



Notices Sunday 12th May, 2024

7th Sunday of Easter

Welcome to The Bridge church. If you are a visitor you can find out more about the life and ministry of the church by visiting our website www.thebridgeredditch.co.uk or by following our facebook page or X (formerly Twitter) account.

MAY FAYRE

A big thank you to everyone who played a part in making the day such a success. Another successful day for The Bridge in the Headless Cross community. Everything worked really well and we had over 150 people come for drinks, cake & toilets. Everyone was very complimentary on the standard of the cakes and the hall facilities.

We had a lovely team with those in the kitchen, the cake makers, the 'greeters' and 'chatters' outside and Julian doing a great job making sure everything was running smoothly. Well done everyone.

REGULAR GIVING

The new envelopes for June 24 onwards regular giving are now available on the bookcase on the North side of the church. If you would like to give to the work and ministry of The Bridge this way, or change to giving by standing order, please speak to Terry Bill.

PENTECOST ON THE GREEN

Churches together in Redditch have organised fun events at Church Green in the town centre next Sunday afternoon to mark Pentecost. Celebrations will begin at 2pm with a free BBQ, family fun with puppet vision and Book reading by local author, Amanda Worley. Events will culminate with a service of Celebration in St Stephen's at 3pm.



THY KINGDOM COME TO CRANHAM CLOSE

The Mothers' Union invites everyone, regardless of gender, to an afternoon at 6, Cranham Close, home of Kathy Batten, on Wednesday 15th May at 2pm. We shall be following the "Thy Kingdom Come" exhortation of Archbishop Justin. The MU are passionate about prayer and encourage everyone to join them to pray. This is a world-wide event, calling on people from all parts of the world to take part in this global wave of prayer. Resources are available at <https://www.thykingdomcome.global/>

EXPLORING ESTHER

The next Lunchtime Learning session organised by the Diocese of Worcester will be on Wednesday at 12.30pm. This month Archdeacon Nikki Groake will be focusing on the book of Esther, It tells of Esther's part in leading to a miraculous deliverance of the Jewish people in the face of antisemitism. During this session the Archdeacon of Dudley, Nikki Groarke will explore this story, its heroine, and its continuing relevance for today. As the session is on Zoom, booking is essential. <https://www.cofe-worcester.org.uk/calendar/985>

The subsequent session on Tuesday 4th June will explore the book of Judith delving once more into the mysteries of the Apocrypha, which can be found in some bibles between the Old and New Testaments.

Sunday 12th May, 2024

10.30am Morning Worship with Roger Ling
Acts 1:15-17, 21 to end,
Psalm 1, 1 John 5:9-13 and
John 17:6-19

Collect for 7th Sunday in Easter

O God the King of glory,
you have exalted your only Son Jesus
Christ with great triumph
to your kingdom in heaven:
we beseech you,
leave us not comfortless,
but send your Holy Spirit to strengthen us
and exalt us to the place
where our Saviour Christ is gone before,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Sunday 19th May - Pentecost

10.30am Holy Communion
Revd Ruth Wilson
Acts 2:1-21,
Psalm 104:26-36, 37b,
Romans 8:22-27
John 15: 26-27, 16:4b—15
2.00pm Pentecost on the Green
3.00pm Pentecost Celebration
in St Stephen's

Online Evening Prayer

<https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/join-us-service-daily-prayer>

CONTACT DETAILS

Revd. Ruth Wilson
ruth.wilson@methodist.org.uk

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Safeguarding

Please contact Fr Glenn Reading or Revd Ruth Wilson if you have any concerns

Diocesan Safeguarding Officer

Hilary Highton 07495 060 869
safeguardingadvice@cofe-worcester.org.uk

Rosie (Administrator)

thebridgeredditch@gmail.com

WEBSITE: www.thebridgeredditch.co.uk

We are also on facebook and X (formerly twitter)@bridgeredditch

GORGEOUS GERANIUMS, BEAUTIFUL BUSY LIZZIES AND LUSTROUS LOBELIA

Now that the rain has stopped you may be wondering how to fill your borders and pots this spring. Good news! The first of the geraniums are now available, with lobelias and busy lizzies to follow—a great way to bring some colour to your garden and donate to church funds.

