

AROUND THE SPIRE

**Saint James' &
Saint Mary Magdalene
Quedgeley & Kingsway**

***“Looking to the Future”—
Quiet Day at Prinknash
with Revd. Guy Treweek
pages 11-13***

May 2019

No. 45



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saintjameschurchquedgeley](http://www.facebook.com/saintjameschurchquedgeley)



[@StChatter1](https://twitter.com/StChatter1)

PARISH PROGRAMME FOR MAY

Here are the main events in the parish this month.

Sunday May 5th - Third of Easter

Parish Eucharist 9.30am

STJ service for all the family 10.30am

Saturday May 11th

Marriage at Saint James' 1.00pm

'In celebration of Holy Baptism'

A day to promote this excellent start in the lives of our loved ones

2.00pm –4.00pm in Kingsway Community Centre Thatcham Avenue Kingsway

Sunday May 12th - Fourth of Easter

Parish Eucharist 10.30am

With Children's area and refreshments

Saturday May 18th

Renewal of Marriage vows 11.30am

Sunday May 19th - Fifth of Easter

Parish Eucharist 10.30am

With Children's area and refreshments

'Open the Garden' from 2.00pm

See poster and other publicity for details

Sunday May 26th—Sixth of Easter

Parish Eucharist 10.30am

With Children's area and refreshments

Thursday May 30th—Ascension Day

Holy Eucharist 7.30pm

Please note – copy for possible inclusion in the JUNE edition of this magazine should reach the Editor, Fr. Hugh Broad by SUNDAY 13th MAY at the latest. email address: hugh.broad@yahoo.co.uk

Your Editor
Fr. Hugh Broad



CAN YOU RISE TO THE CHALLENGE?

When I did a series of articles on Prayer in this magazine in recent issues I received more response from articles on this than any other in the close on four years of our magazine.

Clearly Prayer is a subject which many people find not only worthwhile but also challenging! In fact the item using the word ACTS brought in the greatest response.

So many people seek guidance in just how to pray; when, where to pray—and so on.

Our Archbishops have recently compiled a Booklet on Daily Prayer for the Season from Ascension Day to Pentecost. They commend it for use in churches and homes across the Church.

In their letter they remind us that after the Ascension of Jesus the disciples gathered with Mary, the Mother of Our Lord, constantly devoting themselves to prayer while they awaited the outpouring of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. So, through the centuries Christians have gathered to pray for the coming again of the Holy Spirit.

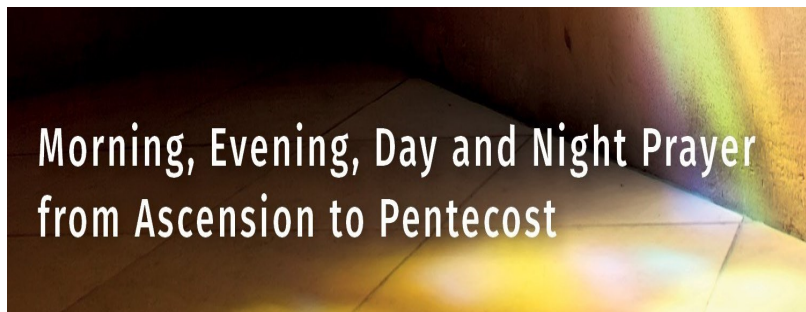
So the Archbishop asks that every Christian church and group will join in prayer for the receiving and outpouring of the Holy Spirit. So we, here in our own local community are called to respond.



SO HERE COMES THE CHALLENGE!

Will you dear reader join me in responding to this call? This is what to do -

1. Order a copy of this excellent booklet on Common Worship Daily Prayer for the season of the Ascension to Pentecost.



To do this, ask me to order a copy for you at just £2.00.

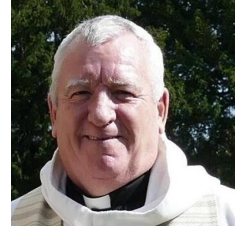
2. Follow the booklet each day—there are orders to each day to use as you wish.
3. Respond to the challenge in the booklet, to pray for five friends or family each of this period of eleven days.

DO PLEASE RESPOND TO THIS CHALLENGE!

ORDER THIS BOOKLET—IT COULD BE THE BEST TWO QUID YOU HAVE EVER SPENT!

Fr. Hugh

On the record - with the Rector



Dear Parishioner & Friends,

This month we see the end of Easter tide. Forty days after the Resurrection, Jesus took his disciples to the Mount of Olives. They watched as he ascended into heaven to be with the Father.

We celebrate this event on Ascension Day and this year it falls on the Thursday 30th May. If you attend the early morning service at Gloucester Cathedral, you will probably witness the choir of the cathedral climbing the steps of the tower, where they will sing, their voices echoing over the entire city. This used to be a tradition all over the country, but in some places this has died out, due to safety reasons.

