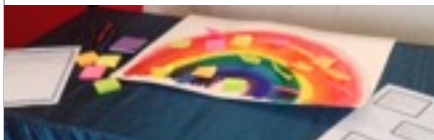
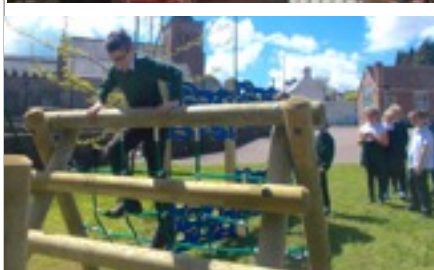
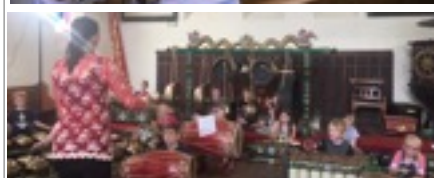
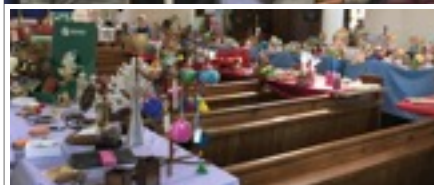
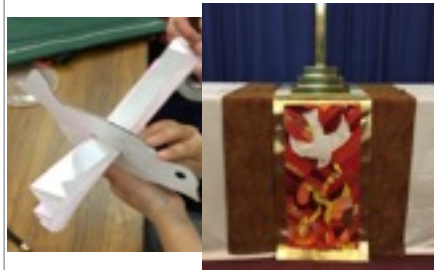




NEWS & VIEWS

from the Benefice of Cinderford with Littledean

Inside this Month...



Who's on the Trike?



Reader's Letter

Dear friends,

On 5 and 6 June this year millions of people turned on their televisions to watch the D-Day commemorations, the 75th anniversary of the events. The commemorations were attended by royalty, politicians, armed forces, the veterans themselves and thousands of others. Depending on your age those scenes will have meant different things to you. Personally, those events happened before I was born and, I suspect, before most of you. But some of you will remember, I spoke to two people on 6 June one of whom was aged 16 and the other 19 at the time, they both had vivid memories of the events as they unfolded.

To those of us who weren't around, the events are something we learnt in history lessons, but to those of you who were living at that time, they are a reality and a part of life. This is true for all life's events.

Jesus's disciples who were there alongside him throughout his ministry experienced every detail of his ministry with him. Those events were a reality and part of life. For us when we read of the events in the bible it can be just like a history lesson. But the difference is that the bible is the living word of God. The things Jesus said are as much for us today as they were for the disciples. In Matthew chapter 25 Jesus tells us that heaven and earth will pass away, but his words will not pass away.

If you read the Bible and it feels like a history lesson or is dry and difficult try an idea from Adrian Plass in his book, View from a Bouncy Castle, 'taking one of the gospels, Mark is a good one to start with – clear your mind as much as you can of everything you thought you knew about what Jesus did or said, then read the gospel and find out what he really did, say and do. The result can be quite surprising and if you keep your spiritual ears open you may be surprised at how much the Holy Spirit speaks to you through your discoveries'.

In May next year there are plans to celebrate VE day by moving the early May bank holiday to Friday 8 May. The plans are to have 3 days of celebrations over the long weekend.

Sir Andrew Gregory, chief executive of SSAFA, the Armed Forces charity, said "It is our duty to keep the events of the past alive in collective memory, including future generations - this is how we ensure that such a conflict never happens again."

"It is our hope that the nation takes a moment to reflect on the significance of this date, as a milestone that changed the course of history for the whole world," he added.

Jesus also changed the course of history for the whole world. He is alive and his words will not pass away.

