

## What's on

### Coming Up

**Men's Breakfast - on Saturday 13th June** at The Queens, Elmley Castle at 9.30 am

**Ashton Open Gardens - Saturday 13th & Sunday 14th June** 12 noon - 5,00 pm. Open gardens, plant sales, cream teas & lunches. Entry £8 which covers both days. More information at [www.ashtonopengardens.co.uk](http://www.ashtonopengardens.co.uk)

**ELMFEST - Elmley Castle PTA - Elmley Castle First School** - Sunday 28th June from 11 am to 2 pm. Inflatables, Bar & BBQ, Craft Stalls, Games & More.

**Bells Dedication Service - St Mary's Church, Elmley Castle** - Sunday 26th July at 5.00 pm

**Please email content for the next Link News to [rectoryoffice@btinternet.com](mailto:rectoryoffice@btinternet.com) by Wednesday 24th June 2025. Contributions from all villages welcomed. Thank you.**

**Please note that the rectory office is manned on Wednesday mornings 9.00 am - 1.00 pm**

### Weddings, funerals and baptisms

Enquiries should be made to Alison Khan, Administrative Co-ordinator, Bredon Hill Group (tel. 07984 748 059)

Link News is sent to all Church members whose email addresses we have. If you would like to forward it to a friend, please feel free to do so. If you know of someone who would like to be included in the mailing list, please ask

## Sunday 14th June, 2nd Sunday after Trinity and Sunday 21st June, 3rd Sunday after Trinity



I saw Prospero aka Kenneth Branagh last Monday at the RSC. He donned his magician's cloak and waved his wand creating a fearsome storm at each stroke of his stick. The ropes and tackle dropped on the boat/stage which, like the sailors, was tossing violently with the squall. The ropes would later ensnare Prospero's agent Ariel performing her high wire act, leaving her stranded while the play was briefly stopped and the technical folk released. That served as an unintentional hint of the liberation she sought and Prospero secured when he forsook his magic.

'The Tempest' is also Latin for time, and asks what we do with 'our little life'. Prospero uses his art to hold up a mirror to nature, which the play itself, no less than worship and bible reading, is intended to do. Most of the play's characters represent gradations of wickedness from Caleb 'a born devil' to those who set out to murder Prospero and rape his innocent daughter Miranda.

How should Prospero respond when he has evil foes in his power? Prospero deliberates, as we all must do, between our 'noblest reason' and our 'natural fury'. Concluding that 'The rarer action is in virtue than in vengeance'.

Forgiveness is costly to give: 'For you, most wicked sir, whom to call brother would even infect my mouth. I do forgive'. It's also costly to receive forgiveness, as King Alonso asks forgiveness of his son.: 'I'll be wise hereafter, and seek grace', says the demonic Caliban, as, one by one the unworthy men are released to 'be themselves'. When Miranda walks into this coterie of conniving characters, with the words 'O wonder. How many goodly creatures are there here', she raises the biggest laugh.

As Prospero relinquishes his magic arts he hands over to his audience the possibility of a 'brave new world', a society of tolerance and forgiveness where there is no winter but only spring and autumn. He invites his hearers to practice these virtues by applauding the play! This great play must literally be played out in the lives of all who are privileged to see it.

Roger Spiller

## June Services

### Readings and Collects

#### Sunday 14th June

##### Readings

Genesis 18: 1 - 15 (21: 1 - 7)

Psalms 116: 1, 10 - end

Romans 5: 1 - 10

Matthew 9: 38 - 10: 28

##### Collect:

Faithful creator, whose mercy never fails, deepen our faithfulness to you and your living word.

Jesus Christ our Lord

#### Sunday 21st June

##### Readings

Genesis 21: 8—21

Psalms 86: 1 - 10, 16—17

Romans 6: 1b - 11

Matthew 10: 24 - 39

##### Collect:

God our Saviour, look on this wounded world in pity and in power. Hold us fast to your promise of peace, won for us by your Son Our Saviour Jesus Christ

### We pray . . .

#### For all in our community who are sick or in long term care:

- Bob Davies
- Rev'd Peter Mkengi
- Yvonne Seward
- All in residential and care homes
- All who live with chronic illness

#### We remember the loss of loved ones

Those who have died recently and those whose anniversary of death falls at this time.

*May the souls of the faithful de-*

*parted,*

*Through the mercy of God, rest in peace.*

#### Three Counties Show

Among the show rings and stalls, there will also be something quieter, but just as important: the Church tent. A place of welcome in the middle of the busyness. A space to pause, to reflect, to talk, and to be reminded that God is present not only in church buildings, but in everyday life—in the soil, in the animals, in the work of hands, and in the joy of community.

*Lord God, bless the Royal Three Counties Show. Bless our Church tent, all the volunteers who will serve within it and our schools who will perform there. Let all who enter feel welcomed, valued, and loved.*

#### Father's Day

In the Bible, God is often described as a loving Father - one who knows us completely, welcomes us, and never turns away from us. His love is faithful, even when human love falls short. Fathers' Day can remind us that the best fathers reflect something of God's heart: compassion, forgiveness, wisdom, and steadfast care.

*Loving Father, we thank you for all who have cared for us. Bless fathers and father-figures with strength and peace and heal any wounds carried in our hearts. Amen.*

#### Our Friends and neighbours in Brookfield and Orchard Drive

*May the morning light fall gentle on each door, warming the hands that open it and the hearts that wait within.*

*May laughter spread across the hedges and kindness travel faster than the post, finding its way to every threshold. When rains come heavy may roofs hold firm and when nights grow long, may windows glow with welcome.*

#### Sunday 14th June

9.00 am Bredon's Norton - Holy Communion

9.00 am Overbury - Holy Communion

10.45 am Eckington - Holy Communion

**10.45 am Little Comberton - Morning Worship**

10.45 am Bredon - Morning Praise

#### Wednesday 17th June

**10.00 am Little Comberton - Holy Communion**

#### Sunday 21st June

9.00 am Eckington - Holy Communion

**9.00 am Elmley Castle - Holy Communion**

10.45 am Bredon - Holy Communion

10.45 am Beckford - Holy Communion

3.00 pm Overbury -

#### Wednesday 24th June

**10.00 am Little Comberton - Northumbrian Morning Prayer**

10.00 am Overbury - Holy Communion

#### First Saturday of every month

**9.00 am Little Comberton Church - Village Prayer**

Join us for a period of quiet prayer for people, activities and work represented in all our villages followed by an enjoyable breakfast at the Pantry

#### Holland House

Morning Prayer (Celtic and other) at Holland House on: Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 9.15 am. There will be a Eucharist at 12 noon on Wednesdays.