

Pew Sheet

for the Benefice of

**Drybrook, Lydbrook
and Ruardean
Trinity 15: Sept 13th 2015
Holy Cross Day**



NEXT SUNDAY Sept. 20th

8.00: Holy Communion (Drybrook)

9.30: Sung Eucharist (Lydbrook)

10.00: Family Communion (Ruardean)

11.00: Family Service (Drybrook)

6.00: Parish Eucharist (Drybrook)

Mid-Week Holy Communion: Wed at 10.00 am at
Drybrook & Ruardean

Mid-Week Prayers at Lydbrook Church on
Wednesdays, from 6.45 – 7.15 pm

Morning Prayer at Ruardean on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, 9.30am.

Candle-lit Celtic Evening Worship Ruardean Thurs., 6.30- 7.00 pm

*Apples ripen in an ancient orchard
while house-martins swoop overhead
before their annual migration
to remind us that the season is on the turn
and that we draw near to Harvest
and soon after that
to the great days of Advent*

Collect

Almighty God,
who in the passion of your blessed Son
made an instrument of painful death
to be for us the means of life and peace:
grant us so to glory in the of Christ
that we may gladly suffer for his sake;
who is alive and reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

First Lesson – Numbers 21:4-9

From Mount Hor *the Israelites* set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way. The people spoke against God and against Moses, “Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food.” Then the LORD sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. The people came to Moses and said, “We have sinned by speaking against the LORD and against you; pray to the LORD to take away the serpents from us.” So Moses prayed for the people. And the LORD said to Moses, “Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live.” So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

Second Lesson – Philipians 2. 6-11

Christ Jesus, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death— even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Gospel – John 3:13-17

Jesus said “No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

PRAYERS

We pray for all driven by persecution or hardship to risk or lose their lives fleeing danger and terrorism to seek sanctuary in Europe. We thank you for the generosity of many EU governments in succouring them; we pray for compassion in our broken world.

We remember Novice Janet of Ty Mawr making her 1st profession of vows this month.

We ask God's blessing on all baptised or wed in our Benefice: we pray especially for **Bobby Smith** and **Tanika Bartlett-Smith** of Forest Church married at St Peter's Clearwell.

We remember all who have died recently and pray for families and friends who grieve:
Mrs Kath Morman (90), Fri. 18th Sept., 2 pm, Forest Church

“Years' Mind”: We remember all loved ones & families on their anniversary.

Prayers for those ill, in hospital, in need or serving in our armed forces: **Barry, Sarah, Dylan, Sheena, Sally, Geoff, Doreen, Tom, Joy, Keith, Margaret, Carmel, Rachel, Martin, Pat, Sabrina, Gemma, Ollie, Marilyn, Amanda, Margaret, Philip, Elvy, Christine, Dean & Debs, Bethanie, Baby Austin, Jono, Ivy, Margaret, Barry, Jayl, Kathy, Niki, Maureen, Lynette, Norman, Phil, June, Doreen, Rachel, Michael, Lee, Mark, Les, Robert.**

BENEFICE INFORMATION

Confirmation Service Bishop Martyn will join us for this at Ruardean at 10.00 on Sunday 18th Oct. Many are already interested in being confirmed. If you would like to join the 6-week course from mid Sept, there is still time. Please speak with Nick or Philip.

Philip's Discipleship Group continues Tues. 7.00 at the Rectory, Ruardean, looking at 2 Peter. Supper provided: therevdphilipaveray@gmail.com /01594 546711

Forest Church

Quiz Evening - Sat 24th Oct, 7 p.m. - to include fish and chip supper. Details later, but please start getting teams of 4 together soon, to give some idea of numbers.

Noah's Ark – Baby & Toddler group Weds. in term time in the Schoolroom. 9:15– 11:45: £1.50 per family.

King's Kidz – Friday 3pm – 4pm at Drybrook School. A super hour, with some great children, learning about God and his love for us. Restarts 11th Sept.

King's Kidz – Sunday 2nd and 4th Sunday of the month. Our modern take on Sunday school. 11am Forest Church

Kingdom Kidz – Youth club for school years 4, 5 and 6. Every Friday in term time. Including 'What's in the Bible' slot. 5:30pm – 7pm the Schoolroom. Restarts 11th Sept.

KAOS – Youth club for secondary school young people. Friday's in term time in Schoolroom, 7.15pm–9pm including a discussion time based on biblical values. Restarts 11 Sept.

Lydbrook Church

Harvest songs of Praise: Oct 4th, 3 pm to be followed by a harvest supper. If you would like to come please sign the list at the back of the church to help us to arrange catering.

Otherwise please ring Margaret on 860413 to book. Everyone welcome.

The new season of "Lite Bites" begins on Thursday 24th September from 12 noon at Lydbrook Social Club. All welcome!

Advance notice: The Christmas Tree Festival will take place from 11th - 13th December. Planning has already started: further details later. Anyone who wishes to take part please let us know, email ddpittaway@btinternet.com

Ruardean Church :

Social Committee Meeting Wednesday 9th September, 2.00pm in Church.

Wed. Soup and Pudding (12 noon)

GENERAL INFORMATION

Sat 26th Sept, 11.00-4.00, Coffee Day in aid of Macmillan Nursing: 22 Ridgeway Crescent, Whitchurch. Contact Ruth or Les on 01600890078.

Shop on Cross: Small-medium cardboard boxes urgently needed for books please: Thanks, Anna

BENEFICE SNIPPET

Patron Saint of the black bin bag!

We don't know if there is one, but many of us spend time on our knees with such bags! On Bank Holiday weekend the Rector removed two bin bags' worth of rubbish from the road verges around the Forest Church which included: various unpleasant and unsavoury items as well as general rubbish. More happily the drug taking and selling now seems to have ceased in the church car park after they were caught in the act. However there have been sightings of possible drug activity and trading in the secluded Lydbrook Church car park. Please report any of the above going on at any of our 3 Churches to the Rector AS IT IS HAPPENING or else it is almost impossible for the local Police to act? Thank you so much.

A Broad Church!

As the autumn begins its been really gratifying to see how well we're doing! I know I'm notorious for always stressing the positive but we are in the Positivity business after all.

Last Sunday we had 177 people at regular church services (excluding baptisms) and you wouldn't find a wider range of service types anywhere else in the Forest with literally something for everyone. At Ruardean, Worship 4 All is attracting a good following meeting the need for a simple quite short non communion service once a month with the hope it can also be an entry point for new families to church.

At Lydbrook Tea @ 3 is now attracting 15-20 people each time, new families who want easy to follow informal Christian worship.

At Drybrook the morning congregation grows steadily usually in the 70s and 80s, with more still coming to the monthly healing communion and the Sunday School growing very well too on the formal Eucharist Sundays. Meanwhile we are the only Forest benefice offering weekly BCP Evensong and that's attracting an average of 20 lately.

These are just snapshots. So much to be encouraged by!

Did you know that half of the 390 churches in the Diocese of Gloucester have a Sunday congregation of 20 or less? Thank you for all your support.

Autumn Hydrangeas/ Rose hips / the last artichoke flowers & seed heads on Plump Hill



Pew Sheet: Info. normally by 2.00 Wed., please, to ann.wilson2@btinternet.com or ring Anna on 01594 541759. For e-mails, please start Subject Field 'Pew Sheet' .Where possible set your notice within the mail, rather than as an attachment. Please accept that from time to time the Editor may need to abridge your entry. Thank you.