



# CHURCH NEWS

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

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

September 2019

## CHURCH SERVICES

### Sunday September 1 —Trinity 11

- 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

### Sunday September 8 —Trinity 12

- 8.00 a.m. Holy Communion at Corsham
- 9.00 a.m. Early Birds at Corsham  
Breakfast Service at Neston
- 10.00 a.m. Morning Worship at Corsham and Gastard  
Holy Communion at Neston
- 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion at Lacock
- 6.00 p.m. Contemplative Prayer at Corsham

### Sunday September 15 —Trinity 13

- 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  
Morning Worship at Neston
- 10.30 a.m. Family Service at Lacock
- 12.15 p.m. Baptism at Corsham
- 4.00 p.m. Church@4 at Neston
- 6.00 p.m. Evensong at Corsham

### Sunday September 22 —Trinity 14/Harvest

- 8.00 a.m. Holy Communion at Corsham
- 10.00 a.m. Harvest Family Service at Corsham**
- 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion at Lacock
- 10.30 a.m. Harvest Family Communion at Neston**
- 12 noon Baptism at Neston
- 6.00 p.m. Holy Communion with prayers for healing  
at Corsham
- 6.00 p.m. Harvest Evensong at Gastard**

### Sunday September 29 - St Michael and All Angels/ Harvest

- 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. Harvest All-age service at Lacock**
- 6.30 p.m. Harvest Holy Communion at Bowden  
Hill**

### Sunday October 6 —Trinity 16

- 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
- 12.15 p.m. Baptisms at Corsham

## THE RECTOR WRITES...

This issue of Church News will be coming out the week after our Team Holy Communion with Bishop Viv the day after the feast day of St Bartholomew the Apostle.

The use of the title Saint perhaps suggests that there is a two tier system in place: sainthood for a small number of first class Christians, and standing room only for the rest of us in second class.

As the hymn 'For all the saints' puts it, 'we feebly struggle, they in glory shine', reflecting the view that the saints are those who have gone before us into heaven after death. So maybe saints are super-spiritual Christians we cannot possibly hope to be like, or they are already in heaven.

But that does not reflect the New Testament understanding of sainthood. The apostle Paul would probably have been horrified to think there was a saint's day named after him. He encourages the church in Ephesus to 'keep on praying for all the saints'. He could not mean the Saints with a capital S that we celebrate today, as the church had not begun to create Saints at that stage. No, what he was referring to was those whom God had called to be his people, that is, all Christians.

So in fact we are all called to be saints who follow Jesus. No matter how humble or ordinary our backgrounds, we too can follow Christ. No matter what mistakes we have made, we can be forgiven by Jesus. And no matter how unremarkable we are, we can still do remarkable things for Jesus through his presence and power at work in us.

We have the help of God's Holy Spirit and the comfort of being surrounded by a great cloud of saints who have gone before us into heaven and are willing us on towards the finish line of the Christian race.

So as we begin a new season of the year following the summer holiday period 'let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith' (Hebrews 12:2), so that we do not grow weary and lose heart, no matter what we experience as we follow him.

*With love in Christ,  
Andrew*

**Deanery CE Academy:** please keep in your prayers Lin Culling and all her team as the Deanery opens its doors to its first pupils on 4th September.

**Team Rector:** Revd Dr Andrew Johnson  
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**Team Administrator:** Fiona Draper (Church Office)

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715551 *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](mailto:office@corshamandlacockchurches.org.uk)

**Lectionary readings for September**  
**September 1st:** Proverbs 25: 6-7; Hebrews 13: 1-8, 15-16; Luke 14.1, 7-14  
**September 8th:** Deuteronomy 30: 15-end; Philemon 1-21; Luke 14: 25-33  
**September 15th:** Exodus 32: 7-14; 1 Timothy 1: 12-17; Luke 15: 1-10  
**September 22nd** (Trinity 14): Amos 8: 4-7; 1 Timothy 2: 1-7; Luke 16: 1-13  
**September 22nd/29th** Harvest: Deuteronomy 26: 1-11; Philippians 4: 4-9; John 6: 25-35  
**September 29th** St Michael & All Angels: Genesis 28: 10-17; Revelation 12: 7-12; John 1: 47-end;  
**October 6th:** Habakkuk 1.1-4, 2: 1-4; 2 Timothy 2: 1-14; Luke 17: 5-10; reading for Pilgrim course Amos 5: 21-24

