

Aston Botterell,  
Burwarton,  
Chetton,  
Cleobury North,



Ditton Priors,  
Loughton,  
Neenton,  
Wheathill.

**Revd Joe Simons, Priest in Charge**  
**The Vicarage, Ditton Priors, Shropshire. WV16 6SQ.**  
**01746 599217 / 07872 464276**

*....For the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour....*

***As a Church we pray for those who are ill and in need and for those recently departed and their families.***

### **Our Services**

#### **Sunday 10th August - Trinity 8 (Green)**

9.30am - Holy Communion - Ditton Priors

Revd Val – Hymns 90, 106, 186, 467

11.30am - Holy Communion – Chetton

Revd Val – Hymns 90, 106, 186, 467

#### **Sunday 17th August – Trinity 9 (Green)**

9.30am – Holy Communion – Ditton Priors

Revd Val – Hymns 15, 62, 114, 310

11.30am Holy Communion – Neenton

Revd Val – Neenton's choice

6.00pm – Evening Prayer – Loughton

LMDG – LMDG's choice

#### **Sunday 24th August – Bartholomew the Apostle - Trinity 10 (Red/Green)**

9.30am – Holy Communion –

Ditton Priors - Revd Joe

11.30am – Holy Communion -

Cleobury North - Revd Joe

### **Activities & News** **throughout the Benefice**

more info in Wheatland News or online  
at [www.achurchnearyou.com/Brown-Clee-Benefice](http://www.achurchnearyou.com/Brown-Clee-Benefice)

#### **Thursday 21st August**

Teas in the Churchyard at St. John the Baptist, Ditton Priors. Everyone welcome to come and join in at 3.00pm for delicious cakes and refreshments. Revd Joe's legendary Bric-a-brac stall will also be making an appearance. New stock incoming! A very special afternoon out.

#### **Friday 29th August**

Get together Coffee Morning at Cleobury North Village Hall. A really lovely opportunity to have a catch up, with delicious cakes and a warm welcome.

#### **Saturday 6th September**

First Coffee Morning of the Month at St. John the Baptist, Ditton Priors,  
10.30am – 12.30pm.

Everyone welcome. No charge for entry and lovely refreshments!

Benefice Office: Open Monday & Wednesday 9.30am – 1.30pm

Email: [browncleebenefice@outlook.com](mailto:browncleebenefice@outlook.com)

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### **Collect for the Day**

Almighty Lord and everlasting God,  
we beseech you to direct, sanctify and  
govern both our hearts and bodies in  
the ways of your laws and the works  
of your commandments; that through  
your most mighty protection, both here  
and ever, we may be preserved in  
body and soul; through our Lord and  
Saviour Jesus Christ, who is alive and  
reigns with you, in the unity of the  
Holy Spirit, one God,  
now and for ever.  
**Amen.**

### **Post Communion Prayer**

Strengthen for service, Lord, the  
hands that have taken holy things;  
may the ears which have heard your  
word be deaf to clamour and dispute;  
may the tongues which have sung  
your praise be free from deceit; may  
the eyes which have seen the tokens  
of your love shine with the light of  
hope; and may the bodies which have  
been fed with your body be refreshed  
with the fullness of your life;  
glory to you for ever.  
**Amen.**

### **Readings for Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> of August**

Psalms 50. 1 – 8, 23 – end (or 50. 1 –  
7) 33. 12 – end (or 33. 12 – 21)

### **Isaiah 1. 1, 10 - 20**

The vision of Isaiah son of Amoz, which  
he saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem  
in the days of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, and  
Hezekiah, kings of Judah.