THE WEEK AHEAD

Events in the hall unless stated otherwise

Monday 13th May

10.00am Toddlers

Tuesday 14th May

10.00am Little Fishes in the church

10.00am Exercise Class in the Hall

10.00am Holy Communion at Astwood Bank

6.30pm Girls' Brigade

Wednesday 15th May

10.00am Holy Communion in church

12.30pm Lunchtime Learning -
Exploring Esther held on Zoom -
booking essential

2.00pm Thy Kingdom Come
6 Cranham Cl

7.15pm Mercian Society

Thursday 16th May

10.00am Charity Shop

10.00am Holy Communion at Crabbs Cross

11.30am Wardens & Stewards at No.71.

1.30pm Philatelics Society

Friday 17th May

10.00am Charity Shop

6.30pm Boys Brigade

Saturday 18th May

9.00am 'Journeying Together' Circuit
Consultation at Studley
Methodist Church

JOURNEYING TOGETHER

Breakfast, Worship and Wondering

On Saturday 18th May you are invited to a Circuit morning at Studley Methodist Church, of continuing conversation and wondering together as the people of God; looking at the future mission and ministry of the circuit.

There will be the opportunity to hear the working parties ideas ahead of the Circuit meeting in June. Together we will worship, study scripture and share good news stories from our churches.

9.00am Breakfast

10.00am Coffee and Question Time

10.30am Pentecost Praise

11.00am Bible Study and sharing

12.00 noon Depart.

There will be plenty of parking in Pool Road car park, a short walk away from the church.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Wed 22 May 12noon Churchyard Workshop, Inkberrow

Tue 4 June 12.30am Getting to know the Book of Judith
Zoom—booking essential.

Wed 26 June 7.30pm Church Council at No.71

PRAYER WARRIORS REQUIRED

Christians Against Poverty are a debt help charity that works with some of the most vulnerable in society. We have a debt centre in Redditch. As part of our service we have a prayer team that pray for clients and our centre's needs. Often clients have never had prayers said for them. We are looking for more people to join our prayer team, so if you are a prayer warrior, and would like to know more, please contact:

Carol Summer - carolsummer@capuk.org 07863 715628 or

Caroline Gray - carolinegray@capuk.org 07713 716719

BISHOP JOHN ANNOUNCES RETIREMENT

Bishop John has announced his retirement later this year after nearly 17 years faithful service. There will be a farewell service at the Cathedral on Sunday 29th September.

Please remember Bishop John and his wife H-J as they prepare for this new chapter in their lives, for Bishop Martin as takes over as Acting Bishop until the new Bishop is appointed and for the new Bishop of Worcester.

CHURCHYARDS UNWRAPPED

The Diocese is running a workshop on churchyards on Wednesday 22nd May between 12noon and 2pm at Inkberrow church hall.

This workshop, which will include conversation with both the Archdeacon of Worcester and the Church Buildings Officer, offers an opportunity to meet and share with colleagues.

- What have you found helpful in dealing with difficult disputes?
- Where are you most aware of the need for support, and what sort of support would help?
- Where have you found opportunities in bringing the community together around the churchyard, whether for conservation and environmental projects, for educational opportunities, or simply as working parties and teams from the community generating a sense of ownership or belonging?

A sandwich lunch will be provided as part of the workshop, so please indicate your dietary requirements when signing up.

Booking essential - <https://www.cofe-worcester.org.uk/calendar/971>

HOBARTS FUNNIES

No, this isn't the introduction to a joke! Instead it is the title of the talk the Mercian Society, who will be meeting in the hall on Wednesday. If you have any interest in military history, do pop along and find out who, what, when or where was Hobart.

SUPPORTING THE LIFE & MINISTRY OF THE BRIDGE

We realise that many of you will want to make a donation to the life and ministry of the church, but many of us do not carry cash. Good news - there are other ways to give. You can scan the QR code or go to our website <https://www.thebridgeredditch.co.uk/> and click the link at the top of the home page which will provide details of the church bank account as below.

The Bridge Church Sort code 40-43-54 Account 81604015

Please put ref as "QR (then your name or leave blank)". If you would like your donation to go to any specific use, then please email our treasurer terry.bill@blueyonder.co.uk and let him know.

It would be useful if a few people could trial this new system and let us know how you get on.

If you prefer more traditional methods of payments you are still able to make donations by cash or cheque.

Cash donations are particularly welcome as we can reclaim Gift Aid even if you are not a tax payer. For further information speak to our Treasurer, Terry Bill. Thank you for supporting the life and mission of The Bridge.