Yours in Christ. *Linda*



	St Ethelbert's	St John's	St Stephen's	Hanover Court
Sun 7 July	10.30 am SW	9.30 am PE	11.00 am HC, JC 3.00 pm ES	
Sun 14 July	10.30 am HC	9.30 am PE	11.00 am MW, JC 3.00 pm Messy Church	3.00 pm HC
Sun 21 July	10.30 am JS @ URC	9.30 am PE	11.00 am Baptism 3.00 pm HC	
Sun 28 July	10.30 am MP	9.30 am PE	11.00 am AAW	3.00 pm SW
Sun 4 Aug	10.30 am SW	9.30 am PE	11.00 am HC, JC 3.00 pm ES	

Midweek Service Times

Wed 3 July, 10.00 am HC at St Stephen's
 Wed 10 July, 10.00 am HC at St John's
 Wed 17 July, 10.00 am HC at St Stephen's
 Wed 24 July, 10.00 am HC at St John's
 Wed 31 July, 10.00 am HC at St John's
 Wed 7 Aug, 10.00 am HC at St Stephen's

AAW = All Age Worship; HC = Holy Communion; JC = Junior Church (preschool up to Y6); JHC = Joint Holy Communion; JS = Joint Service; MP = Morning Prayer; MW = Morning Worship; PE = Parish Eucharist; SW = Sunday Worship; URC = Littledean United Reform Church.

Messy Church

Messy Church in June looked at the story behind the first Pentecost,



we explored the story through crafts, activities and songs talking about how we can't see the Holy Spirit, but can see the difference in our lives (much like wind moves the trees, and fire and heat can change their surroundings).

We made candles, used a pyrography machine to decorate wooden items including keyrings and photo frames, made a spectacular frontal for the communion table and made our own pizzas (along with many other things).

Messy Church continues on the second Sunday of each month, with the next one being on Sunday 14 July from 3 - 5 pm at St Stephen's Church. All welcome to come along and join in with crafts, activities, songs and a shared meal. Children / young people must be accompanied by a responsible adult.



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Cinderford Churches Our Churches

St Ethelbert's, Littledean, GL14 3NL



Holds a range of services at 10.30 am. On the 3rd Sunday of each month a joint service is held at Littledean URC.

St John's, Cinderford, GL14 3EX

9.30 am services in the moderate catholic tradition with a Eucharistic and sacramental focus.



St Stephen's, Cinderford, GL14 2AA



Different worship styles at 11 am and 3 pm. 11 am services reflect a more relaxed style with a worship band & children's and youth activities; 3 pm services are traditional (BCP).

Messy Church every 2nd Sunday at 3 pm is a fun, creative service for the whole family. Various midweek services. Services are also held at Hanover Court at 3.00 pm every 2nd and 4th Sunday.

Seen walking around the Benefice, but where?

Answers can be found on page 11.



I'm a church around the Diocese, but where?

Answers can be found on page 11.

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From the Registers

Funerals

17 April	Joan Reed	St Stephen's
13 June	William Simonds	St Stephen's
24 June	Trevor Tomkins	St Stephen's
24 June	Geraldine Hull	FoD Crem

Baptisms

25 May	Luca Gant	St John's
16 June	Oscar Rogers	St Stephen's
	Jenson Kavanagh	St Stephen's
	Conor Kavanagh	St Stephen's

Our Partner Churches

Salvation Army
Forest of Dean
01594 839106

Littledean URC
01452 760271

Cinderford
Methodist Church
01594 825662

Our Lady of Victories Roman
Catholic Church
01594 833173
www.forestrc.co.uk

Cinderford
Baptist Church
01594 822618

Forest of Dean
Community Church
07975 994224 www.fodcc.org

Cinderford Churches Mothers' Union Report

On Tuesday 4th June we had a Deanery Quiet afternoon. We met at Sheila Llewellyn's at 2.30pm. We were a small group of 6 including our Speaker Pat Allen, and 1 Deanery member, from Drybrook & Lydbrook branch. Pat first led us in prayer and led a hymn, followed by 2 readings which were in a form of meditation which was very powerful. She then followed with a piece of music, called "In Church", that also was a power filled piece to listen to. She then did a couple of poems and we finished with prayers and the Grace. Refreshments were provided by Sheila Llewellyn. It was a very lovely afternoon. Thanks were given to Pat Allen and also to Sheila Llewellyn.

Our next meeting which is on Tuesday 2 July will be a talk by Rev Nina Summerfield.

