



Pontesbury & Stiperstones Family of Churches

Newsletter

4th September 2025

Dear Friends

My grandchildren seem to have very different attitudes towards dogs. Two of them are quite nervous, flinching and squealing when Daisy, our small and very friendly Westie approaches them, trying to hide behind a grown up to keep out of her way. By contrast, Holly who is only 18 months old approaches any dog she meets as a potential playmate, it not even occurring to her that she should be afraid. The difference of course is that she has grown up alongside a dog and learnt not to be afraid.

It occurs to me that if our children and grandchildren's attitude to dogs is shaped by what they are exposed to as they grow up, how much more will their attitude to God be shaped by what their parents expose them to. I have had many a parent tell me that they are going to allow their children to make their own minds up about faith when they grow up, but how can they know not to fear or shy away from God unless they are introduced to Him at an early age?

Ichthus

Please note that the next meeting of Ichthus to study the lectionary readings will be Tuesday September 9th at 2.30 p.m. at The Blessing, Snailbeach. Please contact Liz Jackson at Elizabeth Jackson jackson.liz8315@gmail.com for further details.

Transport Scheme

We have now launched the Rea Valley Transport Scheme to take people to medical appointments. If you need a lift to a medical appointment, including opticians and dentists, please contact Emma at reavalleytransportscheme.info@gmail.com. We are exceptionally grateful to all those who have volunteered to drive but would be pleased to hear from anyone else willing to help. For further information, please speak to Greg.

Ride & Stride

As in previous years, a group will be walking as part of the Ride & Stride event organised by Shropshire Historic Churches Trust. This will take place on Saturday September 13th and will involve visiting ten historic churches in Shrewsbury. We will meet at Holy Trinity, Meole Brace at 10 a.m. You are welcome to participate in as much or as little of the day as you see fit.

Link for Just Giving is. <https://www.justgiving.com/page/sarah-edwards-11>

For further information, please speak to Stephen Winwood or Sarah Edwards.

Songs of Praise

There will be a Songs of Praise service at Pontesbury Baptist Church this coming Sunday, 7th September at 6.30 p.m. All welcome.

Sofa

Does anyone have a sofa that they are looking to dispose of? A lady in Minsterley is desperate to acquire something comfortable to sit on, having recently moved to the area, having left a women's refuge. We are grateful for the two offers of armchairs and will be in touch as soon as we can. Please let Greg know if you can help with a sofa.

Prayer Chain

The Prayer Chain is being revived under Mary Worrall's leadership. In the first instance, we would like to recruit a small handful of people who would be willing to pray for those in need as requests come through. If you would like to do this, please contact Mary at maryew15mp@gmail.com or on 01743 791069

Autism Awareness

St George's is hosting an Autism Awareness training session on Weds Sept 17th from 9.30 a.m.-12.30. This is for anyone interfaces with the public. Places must be reserved in advance. Please contact Greg if you would like to attend.

Pet Service

Habberley will be hosting a Pet Service on Sunday 14th September. All pets welcome for a blessing.

Coventry Cathedral

We are wanting to explore the possibility of a parish trip to Coventry Cathedral next Spring. At this stage, it would be helpful to know how many people might be interested in joining us. Please speak to Greg or Sadie Preece if you think you might like to come along.

Summer Celebration at Snailbeach

There will be a service of celebration at St Luke's Snailbeach on Sunday 7th September, followed by afternoon tea at Snailbeach Village Hall. All welcome.

Alpha

We are now recruiting Alpha course Thursday lunchtimes in the autumn at Holy Trinity Minsterley. We are looking for kind volunteers who would be willing to provide a warm meal for up to 10 people on one of those Thursdays, commencing Oct 2nd. If you are able to help or want to know more, please speak to Greg or Fran Brealey.

Church Magazine

The St. George's September magazine has been printed and copies are available in the church foyer for those who do not have one delivered by our team. Only 50p for a load of news and interest! Money can go into the wall safe near the vestry

Harvest Supper and Auction 4 October Holy Trinity Minsterley and St Luke's Snailbeach are hosting a Harvest Supper and Auction at Snailbeach Village Hall on 4 October at 7pm. There is a sign up sheet in both churches for anyone who would like to join us (tickets £10 adults, £5 children - two-course meal) or contact Sarah on 07971984925. We need to know numbers for catering purposes so sign up asap! We also need items for the auction - these can be 'things' or 'promises', whichever suits you best. Everyone is welcome to what is always a fun evening!

Group Services

Please note the dates and venues for the next two Group Services.

Sun Sept 14th at Habberley Village Hall (a pet service) at 3 p.m.

Sun Sept 28th at Holy Trinity Hope at 10.30 a.m.

for this Sunday

Psalm 1

Philemon 1-21

Luke 14.25-33

Calendar for the Week

Fri 5 th	Coffee Stop 10-12 at St George's
Sun 7 th	Holy Communion at Shelve at 9 a.m. Holy Communion at Pontesbury at 10.30 a.m. Summer Celebration at Snailbeach at 3 p.m. Tea-time Service at Minsterley at 4 p.m. Songs of Praise at Pontesbury Baptist Church at 6.30 p.m.
Mon 8 th	Youth Café at HTM at 3.30 p.m.
Tues 9 th	Foodbank at HTM 10-12 Little Dragons at St George's 10-11.30 a.m.
Weds 10 th	Coffee Hub at HTM 10-12 noon Tea Break at St George's 2-4 p.m. Youth Café at Pontesbury Baptist Church at 3.30 p.m.
Thurs 11 th	Foodbank at St George's 10-12 Trinity Tots at HTM 10-11.30 a.m. Time Out at St George's 1-3 p.m. Minsterley PCC at 7 p.m.
Sat 13 th	Ride & Stride, meeting HT Meole Brace at 10 a.m.
Sun 14 th	Family Service with Baptism at Hope at 9 a.m. Holy Communion at Minsterley at 10.30 a.m. Morning Prayer at Pontesbury at 10.30 a.m. Pet Service at Habberley Village Hall at 3 p.m. Service of Meditation at Pontesbury at 7 p.m.