



# CHURCH NEWS



[www.corshamandlacockchurches.org.uk](http://www.corshamandlacockchurches.org.uk)

From the Anglican churches of Corsham, Gastard, Lacock with Bowden Hill and Neston

April 2017

Team Rector: Revd Dr. Andrew Johnson 01249 713232 Team Vicar: Revd Adam Beaumont 01249 730984 Team Curate: Revd Dr. Phill Harrison 01225 810839

## CHURCH SERVICES

### Sunday 2 Apr – Lent 5

Readings: Ezekiel 37:1-14; Romans 8:6-11; John 11:1-45

- 8:00 Holy Communion at Corsham
- 9:00 Holy Communion at Bowden Hill  
Jump Start Sunday at Neston
- 10:00 Holy Communion at Corsham and Gastard
- 10:30 Morning Worship at Lacock
- 6:00 Evensong at Corsham
- 6:30 Informal Worship at Lacock

### Sunday 9 Apr – Palm Sunday

Readings: – Psalm 118 19-end; Matthew 21:1-11

- 8:00 Holy Communion at Corsham
- 9:00 Earlybirds at Corsham
- 10:00 **Holy Communion** at Corsham  
Morning Worship at Gastard & Neston
- 10:30 Family Service at Lacock
- 6:00 Evensong at Corsham
- 6:30 Meditation in readings and music for Passiontide at Lacock

### Sunday 16 Apr – Easter Day

Readings: Jeremiah 31:1-6; Acts 10:34-43; John 20:1-18

- 8:00 Holy Communion at Corsham
- 9:00 **Holy Communion** at Bowden Hill
- 10:00 Holy Communion at Corsham and Gastard  
Family Communion at Neston
- 10:30 Holy Communion at Lacock

### Sunday 23 Apr – Easter 2

Readings: Exodus 14:10-end, 15:20-21; Acts 2:14a, 22-32; John 20:19-end

- 8:00 ~~Holy Communion at Corsham~~
- 10.00 Family Service at Corsham  
Matins at Gastard  
Holy Communion at Neston
- 10:30 Morning Worship at Lacock
- 6:00 ~~Holy Communion with Healing Ministry at Corsham~~
- 6:30 Evensong at Lacock

### Sunday 30 Apr – Easter 3

Readings: Zephaniah 3:14-end; Acts 2:14a, 35-41; Luke 24:13-35

- 8:00 Holy Communion at Corsham
- 10:00 Matins at Corsham and Neston  
Holy Communion at Gastard
- 10:30 Praise & Worship at Lacock
- 6:00 Holy Communion with Healing Ministry at Corsham
- 6.30 Holy Communion at Bowden Hill

### Midweek Services

- Wednesday 10am BCP Communion at Corsham (Weekly)(not 19 Apr)
- Thursday 10am Holy Communion at Neston (Monthly, 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday)
- Friday 3.30pm Messy Church at Corsham (1<sup>st</sup> Friday)

### SERVICE PATTERN CHANGES

1. There is no Team Service in April as it is Easter Day.
2. There is no 8am or 6.30pm Holy Communion with Healing Ministry at Corsham on 23 Apr because of Clergy shortages.
3. There will be an additional service of Holy Communion with Healing Ministry at Corsham at 6.30pm on 30 Apr.

### THE RECTOR WRITES

The first Sunday after Easter is often called Low Sunday by Christians. The origin of the name is uncertain. It may indicate the contrast between this Sunday and the great festival of Easter.

Certainly many Christians suffer from a spiritual hangover after Easter. In many churches Low Sunday is marked by a much smaller attendance than normal as people recover from the Easter celebrations.

In many ways this reflects the experience of the first followers of Jesus. Their joy at discovering that Jesus was alive was short-lived; before long he was leaving them to return to heaven.

And yet Jesus did not leave them without making a promise. He told them that his Father in heaven would give them a helper or comforter, the Holy Spirit, to be with them.

These days we tend to be cynical about promises made by public figures. However, in sending his only son Jesus to die on the cross God has shown that he delivers on his promises, no matter what the cost to himself. And he also delivers on his promise to send the Holy Spirit.

The coming of the Holy Spirit is what Christians celebrate at Pentecost. The Holy Spirit turned those demoralized followers of Christ into people who were willing to be killed for telling the world about Jesus.

And we too can receive the gift of the Holy Spirit, who makes a relationship with Jesus possible. Easter may come and go on Sunday 16 April 2017, but there is no need for a spiritual hangover. God's Holy Spirit is available throughout the year to all who put their trust in Jesus, so why not receive that gift today?