Cupcake Day Fundraiser for Alzheimer's Society



Karen hosted a wonderful cupcake morning at St Stephen's Church on Friday 14 June in aid of the Alzheimer's Society. There were so many amazing cupcakes for sale from Banana & Custard to Chocolate with gold sprinkles, mini lemon drizzle cakes and lots of other varieties. There were also puzzles and games to help raise money. There was a great turn out from across the Benefice and in total, £135 was raised.



St Stephen's Craft Fayre

Activities include: Cakes, Gifts, BBQ, Free Entry, Over 20 craft stalls, Handmade, Crafts, Fairtrade, Plants, Children's Activities.

**Saturday 6 July
10am - 2pm**

St Stephen's Church
Belle Vue Road, Cinderford

Cinderford Churches

www.cinderford-churches.org.uk

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So far Craft Fayres at St Stephen's have seen an incredible display of talented artisans from around the Forest (and beyond) with a huge variety of creations. The next Fayre on Saturday 6 July promises a similar amazing range of stalls with some returning stallholders and other very exciting new crafters.



There will be more bacon sandwiches, a BBQ (veggie and vegan options always available), homemade cakes alongside the wonderful selection of products from local artisans and fairly traded handicrafts from around the world plus craft activities to try on the day.

St Stephen's Church (Belle Vue Rd, Cinderford, GL14 2PU) from 10 am - 2 pm. FREE entry and a very warm welcome to all.

More information on all events on our website or Facebook pages.

Stalls including: crochet & knitted toys, gifts and jewellery; original watercolour paintings; beautiful photos and calendars; handstitched cushions, blankets and decorations; handmade cards; candles & wax melts; fairies, wands and fairy doors; rock art; plants; Fairtrade food and gifts; wooden sculptures; jewellery; plants; plus a wonderful range of items that you can have your own pictures printed on (photographs or your child's artwork - perfect for teacher gifts!)



Christian Aid

At long last all money has been counted and sent to Christian Aid. I would like to thank everyone who donated so generously and special thanks to everyone who gave up their time to collect.

Amounts raised are as follows :

- Littledean Village Collection - £749.73.
- County Store Collection - £657.46.
- Fundraising at Hanover Court, Littledean School, Soup Lunches on Maundy Thursday and Good Friday and St Stephen's Craft Fayre Raffle - £393.91.
- Churches ' Envelope Collection (Baptist, Methodist, Greenbottom, St John's, St Ethelbert's, St Stephen's, Hanover Court and URC) - £429.14.

The amazing total of £2230.24 has been forwarded to Christian Aid.

Well done Littledean and Cinderford. - Ann Ladd.
News & Views



Please pray for:

- Bishop Rachel (currently on sabbatical) and Robert, Bishop of Tewkesbury (especially as he picks up many of Bishop Rachel's duties)
- Mike, our Vicar; during the final month of his sabbatical period
- Anthea, our Associate Priest; in her ministry as priest
- Chris, Linda, Lynne and Richard; our licensed readers
- Richard; as he prepares for ordination
- those who have recently been bereaved
- anyone who is unwell
- others around the Benefice who need prayer
- Jim and Adalia Fisher, in the Philippines
- Felipe and Sarah Yanez (CMS partners in Spain) and their sons Sam + Aaron; especially as they prepare to return to the UK for 2 months - visiting churches and spending time with family.
- children, young people, their teachers and leaders - especially as they begin the summer holidays
- the worldwide Church, especially those worshipping in places of conflict
- all those around the world facing persecution, homelessness or hunger

Lectionary

7 July (3rd Sunday after Trinity)

Isaiah 66:10-14 Psalm 66:1-8
Galatians 6:7-16 Luke 10:1-11, 16-20

14 July (4th Sunday after Trinity)

Deuteronomy 30:9-14 Psalm 25:1-10
Colossians 1:1-14 Luke 10:25-37

21 July (5th Sunday after Trinity)

Genesis 18:1-10a Psalm 15
Colossians 1:15-28 Luke 10:38-end

28 July (6th Sunday after Trinity)

Genesis 18:20-32 Psalm 138
Colossians 2:6-15 Luke 11:1-13

4 August (7th Sunday after Trinity)

Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14; 2:18-23
Colossians 3:1-11 Psalm 49:1-9
Luke 12:13-21



