

UPDATE



HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN R.I.P

Her Majesty came to the throne three years before I was born. I am deeply saddened by her passing. We all know she wasn't well, but the brief announcement by black clad newscasters on Thursday afternoon was still a most unwelcome shock. I imagine that you will be experiencing the same turmoil that I am experiencing.

Her Majesty has served this nation faithfully and tirelessly for seventy years. She made good, with plenty of extra added, her vow to the country in 1947, six years before she became Queen when she said:

"I can make my solemn act of dedication with a whole Empire listening. I should like to make that dedication now. It is very simple. I declare before you all that my whole life whether it be long or short shall be devoted to your service and the service of our great imperial family to which we all belong."

Her Majesty was a committed Christian. At her first Christmas speech in 1952 she said to us all:

"Pray for me ... that God may give me wisdom and strength to carry out the solemn promises I shall be

making, and that I may faithfully serve Him and you, all the days of my life."

Our prayers for her were answered. She has brought dignity, grace, energy, commitment and wisdom to her role and many times over she has earned the love, respect and admiration of the whole world.

Don't feel sorry for her. She has cast off all the pain and grief of this world, and will be waking up to the noisy joy of heaven, where there is no more sickness, no more crying, no more war. The pain of the moment is ours, not hers, and we'll struggle through our sense of loss. God grant that in our small worlds we are as faithful to God as she was in her larger one.

I leave the last word to Paddington Bear: "Thank you ma'am - for everything!"

A MESSAGE FROM THE BISHOP

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dfTdLD-l6-k>

Wye Brooks Group
UPDATE for 11 September
TRINITY 13
GREEN

TRINITY 13 READINGS

Jeremiah 4;11-12, 22-28

Psalms 14

1 Tim 1:12-17

Luke 15:1-10

FROM THE VICAR
IONA

We've just had a lovely holiday on The Isle of Mull, in Western Scotland. I'd recommend it to anyone who can stand driving long distances and who loves isolation and stunning views. But one of the benefits of going to Mull, as a Christian, is that you can also visit Iona, which is only a ten minute ferry journey away, and for the third time in our lives we did so.



Iona has an abbey and a nunnery about half a mile from the ferry (you can't take cars on the Island so you have to walk!) and goes all the way back to 563 a.d. when St Columba took a dozen monks and founded a monastery there. The community became a focal point for the spread of Christianity through Scotland.

The first buildings were made of wood and thatch, and the first stone chapel was built about 800 a.d. Amongst other things, the Book of Kells is thought to have been produced by Iona's monks. From Iona other monasteries were established in the UK and on the Continent.

But Viking attacks limited the work of the community from around the same date and in the centuries after that so did secular and church politics. Just after 1200 the Benedictines took over the site and added a nunnery but in the mid 1500s the Scottish Reformation led to the collapse of all that and until 1899 the site was in ruins.

But in 1938 Rev Lord George McLeod set up the (ecumenical) Iona Community and work was begun to

(ALTERNATIVE) COLLECT
FOR TRINITY 13

Almighty God,
you search us and know us:
may we rely on you in strength
and rest on you in weakness,
now and in all our days;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

restore the buildings.

You would call Iona a place of pilgrimage. Hundreds of people go to it every day and you can also opt to stay there for a week at a time, participating in the worship and fellowship life of the community.

Its worship is Celtic in style and it has developed its own worship materials.

It's the opinion of the community that God is not properly worshipped while we are divided. The worship and life of the community therefore highlight justice and inclusion, the breaking down of barriers between us and care for the earth. Love for one another trumps great religious and moral principles. It's a big and uncomfortable aim.

Praise God for George McLeod.

THIS WEEK'S LIGHT BITE
AND BISHOP'S MESSAGE

Our Light Bite today is the next in a series—on big words within Christianity. Today's is about Law. Go to https://youtu.be/jO_A7P31yPs

The Bishop's message is about the Route to Fulfilment. Go to <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ctRg40EXrF8>

CHRISTIANITY IN THE NEWS

PRAY FOR LIZ TRUSS



Christian politicians are urging prayers for Liz Truss the new prime minister of the UK.

"Pray for wisdom," said one. "I think there's nothing like wisdom and is the number one thing to pray for," she continued.

Church leaders are encouraging us to pray for her.

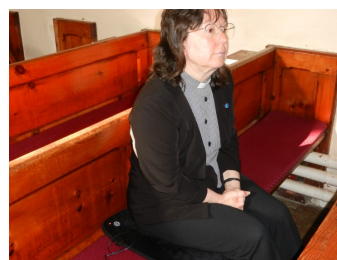
The Archbishop of Canterbury said, "May God guide her, and all who serve in our political life, towards His hope for our nation, and particular care for those who are vulnerable."