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

**Corsham Mothers' Union**  
 Wednesday 4 September 2.30pm in St Bart's Church: Mothers' Union Wave of Prayer. Our "Wave of Prayer" is a continuous expression of our commitment in prayer to each other. It runs through the year so that the work and members of each and every area in the world in which Mothers' Union is active is prayed for at some point and we also include this in our Midday Prayers. We will be praying especially for our Link Dioceses of Pacong in South Sudan, Southern Nyanza in Kenya, Kutigi and Ijesha North in Nigeria, and Karnataka Central in India. This year our theme is "Listen, observe, act - in step with God." As we pray for our projects, please could everyone bring some food for the Refugees or the Food Bank to be offered during the service. Members and non members are welcome to join us. Cathy Reynolds, Corsham MU branch leader

**NEW ALL AGE SERVICE AT NESTON**  
 Starting this month there will be an additional service at Neston. This informal service for all the family will take place every second Sunday of the month at 9.00am, and consists of a short service in church followed by a light breakfast in the church vestibule, and the opportunity to contribute to the beginning of the 10.00am service in church.

**Lead theft:** we have been warned by the Diocese that lead thieves are at work in the north Wiltshire area—even Malmesbury Abbey has been targeted. We would be most grateful if anyone seeing suspicious activity at any of our churches would call the police. Thank you.

Peacock Arts Trail at St Cyriac's Oct 5-12

**Wiltshire Ride & Stride**  
**Saturday 14th September,**  
**launching from St Bart's at 10 a.m.**  
**with the Lord Lieutenant of Wiltshire**

Ride & Stride is a fun event for walkers and riders of any age and ability. The route should visit a church(es) and can be as ambitious as 'around Corsham or Lacock' to an epic pilgrimage within Wiltshire. Ride & Stride is a county-wide event with visitors coming to the churches in our Team from far and wide across Wiltshire. Ride & Stride is also a fundraising event, the only one in the year that goes towards grants from the Wiltshire Historic Churches Trust and the chosen church of each fundraising participant on a 50/50 split. In the recent past, both St Bart's and St Cyriac's have benefited from grants. It is also an opportunity to seek funding from outside the immediate congregation through sponsorship from friends and associates. If you'd like to be involved and don't have an organiser at your church, please contact the Team Office.

- Please support this worthy cause by:
- attending the official start of the event at 10 a.m. hand joining in the group photograph - everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend;
  - volunteering to Ride or Stride – please sign up and take a sponsorship form. A short planned walk around some of the Team churches and countryside will be completed by 2pm at the latest.
  - Volunteering to take a turn as the Reception for Riders and Striders who visit our churches;
  - Inviting friends in the wider community to join us for the start and any activities they feel able to join.

More information, sponsorship forms etc from Nigel Jackson [nigel.jackson29@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:nigel.jackson29@hotmail.co.uk) or 07730 001290 or Fiona Draper /Team Office.

St Bart's Hobbies & Crafts exhibition in church, 14th Sept, 10.30 a.m. to 4 p.m. ; refreshments available.  
 Red Bandits concert at St Bart's, 28th September 7.30 p.m. tickets from Corsham Bookshop or L'nora Olney 01225 859202

**Visual Theology conference**, 21-22 Sept, Marlborough College, see <https://www.visualtheology.org.uk/> for details

**St Bartholomews's Walking Group**  
 Our August walk celebrated a century of walks since this august group started in 2011. Eighteen walkers mostly dodged the showers on a five mile walk starting from Neston, then to Whitley, Purlpit and a return to the Neston Country Inn for a very good lunch. Some photos are on the Team website. Our September walk will be part of the St Bart's involvement in 'Ride and Stride' on Saturday, 14<sup>th</sup>; please do support this very worthwhile fund raising event.  
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