CLIVE LEIGHTON PLUMBER

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Mothers' Union Quiet Afternoon at St Stephen's

Tue 2 July, 2.30 pm

Craft Fayre at St Stephen's

Saturday 6 July, 10.00 am - 2.00 pm

BoB Breakfast at St Stephen's

Saturday 13 July, 9.00 am - 10.00 am

Messy Church at St Stephen's

Sunday 14 July, 3.00 pm - 5.00 pm

Fellowship Lunch at St Stephen's

Sunday 28 July, 12.30 pm

Jumble Sale at St Stephen's

Monday 5 & Tuesday 6 August,
10.30 am - 2.30 pm

Regular and Weekly Activities

Monday: 7.00 pm - 8.45 pm Bellringing, St Ethelbert's Church

- Group to practice ringing for Sunday services. (Bells rung on a Sunday from 9.45 am - 10.30 am)

Tuesday: 1.00 pm - 5.00 pm Craft & A Cuppa, St Stephen's Church (*term time only; not on 1st Tues of month*)

- Craft group where members bring along their own craft and share fellowship

Wednesday: 7.00 pm - 8.00 pm Prayer Meeting, The Vicarage (*normally every other week: see Sian for dates*)

- Opportunity to pray about individuals, our churches, towns and the world

Friday: 10.00 am - 11.15 am Coffee Morning, St Stephen's Church

- Chance to meet for fellowship and enjoy some Fairtrade tea and coffee

7.00 pm - 9.00 pm IF (boys, Year 7+), St Stephen's Church (*finishes for the summer on July 12*)

- Youth group for boys in secondary school with food, games and activities

Jumble Sale

Due to the popularity of the last St Stephen's Jumble Sale we are hosting another on the first Monday and Tuesday in August.

Alongside the items to rummage through to find your treasure, there will be a raffle, refreshments and free craft activities for children / young people.

The jumble sale will be open on Monday 5 & Tuesday 6 August from 10.30 am - 2.30 pm daily at St Stephen's Church (Belle Vue Rd, Cinderford, GL14 2PU).

We have already had a very eclectic mix of donations - from unicorns to salt shakers - so everyone should be able to find something to suit them!

FREE entry and a very warm welcome!

If you have any jumble that you would like to donate, please contact Rachel Witham on 01594 719438 or rachel@cinderford-churches.org.uk or drop off at church whenever the building is open.



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5TH & 6TH AUGUST
10.30 AM - 2.30 PM

**JUMBLE
SALE**

Bell Ringing Competition

On Saturday 15 June the St Ethelbert's band of bell ringers took part in the Forest Branch of bellringers striking championship. Nine bands entered the championship which was held at Staunton church.

St Ethelbert's entered two bands, one received a 'highly commended' certificate and the other came first, winning the Penn trophy. The last time St Ethelbert's won was in 2017. As one member of the winning band has been ringing for less than two years, we also won the Goodwin trophy for the highest winning band with a learner of less than two years.

If you would like to know more about the championship or bell ringing in general speak to Richard or Linda.



Community Events Around the Benefice

Cream Tea & Conversation - raising funds for the Cinderford Branch of the Royal British Legion on Saturday 29 June at Eve's House (52 St White's Rd, Cinderford) from 2.00 pm. (see poster below for further details)

Littledean Community Centre Summer Fayre will be on Sat 6 July from 12 noon - 3.00 pm.

At the Community Centre off George Lane, behind The Belfry.

Magician, games, face painting and children's activities plus Fair Trade products, plants, flowers and garden produce, bee keeping display and much more. All welcome.



News & View

Putting a Bit Back into the Community

We retired last year and bought a cottage in Cinderford.

We have started a blog at <https://vandaandeddie.uk/>

We wanted to put something back into the community here and have created a free directory for any Forest of Dean business or organisation and an event calendar.

There are no charges at all, so why not take a look?

Vanda & Eddie

Cinderford Churches Quiz Night

Friday 21 June saw St Stephen's host another quiz night in aid of the Vestry Roof Project. Once again, Linda set an excellent quiz for the 10 teams that came to battle it out for the prestigious church mouse trophy, "Steve".



Rachel and Kim provided some excellent refreshments during the half time break. In total, around £300 was raised for the Vestry Roof Project and great fun was had all round.

