

St Leonard's Church, Ryton-on-Dunsmore: Newsletter May 2023

Rector: Vacancy
Reader: Mrs Rosemary King
Churchwardens: Mrs Janet Smith
 Mr Mark Jones

Tel No: 01788 573067
Tel No: 02476 306224
Tel No:

SERVICES IN THE BENEFICE: May 2023

DATE	Bubbenhall	Baginton	Ryton
May 7 Third Sunday of Easter.	11.00 a.m: Holy Communion <i>Refreshments afterwards</i>	10.00 a.m: Village Service	9.30 a.m: Parish Communion
May 14 Fifth Sunday of Easter.	5.30 p.m: <i>Evensong with refreshments</i>	10.00 a.m: Holy Communion	9.30 a.m: Village Worship.
May 21: Sixth Sunday of Easter. <i>Rogation Sunday</i>	11.00 a.m: Mattins.	10.00 a.m: Holy Communion.	9.30 a.m: Parish Communion.
May 28: Pentecost (Whit Sunday)	11.00 am: <i>Informal Village Worhip with refreshments</i>	10.00 a.m: Holy Communion.	9.30 a.m: Family Service.
Thursday, May 26 : <i>Ascension Day.</i>			
June 4: Trinity Sunday	11.00 a.m: Holy Communion	10.00 a.m: Village Service	9.30 a.m: Parish Communion
June 12:	5.30 p.m: Evensong	10.00 a.m: Holy Communion	9.30 a.m: Village Worship.
June 16: Corpus Christi			

The Wednesday celebrations of Holy Communion are temporarily suspended.

Services in our three parishes following the retirement of the Revd. David Wintle.

Now that we have no parish priest, we are having to implement a temporary/ interim schedule of services. We are aiming to hold one service each Sunday in each church, but we have had to suspend weekday services until further notice. The schedule above shows what services we shall endeavour to hold in each parish, but we are finding it extremely difficult to recruit clergy to officiate. You will see that the times of the services are mainly what you are used to, (but note changed times on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month at Bubbenhall) and we shall be continuing to offer coffee and tea after the services where this is customary. If a priest is unfortunately not available, an authorised Service of the Word (with hymns and refreshments) will be offered instead of Holy Communion. We shall give as much notice as possible in the weekly email update and on noticeboards.

A Message from our Rector, the Revd. David Wintle, on his retirement.

You will probably be aware that I am about to retire. I know the word has gone round, because quite a few people - some of whom I know only slightly - have stopped me in the street and wished me well. That means a lot to me. It has been a privilege to be part of your lives over the last 23 years (only 22 years for Baginton), and to be with you and to share in some of the happiest and saddest times.

My last service will be a united celebration of Holy Communion at Baginton on Sunday 30 April.

I would like to express my thanks to everyone who has worked so hard to support me over my 23 years as Priest-in-Charge and Rector: Rosemary our Reader, visiting clergy, all of the Churchwardens and the PCCs, including those no longer with us, Sunday Schools, our organists, the choirs, the servers, the bellringers, village worship, village service and family service teams and musicians, those who read and lead intercessions at services, the flower arrangers, sidespeople, the churchyard tidy-up team and cleaners, and most of all Frances.

In this country, we are going through perhaps the most rapid decline in Christianity and in church attendance that there has ever been, and Covid has accelerated this decline still further.

I don't offer this as an excuse for any part I may have had in our congregations dwindling and ageing and running out of steam, but I state it as a fact. The Church of England hierarchy certainly does not help in this, as on every issue it vacillates between liberalism and conservatism, and ends up with compromise, giving everybody what nobody wants. I don't know whether you feel encouraged or discouraged to know that the majority of congregations are in the same situation as you are.

I hope it will be sooner rather than later that you will have a new incumbent, or incumbents: it seems likely that Bubbenhall and Baginton will go into a different group of parishes than Ryton. Nobody is prepared to say exactly what will happen, though, and if you are unhappy about the uncertainty, I am too. It is my hope and prayer that the new situation, whatever it turns out to be, will breathe new life into all three parishes.

I have always tried to keep the three parishes as separate going concerns, because I believed that the way to encourage those on the fringe of church was to have a service in each church, preferably at the same time, each week. The intention was that anyone who came on the off-chance and returned the following week would find something going on, and maybe start to establish a regular pattern of church attendance. That has not worked as well as I had hoped, but I think that it probably has retained more of the existing congregations than the alternative of rotating the service around the churches: here one week, somewhere else the next. It is only now, with congregations ageing and the numbers declining as they are, that I can see that working together more closely and combining the energy and skills of several parishes might be the best way for the future. Too late for me, but not too late for you. Seize the opportunity, welcome the new priest(s) and listen to him or her (or them).

