**Church notices for the parishes of St John the Baptist, Ruardean, Holy Jesus Lydbrook and Holy Trinity Drybrook,**

These notices are also available on [www.achurchnearyou](http://www.achurchnearyou).com or just google - Ruardean Church, Drybrook Church or Lydbrook church, to locate ‘achurchnearyou.

**THIS SUNDAY – 27 July 2025**

**6th.  Sunday after Trinity,**

**10.30am. Benefice Service of Holy Communion at Drybrook, followed by refreshments in the School Room.**

12.30pm – 4pm. Great Oaks Hospice fund raiser, Strawberries and Cream & Open Garden Afternoon at The Barn, Lower Lane, Five Acres.

**SERVICES & EVENTS THIS WEEK**

Morning prayer Monday, Tuesday. 8am. via Brookdean Benefice facebook

**Wednesday 30th. July 2.30pm** Service of Holy Communion for residents at the Euroclydon care home. We are expecting about 10 of the residents who have been church members in the past to attend. It would be lovely if each resident could have a member of the congregation to sit with them. If you think you could help please speak to Clare

**Thursday 31st. July 2.30pm. Drybrook Church.** Funeral of Maureen Delaney, resident on Harrow Hill until 2 years ago.

**NEXT SUNDAY 3 August 7th  Sunday after Trinity.**

**10.30am. Benefice Service of Holy Communion at Lydbrook.**

**1pm–4pm Summer Fayre, in the grounds of Great Oaks Hospice, The Gorse, Coleford, GL16 8QE, to be opened by The Teddy Bear Ladies, Julie and Amanda from BBC’s The Repair Shop.**  Stalls, Games Food, Music and a chance to stroll their gorgeous gardens which they say , ‘are so nice, even the gnomes behave!

**4pm. Lydbrook Band Riverside concert – free event.** Wet weather option Lydbrook Church.

**FUTURE CHURCH EVENTS**

**Sunday 10.30am. service venues –**

10th. August – 8th. after Trinity – Ruardean

17th. August – 9th. after Trinity – Drybrook

24th. August – 10th. after Trinity – Lydbrook

31st. August – 11th. after Trinity – Ruardean

**Funerals.**

**11.30am. Wednesday 6th. August. Ruby Moore - Drybrook church** followed by cremation.

**11am. Friday 8th. August - Olwen Asten – English Bicknor Church.** followed by burial in the churchyard. Bob was buried in the churchyard and Olwen was born in English Bicknor. Family flowers only with donations in Olwen's memory please to the Great Western Air Ambulance. Refreshments afterwards at English Bicknor village hall.

**1pm. Saturday 9th. August – Avril Wonnacott – Ruardean church** followed by burial at Coleford natural burial ground.

**11.30am. Tuesday 19th. August – Michael Wilkinson, FOD crematorium.**

**Meeting of Deanery Synod. Thursday 18th. September 7 for 7.15pm. at bream Church Centre.** This is an open meeting for all Anglican church congregations across the deanery. If you want to be informed and involved in the future shape and life of the local church do plan to come along. Agenda to be circulated nearer the time.

**Sunday 23 November at 3pm.** Diocesan farewell service for Archdeacon Hilary, in the Cathedral.

**BIRTHDAYS –**

Birthday greetings to all who are celebrating this week.

Monday 28th. David Parker turns 80!

Thursday 31st. Andrew Roberts.

**NOTICES**

KEEPING OUR CHURCHES OPEN

Ruardean and Drybrook churches will normally be open 10am – 4pm daily. N.B. Drybrook will not be open this Monday.

**COMMUNITY NOTICES**

**Weekly events**

Thursdays 10.30- 12.30p. Coffee cake and conversation at Ruardean Hill and Woodside coffee mornings. Woodside village hall.

Fridays 10am. -12noon. Coffee, cake and conversation. Ruardean warm space. Ruardean Memorial Hall. Post office van outside from 10 -11am.

**One offs.**

**Wednesday 20 August 2pm. -10.30pm. ORCHARD FEST 2025,** at the Orchard Trust small holding, Upper Stowfield, GL17 9PD.

An inclusive and accessible music festival. Live music, Food vendors, Licensed bar. Tickets from, https://skiddle.com.e/40712425

**Bank Holiday Monday 25 August. 1pm – 5pm.** Lydbrook Tump Fun Day. An afternoon of fun and games organised by the Lydbrook Tump Committee. Look forward to traditional fun activities, including a medieval fruit machine!

**Gaza.**

We now have prayer stations in all our churches, opportunities to stop, pause and pray for the people of Gaza and all victims of genocide. Write your prayer on a cut out dove, make an origami dove or crane, or leave whatever else you would like as a symbol of your prayer for peace. (Materials provided but do feel free to bring something you’ve made at home.)

There will also be a plate for monetary donations to Embrace which will continue for the next 3 months across our churches – pleaser donate as you are able, everything helps.

THE STAMP FELLOWSHIP - collection of used and unused stamps in aid of embrace for Gaza. Standard stamps, special issue stamps, UK and overseas stamps, historic stamps and stamp collections. Unlike the normal stamp collections, where bin bags full of stamps are auctioned for as little as £6 a bag, a voluntary stamp enthusiast, sorts all stamps and identifies those which are more valuable. This raises much-needed funds, the Stamp Fellowship has raised over £21,000 in the last four years. A box for stamps will be available in churches at Sunday services.

What else can we do as we seek to respond to this and other genocides –

Pray, give, write to MPs……………………….

COULD YOU BE A SCHOOL GOVERNOR? Ruardean Church of England Primary School is looking to recruit new members to the governing body. This is a lovely way to support our local families, children and staff. If you are interested and would like to know more of what it involves please speak to Clare or Tony.

**FOR OUR PRAYERS**

We continue to pray for the people of Gaza, for the many across the world who are actively seeking an end to the violence and justice for all people.

We pray for those desperately trying to get humanitarian aid into the most needy places and those who put their lives at risk to serve the needs of those around them.

We for our Christian brothers and sisters around the world.

For those charged with discerning who the next archbishop of Canterbury will be.

We pray for Archdeacon Hilary as she looks forward to time to pause, to rest, to pray, to reflect, to discern the right next chapter in her life and ministry.

We pray for all archdeacons in the particular ministry which is theirs.

We pray for our local communities, for all who are on holiday here in the Forest of Dean, that the beauty of creation may bring healing and wholeness to all. We pray too for local people taking time away from work that they may find refreshment.

We pray for those whose responsibility for others makes taking a break difficult.

We pray for those who are unwell and for all who have asked for our prayers, especially Dave M, Tom Wynn, Chris, Lisa, Janet, Glyn, Doris, Dorothy, Sweetie, David P, Dave P, Jean Austin, and any others known to us.

We pray for all who are bereaved and those who have died in recent days especially Maureen Delaney, Ruby Moore, Olwen Asten, Avril Wonnacott, Neil Maishman, Michael Wilkinson,

See attached doc. for Sunday readings.