Kim has twisted Linda's arm and is planning another quiz night for the autumn. Watch out in the magazine and on our website / Facebook page for more details. Thank you to everyone who came along and those who made donations to support the event.

Pop-Up Shop

Karen and Rachel enjoyed welcoming people to St Stephen's Church to explore the amazing range of Fairtrade goods for another wonderful week



of the Fairtrade Pop-Up Shop! Seemingly endless rain made the first few days relatively quiet, but there was still a range of visitors browsing and enjoying a good conversation and Fairtrade hot drinks.

It is always great to have the church open as well as showcasing the wide range of Fairtrade products available and St Stephen's ongoing commitment to supporting the worldwide Fairtrade movement. Watch this space as St Ethelbert's are also working towards Fairtrade Church status!

Some of the most popular products included the beautiful handmade cards from Bangladesh and the Philippines along with items made from recycled bike chains from India and a variety of bags made by artisans around the world to assist people in their efforts to reduce plastic bag usage.



A big thanks to all who came along and supported, keep an eye out for future Pop-Up Shops during the year.

Fairtrade goods will be available at the resident Fairtrade stall at St Stephen's at the Craft Fayre on Saturday 6 July (10.00 am - 2.00 pm), but will also be visiting St Ethelbert's Summer Fayre on Saturday 29 June (11.00 am - 1.30 pm) and Littledean Community Fayre at Littledean Community Centre on Saturday 6 July (12 noon - 3.00 pm).



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5TH & 6TH
AUGUST

10.30AM - 2.30PM

JUMBLE SALE

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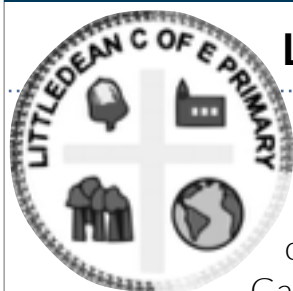
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Littledean Church of England Primary School

Tall Ships Festival

Some the children from Chestnut class took part in a Gamelan performance

at the Tall Ships Festival at Gloucester Docks. Gamelan is an Indonesian form of music and the children had received

a 10 week block of lessons which was a fantastic experience.



Activity Trail

We are very pleased that our new activity trail has been installed. The items were chosen by the school council and have been enjoyed by everyone in the whole school.



Fairtrade Focus

Muscovado White Chocolate Cheesecake

Ingredients

- 300g / 10.5 oz Traidcraft cookies*
 150g / 5.25 oz unsalted butter, melted, plus extra to grease
 400g / 14 oz Traidcraft Organic Muscovado White Chocolate, broken up*
 300g / 10.5 oz full-fat cream cheese
 250g / 8.75 oz mascarpone
 300ml / 10.5 fl. oz double cream
 1 single shot of Baileys (optional)
 200 g / 7 oz raspberries
 50g / 1.75 oz Fairtrade dark chocolate, grated*



(All starred (*) ingredients are Traidcraft products available at the Fairtrade stall at St Stephen's; ingredients marked with a hashtag (#) are available as Fairtrade but not from church).

Method

1. Crush the cookies in a food processor until completely ground (or the good old-fashioned way with a rolling pin!)
2. Add butter and mix until you have the desired crumbly consistency.
3. Grease and line the base of a 23 cm deep, loose-bottomed cake tin.
4. Add the biscuit mixture to the cake tin and pat it flat.
5. Leave to set in the fridge for approximately half an hour.
6. Melt 350g of the Muscovado white chocolate (save the other 50g for later) in a heatproof glass bowl over a small pan of hot water on a low heat.
7. Stir occasionally to prevent sticking.
8. Remove from the heat and leave to cool for 10 mins until barely warm, but still liquid.
9. Whisk the cream cheese, mascarpone, melted Muscovado chocolate and the remainder of the chocolate (50 g) - along with the shot of Baileys if you wish!

10. Add the double cream and keep whisking until the mixture is just holding its own shape and is combined.
11. Spoon the mixture over the cooled and set biscuit base, then smooth the top.
12. Return to the fridge to cool for at least 6 hours, until the topping is set.
13. Finally, decorate with the fruit and finish with a light dusting of the grated chocolate.