I wish you all well and you will continue to be in my prayers.



Congratulations to Yvaine Bargewell, confirmed at the Dawn Service on Easter Day at Coventry Cathedral by Bishop John. Here she is back at St Leonard's later in the morning, with the Revd. David Wintle who prepared her for Confirmation. We wish Yvaine every joy and blessing as she continues her Christian pilgrimage.

*If you, or anyone you know, are interested in getting confirmed, please be in touch with Rosemary on 07877666123
rosiking2963@gmail.com*

From the Church Registers:



Baptism at St Leonard's Church, Ryton: 29 April:
Alfred David Wintle. (Freddie)

May he grow up to know the love of the Lord Jesus, who loved children.

Burials of ashes at St Leonard's Church, Ryton:
2 April: **Brian Mead**
18 April: **Joan Reily**

May they rest in peace.



Easter at Church.

Very many thanks to Janet Smith, to the kind and generous friends who donated to the Easter Flowers, and to the ladies who gave their time, gifts and generosity in making the church look so beautiful with flowers. Here are just 3 of the stunning Easter floral arrangements.

See more on our Facebook page:

https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=626558216169366&set=pb.100064455801793.-2207520000.&locale=en_GB



Thank You

Margaret and David Watts and Marilyn & John Lee's families wish to thank everyone for their cards, messages of sympathy and flowers in memory of our beloved Kristian.

We apologise that this notice was accidentally omitted from the April Newsletter.

Your New Churchwardens and PCC members.

At the AGM on April 16, Janet Smith and Mark Jones were elected as your new Churchwardens. Mark is new to the job, and introduces himself below. Janet has of course been Churchwarden for many years. We thank them both for taking on the responsibility of leading Ryton parish into- and through- the uncertain times that lie ahead.

The following members were elected to the PCC.

Janet Smith	CHURCHWARDEN	janolwyn@hotmail.co.uk	02476 306224
Mark Jones	CHURCHWARDEN	churchwardenstleonardsryton@gmail.com	024 76 302272
David Wells	(Treasurer)		
Hazel Smith		dhsjwh@btinternet.com	02476456711
Gill Church John Church		gmchurch50@gmail.com	07522 868523
Mike Spencer		aimike@btopenworld.com	07912 521084
Suzanne Bargewell		suzannebargewell@rocketmail.com	02477989384
Clair Henry		henrytowers@gmail.com	02476 30599
Carolyn Reily		carolyn.f.reily@gmail.com	02476 306943
Barbara Marsh		geoffandba@gmail.com	02476304295
Reader for all 3 parishes:			
Rosemary King		rosiking2963@gmail.com	01788 573067 mobile 07877666123

Three vacancies remain – members can be co-opted during the year.

Introducing myself: Mark Jones (pic of Mark and Janet to be supplied?)

I'm pleased to say after our APCM on Sunday 16th April I was elected to be Churchwarden alongside Janet Smith. It will be an honour and a commitment to love and serve the people of the parish during the interregnum and to support and work with our new incumbent when they are appointed. Also to work with the PCC and leadership team. Most importantly though to love and serve our Lord as he does me. Mark Jones

Mark can be contacted on
churchwardenstleonardsryton@gmail.com
or telephone 02476 302272

Lent jars in aid of Ukrainian Refugees.

Gill Church writes:

Many thanks to everyone who has returned their Lent Appeal Jar for this year, your generosity will be much appreciated.

If you still have your jar, could you return it to the box at the back of Church please? Let me know on 07522 868524 if you cannot get it to Church and I will arrange to collect it.

As soon as all the jars have been returned I will let you know the total raised for this year's charity - The Ukrainian Appeal Fund.

Thank you.

Good Friday workshop.

Hazel Smith reports: The Village Worship team gathered on Good Friday to provide a range of activities including various colouring activities and an Easter egg tree, making hot cross buns, building the Easter Garden, and creating a beautiful floral Easter cross. This was followed by a short service led by the Revd. David Wintle. We are pleased to note that this was better attended than in some previous years, and those present enjoyed an important social Eastertide and the smell of the hot cross buns cooking in the oven was wonderful. And they tasted good too!



