

CHURCH NEWS

www.corshamandlacockchurches.org.uk

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

January 2018

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 7 Jan – Epiphany

Readings: *Isaiah 60:1-6; Ephesians 3:1-12; Matthew 2:1-12*

- 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 14 Jan – Epiphany 2

Readings: *1 Samuel 3:1-10; Revelation 5:1-10; John 1:43-end*

- 8:00 Holy Communion at Corsham
- 9:00 Early Birds at Corsham
- 10:00 Morning Worship at Corsham, Gastard & Neston
- 10:30 Holy Communion at Lacock
- 6:00 Evensong at Corsham

Sunday 21 Jan – Epiphany 3

Readings: *Genesis 14:7-20; Revelation 19:6-10; John 2:1-11*

- 8:00 Holy Communion at Corsham
- 9:00 Matins at Bowden Hill
- 10:00 Holy Communion at Corsham
Family Communion at Neston
- 10:30 Family Service and Baptism at Lacock
- 4.30 Sunday Club at Neston
- 6.30 Team Service at Corsham

Sunday 28 Jan – Epiphany 4

Readings: *Deuteronomy 18:15-20; Revelation 12:1-5a; Mark 1:21-28*

- 8.00 Holy Communion at Corsham
- 10:00 Family Service at Corsham,
Matins at Gastard
Holy Communion at Neston
- 10.30 Holy Communion at Lacock
- 6:00 Holy Communion with Healing Ministry at Corsham
- 6:30 Evensong at Lacock

Sunday 4 Feb – 2nd Sunday before Lent

Readings: *Proverbs 8:1, 22-31; Colossians 1:15-20; John 1:1-14*

- 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

Midweek Services

- Wednesday 10am BCP Communion at Corsham (Weekly)
- Thursday 10am Holy Communion at Neston (1st Thurs of the month)
- Friday 3.30pm Messy Church at Corsham (2nd Friday of the month)

MESSY CHURCH

Please note that from Jan 2018 Messy Church will now take place on the **second** Friday of every month; this will avoid having to switch some sessions in the year to avoid events such as the Corsham Town lights switch on.

THE RECTOR WRITES

As we near the end of 2017 we may well wonder where God was during a year in which we witnessed the Grenfell Tower tragedy, a rise in international terrorist threats, and ever-increasing numbers of refugees fleeing from conflict and persecution.

I am writing this a week before Christmas, and without wanting in any way to give a trivial or easy answer, I think Christmas provides us with the confidence to believe that God is with us, no matter what we have been through in the past year.

The Christmas story reminds us that God brings light into the darkest situations. When he saw that humans were walking in great darkness he sent his one and only Son Jesus into the world into the world for a purpose, and that was to bring salvation to all people.

Jesus came to die so that we might be forgiven for all the things we have done wrong and experience life in all its fullness. By rising to life again after three days Jesus enables us to have a relationship with him every day. He also provides a future hope of everlasting life when we die.

Lucy Winkett, the Rector of St James's Church, Piccadilly, summed this up well in her Christmas message in the *Radio Times*, when she wrote that 'the meaning of this principal Christian festival is that human beings are not abandoned or alone in the face of the huge challenges we face. God is with us, say Christians, full of grace and truth.'

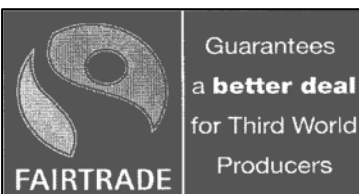
So as we celebrate Christmas and prepare to begin a new year, my hope and prayer is that we can once again renew our hope and trust in the God who comes alongside us and shines light into the darkest situations.

And let's put our hand into the hand of Jesus and allow the light of the world to remove darkness from our lives, show us the way ahead, and open our eyes to see what we can do to change the world he came to save.

With love in Christ and every blessing for 2018 from Andrew

6.30PM TEAM SERVICE, SUNDAY 21 JANUARY

Please join us in Church House for our monthly opportunity to explore a particular spiritual topic in some depth, with interactive discussion, informal worship and refreshments. This month we will be continuing our exploration of contemplative prayer and Bible meditation.



Our parishes support
FAIRTRADE
wherever possible

DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE

Items for the next issue should be submitted not later than
MIDDAY on WEDNESDAY 25 Jan 2018.
Email to: 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

Fifteen walkers set out from The Bell Inn on Bowden Hill on our five mile December walk. We followed the River Avon to Reybridge before crossing the Wilts and Berks canal at Double Bridge and climbing to Naish Hill, then on to Bowden Hill and Bewley Green. We then enjoyed a very sociable Christmas lunch at The Bell.

http://corshamandlacockchurches.org.uk/?page_id=3898 for photos.

We have two walking opportunities in January:-

Monday 1st Jan - about 10.5 miles and 1,406 calories, joined by our friends the Corsham Wanderers, meeting at 10:00hrs at the Hare and Hounds P.H., Corsham, SN13 0HY. Permission kindly given for parking; please keep cars to a minimum and use far end of car park. Suggest bringing snack/picnic.

Friday 12th Jan - about 10 miles, meeting 10:00hrs High St., Marshfield, opposite The Catherine Wheel P.H., SN14 8LR; Ample on-street parking. Suggest bringing snack/picnic.

MENS GROUP

The group next meets on 22nd January 2018 at 8.00 pm in The Royal Oak when John Wilson will give us a talk entitled 'The Shetland Bus – A Tale of Norwegian Valour'. All men welcome.

MOTHERS' UNION

Our first meeting in 2018 will be on Wednesday 3 January at 2.30pm in Church House when we will be thinking about the MU theme for 2018 which is "In the footsteps of Mary Sumner".

REVELATION BOOKSHOP – CHIPPENHAM

Revelation Christian Bookshop will be closing its doors for the final time at 4pm on Wednesday 31st January (yes, open on a Wednesday!).

We will be having a sale of all of our remaining stock throughout January and would love you to join us to find that special bargain from 10am Tuesday 2nd January.

We are also hoping to get rid of all sorts of furniture, equipment & display materials for a small donation (collection at own expense please) which you can reserve from now onwards. A big thank you to everyone for your support over the years. Please pop in at some point and say Goodbye!

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For More information:

Rector: Revd Dr Andrew Johnson - rector@corshamandlacockchurches.org.uk
 Team Vicar: Revd Adam Beaumont - vicar@corshamandlacockchurches.org.uk
 Team Curate: Revd Dr. Phill Harrison - curate@corshamandlacockchurches.org.uk
 Team Administrator: Ted Davies - office@corshamandlacockchurches.org.uk

Church Office: Church House, 3 Church Street, Corsham SN13 0BY

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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