Traidcraft's Organic Muscovado White Chocolate is a relatively new addition to the Fairtrade stall at St Stephen's and is so far proving to be very popular.

It's a sweet and buttery white chocolate infused with the rich, caramel notes of the fairtrade Muscovado whole cane sugar from the Philippines, which comes through with every bite.

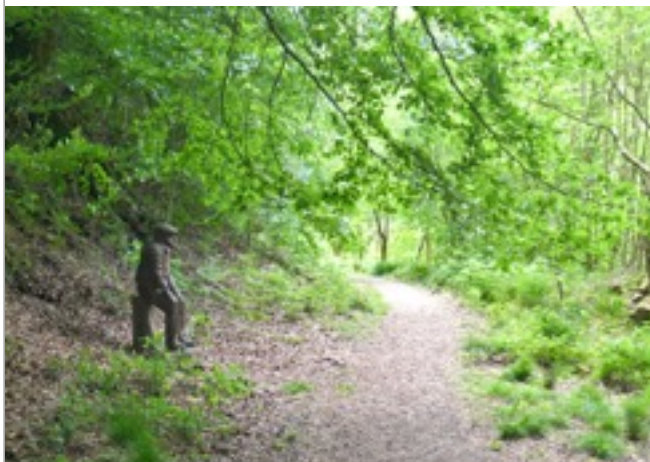
The organic cocoa has been harvested by skilled local farmers from fair trade co-operatives in Peru, Bolivia, and the Dominican Republic, and the income they earn supports their families and local communities.

This chunky chocolate bar is fair trade, totally organic, GM free and suitable for vegetarians. You'll never find any emulsifiers, cheap oils, or artificial colours or preservatives in Traidcraft chocolate. The paper and plant-based packaging is 100% recyclable and eco-friendly too, so you can give it back to the earth when you're done. (The wrap around the chocolate looks like plastic - but is actually plant based and compostable!)

The Muscovado White Chocolate is included in the regular offer of £2.20 per bar or 3 for £6.00 and is available on the Fairtrade stall at St Stephen's whenever the church is open.

If you would like more details about the work of Traidcraft, Fairtrade in general, Fairtrade around our Benefice or you would be interested in having a Fairtrade stall at your event - please contact Rachel - 01594 719438 / rachel@cinderford-churches.org.uk.





'Nearly There' carved by Rob Griffiths in 2009 can be seen on the Blue Rock Trail which starts

near the Eastern Commercial site in Ruspidge. The walk is a woodland walk following the old railway track from Cinderford to Soudley.



St Mary de Lode Church is immediately outside the grounds of Gloucester Cathedral. It is believed by some to be on the site of the

first Christian church in Britain and is said to date back to the late 11th Cent.

Dates for Your Diaries...

Jumble Sale - Mon 5 & Tue 6 Aug, 10 am - 2 pm, St Stephen's

Cindyfest - Sun 25 August

Littledean Carnival - Sat 31 August

Heritage Open Days / Ride & Stride - Sat 14 Sep - St Stephen's & St Eth's; Sun 15 Sep - St Eth's

Benefice Pilgrimage - Sat 12 October

SHINE - Fri 18 October & Sat 19 October, St Stephen's

Craft Fayre - Sat 9 Nov, 10 am - 2 pm, St Stephen's

Christmas Tree Festival - Fri 29 Nov - Sun 1 Dec, St Stephen's

Home Communion

If you live in the Benefice and would like to receive Home Communion, please contact Linda Blagg (822153).

Who's on the Trike?



**The Rt. Revd and Rt. Hon.
 Dr Rowan Williams**

previous Archbishop of Canterbury

Fairtrade Plants Food Cream Teas

St Ethelbert's Summer Fayre

Saturday 29th June

11 am - 1.30 pm

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Cinderford Churches

St Ethelbert's Church

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Cinderford Churches Contact Us

Vicar: Mike Barnsley

01594 822286 / 07903 436009

mike@cinderford-churches.org.uk

(Mike is currently on sabbatical, please contact someone else from the list below)

Associate Priest: Anthea Beresford

01594 822396

anthea@cinderford-churches.org.uk

(Anthea has a full-time job and her regular church day off is Saturday. Please phone / email and she will respond as soon as possible)

