

Online

...linking the Beacon Parishes

Sunday 20th August – Sunday 27th August

Services this week – all are welcome!

20th August	11th Sunday after Trinity	
10.00am	Painswick	Holy Communion
11.00am	Harescombe & Edge	Holy Communion
6.30pm	Cranham	Evensong (BCP)

9.00am Wednesday 23rd August	Via Zoom	Beacon Prayer - for Zoom link please contact Lindsay Gardiner lindsay.gardiner@icloud.com or Karen Riding kriding07@yahoo.co.uk
9.30am Thursday 24th August	Via Zoom	Morning Prayer from Sheepscombe For link contact Karen Riding kriding07@yahoo.co.uk
27th August	12th Sunday after Trinity	
9.30am	Pitchcombe	Holy Communion (BCP)
10.00am	Painswick	Beacon Praise
11.00am	Cranham	Morning Prayer
11.00am	Sheepscombe	Holy Communion

Readings and Collect – 11th Sunday after Trinity

Isaiah 56.1,6-8

Romans 11.1-2a,29-32

Matthew 15.10-28

God of glory,
the end of our searching,
help us to lay aside
all that prevents us from seeking your kingdom,
and to give all that we have
to gain the pearl beyond all price,
through our Saviour Jesus Christ.

Message from Bishop Robert, 1 August 2023

Published: Tuesday August 1, 2023

In this, my last contribution before I begin my sabbatical on Friday, I want to express my particular thanks to our retired clergy.

Among them are those who hold Permission to Officiate and as such are able to accept invitations to preach and lead worship in the parishes and communities of the Diocese, some regularly preaching and leading worship and serving, others simply leading the occasional service. There are others who no longer lead public worship yet still live out their ministry in many prayerful and quietly supportive ways. Each is a gift to the life of the church in our Diocese for which Bishop Rachel and I are deeply grateful.



As I get to spend time with them, I am struck so often by the wisdom that they bring to the church, often from many years of experience of ministry, of walking and interpreting the joys and the challenges of the journey of life with the people of God. I am also so thankful for their faith rooted in a deep rhythm of prayer and understanding of the scriptures, and for their service. This sense of service is one of the significant markers of their ministry, for in retirement clergy with Permission to Officiate no longer hold the authority or responsibility of being an incumbent or chaplain, they have no assigned duties or rights, but offer a ministry of response to invitation and need that is given with grace.

For some there is understandably an initial struggle – what is my place when I no longer hold this office or title, but nearly always this is followed by liberation and a new delight in life given as a gift, not always easy, but to be lived with abundance in Christ. I am grateful for their leading of worship – in many places essential to maintain current patterns of worship, but I am even more grateful for their deeper gift of quiet faith and witness to the power and presence of Christ.

Writing of the Sabbath in his book of the same name, Abraham Heschel says, 'He who wants to enter the holiness of the day must first lay down the profanity... of being yoked to toil and learn to understand the world has already been created and will survive without the help of man... on the Sabbath we especially care for the seeds of eternity planted in the soul.'

For those of us who live busy lives, there is wisdom to be learnt here and it may be that as we enter August, which for many of us may well be marked by living life with a different rhythm, there is opportunity for us to practise this discipline. As I begin the sabbath of sabbatical, I am thankful indeed for those who share this wisdom with us, clergy and lay, as we seek together to be disciples of the one who call us to life, whose yoke is easy and burden is light.

+ Robert

Beacon People and Prayers

Our prayers are asked for all who are sick, especially **Rebecca Applebee-Crabb, Maurice Maggs and Andy Sutton**. Pray for all those people, whether they are relatives or friends, who care for the sick and disabled in their own homes and for those undergoing cancer treatment at this time. We also remember before God all who have died recently, especially **Robert Workman, Eileen Minchin and Ben Hancock**; and all whose anniversaries of death fall at this time. May they and all the departed rest in peace and rise in glory.

We continue to pray for all the charities which this benefice supports, including Christian Aid, GARAS, Marah, The Door, Stroud Citizens Advice, Stroud Foodbank, The Childrens Society and The Vine Project and all from our churches and villages who work in the NHS and in care homes, particularly Paradise House, Richmond and Resthaven.

We pray for all our neighbours, co-workers, friends and family who don't yet know the Good News of Jesus. We continue to pray: Thy Kingdom Come here in this Beacon Benefice.

Good news

Leading Intercessions. We will be holding a Benefice 'workshop' to learn from, encourage and support each other in the leading of intercessions in our services. This is such an important part of our worship, and we are grateful to the very many people in our parishes who share this ministry. We hope that this will be an opportunity to share good practice - what makes 'good' intercessions, and perhaps - even if you are well experienced - to pick up some new thoughts and ideas. Also, this will be a wonderful opportunity to invite anyone from your church who may be interested in starting to lead intercessions, so that they can meet others and become confident.

