 **ST MICHAEL’S, HOLBROOK**

# **PARISH NEWSLETTER July/August 2025**

**The Benefices of Christ Church Belper & All Saints’ Turnditch, St John the Evangelist Hazelwood** **&** **St Michael’s Holbrook, Heage & Ambergate.**

*At St Michael’s, as followers of Jesus Christ, we wish to share friendship and the love of God with all whom we meet and support one another.’*

**CONTACT DETAILS:**

**PRIEST-IN-CHARGE:** Revd. Rachel Burdett CJN Tel: 07340 990483, revrachelcjn@gmail.com (Day off Monday)

**WARDEN:** John Maxwell-Jones 01332 679632/07890 241 673 johnmaxj@icloud.com

For any concerns re safeguarding please contact John Maxwell-Jones.

***From our Priest in Charge***

Rachel writes . . .

As I write this in the middle of June, the weather has become sunny and warm, with the evening  weather forecasts  warning that the temperature could reach the high twenties in the next few days. While the temperatures in Tokyo were much higher, regularly hitting mid-thirties from June to September, we had the benefit of air conditioning, and a whole host of other ways to keep cool. Everyone used a handheld fan, and women often carried parasols. As the heat increases in August, it is the custom to send postcards to friends, to encourage them during the long, hot and humid days of summer. These postcards sometimes have pictures of windchimes or bowls of refreshing shaved ice, but it is also  quite normal to send postcards depicting penguins or polar bears - icy scenes to help you feel cooler.

As I remembered this, I started to think about how what we look at and focus on can affect how we feel. As a teacher, I knew that too much red whiteboard marker would make everyone’s eyes tired, and that looking at anything green is relaxing. And just as we need to think about things like that to take care of our eyes, we need to also take care of our hearts and minds. This is particularly true of what we choose to look at online, or how much news we watch or read. The world is an extremely troubling place at the moment, and much of what we see on the news is distressing.

As Christians, what can we do? Since we are called to love our neighbour, what do we do  about our neighbours who are suffering in other countries? And how do we love our neighbours, wherever they may be in the world, when they cause the suffering of others? These are challenging and frustrating questions. There are many possible responses - making donations, getting involved politically, boycotting companies - but people of faith (not only Christians) have a unique response in prayer. I often mention a favourite Desmond Tutu quote: *Do your little bit of good where you are; it's those little bits of good put together that overwhelm the world.*

In the same way, we can all join together in prayer for the world - for the broken places, for all who suffer, for people and situations we see around us, and for the heartbreaking things we see or read in the news. In prayer we draw nearer to God, we nurture our relationship with him, and all our prayers unite with everyone else’s - what an amazing thing that is! As God taught Julian of Norwich about prayer in one of her revelations:

*Pray inwardly, even if it seems to give you no pleasure. It is bringing great benefit, even if you do not perceive it. Pray inwardly, even if you sense nothing, see nothing, even if you think you are achieving nothing. For it is in dryness and emptiness, in sickness and weakness, that your prayer pleases me most. Don't you see? Your whole life is a prayer in my eyes.*

Blessings,

Rachel CJN

**ROTA OF SERVICES FOR JULY / AUGUST 2025**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Date** | **Church** | **Time** | **Service** | **Read/****Welcome** |
| **13 July** | Colossians 1:1-14; Luke 10:1-10, 16-20 |
| **4th Sunday after Trinity** | **Holbrook**AmbergateHazelwoodHeageChrist Church, BelperTurnditch |  **11.00** 09.30 09.30 09.30 18.30 11.00 | **Parish Eucharist**Holy CommunionParish EucharistMorning serviceBCP EvensongSung Parish Mass**No service** | **Sue S** |
| **20 July** | Colossians 1:15-28; Luke 10:38-42 Ps 15 |  |
| **5th Sunday after Trinity** | **Holbrook**AmbergateHazelwoodHeageChrist Church, BelperTurnditch | **11.00**09.3011.0009.3018.3011.0009.30 | **Choral Mattins**Holy CommunionParish EucharistMorning serviceBCP EvensongParish EucharistParish Eucharist | **Penny & Richard B** |
| **27 July** | Colossians 2:6-15; Luke 11:1-13 |  |
| **6th Sunday after Trinity** | **Holbrook**AmbergateChrist Church, BelperHeageHazelwoodTurnditch | **11.00**09.3011.0009.3018.3009.3009.30 | **Parish Eucharist** Morning service (Methodists)Sung Parish MassMorning ServiceBCP EvensongParish EucharistNo service | **Jonathan S** |
| **3 August** | Colossians 3:1-11; Luke 12:13-21 |
| **7th Sunday after Trinity** | **Holbrook**HazelwoodHeageChrist Church, BelperTurnditchAmbergate | **11.00** 11.0009.3018.3011.0009.30 | **Morning Prayer (t.b.c.)**Parish EucharistCommunionBCP EvensongSung Parish MassParish EucharistNo service | **Pauline W** |
| **10 August** | Hebrews 11:1-3,8-16; Luke 12:32-40 |
| **8th Sunday after Trinity** | **Holbrook**AmbergateHazelwoodHeageChrist Church, BelperTurnditch |  **11.00** 10.30 09.30 09.30 18.30 11.00 09.30 | **Parish Eucharist** CommunionParish EucharistMorning ServiceBCP EvensongSung Parish MassNo service | **Chris & Jean L** |
| **17 August** | Hebrews 11:29-12:2; Luke 12:49-56 |
| **9th Sunday after Trinity** | **Holbrook**HazelwoodHeageChrist Church, BelperTurnditchAmbergate | **10.45** 11.0009.3018.3011.0009.30 | **Morning Service at HMMC.**Parish EucharistCommunionBCP EvensongSung Parish MassParish EucharistNo service |  |
| **24 August** | Hebrews 12:18-end; Luke 13:10-17 |
| **10th Sunday after Trinity** | **Holbrook**AmbergateHazelwoodHeageChrist Church, BelperTurnditch |  **11.00** 10.30 09.30 09.30 18.30 11.00 09.30 | **Parish Eucharist** CommunionParish EucharistMorning ServiceBCP EvensongSung Parish MassNo service | **Mark B** |
| **31 August** | Hebrews 13:1-8,15-16; Luke 14:1,7-14 |
| **11th Sunday after Trinity** | **Hazelwood** | **11.00**  | **United Benefice Parish Eucharist** |  |
| **7 Sept.** | Philemon 1:1-21; Luke 14:25-32 |
| **12th Sunday after Trinity** | **Holbrook**AmbergateHazelwoodHeageChrist Church, BelperTurnditch |   11.00 09.30 18.30 11.00 09.30 | **No service in the village**Parish EucharistCommunionBCP EvensongSung Parish MassParish Eucharist |  |

