



CHURCH NEWS



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

April 2018

Team Rector: Revd Dr. Andrew Johnson 01249 713232 Team Vicar: Revd Adam Beaumont 01249 730984

CHURCH SERVICES

Sunday 1 Apr – Easter Day

Readings: Isaiah 25:6-9; Acts 10:34-43; Mark 16:1-8

- 8:00 Holy Communion at Corsham
- 9:00 Holy Communion at Bowden Hill
- 10:00 Holy Communion at Corsham, Gastard & Neston
- 10:30 Holy Communion at Lacock
- 6.30 Informal Worship at Lacock

Sunday 8 Apr – Easter 2

Readings: Acts 4:5-12; 1 John 1:1-22; John 20:19-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 15 Apr – Easter 3

Readings: Zephaniah 3:14-end; Acts 3:12-19; Luke 24:36b-38

- 8:00 Holy Communion at Corsham
- 9:00 Matins at Bowden Hill
- 10:00 Holy Communion at Corsham
Family Service at Neston
- 10:30 Family Service at Lacock
- 6.00 Contemplative Prayer Service at Corsham

Sunday 22 Apr – Easter 4

Readings: Acts 4:5-12; 1 John 3:16-end; John 10:11-18

- 8.00 Holy Communion at Corsham
- 10:00 Family Service and Baptism at Corsham
Matins at Gastard
Holy Communion at Neston (followed by APCM)
- 10.30 Holy Communion at Lacock (followed by APCM)
- 6:00 Holy Communion with Healing Ministry at Corsham
- 6:30 Evensong at Lacock

Sunday 29 Apr – Easter 5

Readings: Genesis 22:1-18; Acts 8:26-end; John 15:1-8

- 8:00 Holy Communion at Corsham
- 10:00 Matins at Corsham and Neston
Holy Communion at Gastard (followed by APCM)
- 10:30 Praise & Worship at Lacock
- 6.30 Holy Communion at Bowden Hill

Please note **BOLD** type indicates a change from the regular service pattern

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)

WEDNESDAY HOLY COMMUNIONS DURING APRIL

Please note that there will be **no** Holy Communion Service on Wednesday 4 April, and that the service on Wednesday 11 April will be at **9.30am** to accommodate the provision of refreshments for a party visiting Corsham Court. As previously agreed with the congregation, there will also be **no** Holy Communion Service on Wednesday 25 April due to the absence of clergy at the Diocesan Conference that day.

THE RECTOR WRITES

Later this year Jodie Whittaker will make her debut as the thirteenth actor to play Doctor Who but the first woman ever to play the role; the handy ability of time lords to regenerate themselves after death has made it possible for a wide variety of actors to play the same character, and now the scope has been widened to include both genders.

Many of us may wish that we could experience regeneration after death and be returned to our loved ones. And yet there is no getting away from the statistic that one hundred per cent of people die. There appears to be little hope of life beyond death.

However, for Christians there is hope because of the death and rising to life again of Jesus Christ. The Bible tells us that after his death on the cross Jesus came back to life. He was not just regenerated in a different form but actually appeared as himself to more than five hundred people.

What evidence is there that this actually happened? Well, within the space of three days Jesus' followers turned from defeated and demoralised men to people who were prepared to risk their lives telling people that Jesus was alive.

That is what Easter is all about. On Good Friday we remember with sadness that Jesus had to die on a cross so that we might be forgiven for all the things that we have done wrong and have our relationship with God restored.

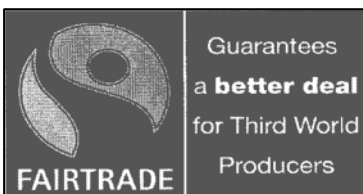
However, on Easter Sunday Christians celebrate with joy the good news that Jesus is alive and can be known by us today. And everyone who believes in him can experience the hope of everlasting life beyond the grave.

So how about celebrating the real Easter this year? Whether you are old or young, male or female, rich or poor, married or single, Jesus died and rose again for you, and longs to have a meaningful relationship with you, so why not celebrate Easter by putting your faith and trust in him?

With love in Christ from Andrew

CLERGY AVAILABILITY AFTER EASTER

During the week after Easter Revd Andrew Johnson will be available for pastoral queries while Revd Adam Beaumont and Revd Phill Harrison are on holiday. From Saturday 6 April to Saturday 14 April inclusive Revd Andrew and Revd Adam will be on holiday, but Revd Phill will be available for pastoral queries. He will then be on placement in the Lidbrook Group of Churches from 9 April to 9 July inclusive covering Revd Janet Anderson-Mackenzie's sabbatical and will be unavailable for ministry in the Greater Corsham and Lacock Team. His final service with us will be a Team Communion at St Bartholomew's on Sunday 15 July at 10.00am, and his licensing service as Vicar of Wroughton and Wichelstowe will be in Wroughton on Monday 16 July at 7.30pm. Please do continue to pray for him and the family during this time of transition to a new role.