We will run the workshop on **Mon 4th Sept 7pm-8.30pm. Venue: Church Rooms, Painswick**

Please could you email Mike Campbell mike@mc-cc.co.uk to let him know if, you are able to come.

Helen Sammon and Mike Campbell.

Mary's Mum's update – 'take two...'



Last week, I rashly (as it turns out) promised you a link to our little video trailer for the St Mary's Mums group starting this September. Elijah (as you can probably tell) did his part beautifully, performing everything from moody heartthrob to relaxed man-about-the-church-rooms, like a pro. I on the other hand, was a total amateur and had my camera set to photo instead of video the whole way through... We are currently setting for a re-take. However, if you like and follow the 'Painswick Church' page on Facebook you will be able to see the finished result as soon as its up and if you then share the video when it arrives, we will be reaching mums and babes for miles around in no time. *Liz Eden*

Sportily Update

A poster for Sportily Hangout. The top half has a dark blue background with yellow chevron arrows pointing right. The text 'SPORTILY HANGOUT' is in large white letters. Below it, in white, is 'Painswick Youth and Community Pavilion, Lower Washwell Lane, Painswick GL6 6XW'. Then, in yellow, 'Every Monday in term time'. Below that, in white, '5-6pm for school years 5-6' and '6-7pm for school years 7-13'. Then, in white, 'Play games, hangout, chat, explore the Christian faith and eat food!'. Then, in yellow, 'Cost: £1 per session (First week free, use code FREESESSION)'. Then, in white, 'Click here to sign up or scan the QR code'. Below that is a QR code and the URL 'sportily.org.uk/beacon'. The bottom half of the poster shows a group of children in orange sports kits running on a grassy field.

SPORTILY HANGOUT
Painswick Youth and Community Pavilion, Lower Washwell Lane, Painswick GL6 6XW
Every Monday in term time
5-6pm for school years 5-6
6-7pm for school years 7-13
Play games, hangout, chat, explore the Christian faith and eat food!
Cost: £1 per session (First week free, use code FREESESSION)
Click here to sign up or scan the QR code

sportily.org.uk/beacon

Hangout is going weekly once we get to September and please pray for Mark as he plans the first term's sessions and the team who will be involved.

As ever, we would love to hear from anyone interested in getting involved with Sportily by helping at an event, receiving our newsletter, contributing financially or by joining our monthly prayer meetings. If that's you - please get in touch with Victoria Soutar 07900451248 or mark.trubey@sportily.org.uk

For more information contact
mark.trubey@sportily.org.uk
07949 111 817
sportily.org.uk



More Good News

‘Join our Prayers’ in Edge

Prayer time in Edge Church begins again on September 4th.

Prayer time will resume in Edge Church on the first Monday of the month. We meet at 9.30am and pray for half an hour. If you would like to come, you would be very welcome or if you would like us to pray for you or your family please send an email to Ann Kennett at a.kennett279@gmail.com



Notices

FOODBANK Please note, there will be **NO** collection in Painswick in August. Our next collection will be in September. You can still give at supermarkets or if you wish to make a bank donation, you can do so using the following details:

Stroud District Foodbank CIO Sort code: 09-01-29 Account: 21994911

We wish you all a good summer and thank you for continuing to support the Stroud Foodbank.

In July the Beacon Benefice donated a total of 86.4 kg to Foodbank.

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Raise the Roof Cream Teas - a big thank you to all who came and to all those who helped. The weather was good, the Church Rooms filled quickly and stayed full so the many helpers were kept busy! It was definitely worthwhile as about £450 were raised. Thank you everyone.

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Communion at Home and in Residential Homes. A small group of parishioners met with Revd Helen Sammon recently at St. Mary's and had a preliminary discussion about Communion at people's homes or in Residential Homes. Led by Helen, we discussed the rules, important principles, liturgy and equipment. We shared our previous experience of administering home and Residential Home communion and of receiving home communion either when we or a loved one were too ill to get to church. It was clear that everyone felt that home communion and communion services at Richmond Village and Resthaven were highly valued and important aspects of the Beacon Benefice ministry. These aspects need to be continued and indeed extended by us as a group, making sure that parishioners are aware that communion at home is available to them and their loved ones. We need to understand that someone happy to receive home communion one day may not be happy to do so on another occasion, depending on their health and state of mind at the time. We discussed the importance of respecting each individual's preferences and adjusting our liturgy, appearance and attitude accordingly. I feel it a privilege to take the church to people at home who are unable through ill health or failing mobility to come to church and look forward to future instruction and discussion with Helen and the group.

Mary Sparks

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**Cranham Tennis Club Night** will run every Thursday from **6.00 to 8.00** until Thursday, August 31st. Everyone is welcome, regardless of ability; the first three sessions will be open to any Non-Members who just want to have a try. So please just come along, hit some balls and have some fun. Contact David Bonney (812120) for any more details.