These are difficult times, with very serious issues everywhere you look. Pray that she, and her new cabinet, will have the mettle to face them with determination and integrity.

KEEPING WARM IN CHURCH

A parish on the Isle of Man has come up with a way to save money on church energy bills the winter.

They're turning the thermostats down to the minimum and handing out hi-tech heated cushions to individual members of the congregation.



Faced with rising energy prices, the churches at Marown, Foxdale and Baldwin needed a solution that was going to be cost effective and simple. Taking advice, they opted for the cushions, which "are black. They are about a couple of centimetres thick and the size of a normal chair seat.

"You just link the little power pack onto the cushion when somebody wants to use it. The cushion has got an integral button that you press and away you go, you get some heat."

These have been mentioned at Llangrove PCC meetings.

CASE OVERTURNED



A grandmother who was fined after silently praying outside an abortion clinic 76-year-old Rosa Lalor has successfully overturned her fine.

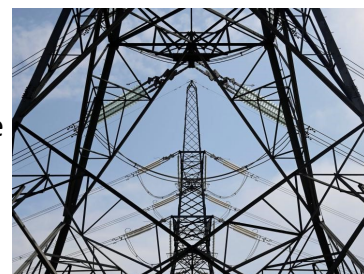
Rosa Lalor, a Roman Catholic from Liverpool, who was wearing a face mask and listening to a prayer app on her headphones when she was stopped by a police officer during coronavirus restrictions, was accused of protesting, and issued with a fixed penalty notice, according to human rights group, ADF UK.

Mrs Lalor fought the fine. She said: "I took this challenge to show that we do all have a fundamental right to pray – not least pray as I did, in the privacy of my own mind. It was wrong for the police officer to tell me that I could not pray in a public street."

There is a move in several cities to outlaw all anti-abortion activity, even prayer and the offering of help, within a hundred yards of abortion clinics. It is part of a worrying trend in law enforcement where individuals are routinely arrested simply because their views are considered to be controversial or offensive,

WINTER OF DESTITUTION?

The charity Christians Against Poverty (CAP) has condemned the rise in the energy price cap as "outrageous" saying it will force millions more people into poverty and lead to a winter of destitution for low-income households.



The energy regulator Ofgem has announced an increase of more than 80 per cent, meaning a typical household energy bill will hit £3,549 a year from 1st October. That's up from the current cap of £1,971 in England, Scotland and Wales.

Emma Jackson, who is CAP's National Director for Scotland told Premier: "It's absolutely devastating to hear these figures. I'm not sure I have the language to accurately convey the depth and the scale of the crisis that we are now facing. "

WHITCHURCH WEEKLY



10.30 every Thursday at St Dubricius Church, Whitchurch

A simple informal half hour communion without a sermon or a collection.

Followed by a cuppa and biscuits.

It has always been open to anyone from both the Wye Reaches and Wye Brooks benefices.

Please do come. Relax and enjoy God's presence with us.

RESPONDING TO THE UKRAINE CRISIS



The Diocese has a web page encouraging us to respond in prayer and action to the ongoing crisis in Ukraine. Go to <https://www.hereford.anglican.org/our-faith/prayers-for-ukraine/>

UKRAINE FOOD COLLECTION

Tinned food is being collected at KTS Craft Warehouse, Trenchard Street, at the bottom of Edde Cross Street in Ross. They have already made deliveries of clothing and medical equipment, and now it is tinned food which is needed, (no glass). Tins - soup, spaghetti, pies, meat, fruit, plus cereal bars.

**JUST TO DELIGHT YOU
FLASH MOB PROPOSAL**
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qH-J72HiRS0>

MINI BIBLE STUDY REASONS TO SHARE YOUR FAITH

1) The Promise (Gen 12:1-3)

God has promised to bless all nations

2) The Purchase (Rev 5:9)

Because Jesus has already purchased people from every tribe and nation with His blood. Our job is only to gather in what is His.

3) The Harvest is plentiful (Matt 9:37)

Nearly half the people in this country claim to have no faith. Only 2-3% attend church regularly.

4) The Labourers are few (Matt 9:37)

Few churchgoers actively talk about their faith. A tiny minority get actively involved in spreading the gospel across the world.

