decade, and also to look ahead to the needs of our Deanery, and the wider world, for the next decade or more. It also gives us a chance to welcome Sarah Edmonds, Rector of Shipston, as the new Area Dean. I do hope you will be able to join us.

Every blessing, Jill

From our Parish Council:

The Annual Village Meeting will be held on Wednesday 5th June in the Church starting at 7:00 pm.

This will be followed by an open meeting to discuss the proposed poultry unit on the edge of the village. There will be a presentation on the proposed unit after which there will be an opportunity for villagers to ask questions and discuss the plans.

Please note that the meeting will be about the planning issues involved and that in order to give as many people as possible the chance to speak, each person will be asked to limit their questions to two minutes.

Carers4Carers



Friday 28th June 10.30 – 12 noon
Kineton Village Hall.

Sophie Huddleston from Sophie's Seasonal Plants (what used to be the Red Road Nursery in Little Kineton) will be sharing some of her brilliant ideas for easy gardening. Do come and join us for coffee, biscuits, and a chat. Please let us know in advance if you would like us to look after your loved one in our Companionship Group. For more details, including help with transport, please phone Gillian on 01926 640203/07947 893504.

Dates for Your Diary

Church Services & Worship

Sunday 2nd June 10:00 – 11:00

Led by Rev. Heather Turner

Common Worship

Holy Communion

Sunday 9th June 10:00 – 11:00

Pentecost

United Benefice Service

Butlers Marston

Common Worship Communion with “Messy” Activities

Led by Rev. Sharon Goble & Rev. John Horton

Sunday 16th June 19:00 – 19:45

Led by members of the congregation and lay team including recorded choral works

Evensong

Sunday 23rd June 10:45 – 11:15

Led by Rev. John Horton

11:15 – 12:15

Church Coffee Morning

Family Service

Sunday 30th June 10:00 – 11:00

Led by Rev. John Horton, with Richard Bacon to speak from Tearfund

United Benefice Service

Halford

Sunday 7th July

Led by Rev. Sharon Goble

Common Worship

Holy Communion

Every Friday 07.00 – 07.30

An early morning service led by members of our community; please note that the service will be held at No. 5 Verney Close

Morning Prayer

Fellowship & Village Events

Friday 7th June 19:30

Marston Meet-up: Pudding Club

Saturday 15th June 19:00

Safari Supper

Tuesday 18th June 20:00

Green Scene @ Bryher Cottage

Saturday 29th June 14:00

A Midsummer Night's Dream

Friday 5th July 19:30

Marston Meet up



the
Stourdene Benefice
Butlers Marston

www.stourdene.org
butlersmarstonchurchwarden@gmail.com / 01926 642076