So what is so significant about the Ascension? Clearly it was the time when Jesus recognized that his time on earth had come to an end. He had accomplished all that he had intended to. The Father had sent his son as a new-born baby born in Bethlehem and now he was returning to the Father to 'prepare a place for us' as Saint John's Gospel states. As Christians the Resurrection and Ascension are two of the most significant events to take place in the New Testament. Jesus showed us that death is not the end, just like him, we can rise in glory with a promise of a new and eternal life.

With every blessing

Fr. John

STJ's



Saint James CHATTERBOX ...time for fun!



www.quedgeleychurch.org.uk

**Parent, Baby and Toddler 'Drop-in' St. James Church
Quedgeley Every Tuesday 9.30am -11.00am**

Healthy
Snacks

Lots of
Toys



Messy
glue

Refreshments
available



We recently visited Krakow in Poland, a most beautiful city, which once was the Capital City with many churches, castles and great places of interest not least The Ghetto, enough said about that! We spent a day at the Auschwitz and Birkenau Concentration Camps, which are about 90 minutes travelling by road from Krakow. Here we saw the way that man treated man (and women and children) in World War 2. The general consensus of the 20 or so who made the journey was "glad I went, don't want to go again" really quite a harrowing experience.

We also visited Portsmouth where we were invited to the inspection at TS Alacrity, a Naval Group who have been up in Quedgeley several times taking part in our events. They fixed up a visit to the Mary Rose for us which was extremely interesting.

We are now getting ready to visit (some of us for the 11th time) Ypres in Belgium and to take part in the Menin Gate Ceremony which takes place every day of the year including Christmas Day. Here the Last Post is played in memory of all those British and Empire members of the military who were killed in World War 1. We are laying 9 wreaths on this visit. This time we are making a presentation to the Chairman of the Last Post Association who organise this daily Service no matter what the weather or time of year. We as always have a full coachload travelling (and we have a waiting list). The Last Post is also played at Ploegsteert on the Messines Ridge where our Secretary Margaret Slatter lays a wreath on the memorial of her Grand Father.

On Saturday June 1st we have a Quiz Night at the Thatch in Bristol Road, Quedgeley which starts at 7.00pm. To enter (teams of 4 welcome £6) just contact the Charity (bulldog.smith@btinternet.com) or call 01452 725343 between 5.00pm-7.00pm. You can pay your £6 on the night. Bring your pens. Food available which you can pre book by calling the Thatch.

On Saturday 22nd June we have our Annual Show in Severn Vale School, music, dancing, choir, community singing. Just come along or pre book as above.

On the 30th June we have the BIG BIG SHOW at Fishers Meadow where we will be celebrating the 999 Services. There are arena and static displays as well as a Dog Show, cars and much more. Pay at the gate, open to the public from 1000am-4.00pm.

Steve Smith QASM. Chairman

Saint James' Chit -Chat
Relax and meet new friends!
Thursday Morning
10.00am -12noon
 Saint James' Church
 School Lane
 Quedgeley
 GL2 4PN

Refreshments and newspapers available.
 Selection of books and board games
 You need never be bored!

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Quiet Day at Prinknash Abbey



Mothering Sunday March 2019



“Looking to the future”: St James' Away-Day at Prinknash

On the 30th March thirty-six members of St James church made their way to Prinknash Abbey to give thanks for the life we share together at St James Quedgeley. We were privileged to have the Reverend Guy Treweek with us to lead our thoughts and help us focus not only on what we have done together, but how we can go on building the Church in our parish.

We began by reflecting on the content of our “parish profile” - the document prepared by the church council when the parish was without a full-time priest. What work was being done, and what was needed in the future? There were several challenges: reaching out to young families and newcomers to the parish; building links with the local schools; caring for the older population; ensuring that our church was on a sound financial footing, so that the church building could be maintained and fit-for-purpose.



Father Guy asked us: “What excites you? Where has God placed you? What terrifies you? What can you give thanks for?” Father John gave a summary of things that have been achieved, and work that still needs to be carried out. He mentioned “Chatterbox” & “Chit Chat”, the involvement in local schools, especially in the two church schools Clearwater and Field Court Infants. The church council has been grappling with the plan to re-order the church interior; new study groups have now begun, the Church's healing ministry has increased; fund-raising events have provided vital financial resources.

Using post-it notes, we answered Fr Guy's questions. When it came to thanksgiving, there was a large number of responses which expressed thanks for the welcome which people had received on arrival at St James, and the friendships which have been formed. There were thanks for the support and encouragement given by all the clergy and for the prayer-support from the church family. Several people gave thanks for having a church building which is open and available - "we appreciate being able to use our church, not only for public worship but also for private prayer."