### **The Wickedness of Judah**

Hear the word of the LORD, you rulers of  
Sodom! Listen to the teaching of our God,  
you people of Gomorrah! What to me is  
the multitude of your sacrifices?  
says the LORD; I have had enough of  
burnt-offerings of rams and the fat of fed  
beasts; I do not delight in the blood of  
bulls, or of lambs, or of goats. When you  
come to appear before me, who asked  
this from your hand? Trample my courts  
no more; bringing offerings is futile;  
incense is an abomination to me. New  
moon and sabbath and calling of  
convocation— I cannot endure solemn  
assemblies with iniquity. Your new moons  
and your appointed festivals my soul  
hates; they have become a burden to me,  
I am weary of bearing them. When you  
stretch out your hands, I will hide my eyes  
from you; even though you make many  
prayers, I will not listen; your hands are  
full of blood. Wash yourselves; make  
yourselves clean; remove the evil of your  
doings from before my eyes; cease to do  
evil, learn to do good; seek justice, rescue  
the oppressed, defend the orphan, plead  
for the widow. Come now, let us argue it  
out, says the LORD: though your sins are  
like scarlet, they shall be like snow;  
though they are red like crimson, they  
shall become like wool. If you are willing  
and obedient, you shall eat the good of  
the land; but if you refuse and rebel, you  
shall be devoured by the sword; for the  
mouth of the LORD has spoken.

## **Genesis 15. 1 – 6**

### **God's Covenant with Abram**

After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, 'Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great.' But Abram said, 'O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus? And Abram said, 'You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir.' But the word of the LORD came to him, 'This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir.' He brought him outside and said, 'Look towards heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them.' Then he said to him, 'So shall your descendants be.' And he believed the LORD; and the LORD reckoned it to him as righteousness.

## **Hebrews 11. 1 – 3, 8 - 16**

### **The Meaning of Faith**

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible.

### **The Faith of Abraham**

By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance; and he set out, not knowing where he was going. By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. By faith he received power of procreation, even though he was too

old—and Sarah herself was barren—because he considered him faithful who had promised. Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, 'as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore.' All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

## **Luke 12. 32 - 40**

### **Do Not Worry**

'Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. Sell your possessions, and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

### **Watchful Slaves**

'Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. If he comes during

## **Luke 12. 32 – 40 - continued**

the middle of the night, or near dawn, and finds them so, blessed are those slaves.

‘But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.’



The 15<sup>th</sup> August 1945 commemorates Victory over Japan Day and marked the end of war in the east, and the end of almost six years of devastating, global conflict. This year marks the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

The Royal British Legion will commemorate this at the National Memorial Arboretum, where a Service of Remembrance will honour and remember all those involved. This will be broadcast live on BBC1 from midday. A National two-minute silence will be held at 12 noon to honour the Anniversary.

### **Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> September 2025 Art Exhibition & Craft Fair**

To coincide with the SHCT Ride & Stride, St. John the Baptist will be holding an Art Exhibition and Craft Fair in the church. There will be lots to see and delicious refreshments! If you would like a stall please either contact Marjorie Jones or Emma in the Benefice Office.  
More details to follow!



On Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> August, Ben Upton our amazing Churchwarden at Aston Botterell is cycling a challenging 200 miles in just one day to raise funds and awareness for the increasing costs to upkeep and maintain St. Michael & All Angels Norman Church, the heart of the Community. His target is £750. He would be grateful for any small donation. If you feel able to support Ben please follow this link to the JustGiving page, type in Ben Upton & click on Crowd funders. Thank you so much.  
[justgiving.com](https://www.justgiving.com)

### **Shropshire Historic Churches Trust Ride & Stride Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> September 2025**

Most churches in Shropshire will be open today, and definitely all those in our Benefice! You can be sponsored to walk, ride or drive to visit as many or as few churches as you would like to. It is an opportunity to support our beautiful places of worship as any sponsorship monies raised are split 50/50 between the church and the Shropshire Historic Churches Trust, who have also generously supported many of our own churches by awarding grants to help with maintenance and repair. We are so grateful to them for their continued support. Would you like to join in with others to visit each of the churches in the Brown Clee Benefice?

More details will follow but we are planning a very special route! Please do let Revd Joe, Karen or Emma know if you would like to participate!