5) The Destiny of the lost (Rom 1; John 3:18; John 14:6)

The Bible gives us no means by which people can be saved other than through active faith in Christ, and no loopholes. Mission is urgent as well as important

6) It's necessary for the message to be heard.

(Rom 10:14-15, Acts 8 (Philip) and 10 (Cornelius)) – Every time someone comes to Christ in Scripture there is a human messenger involved. The Church (Christian people, not the building) is the means. Missions and evangelism are necessary.

CHRISTIAN WISDOM ON MISSION

The work of the Church is not survival. She exists to fulfil the Great Commission.

Brother Andrew

Whatever we do, we must not treat the Great Commission like is the Great Suggestion

Charles Swindoll

Every Christian is either a missionary or an impostor.

Charles Haddon Spurgeon.

SERVICES CALENDAR FOR THE NEXT FEW WEEKS

Date	Time	Place	Service	Leader
Sun 11 September	8.30	Welsh Newton	Benefice Holy Communion	Ben
Sun 11 September	10.00	Marstow	Benefice Holy Communion	Ben
Sun 11 September	10.00	Llangrove	Sunday Praise	Lay led
Sun 18 September	8.30	Welsh Newton	Meditation and Bible Study	Lay led
Sun 18 September	10.00	Llangrove	Benefice Holy Communion	Ben
Sun 18 September	6.00	Llangarron	Evening Prayer	Penny
Sun 18 September	6.00	Goodrich	Harvest Festival/ Supper	Ben
Sun 25 September	10.00	Llangrove	Community Service	Lay led
Sun 25 September	10.00	Marstow	Morning Service	Lay led
Sun 25 September	11.00	Goodrich	Benefice Holy Communion	Ben
Sun 25 September	6.00	Welsh Newton	Harvest Festival	Lay led
Fri 30 September	7.00	Llangarron	Harvest Festival and supper	Ben
Sun 2 October	8.30	Welsh Newton	Meditation and Bible Study	Sue
Sun 2 October	11.00	Llangarron	Benefice Holy Communion	Ben
Sun 2 October	4.30pm	Llangrove	Harvest Festival and supper	Ben
Sun 9 October	8.30	Welsh Newton	Benefice Holy Communion	Ben
Sun 9 October	10.00	Llangrove	Sunday Praise	Wendy
Sun 9 October	11.00	Marstow	Harvest Festival	Ben
Sun 9 October	11.00	Goodrich	Morning service	Revd Jill

LIGHT BITES

For anyone who hasn't tumbled to it yet, a *Light Bite* is a home produced 'event' of about 20 minutes on YouTube. It will consist usually of an introduction, a bible reading, a talk a hymn and a blessing. They are supposed to TEACH something about our faith or CHALLENGE us.

LIGHT BITE THEMES

11th September Big Bible words (5)

18th September Big Bible words (6)

25th September Big Bible words (7)

Today we are on the fifth in a series on Bible words—the words that are difficult to understand.

THIS WEEK'S LIGHT BITE

Law - Law as an encumbrance. God's new Law in Christ.

JARGON BUSTER

SERVICE BOOKS

Book of Common Prayer (BCP)

This is the book with which many of us were brought up. It was published in 1662, but based on one from 1549, compiled by Thomas Cranmer, which was then quickly revised in 1552.

BCP is very wordy, and in fact it's probably a fair comment that it represented religion done to the people in a largely illiterate society rather than by them.

Those who love the Book of Common Prayer love it for its language though, and for the fact that it doesn't change. It is a constant. But BCP itself speaks against that idea, stating that careful change may be necessary.

BCP is the standard worship book of the Church of England. The modern ones are *alternatives* to it.

The Alternative Service Book

From the 1920s there were attempts to update BCP. In 1928 there was one which was published but then rejected by Parliament, and from the 1950s various revisions: Series 1, Series 2, and Series 3. But in 1980 the Alternative Service Book emerged, always as an alternative to BCP rather than a replacement for it. It was authorised for use for twenty years, till 2000. It was a decent attempt, I suppose, but was heavily criticised for being written 'committee language'.

Common Worship

Since 2000 we have been using Common Worship. Linguistically it is much more colourful than ASB and it gives much more flexibility in worship. It's actually a family of books, covering all aspects of the Church's worship. The major problem with it may well be that a book hundreds of pages thick is hardly attractive to occasional churchgoers, but all weekly services are available in booklet form.

PRAYER FOR OTHERS

The UK

- The Royal Family, and especially the King.
- Our new Prime Minister and Cabinet
- Rising prices and the hardship they bring
- The increasingly important work of food banks.