**HOLBROOK WI**

Wednesday 6th August – a picnic at St. Michael’s FC

Wednesday 3rd Sept. @ 7.30 - Janet and Paul Barass The Swinging Sixties

Competition. The Sixties Memorabilia

**SAVE THE DATE – SATURDAY 11 OCTOBER – HARVEST LUNCH**

Full details in the September newsletter and Village magazine.

**EVENTS ACROSS THE BENEFICE**

Every Wednesday @ 09.30 Mass at Christ Church

Every Friday from 10.00 till 12 noon Coffee at The Lion, Belper.

Every 1st Saturday, 10.00-12 noon @ St Luke’s, Heage – Coffee and cake.

Every 2nd Thursday @ 1.00 p.m. Prayer group at the Well Kitchen, Hazelwood.

Saturday 2nd August – **Pride in Belper.** Christ Church will have a stall at the event. Please contact Rachel for more details and if you’d like to be involved.

Saturday 2nd August – St Luke’s Heage Games Afternoon – 2.00 to 4.30.

**DISCIPLESHIP**

There have been several enquiries recently about **Adult Baptism**. If you or someone you know was not baptised as a baby and would like to be, please speak to Rachel.

There is an annual **Confirmation service** at the Cathedral in November, and we already have two candidates! If you are not confirmed but would be interested in exploring this further, please speak to Rachel. There will be several sessions to prepare in the autumn.

**Please pray for** the primary schools in our parishes (**Ambergate, Heage, Holbrook, Turnditch & Long Row**) as the Year 6s move on to secondary school and everyone has a well-deserved break over the summer holidays.

**THE NEW VICARAGE**

Rachel is moving to the new vicarage at the beginning of August and will have 2 weeks off from Monday July 28th to August 9th. During this time, please direct any enquiries or issues to your church wardens.

**LOOKING AHEAD**

**Christ Church** marks 175 years since its consecration on 27th July. To celebrate this anniversary there will be an exhibition, Gift Day and cream teas on Saturday 6th September. Running up to this, we would like to have a small display of photos/articles from Christ Church’s past. Please contact Andrew, Derek or Julie if you have any photos, articles or documents relating to Christ Church’s history.

**Saturday September 6th Christ Church** 175th anniversary Exhibition & Gift Day. Afternoon Teas.

**Saturday September 20th** Open Church & Gift Day at **All Saints’, Turnditch**

10am-4pm. Display and refreshments.

**CHRISTMAS GIFT FROM CHURCHES TOGETHER IN BELPER**

This year’s gift, for giving out at the Christmas Lights switch-on is to be **hearts.** They can be knitted, crocheted, sewn, felted or whatever works best for you. The request is that they be between 10 and 15cm long and have a hanging loop at the top please. Collection details nearer the time.

**LIFE EVENTS**

We would love to help you mark key moments in the life of your family. Contact Rachel for more information on christenings, weddings, funerals, house blessings or ways to mark anniversaries.

**FOOD BANK**

The Statons continue to collect at 18 Pond Road each week, taking our contributions down on Tuesday and Friday mornings. You can target your donations by downloading the “BankTheFood” app on your phone and choosing Hope For Belper. It will give you a list of items that are urgently needed.

**REGISTERS**

Nothing to report this month.

*Printed by Moss Office Services, 65 King Street, Belper DE56 1QA 01773 822048*