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 Apr 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.

TEAM ADMINISTRATOR

Fiona Draper, our new Team Administrator, has now formally taken over from Ted Davies.

Ted was thanked for his 13 years of Service and presented with a gift and long-suffering wife Sheila with a bunch of flowers, after the 10am service in Corsham on 18 Mar, as unfortunately there was no suitable Team Service scheduled at which to make the presentation. We thank Ted for his service and wish him well with all the spare time he will now have on his hands - no doubt Sheila will have ideas to fill it!



ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S WALKING GROUP

Spring seemed to have sprung as 9 walkers left Biddestone on our 8 mile March walk to Castle Combe via Giddea Hall, Long Dean and West Yatton. Lunch was taken on the Market Cross at Castle Combe, always a good spot to pause and watch the world go by. On our return route through Ford, Toplands and Ham Lane we were reminded by the remaining snow drifts that it was less than a week since the heavy snowfall.

Our April walk of about 9 miles, will be on Friday, 13th, meeting at 10:00hrs at The New Inn, Lower Westwood, near Bradford on Avon, BA15 2AE, permission kindly given for car parking. Walkers wishing to car share may rendezvous at 09:15hrs at St Philips and St James' church, Church Rise, Neston. Suggest bringing picnic/snack.

CORSHAM MOTHERS' UNION – DATES AND EVENTS

Wednesday 4 April: Ghosts of Corsham - Pat Whalley. 2.30pm Church House.

7-9 April: Visit to Bristol Diocese of Lynne Tembey Mothers' Union World Wide President.

Saturday 7 April: Diocesan AGM - 10.30am-3pm at Marshfield Community Centre. Lynne Tembey Mothers' Union World Wide President will be the speaking after the business meeting.

Sunday 8 April: 3.30pm Evensong at Bristol Cathedral.

Monday 9 April: 11am Lady Day Communion at Christ Church Swindon

MENS GROUP

The next meeting will be on 23 Apr 8.00 pm in the upstairs room at The Royal Oak, Corsham. Rick Dickinson will give his follow-on talk entitled 'Enigma – Part 2'. All men welcome.

GODPARENTS' SUNDAY 6TH MAY 2018

A short informal celebration of the special relationship that exists between godparents and godchildren will be held at St. Bartholomew's at 3.00pm on Sunday 6 May. The service will be followed by refreshments and is for anyone and everyone who wishes to celebrate their baptism and the role of godparents. You don't have to be a godparent or godchild to attend, so please do put it in your diary and plan to attend.

ANNUAL PAROCIAL CHURCH COUNCIL MEETINGS

The APCM season is upon us and if you wish to stand for office and/or vote at the APCM or become a sidesperson, then membership on the Electoral Roll of the respective parish is essential. Dates for our churches are:

Lacock: Sunday 22 April in church after the 10.30am HC

Neston: Sunday 22 April in the upper room after 10.00am HC

Gastard: Sunday 29 April in church after 10.00am HC

Corsham: Monday 30 April in church at 7.30pm

HOUSE GROUP

The St Bart's House Group resumes its fortnightly meetings after the Lenten break on Thursday 5th April at 7:30pm at 17 Light Close, Corsham. The group will be studying the book of 2nd Peter over the Spring to Summer period interspersed by one or two "one-off" sessions. For further details please contact Neil Pidduck (01249) 715848.



SERVICE CHANGES AT NESTON

From Apr 2018 there will be no further Jump Start services or Sunday Club at Neston. Starting in May there will be a new **Family Service at 4pm** on the **3rd Sunday of the month** in **Neston Church**. All are welcome to this afternoon service, the timing of which it is hoped will prove popular for all families.

For More information:

Rector: Revd Dr Andrew Johnson - rector@corshamandlacockchurches.org.uk
 Team Vicar: Revd Adam Beaumont - vicar@corshamandlacockchurches.org.uk
 Team Administrator: Fiona Draper - office@corshamandlacockchurches.org.uk

Church Office: Church House, 3 Church Street, Corsham SN13 0BY
 ☎01249 701720 ✉ office@corshamandlacockchurches.org.uk
Opening Hours: (Telephone answering machine/email available outside of these times)
 Monday 7-8pm; Wednesday 10-12.30 and 2-4pm; Saturday 10-11am