World

- Please continue to pray for the Ukraine, and for Russia
- Pray for China and Taiwan.
- Pray for the US. The political chaos is severe. There is anger at the Roe vs Wade decision, but gun rights and the continued fallout from the last presidential elections continue to split the country.
- Pray too about the famine in East Africa, the migrant problem, threats from nations like North Korea and so on.

Covid.

- Covid is still with us, and of course is still killing people, though not as many.
- Those who have lost loved ones or watched them suffer.
- Those who continue to be isolated by it
- Our NHS

Our churches and clergy

- For the church as its ministry comes into focus following the death of Her Majesty the Queen.
- For right actions leading to sustainability and growth.
- For the prayer life of our churches
- For the hard decisions which will need to be made about clergy numbers.
- For mission mindedness

Our villages

Our pubs, parish councils, local businesses and schools. Pray for all our communities in these difficult times.

Pray for people

Please pray for all those you know who are sick or in particular need, and those facing big changes in life.

- Chris as he continues to recover slowly.
- Geraldine, very unwell and quite weak at the moment
- Ivor, in his nursing home and, if I'm honest, not all that well really.
- Ruth (not Ruth Davis) recovering from stem cell treatment.
- Malcolm—poorly and miserable in hospital
- The family of Nicholas Cole, who died recently
- Karl and Melissa—getting married on Monday
- Jack Weyman and Sami Burford, who will be getting married at Goodrich in two weeks

REGULARS

MAKING A DIFFERENCE—WILLS



Want to make a difference to your local church? Why not leave it something in your will? It's easy to do, and helps what you care about.

COMPANION WORK NEEDED

One of our parishioners would like to find paid work as a companion to someone —cooking, housekeeping, shopping etc. If you or someone you know might be able to offer this kind of work, please leave me a message (01989 770454) and I'll put you in touch when I am back from holiday.

PARISH GIVING SCHEME

We are pushing the Parish Giving Scheme because it is the best way of giving to your Church, not just because of *how little hassle* it is to you, but also because of how *safe and tax efficient* it is, how *easy it is for treasurers to administer* and how it usually does actually *drive the income of churches up*. And GOOD NEWS—you don't even have to fill in a form. You can set it up by phone. By all means ring your church treasurer for details and fill in a form, or call the number below.



The Llangrove Milk Shed at the Village Hall, For farm fresh milk and a few other things like butter, cheese and cake.

Support local businesses!

PARISH GIVING SCHEME

Tel 0333 002 1271

Church	<u>Parish Ref</u>	Church	<u>Parish Ref</u>
Goodrich	180618231	Marstow	180618241
Llangarron	180618239	Llangrove	180618240
Welsh Newton	180618256		



Our local eateries are important, and without our patronage they risk not being able to survive, especially in this climate.

Llangrove - The Royal Arms
Phone **01989 770267**

Goodrich - The Hostelrie
Phone **01600 890241**

Goodrich - The Cross Keys
Phone **01600 890692**

CONTACT

Revd Philip 'Ben' Bentham

Tel 01989 770454

Email benbentham@yahoo.co.uk

If you have suggestions for improving this Update, please do let me know.

CLERGY HOLIDAYS

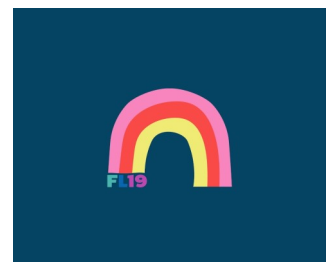
25 October to 6 November

CLERGY DAY OFF

My usual day off is MONDAY

BLESS THE NHS

Thanks to Helen Shipton, who belongs to our Tuesday prayer group, for giving us details of this initiative to provide a bit of support for NHS workers. Do have a look.



<https://www.frontline19.com/hopeline19/>



Instead of the Zoom Prayer Group

A time of reflection and prayer

Tuesday this week

6.30pm

At Christ Church Llangrove

Everyone is invited



Coffee Morning

When? On Wednesday 14th September

Where? At Llangrove Village Hall

What time? 10.30a.m.

Raffle

Bring and Buy and pre-loved sale! Any surplus local garden produce to sell would be gratefully received.

Let's get together as a community to support each other at this time.

in aid of Christ Church funds





Food Bank

St Mary's Welsh Newton want you to know that they have started an informal, voucher-free food bank at the church.

The church is open 24/7

Anyone in need can just slip in and take what they need without having to register anywhere.

Please feel free to gossip this information to anyone whom you think might find it helpful.

Please also feel free to donate food to it yourself.

Thanks.