## Singing from the Heart – 7<sup>th</sup> October 2023

Come and enjoy the beauty of singing together

During the day we will learn simple sacred songs, chants and harmonies, mainly drawn from the Christian tradition. Singing from the heart helps us to connect, individually and collectively, with the flow of Universal Love. Through doing this, we can experience and reflect on singing as a spiritual practice. This can be meaningful for many people, whether their spirituality is linked to a particular faith tradition or to none. We will learn the chants by ear so you do not need to be able to read music or be an experienced singer to enjoy this!

### Programme:

10.00 - 10.30 Arrive/Refreshments

10.30 - 12.30 Introduction to singing from the heart. Singing as a spiritual practice. Learning sacred chants and songs with harmonies together.

12.30 - 13.30 Lunch - please bring your own lunch. Coffee, teas and cake will be provided.

13.30 – 15.00 Learning and sharing sacred chants and songs.

15.00 - 16.00 We shall end with a Singing offering in St Mary's Church, Painswick.

**Venue: The Church Rooms, St Mary's Church, Painswick GL6 6UT.**

The Stamages Lane public car park is next to the venue. Street Parking is also possible on Churchill Way, Hyett Close and The Croft. Nearest rail station is Stroud from where a bus service leaving from Merrywalks Shopping Centre stop at 9.30am, (66 gold/ 166) takes you to Painswick.

Advanced booking is essential. If you would like to come, or want some further information, please contact Andrew Clark, preferably by email: [andrewjbclark@outlook.com](mailto:andrewjbclark@outlook.com) or by mobile: 07729118876.

Cost: Donations welcome (suggested amount £20).

Andrew Clark worked for nearly 30 years as a psychiatrist and psychotherapist in the NHS, before retiring in 2017. His earliest experience of singing was in a church choir and over many years of singing in choirs as well as on retreats and pilgrimages, he deeply appreciates the therapeutic and spiritual impact of singing. He now feels increasingly called to use heart-centred singing and sounding as a way to develop our heart consciousness.

## Coffee Hotspots

**Edge Coffee Morning** Last Friday of the month, the next one will be on the 26<sup>th</sup> August 10.30am Edge Village Hall.

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Sheepscombe Coffee Morning First & Third Thursday of the month, the next one will be on the 7th August 10.00 – 11.30am Sheepscombe Village Hall.

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**Pitchcombe Coffee Morning** Second Tuesday of the month, the next one will be on the 12<sup>th</sup> September at 10.30am in the Church.

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Cranham Pop-up Café. Will be taking a break for August.

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**Community Hub Friday Coffee Morning** every Friday 10.00am - 11.30 in Painswick Town Hall. Tea, coffee and home-made cakes. All are welcome.

## Church Opening Times

**Painswick** – 9.30am - 6pm in summer months, and 9.30am - 4pm in winter.

**Pitchcombe** - 9am - 5pm

**Cranham** - 10am - 5pm during the summer. During winter it will close as darkness falls.

**Harescombe** - always open

**Sheepscombe** – 9am – 5pm

**Edge** - 9am – 5pm

All church opening & closing is done by volunteers, these timings can be flexible to a degree.

## Contacts

Rector: Rev'd Sarah Haslam Tel: 07870 126048 Email: [beaconrector@gmail.com](mailto:beaconrector@gmail.com)

Associate Priest: Rev'd Andrew Leach Tel: 07564 448692 Email: [ajpleach@gmail.com](mailto:ajpleach@gmail.com)

Benefice Intercessory Prayer Coordinator: Mike Campbell Tel: 07812 000646 Email: [beaconbeneficeministry@gmail.com](mailto:beaconbeneficeministry@gmail.com)

Benefice Administrator: Bea Hyde Tel: 07833727701 Email: [beaconbeneficeoffice@gmail.com](mailto:beaconbeneficeoffice@gmail.com)

Benefice Office: The Lychgate, Stroud Road, Painswick, GL6 6UT Tel: 07833727701

Website: [www.beaconbenefice.org.uk](http://www.beaconbenefice.org.uk)

Cranham Community Response Team: The initial contact for Cranham residents is: Tel: 07973 340227 [nigelrobincooper@gmail.com](mailto:nigelrobincooper@gmail.com).

The Painswick Community Support initiative provides community support for Painswick. If you need support, please contact 07956 203087 [painswickcommunity@gmail.com](mailto:painswickcommunity@gmail.com)

## Thank you

Thank you to all who contribute to Beacon Light, from proof reading to providing us with prayer requests, it all helps. Please send information, pictures and articles for the next Beacon Light Online to [beaconbeneficeoffice@gmail.com](mailto:beaconbeneficeoffice@gmail.com) by **Tuesday 5pm at the latest**.

## Bless you

The Lord bless you and keep you;  
the Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you;  
the Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace.  
**Amen.**