Good Friday Workshop 2023.



Pictures courtesy of Hazel Smith

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Our organists: Thank you!

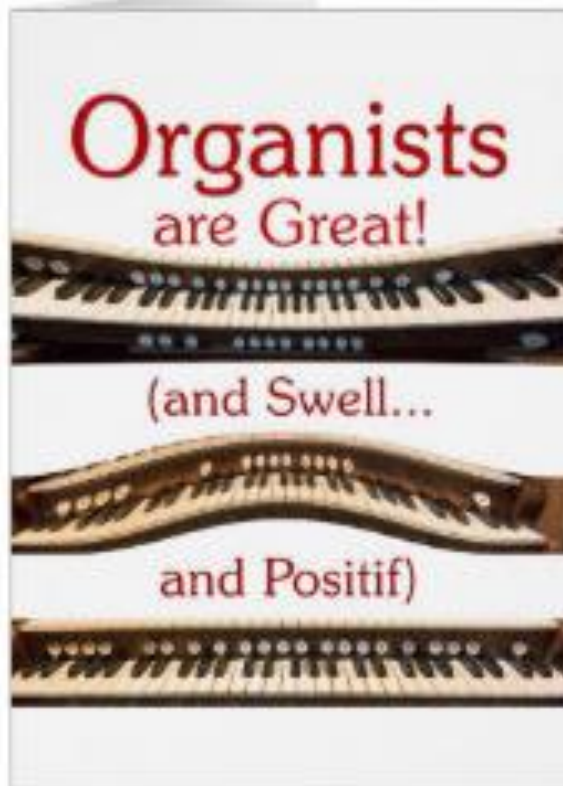
When our much loved and sadly missed friend and volunteer organist, John Hathaway, very sadly became too ill to play, and subsequently died in August 2015, we were very blessed that **Anne Walters** very kindly stepped forward to play for the Sunday morning Parish Communion services, as well as for weddings and funerals and special services such as Ascension Day and weekdays of Holy Week.

Anne also very ably and willingly acted as accompanist to the special events sung by the Augmented Choir, but she has now retired.

More recently, **Michael Spencer** has joined us to play for most of our services. Do come along and enjoy his playing at Parish Communion (1st and 3rd Sundays in the month at 9.30 am.) Michael has also kindly taken over the duties of accompanist and funeral/ wedding organist, and he plays for the Holy Week, Ascension Day and other special services.

And more recently still, we have welcomed **Mark Jones**, who plays for some of the family services, as well as singing in the choir at Parish Communion. All these talented people play on a voluntary basis, and do not receive any fees for their services.

We are most grateful to them for giving so generously of their talents and time to enhance our worship.



*From the margin
of a medieval manuscript.*

Ladies' Guild.

On 4th May, we meet at 7.45 pm in the Church Centre for a Cheese Tasting.

Plant and cake sale in aid of Action Medical Research at St Leonard's Church Centre, Ryton.

Action Medical Research are having a Plant and Cake stall on Thursday 25th May, 2pm -4pm at church centre with refreshments.

Also there will be a bric a brac stall. Come and enjoy a cuppa and a chat with homemade cakes!

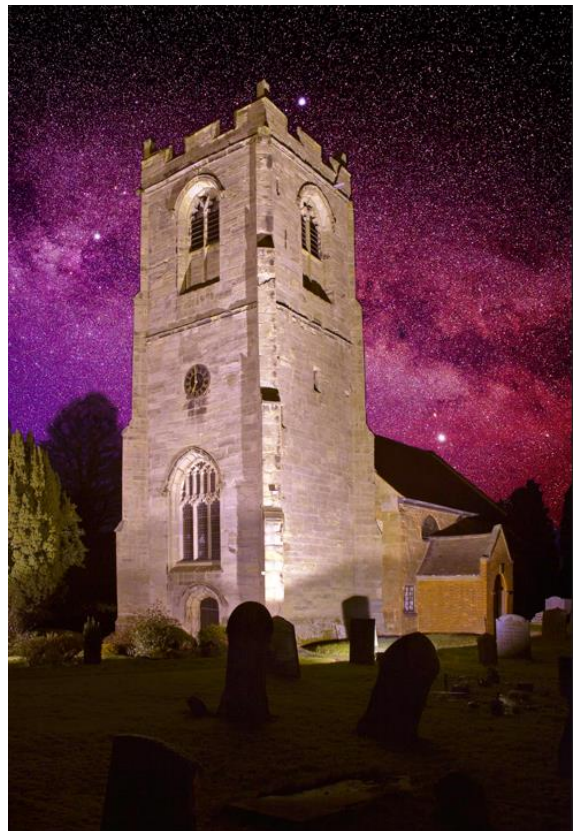
Please come and support this fantastic children's medical charity.