The responses tell how grateful we are for a listening ear – both human and divine, and for being able to "open up" to God and being able to share our faith (and our worries) with each other, and for being part of a rich Christian heritage.

What excites us? "Welcoming the children from Field Court to our Wednesday Eucharist, and the young families who come to STJ's." "Seeing so many mums and toddlers coming to Chatterbox". "The opportunity to study together and ask questions at our 'Come & Find Out' and our Lent & Advent groups".



"It is important to get involved in community action – supporting local charities, visiting local care homes, meeting families preparing for baptism, caring for the bereaved."

The Prinknash catering staff provided an excellent, and varied, lunch menu. As the weather was kind to us, we were able to take advantage of the lovely setting of the Abbey and spend some time in personal reflection or quiet debate with others.

Having thought about our present activities, we moved on to think about our priorities. Fr Guy gave us a verse from St Matthew – chapter 23 v 23: "Woe to you, Scribes & Pharisees..." where Jesus challenges our motives. How do we portray justice, mercy, and faithfulness? How we keep the two great commandments to love God and to love our neighbour as ourselves? Our call is: "To be faithful, in this season, with these people. God will do the rest."

We were reminded that day by day, week by week, we have encounters with all kinds of people, and we have opportunities to minister to them. The gardeners among us know all about sowing, waiting, and harvesting; the same is true in our encounters with people. There are always chances to “sow the seed” - by the things we say and do – and then the time of waiting for the “seed” to grow, before we can “gather in” to our Christian family. We were also reminded that God calls each one of us to work for him, just where we are; how are we to respond?



Our Eucharist gives us a shape for our lives and ministry – offering, receiving, sharing, and commissioning. Just as we offer gifts & lives to God, so we offer to one another. While receive essential gifts from God, we also receive from one another – as long as we are

At the end of our day together, we celebrated the Eucharist, at which the gospel reading was taken from St John chapter 4 – Jesus' encounter with a Samaritan woman at Jacob's well. His request for a drink led on to a conversation about “living water” and resulted in a large group of friends coming to Jesus. Through a chance meeting, new life and new hope came into being.



The final words to us were quite brief: “Be encouraged! God has placed us in his world, in a lively community; Go in peace, to love and serve the Lord!”

To make you smile!



Psalm 71 verse 9, says, '*Cast me not off in the time of old age; forsake me not when my strength faileth*'. So....

"Now that I am 81, there's so much more to do,
So please Dear Lord can I be spared, until I'm 82"!!
Lovell Cornwall.

FROM THE REGISTERS IN MARCH

HOLY BAPTISM

17TH Olivia Jessica Blyth-Gardner

“WELCOME INTO THE LORD’S FAMILY”

FUNERALS & CREMATIONS

11TH William Mawson (90)

12th Lilian Baker (79)

31st Margaret Curston (Burial of Ashes)

“ REST ETERNAL GRANT TO THEM O LORD”

SUMMER FAYRE
SATURDAY

15th June

12noon— 4.30pm

Saint James’ Church Yard

School Lane Quedgeley

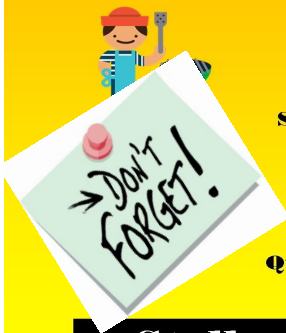
GL2 4PN

If raining

Quedgeley Community Centre

School Lane Quedgeley

Stalls Refreshments Music
Raffle



Easter Eggs Galore!

Despite the wind and rain, youngsters at Saint James' Chatterbox were out and about looking for Easter Eggs.

The Annual Easter Egg hunt at Saint James' Chatterbox took place last Tuesday. Youngsters eagerly donned wellingtons, coats and decorated paper bags to go and find the Easter egg tokens. Two tokens were allocated to each child. Most of the youngsters were successful as they ran around the church yard looking for clues.

Once found the tokens were exchanged for real chocolate Easter eggs.

As well as an Easter Egg hunt youngsters enjoyed an Egg and Spoon race down the aisles of Saint James' Church in Quedgeley where the organisation is based. Every child was a winner and each child was given a medal. At the end of the session Fr. John (Rector and Parish Priest) handed out chocolate Easter Eggs to be taken home and eaten on Easter Sunday.



Who's Who in the Parish



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Extended Church Office, in the vestry -No appointment necessary!

...for the Calling of Banns of Marriage; Holy Baptisms; Marriages etc.

WEDNESDAY 5.30 –6.30pm

SATURDAY 9.00—10.00am

Kingsway Community Centre

Saturday 11.00am –12noon

www.quedgeleychurch.org.uk

Printed by :Alpha Colour Printers Ltd., GL2 2AA, 01452 887000