



## **Pontesbury & Stiperstones Family of Churches**

### **Newsletter**

**29<sup>th</sup> May 2026**

Dear friends

Sunday is Trinity Sunday when the Church celebrates the Holy Trinity of Father, Son and Holy Spirit. This is notoriously the most difficult of all theological concepts (why else would one invite the Bishop to come and preach?) I remember being quizzed by a sincere Moslem who said that they couldn't understand why Christians worship three Gods. We don't but it's easy to understand how the confusion arises. The Father is God, Jesus is God, the Holy Spirit is God, but there is only **one** God. This is a mystery that may only become clear when we get to Heaven. However, the God who is eternally in relationship makes sense of what it is to be human.

We are born into a relationship with our parents and siblings; at school and at work, we seek out friends; we look for a life partner. Some even surf Facebook to clock up more connections across the world. We are made in the image of a relational God. Perhaps most importantly, our hearts remain restless until we enter into a relationship with the Trinitarian God who made us to be with Him.

#### **Organ Recital**

Thanks to all those who attended Richard Walker's organ recital at St George's last Saturday.

#### **Holiday Club**

We are planning to run a holiday club in Minsterley from Monday 20<sup>th</sup> – Friday 24<sup>th</sup> July from 10-12 each morning. Anyone willing and able to help out for one or more days should let Rev Fran know at [revfran@btinternet.com](mailto:revfran@btinternet.com)

#### **Pentecost**

Thanks to all those who attended the Deanery Pentecost Service (over 60 people) last Sunday at Worthen Village Hall. A collection was taken from the Deanery targeted mission, Train A Priest. Nearly £230 was collected for this very worthwhile cause

#### **Time Out**

We are going to relaunch Time Out, our friendship group for those struggling with anxiety, on Tues June 2<sup>nd</sup> at 2 p.m. at the Pavilion. We would like to recruit an additional volunteer for the third Tuesday of each month to supplement the team. Please speak to Allen Marsden, Stephen & Jackie Winwood or Helen Pitt if you would like to know more.

### **Sponsored Run**

Greg was successful in completing the Dun Holm Half Marathon last Thursday, albeit still limping. Sponsorship was for the Minsterley Audio-Visual project. Many thanks to those who have already donated. It's still not too late to sponsor him retrospectively. Contributions can be given directly to Greg or via <https://www.gofundme.com/f/minsterley-av-project>. All sponsorship very gratefully received.

### **Minsterley Garage**

Please note that Minsterley garage will be closed from 1<sup>st</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> June for a refit.

### **St George's Big Clean – fun and feather dusters!**

On Saturday 30 May from 10am there will be a Big Clean at St George's, to put the church in fine fettle for the Bishop's Visitation on 3<sup>rd</sup> June. Plenty of hot drinks and biscuits to help us on our way! If you are a regular church cleaner and it is more convenient for you to clean your own area in advance, just let Lynda know, so we don't duplicate. Thanks all!

### **Trinity Sunday**

Trinity Sunday falls on a fifth Sunday, May 31<sup>st</sup>. We are therefore having a Group Service at Holy Trinity Minsterley at 10.30 a.m. presided over by the Bishop of Hereford to celebrate the Patronal Festival of both Minsterley and Hope churches. This will be followed by lunch at Hope Village Hall at 12.30. People are welcome to attend the lunch even if they have been unable to attend the prior service. Please sign up for this in advance so that we can cater accordingly.

### **Hope and Shelve Fete**

This takes place on Saturday June 6<sup>th</sup> at Leigh Manor, SY5 0EG. If you have any books, plants or tombola prizes to donate, please let Fran know on 07982 324760. Do put the date in your diary and join us for what we hope will be a most enjoyable afternoon.

### **Bishop's Visitation**

There will be a Visitation from the Bishop of Hereford on Wednesday June 3<sup>rd</sup> at 2 p.m. at St George's Pontesbury. At the visitation, all churchwardens from across the Deanery will be sworn into office. Please do come along to this service to show them your support.

### **Tea Break**

There will be no Tea Break on June 3<sup>rd</sup> (please see above).

### **Who Let the Dads Out**

A new group for male carers (Dads, grandads and others) on the third Saturday of each month from 9.30-11 a.m. at The Trinity Centre, Meole Brace, SY3 9HF, the next session on June 20<sup>th</sup>.

### **The Minsterley Crowns**

Rosie Morris has edited and published a book **Maidens' Garlands: Funeral Crowns and Wreaths Across Europe and Beyond**, which is now available on Archeopress.com and Amazon priced at £42. She has written 2 chapters, concentrating on the Minsterley Crowns. A social historian from Germany, archaeologists from

Germany and Croatia, and a conservator from York have each written a chapter. It is the first book ever to be written on the Garlands and the first book in Europe to compare and contrast this fascinating funeral custom.

### **Minsterley Flood Consultation Event**

The University of Chester and the River Severn Partnership are running a Flood Management consultation event in Minsterley Village Hall on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> May 5.30-8.30. See poster for how to book.

### **Carers Group**

At the Carers group on May 29<sup>th</sup> at 10.30 - 12.00 Pontesbury Pavillion we will be having an informal workshop on Safe Moving and Handling for family carers.

This will be led by Martin George from Partners in Care who will be doing a short session on safe moving and handling for family / unpaid carers.

It will last for about 30 - 45 minutes with the rest of the time being available for questions and for a cuppa and chat.

Martin will be asking you to tell him about the situations you are managing at home which involve moving and handling (eg: getting up from sitting, using the stairs, getting into the car etc).and any issues that you encounter with these.

### **Exploring the Sunday Gospel**

Attached is further helpful notes from Liverpool Cathedral, focusing on the theme of this coming Sunday's Gospel.

### **Readings for Sunday May 24<sup>th</sup>**

Psalm 8

2 Corinthians 13. 11-end

Matthew 28. 16-end

### **Calendar for the Week -**

- Fri 29<sup>th</sup> May Prayers at HTM at 9.30 a.m.  
Coffee Stop at St George's 10-12 noon
- Sat 30<sup>th</sup> Big Clean at St George's from 10 a.m.
- Sun 31<sup>st</sup> Holy Communion at Minsterley at 10.30 (Group Service)  
Benefice Lunch at Hope Village Hall at 12.30
- June 1<sup>st</sup> Youth Café at HTM at 3.30 p.m.  
Bible Study at 3 Earls Court at 7 p.m.
- Tues 2<sup>nd</sup> Foodbank at Minsterley from 10-12  
Little Dragons at St George's from 10-11.30 a.m.  
Tea Service at St George's at 2.30 p.m.  
Time Out at the Pavilion from 2-3.30 p.m.

Eco committee at 8 Yarlington Orchard at 3.30 p.m.

Weds 3<sup>rd</sup>

Coffee Hub at HTM 10-12

Bishop's Visitation at St George's at 2 p.m.

Thurs 4<sup>th</sup>

Foodbank at Pontesbury 10-12

Trinity Tots at HTM from 10-11.30 a.m.

Messy Church at Pontesbury at 3.30 p.m.

Sat 6<sup>th</sup>

Hope Summer Fete at Leigh Manor from 2 p.m.

Sun 7<sup>th</sup>

Holy Communion at Shelve at 9 a.m.

Holy Communion at Pontesbury at 10.30 a.m.

Tea-time service at Minsterley at 4 p.m.