*With love in Christ, Andrew*

### APCM DATES

The APCM season is upon us again and dates for our parishes are as follows:

- Gastard - 2 April (after Holy Communion Service)
- Neston - 9 April (after Morning Worship Service)
- Corsham - 25 April 7.30pm in church
- Lacock - 30 April



Our parishes support  
**FAIRTRADE**  
wherever possible

### DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE

Items for the next issue should be submitted not later than  
**MIDDAY on WEDNESDAY 26 Apr 2017.**

Email to: [news@corshamandlacockchurches.org.uk](mailto:news@corshamandlacockchurches.org.uk) or

Post/deliver to: 1 Park Lane, Corsham. ☎ 01249 701783 (answering machine available).  
If you would like to receive this Information sheet by email every month then please send a request to the above email address.

**ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S WALKING GROUP**

Our 8 mile March walk enabled 19 walkers to collect a fistful of Bees as we passed through Bathford, Bannerdown, Bailbrook, Batheaston and Bathampton. The views of the St. Catherine's valley from Northend, also of Bath from Solsbury Hill, caused a buzz and The Crown at Bathford became a hive of activity as some had a glass of the amber nectar at the end of the walk. Photo's of our walks are on the church website [www.corshamandlacockchurches.org.uk](http://www.corshamandlacockchurches.org.uk) click on 'Activities' and scroll down.

Our next walk will be about 8 miles on Friday, 7th April. Please meet at 10:00hrs in Monkton Combe, near Bath, at the public car park (free), which is on the right just up the hill from St Michael's Church, BA2 7EZ, at grid ref ST 773 620. Please bring a picnic/snack.

**MEN'S GROUP**

The April meeting is on Monday 24th April 8.00 pm at The Royal Oak. This is our Member's Interests Evening where a number of members give short talks on an area of interest to them. All men welcome.

**CORSHAM MOTHERS' UNION - WEDNESDAY 5 APRIL 2017, 2.30PM IN CHURCH HOUSE.**

The speaker at our April meeting will be Rachel Neate who is a member of the Youth Ministry Team at St Paul's Church, Chippenham, and is the co-ordinator for the Virtual Babies Project, of which I am a volunteer. At present we go into the three senior schools in Chippenham and work with students discussing parenting with years 9 and 10, who get the opportunity to take a baby home for the week-end, and discussing teenage pregnancy and more in depth topics with year 11. We would love to be able to extend this work to other schools but need more volunteers. It does not involve a great deal of time, sometimes an hour a week and sometimes not at all, depending on the schools' lesson timetable but it is very rewarding and it really helps students to recognise their own strengths and weaknesses and to develop a strong sense of responsibility. The 10 virtual babies (5 girls and 5 boys) will be present at our meeting and you will have the opportunity to hold them, feed and change them and give them a cuddle if you wish. This will be an open meeting to which all are invited so please come along and hear about this exciting project. If you are unable to come but would like to know more please contact Cathy Reynolds on 01225 811865 or email: [cathterry11@btinternet.com](mailto:cathterry11@btinternet.com).

**ORGAN AND MUSIC RECITAL, NESTON CHURCH**

Neston Church is fortunate to have a fine example of a late Victorian organ, which can deliver a remarkable sound. You may have enjoyed it accompanying hymns at our Sunday services or carols by candlelight. It is now in need of restoration and we have started fundraising to put the organ back in good order. Local resident and accomplished organist Nick Edwards, along with fellow musicians Cathy Crozier-Cole (flute) and Matthew Taylor (violin) have kindly offered to perform a recital of pieces, including *The Lark Ascending* by

Vaughan Williams and Handel's *Organ Concerto in F* as part of our fundraising on Sunday 7th May at 3pm. Tickets £5 for adults and £3 for children, including refreshments, are available from *The Corsham Bookshop, Neston Country Inn, Corsham Tourist Information Centre*

**Godly Play Taster Day**



Godly Play is an effective and creative way to communicate God's Word to people of all ages and for a variety of purposes including: Baptism and Confirmation preparation; in residential homes and schools; as well as Church.

For those with little or no experience of Godly Play who would like to discover more about this creative approach to Christian nurture:

- Participate in a Godly Play session
- Experience different types of Godly Play stories
- Reflect how Godly Play can help nurture your own spirituality


Come and join in with what promises to be an inspirational and fun day as familiar stories are brought to life!

**Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> April**  
10am – 3pm

**St Peter's Church, Lordsmead, Chippenham**

For more information please contact: [Becky.fisher@deanery.org.uk](mailto:Becky.fisher@deanery.org.uk)

amos trust presents [www.amostrust.org](http://www.amostrust.org)



**STRANGE WEAPONS**


**AN EVENING WITH GARTH HEWITT**

Drawing on his extensive catalogue of songs old and new, Garth sings songs of struggle and hope, regrets and homecomings

**7.30pm**  
**Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2017**

**St Cyriac's Church Lacock, SN15 2LB**

Tickets from 01249 249447  
or email [stellaskipper@aol.com](mailto:stellaskipper@aol.com)  
£5.00 Adults £3.00 U 16s



**For More information:**

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*Opening Hours: (Telephone answering machine/email available outside of these times)*  
 Monday 7-8pm; Wednesday 10-12.30 and 2-4pm; Saturday 10-11am