



CHURCH NEWS

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

corshamandlacockchurches.org.uk

June 2019

CHURCH SERVICES

Please note that services at St Cyriac's and St Anne's are non-standard throughout June

Sunday 2 June — Easter 7

8.00 a.m. Holy Communion at Corsham
10.00 a.m. Holy Communion at Corsham and Gastard
10.30 a.m. Morning Worship at Lacock

Sunday 9 June—Pentecost

8.00 a.m. Holy Communion at Corsham
9.00 a.m. Early Birds at Corsham
10.00 a.m. Morning Worship at Corsham and Gastard
Holy Communion at Neston
4.00 p.m. Pentecost praise at Lacock
6.00 p.m. Ecumenical Service at St Patrick's (*see over*)

Sunday 16 June—Trinity/ St Cyriac's Patronal

8.00 a.m. Holy Communion at Corsham
10.00 a.m. Holy Communion at Corsham
Morning Worship at Neston
10.30 a.m. Holy Communion at Lacock
4.00 p.m. Church@4 at Neston
6.00 p.m. Evensong at Corsham

Sunday 23 June—Trinity 1 /St John's Gastard Patronal

8.00 a.m. Holy Communion at Corsham
9.00 a.m. Holy Communion at Bowden Hill
10.00 a.m. Family Service & Baptism at Corsham
Holy Communion at Neston
10.30 a.m. Family Service & Baptism at Lacock
12.15 p.m. Baptism at Bowden Hill
6.00 p.m. Holy Communion with prayers for healing
at Corsham
Evensong at Gastard

Sunday 30 June—Trinity 2

8.00 a.m. Holy Communion at Corsham
10.00 a.m. Matins at Corsham and Neston
Holy Communion at Gastard
10.30 a.m. Holy Communion at Lacock
12.15 p.m. Baptism at Lacock
6.30 p.m. Evensong at Bowden Hill

Sunday July 7—Trinity 3

8.00 a.m. Holy Communion at Corsham
9.00 a.m. Holy Communion at Bowden Hill
10.00 a.m. Holy Communion at Corsham and Gastard
10.30 a.m. Morning Worship at Lacock

See over for readings and midweek services

THE RECTOR WRITES...

This month I thought I would write about two spiritual practices that I have been finding helpful in recent months.

The first of these is contemplative prayer. Since my sabbatical in summer 2017 I have been trying to spend twenty minutes in silent prayer most days.

The advantage of this kind of prayer is that it allows God to get through to me without my brain or ego getting in the way. I have however had to develop ways of dealing with the inevitable distractions which arise, usually by repeating some appropriate Bible verses when I feel my mind wandering.

When I do manage to focus on God I often feel a deep sense of peace about the day that lies ahead (I usually do this first thing in the morning). As time goes on I have also found God putting his finger gently but firmly on unhealthy thoughts or actions I need to address.

Another practice that emerges from this is the habit of lectio divina or meditative reading of the Bible. The advantage of this, as with contemplative prayer, is that it allows God to speak directly to me about a passage of scripture without a commentary affecting my thoughts.

Obviously we will come to some passages thinking we know all about them, but my experience is that as we allow the passage to speak to us on its own terms we are often surprised by the new insights that emerge from a relatively unfiltered reading.

Typically lectio divina involves reading a passage slowly three times and listening out for a significant phrase or word, something that challenges or encourages our faith, and something to go away and do as a result.

I hope this encourages you to find ways of connecting with God that work for you, and if you are unsure what those ways might be why not talk to a fellow Christian who knows you well and might be able to offer you a spiritual practice that fits with your personality?

With love in Christ,

Andrew

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Normal opening hours: Monday and
Wednesday 10.45 to 12.30; Saturday 10 to 11am; and at
other times (including evenings) by arrangement.

office@corshamandlacockchurches.org.uk


Lectionary readings for June
June 2nd: Ezekiel 36:24-28, Acts 16:16-34; John 17:20-end
June 9th: Genesis 11: 1-9; Acts 2: 1-21; John 14: 8-17
June 16th: Proverbs 8: 1-4, 22-31; Romans 5: 1-5; John 16:12-15
June 23rd (Trinity 1): Isaiah 65: 1-9; Galatians 3: 23-end; Luke 8: 26-39
June 23rd (The birth of John the Baptist): Isaiah 40: 1-11; Galatians 3: 23-end; Luke 1: 57-66,80
June 30th: 1 Kings 19: 15-16, 19-end; Galatians 5:1, 13-25; Luke 9: 51-end
July 7th: Isaiah 66: 10-14; Galatians 6: 7-16; Luke 10: 1-11, 16-20

Midweek Services
 Wednesdays: 10.00 a.m. Holy Communion (BCP) at Corsham (every week)
 Thursday 10.00 a.m. Holy Communion at Neston (1st Thursday of the month)
 Messy Church—2nd Friday of the month, Church House 3.30-6 p.m.