For information contact Sylvia Dixon 02476 301417



Church Floodlighting

- April 5: The 100th Birthday of the late
Barbara Tompkins
- May 3: Birthday memories of Doreen
Sylvia Howard
- May 7: Birthday memories of
Daisy Jones
- May 8: In Memory of **Ron Backholler**
- May 19: In memory of **Ann Crosbie**
- May 22: In memory of
**Letty Wright and
Doris Backholler.**





Sunday, May 28: Pentecost (Whit Sunday)

Pentecost, Christmas and Easter are the three major festivals of the Church's Year.

Pentecost, the coming of the Holy Spirit, is often called the birthday of the Church, and we shall be celebrating it at Ryton with Family Service at 9.30 am .

Pentecost will also be celebrated at Baginton Church with Holy

Communion at 10.00. a.m. and at Bubbenhall Church with informal Village Worship with refreshments at 11.00 am.

The Bells of St. Leonard's...

It is wonderful to hear the bells for our Sunday services twice a month, and was especially pleasing to hear them summoning us to church on Easter Day.

If you would like to try bellringing for yourself, or have any enquiries, please contact Tower Captain Bob on bob-bob49@hotmail.co.uk mobile 07979868260, or Beverley Whiting on 07715 454636. **We meet at the church on Monday evenings from 7:30pm.**



Bubbenhall and Baginton ringers and enquiries very welcome! Contact Bob or Bev- details above.

Flower Rota.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Altar</u>	<u>Pulpit</u>
April 16	In memory of John Hathaway	
April 23	In memory of Audrey le Rossignol	
May 7	In memory of Ron Backholler	
May 14	Flowers by Ros.	
May 21	In Memory of Jean Smith (Auntie Jean)	
May 28	In memory of Dennis J Hill	

Janet Smith writes: Thank you to all for donations and gifts of flowers for Easter.

At our Parish Communion services, (First and third Sundays every month at 9.30 am.) we have a small but dedicated **robed choir**. We would love to recruit some additional members- perhaps you or members of you family, including children? Contact Ba on 02476 304295 - you will be most welcome! And you don't have to be able to sight-read music- we are all learning. Ba also leads an enthusiastic augmented choir who meet on Wednesdays to rehearse music for contributing to special services and festivals as well as other music events.



At choir practice we work hard- but each practice only lasts one hour! And we have a brilliant director! Come and join us for fun and fellowship as we work together to produce a good sound.

Before the Covid lockdown, we were able to offer the opportunity for children and adults to train to become altar servers at the Parish Communion services at both Bubbenhall and Ryton. We are now in a position to offer this training again.

Contact Rosemary on rosiking2963@gmail.com (tel. 07877666123) about this.

Ryton Evergreens 50+ Club

Our meetings are held in the Village Hall on the first and third Tuesdays of every month from 1.45pm to 3.45pm.

New members are welcome. Please contact John Loudon [02476301269](tel:02476301269)

We use the village mini bus to our meetings in the Village Hall.

Churchyard Tidy-up Team



Mark Jones writes:

The Churchyard Tidy Up takes place on the third Saturday of each month from 10am - 12pm. The next one is on Saturday 20th May. The work is undertaken by volunteers who give their time to keep the churchyard in an attractive and pleasant state. The jobs include mowing, strimming, hedge cutting, cleaning seats,

clearing paths, pruning and weeding. We have the tools to use, all we need now is a few more volunteers. You don't even have to have 'green fingers' to support the team. If you can help please contact me on Tel : 02476 302272 or just turn up on the day. Refreshments will be provided. Thank you!

People of all ages get involved at Village Worship and at Family Service.

Village Worship: Second Sunday of every month, 9.30 a.m.

Family Service: Fourth Sunday of every month, 9.30 a.m. Bible story, songs and Activities for children and grown ups

Do come along to these friendly and informal services- and bring the children!



For Good Shepherd Sunday a couple of years ago, we had two lambs in church at Village Worship. The children were excited to pet and feed the lambs.

LUNCH CLUB- second Wednesday of each month, 12 noon to 1.45 ish.

