**St Stephen’s in Fradley Bulletin 6th June 2021**

**1st Sunday after Trinity**

* **Find us on ‘ACNY’:** www.achurchnearyou.comFradleySt.Stephen
* **Face book:** [www.facebook.com/ststephensfradley](http://www.facebook.com/ststephensfradley)
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**St Stephen’s Church is open 10am-3pm daily for private prayer but we urge you to observe** **the hygiene rules and keeping social distancing whilst there.**

**St Stephen’s now has the official NHS COVID19 App for Track & Trace.**

**Please log in when in the building if you have the app downloaded on your phone**.

We can’t help but wonder if the Roadmap will be delayed in its final stage after 21st June and what the new ‘normal’ might be. Whilst we are mixing life seems far from what it was pre- pandemic. It is good to think of what we have missed and count our blessings for what we now have. This Sunday has been designated ‘Music Sunday’ by the Royal School of Church Music. We have the opportunity to say ‘thank you’ to our musicians and singers and those who enhance our worship with their music, in a special service at 10.30am at St Stephen’s.

This coming week has been designated ‘Love your Burial Ground Week’. It is a strange title and perhaps might be better called ‘Churchyards’ week’! Formerly known as Cherishing Churchyards Week, the campaign was launched nine years ago. The aim was to provide support for those charged with the role of looking after burial grounds. Perhaps the most important element is tying the churchyard to the community.

Burial grounds and churchyards have been around for centuries. Serving as a place to remember and commemorate loved ones, visiting a churchyard can be an emotional experience for many people. The responsibility of tending to burial grounds often falls to people who have inherited the role of previous generations. We have a fascinating churchyard with its Commonwealth War Graves and the long association of St Stephen’s with RAF Lichfield. This year a new wildflower strip has been planted alongside the wildlife area. Our Churchyard Gang has begun a regular monthly tidy up to assist the regular members who work in it. We are grateful to them all.

Have you ever taken a tour of your local churchyard or thought about what it takes to maintain a burial site packed with lichen-covered stones and historic monuments? Explored the history of the War Graves? Take the Prayer Trail around the churchyard (leaflets in the porch) or sit awhile on one of the newly positioned benches.

Perhaps this is an area that interests you, or maybe you’d like to do your bit to help out those who already volunteer? Love Your Burial Ground Week is a chance to learn more about the history of your local area, to get to know new people and to explore churchyards with a fresh perspective. Hope to see you there! Please introduce yourself….. Elizabeth

 Please do contact us if you have any prayer requests. Morning Prayer (said privately by the clergy) and Sunday Services all include prayers, for the world, for the church, for the community and for individuals. If you would like us to pray for anyone please get in touch.

**A Prayer for the 1st Sunday after Trinity**

God of truth,

help us to keep your law of love

and to walk in ways of wisdom,

that we may find true life

in Jesus Christ your Son. Amen.

**Readings:** Genesis 3. 8-15 2 Corinthians 4. 13-5.1 Mark 3. 20-end

**The Diary**

**7th-13th June Love your Burial Ground Week and Carers Week 2021**

# Sunday 6th June 9am Holy Communion (BCP- Traditional)

# 10.30am All Age Service with the Music Group for ‘Music Sunday’

Join us in clebrating the role of music and musicians in church life.

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**RSCM Music Sunday — 6th June 2021**

**The Big Music Sunday Service  
brought to you from Lichfield Cathedral,**

**Sunday 6th June 6pm BST**

Music will be led by Lichfield Cathedral Choir under the direction of the Cathedral’s Director of Music Ben Lamb, with additional contributions from Wade Street Church Lichfield and a special recording by the Self Isolation Choir of the competition-winning Music Sunday 2021 anthem, *God of all creation.*

Join in the service on their [YouTube channel](https://www.youtube.com/user/RSCMCentre)

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**Tuesday 8th June** **12 noon Funeral of** **Andrew Sydney Smith**

followed by burial in the churchyard

**Wednesday 8th June 10am start. Churchyard Gang** offer help in tidying the churchyard

**Tuesday 15th June 11:30 - 1pm  Dementia Friendly Churches Local Network Meeting**

**by Zoom** for South Staffs and Black Country (Wolverhampton / Walsall / Lichfield / Tamworth)   
Join Zoom Meeting  
[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87320205975?pwd=cVdEN1B5UW4rTzd2YWtoU1BZMzJnUT09](https://anglican.us19.list-manage.com/track/click?u=7ecd8a7c6763520b64f3c32db&id=b14a6989b7&e=da7bac3947) Meeting ID: 873 2020 5975 Passcode: DFC

**Wednesday 7th July 2-4pm Wednesday Welcome –** our very own Places of Welcome drop in resumes! Do join us for tea and cake, chat and hospitality in church.

Thank you to those who have offered to continue hosting this important weekly event. Some extra help is needed, however, as we feel it is necessary to have two hosts at each session. We would be grateful if you feel you can give a couple of hours of your time once every 6-8 weeks. For more details or discussion on the duties of the role, please get in touch with Dot Giles 07767 43477

**Thank You!**  

An enormous thank you from me for the surprise celebration of my birthday and the generosity in your gifts to me. I felt quite overwhelmed by it all and thank you for you kindness for the birthday gifts; I will certainly enjoy spending on the garden! *Elizabeth*

**Several have asked what events are planned as restrictions ease.**

**This is what we hope to offer…. Save the dates!**

**St Stephen’s Church Fradley**

**Upcoming Events ……….for your Diary**

(all subject to lifting of further restrictions!)

**Saturday 24th July 2.30-4.30pm Garden Party/ Strawberry Tea**

**Saturday 9th October 7-10pm Harvest Supper with Licensed Bar**

**Saturday 6th November 9.30-11.30am Bonfire Big Breakfast**

**Sunday 28th November 1pm Christmas Dinner**

**at Darnford Moors Golf Club (TBC)**

**Sunday 19th December 4pm Lessons and Carols**

**with Fradley Community Choir (TBC)**

***Food Bank***

### *We continue to support the Food bank. There is a constant need. Thank you to all who keep donating. Urgently needed food items*

* Long-life milk
* Tinned rice pudding
* Tinned custard
* Tinned tomatoes

**All donations may be left in the box at the back of Church.**

**Can you help to support St Stephens Church?**

**St Stephens Church is heavily dependent on voluntary donations and income from events in order to fulfil its ministry to the local and wider communities. The continuing pandemic is having a material impact on our income. If you feel able, and would like to support us at this time, donations can be made via our Just Giving page or by text. With our huge thanks and appreciation!**

**https://www.justgiving.co m/fundraising/ststephensfradley**

**Text - 21FRADLEY to 70085 followed by an amount,**

**e.g. to donate £10 – text 21FRADLEY10**

**Texts cost the amount of your donation plus one standard rate message.**

EAW 5th June 2021