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY
 3RD –9TH JUNE 2019
 Please come along to visit our churches and pray for unity during Christian Unity week

Monday 3 rd	9.30am-2.30pm Corsham Baptist Church
Tuesday 4 th	9.30am-11.30am St Patrick's
Wednesday 5 th	10am Holy Communion at St Bartholomew
Thursday 6 th	10am-11:30am St Aldhelm's
Friday 7 th June	Churches open*
Saturday 8 th	Churches open*

*These churches will be open all week until 4pm or later for quiet prayer:
 St Cyriac, Lacock; St Philip and St James, Neston
 St Patrick Church, Corsham; St Bartholomew, Corsham
 St John the Baptist, Gastard



**ECUMENICAL SONGS OF PRAISE
 FOR PENTECOST
 AT ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH
 PARK LANE, CORSHAM
 SUNDAY 9TH JUNE AT 6 PM**

**ALL ARE WELCOME
 REFRESHMENTS AFTER THE SERVICE**

Reckless Abandon—a true missionary story. Corsham Baptist Church, 13th June, 7.30 p.m.

Mothers' Union:
 Wednesday 3 July 2.30pm - afternoon tea in Cathy's garden (28 Greenhill, Neston). No meeting in August.

Visit to The Deanery
 Lin is hoping to arrange a visit for the Team to her new school in Swindon, The Deanery, which opens in September. Potential dates are July 15, 17, 18 or 19. Lin needs indicative numbers to know whether to hire a coach or a minibus! There will be a sign-up list in each church to express interest, or email the Church Office to express interest/date preference. Thanks.

Healing Ministry: an introductory course.
 Marshfield Church, 29 June, 9.30 a.m. to 1.30 p.m. The course is free but places are limited to 25 so book as soon as possible:
deanerysec@btinternet.com The course will use materials produced by the Acorn Christian Healing Foundation www.acornchristian.org

Faith in Dementia Conference: 29th June, 2.00-5.30 p.m., Ladyfield Evangelical Church, Hungerdown Lane, Chippenham SN14 0BA. A conference for those wanting to know more about dementia and how to support people living with, or caring for, someone with dementia. Free admission and parking. Booking online at www.pilgrimsfriend.org.uk (click on Events—Upcoming conferences) or 0300 303 1400 1403. Organised by Pilgrims' Friend Society—Christians for Older People

THE TIME IS NOW: Workshops, Walk of Witness and Interfaith Speaker Event
 The Faith for the Climate Network invites you to join us for The Time is Now event and mass lobby of Parliament on Wednesday 26th June. More information on Eventbrite—search the time is now faith event June.

Wiltshire Ride & Stride: Saturday 14th September, launching from St Bart's at 10 a.m. More information, sponsorship forms etc from Nigel Jackson or Fiona Draper /Team Office. Please put the date in your diary!

The Gathering: weekend of Bible teaching, worship and fellowship. June 29th-30th at Corsham School. Organised by Corsham Baptist Church. Details at www.thegatheringweekend.org.uk

Music for Midsummer—Capella Nova concert at Lacock Church, 29th June, 7.30 p.m. Tickets from Judith Blakeney 01249 730649, Lacock Village Store or on the door. In aid of Friends of Lacock Churches and the Teenage Cancer Trust

St Bartholomew's Walking Group
 Please visit http://corshamandlacockchurches.org.uk/?page_id=3898 for some photos of our May walk. We will not be walking in June but you may find a vacancy on the Corsham Walking Festival programme see www.corshamwalkingfestival.org.uk Our next walk will be on **Friday, 5th July**, further details to follow.
 Colin 0757 044 2307

DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE: Items for the next issue should be submitted not later than **SUNDAY 30th June 2019.** Email to: news@corshamandlacockchurches.org.uk or drop in to Church House, or leave a message on 01249 701720.
 If you would like to receive Church News by email each month then please send a request to the above email address.