Hazel Smith writes:

If you would like to enjoy a two course meal and an opportunity to chat please ring Hazel on 02476456711 to book your place. We meet at 12 noon on the second Wednesday of each month in St. Leonard's Church Centre. Cost £5. Why not join us? Transport available.

Also we are happy to welcome new helpers - setting up, serving, washing up or cooking. Can you spare us an hour?

I

Thought for the Month : Ascension Day, Pentecost and Corpus Christi.

Three joyful Spring festivals.

Ascension day and Corpus Christi always occur on a Thursday- this year, Ascension Day is on May 18 and Corpus Christi on June 8.

While the Revd. David Wintle has been our parish priest, these festivals have always been celebrated at St. Leonard's Church, and some people may remember the visiting choir, Musica Sacra, joining with the St. Leonard's Church Choir to make Corpus Christi even more special. Some may remember the party following the service, when some of us managed to eat prodigious quantities of cheese scones!

Sadly, for the time being at least, we are only able to provide Sunday services, and so Ascension Day and Corpus Christi will not be celebrated in our churches this year.



So perhaps it's a good opportunity to consider the meaning and significance of these Springtime festivals.

Most people are aware that Ascension Day marks the occasion when, 40 days after his rising from the dead on what we now call Easter Day- 40 precious days when his friends had enjoyed his company in the flesh-

Jesus finally left them and returned to join his Father in Heaven. You can read the account of how they perceived his departure in your Bible, in Luke's Gospel (Chapter 24, verses 50-53) and again in the Acts of the Apostles (Chapter 1, verses 6-14) You might expect that Jesus' friends would be very sad and sorrowful to have lost the physical presence of the one they called their Master. But the Bible says otherwise: They returned to Jerusalem, it says, They returned to Jerusalem **with great joy.**

And they stayed in Jerusalem until they received the 'Comforter' whom Jesus had promised them- the Holy Spirit- on the Jewish Feast of Pentecost (or Hag Shavu'ot), which we celebrate in our churches here this year on Sunday, May 28. It's the day we used to call "Whitsunday"



And that's where the Church began. Sometimes we have even had a birthday cake for the church to share after the Pentecost service.



And ten days after Pentecost, the church celebrates Corpus Christi, or the Institution of Holy Communion. We recall the time, just before his death, when Jesus shared bread and wine with his friends and told them "This is my Body... this is the Covenant in my Blood" Jesus is not with us in bodily form as he was for 30 or so years 2000 years ago. But he is alive and on the loose in us and in the world: spiritually in the Holy Spirit and even physically as we eat and drink the shared bread and wine of Holy Communion.

Rosemary

Ryton History Group.

We meet from 7.30-9.30pm in the Village Hall.

Subscription: £20.00 per year or £2.50 per meeting

Details from **Steve Garrett 76639228** or **Ann 76302695**



Used printer cartridges please!

John Church writes: Thank you to everyone that has donated their cartridges. This money will be sent to our account at the end of the quarter.

Overall since we started we have gained £71.95 , which is a great help and it doesn't cost us a penny. If anyone has the chunky printer cartridges that we can recycle, please let me have them- there is a plastic box for them just outside the Church centre door at Ryton. At Bubbenhall, please leave your used cartridges at the back of church, or drop them off at Craig's house.

TWIRLS – Women's Institute

Meet every third Thursday of the month at Ryton Village Hall.

7:30 to 9:30 p.m.

Further details from Claire Jones The Old Post Office Church Road Ryton-on-Dunsmore CV8 3ET

07721 560349

TWIRLSRYTONONDUNSMOREWI@GMAIL.COM

And finally..... it's not all arthritis and Zimmer frames...



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**I HAVE EVERYTHING THAT I WANTED AS A
TEENAGER, ONLY 60 YEARS LATER.**

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I GET AN ALLOWANCE EVERY MONTH.

I HAVE MY OWN HOME.

I DON'T HAVE A CURFEW.

I HAVE A DRIVER'S LICENCE AND MY OWN CAR.

**THE PEOPLE I HANG AROUND WITH ARE NOT
SCARED OF GETTING PREGNANT.**

AND I DON'T HAVE ACNE.

LIFE IS GREAT.

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Contributions for the June Newsletter by May 20th please.

Please encourage others to ask to receive the Newsletter by email: the email version contains more news than there is room for in the paper version, and sometimes cartoons, pictures and jokes. Just contact Rosemary on rosiking2963@gmail.com

and ask to be added to the list. No charge!