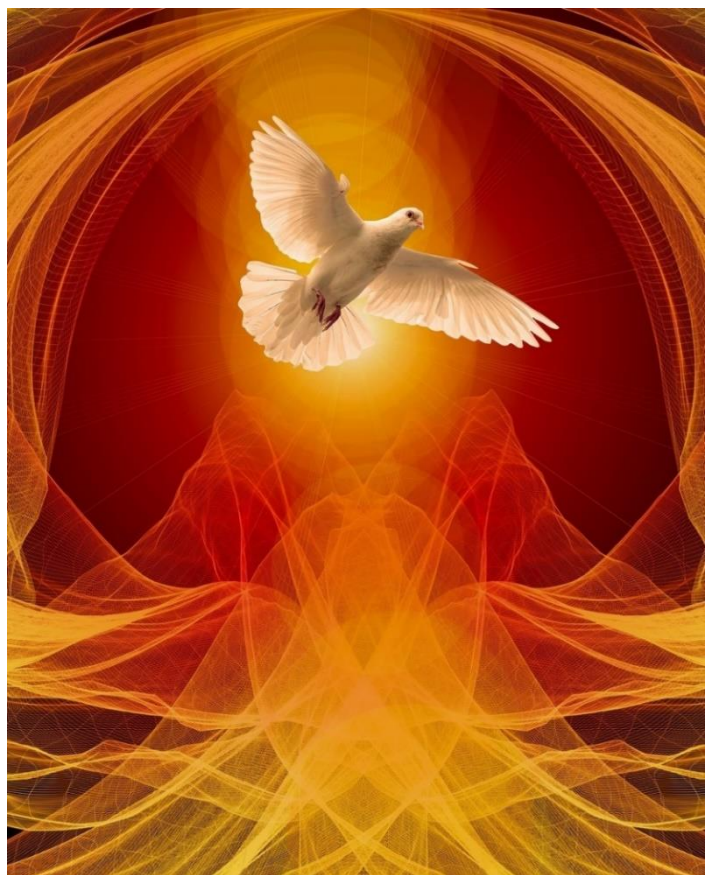


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***The Churches of the
Ridgeway Benefice***

***Childrey & West Challow
Kingston Lisle & Sparsholt
Letcombe Regis
Letcombe Bassett***



MAY 2024



Revd Ness Brunner-Ellis
Rector, Ridgeway Benefice
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Message from the Rector:

Eastertide is a wonderful opportunity to remind ourselves of beliefs which are central to the Christian faith and one of these relates to the words Jesus spoke to his disciples when he shared his 'Last Supper' with them: as bread and wine were given to the disciples, Jesus said "do this in remembrance of me". Over 2000 years later we still say these same words as we re-enact the Last Supper during our services of Holy Communion. Some people refer to this as a great mystery – something we can't fully understand and when children come to church, I invite them especially to join me at the Altar during the Communion Prayers so that they can see more of what's happening, de-mystify a bit - and hopefully help them to feel more of a sense of belonging. You don't have to believe anything to belong to your church: we, like little children, can't fully understand the great mysteries of any religion, but absolutely everyone is welcome, whether you believe, or whether you don't. Church must never be a club for those who think they know and understand everything: the church is for everyone and your church is here for you. You are very warmly invited to come and see for yourself...

SUNDAY 5TH MAY at 4pm **Church of the Holy Rood Sparsholt**

Come and join us for Bubbles, Beers & Bites to hear ideas for restoring and renewing *your* Church

ROOD presents a 'once in a lifetime' opportunity and this event is the chance for you to contribute **your** ideas and help influence its eventual outcome... If you're unable to come on the day, there will be a 'suggestions' box in the church porch or you can talk to the Churchwardens Ian and Ruth

Everyone is invited to celebrate the wonderful Feast of Pentecost!

Pentecost, on the 50th day of Easter, recalls the extraordinary story of the coming of the Holy Spirit on the disciples.

We celebrate with the vibrant colours of red, gold, yellow and orange symbolising the 'tongues of fire' of the Holy Spirit, which enabled the disciples to spread the good news of Jesus across the nations in different languages.