Readers:

Linda Blagg - 01594 822153

linda@cinderford-churches.org.uk

Richard Blagg - 01594 822153

richard@cinderford-churches.org.uk

Lynne Chaundy - 01594 825997

Chris Witham - 01594 719438

chris@cinderford-churches.org.uk

Churchwardens at St Ethelbert's:

Jim Duffin - 01594 510191

Sharron Hill - 01594 368054

Churchwardens at St John's:

Pat Byett - 01594 823713

Evelyn Smith - 01594 822755

Churchwardens at St Stephen's:

Kim Howard - 01594 827933

Chris Witham - 01594 719438

Urgent Prayer Requests –

Sian Barnsley - 07932 193291

Linda Blagg - 01594 822153

Benefice Safeguarding Officer:

Andy Cole - 01594 822303

safeguarding@cinderford-churches.org.uk

(If you have any safeguarding concerns regarding anyone who attends church please contact

Andy Cole or Sian Barnsley.)

Visit the Benefice Website:

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Or join us on Facebook:

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Or follow us on Twitter:

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Or find us on Instagram:

www.instagram.com/cinderfordchurches/

If you have anything for the next magazine (articles, photographs) or would like to enquire about placing an advert please contact

magazine@cinderford-churches.org.uk by

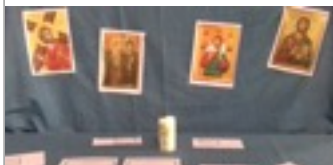
FRIDAY 12 July.

Comments and opinions expressed do not necessarily reflect the views of the Editors, the PCCs or the Vicar of the Benefice.

Benefice Day of Prayer



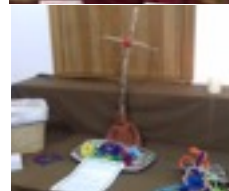
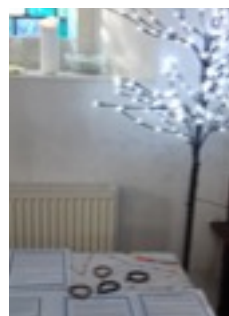
THY KINGDOM COME



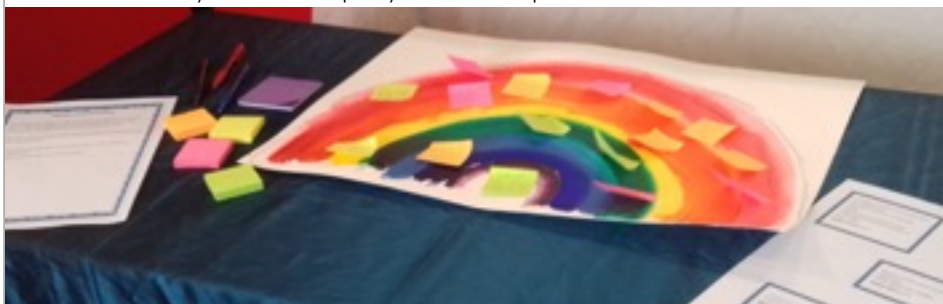
The fourth Benefice prayer day, held on Saturday 1 June was enjoyed by all those who came along.

The peace and quiet was appreciated as were the variety of reflective and interactive prayer stations. The day was linked with 'Thy Kingdom Come' initiative to pray between Ascension and Pentecost as the disciples did.

Prayer is an essential part of the Christian life all year round and it was good to take part in this special global event.



Chris Witham said, "Thank you to Richard and Linda for organising another great prayer day. It was brilliant to have space and time to try different prayer techniques and draw closer to God."



Mike's Sabbatical

Many of you will be aware that Mike is currently on sabbatical. By the time you read this, he will have ridden his Harley Trike round the entire coast of mainland Britain having visited many many lighthouses and a number of significant religious sites on his way.

You can catch up on what Mike has been doing on our website <https://www.cinderford-churches.org.uk/news/mikes-sabbatical/>.

Mike has more activities planned for his final weeks of his sabbatical before he returns to work on 1 August. His first Sunday back in the Benefice will be 4 August.

Photo: Smeaton's Tower at Plymouth Hoe