Come dressed in your favourite colour and hear the Pentecost story,
Sunday 19th May at 10.15

in St Mary's Childrey, with special activities for children.

Sunday 12th May 6pm Hymns and Pimm's returns to St Mary's

We'll be singing favourite hymns chosen by our local village organisations and enjoying a glass or two of Pimm's afterwards.

Two new groups - once a month on Tuesday evenings, starting 7th May



Faith Matters 6-7pm informally in The Greyhound. Grab a drink and meet with the Rector and others discussing anything about faith that you might want to talk about. This is also a chance to ask any questions - to which there may not be answers...

Everyone from across the Ridgeway villages is very welcome to join us.

Bible Study 7.30pm-8.30 pm in The Rectory, exploring various books of the Bible. Everyone welcome; please ask Ness, the Rector, for more details.

PARISH REGISTERS

The Baptisms of Oliver Nelson on 7th April in Kingston Lisle and of Hector, Hebe and Xanthe Preston on 21st April in Childrey

There will be a **Memorial service** for Pat Winsley in St Mary's Childrey on Saturday 18th May at 2pm; everyone welcome.

Ridgeway Baby Group

Ridgeway Baby Group in Childrey Methodist Church for babies under 1 and their mums, dads or other carers, meets each Monday 10:00 – 11:30 for an informal chat, coffee and play.

If you would like to come along, please register by contacting mirandajmarsh@btinternet.com. Volunteers are also welcome.

Forthcoming events:

Sunday 2nd June 2.00-4.30pm Letcombe Bassett Gardens Open: a number of Gardens in the village will be open for visitors, along with a Flower Festival in the church and Teas in the Village Hall. Proceeds are shared between the village and the church. This is our biggest fund-raising event and it only comes around every two years so don't miss it!

Saturday 22nd June 2-6 pm Childrey Village Fete in aid of St Mary's.

Wednesday 5th June in the evening - Morris Men and Pizzas in Childrey

SUM UP machines: Most of our Churches now have the facility to receive monetary gifts electronically on Sundays (also known as the Offertory) so if you forget to bring cash with you, you can donate by card!

Sunday Services

| | 5 th May | Thursday 9 th May | 12 th May | 19 th May | 26 th May |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|---|------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|
| | Rogation Sunday | Ascension Day | Easter 7 | Pentecost | Trinity Sunday |
| West Challow | | Benefice Holy Communion 6:30pm St Laurence West Challow | 4pm Holy Communion | Celebration Benefice Holy Communion with the Methodists 10:15am St Mary's Childrey | 10:15am Worship & Prayer |
| Childrey | 08:30am Holy Communion | | | | |
| Kingston Lisle | 10:15am Holy Communion | | | | |
| Sparsholt | | | | | 10:15am Holy Communion |
| Letcombe Regis | | | 10:15am Holy Communion | | 10:15am Worship & Prayer |
| Letcombe Bassett | 10:15am NB Holy Communion | | | | |

Morning Prayer for May using the C of E Daily Prayer App

| Letcombe Bassett 9:15am | Kingston Lisle 9:15am | Childrey 10am | Letcombe Regis 9:15am | West Challow 9:15am | Sparsholt 10am |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------|
| 9th | 14th | 8th | 2nd | 7th | 1st |
| 23rd | 28th | 22nd | 16th | 21st | 15th |
| | | | 30th | | 29th |

Every Monday

10:30am Informal Prayers & 3:00pm Said Evensong in St Andrew's Letcombe Regis

Every Wednesday

Benefice Holy Communion 11am in St Andrew's Letcombe Regis

Wednesday 15th May

7:30pm Taizé Service in St Laurence's West Challow

Every Sunday at 9pm

Compline in our own homes

You may wish to use the Compline Prayers which can be found here:

<https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/worship-texts-and-resources/common-worship/daily-prayer/night-prayer-compline>.

or on the Church of England Daily Prayer App

Please send any items for Signpost by the 15th of each month
to the Benefice Administrator at benefice.ridgeway@outlook.com
Items in Signpost do not necessarily reflect the views of the Editor