

# ST MARY'S, BERROW AND ST BRIDGET'S, BREAN

SHARING THE LOVE OF JESUS IN OUR LOCAL COMMUNITY AND BEYOND

For news and info from across Berrow and Brean and the wider church

24th June 2022

## Dates for your diary

### Sunday Services

|           |         |                                      |
|-----------|---------|--------------------------------------|
| 26th June | 9:00am  | Morning Praise, St Bridget's Brean   |
|           | 10:30am | Holy Communion, St Mary's Berrow     |
| 3rd July  | 9:00am  | Holy Communion, St Bridget's Brean   |
|           | 10:30am | Praise Service, St Mary's Berrow     |
| 10th July | 10:30am | LEP Service, Brean Methodist Church  |
|           | 10:30am | Holy Communion, St Mary's Berrow     |
| 17th July | 9:00am  | Holy Communion, St Bridget's Brean   |
|           | 10:30am | Morning Praise, St Mary's Berrow     |
| 24th July | 9:00am  | Morning Praise, St Bridget's Brean   |
|           | 10:30am | Holy Communion, St Mary's Berrow     |
| 31st July | 10:00am | Benefice Service, St Bridget's Brean |

### Midweek Prayer/Services

|                 |        |                            |
|-----------------|--------|----------------------------|
| 29th June only  | 8:00pm | Night Prayer (Online)      |
| Every Wednesday | 9:30am | Morning Prayer (St Mary's) |

### Berrow and Brean Community Cafés and Hubs

|                |             |                     |
|----------------|-------------|---------------------|
| Every Tuesday  | 1:00-3:00pm | Berrow Village Hall |
| Every Thursday | 1:00-3:00pm | Brean Village Hall  |

### Little Seedlings (Parent and baby/toddler group)

Wednesdays term time only 9:30-11:30am Church Room

### Fun Club (school years 4-6) and Some Thing (years 7-9)

Friday 8th July (FC) and Friday 22nd July (ST)

### Encounters, Julian Group and Bible Meditations

Thursdays weekly 7:30pm St Mary's Church Room

### 2-3 Club

Friday 15th July 2:00-3:00pm Berrow Village Hall

### Cream Teas

Every Saturday and Sunday 2:00-4:00pm Church Room

For more information please see the calendar on our website.

Dear all,

This edition of the newsletter is another bumper one. There are lots of opportunities to be a part of exciting things happening within Berrow and Brean, across the Axbridge Deanery and the wider Diocese of Bath and Wells.

One of the things you will notice as you read through the newsletter is that there is a lot about prayer. This is not an accident. The world is an unpredictable place at the moment with the war in Ukraine, increasing costs of living that I imagine are affecting many of us here locally, environmental challenges to face, and many other things that we might bring to mind.

Bringing these things before God in prayer is one of the most important things we can do. You will find information about a diocesan day of prayer looking at some of these issues and also anticipating the arrival of the new Bishop of Bath and Wells. You will also find information about a diocesan week of prayer for young people, and this is so important for churches who are struggling to engage with young people, but also gives us the chance to thank God for all the good things that are happening here locally.

You will find information about a change to our weekly times of prayer, and some suggestions for joining in prayer together for our own local community (including the benefice prayer diary).

At the APCMs this year (and in services since), I have asked us to consider what it might look like to be centres of hope in Berrow and Brean. I think that if this is something that we really want to explore, one of the best ways to start is to look at committing to prayer together for God is at work, and calling us to join in with what is happening. In prayer we can start to do just that.

Rev Jonathan Philpott

|                        |                                   |                            |              |
|------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------|
| <b>Contact details</b> | Revd Jonathan Philpott (Rector)   | berrowandbrean@gmail.com   | 01278 751806 |
|                        | Revd Jo Healey (Assistant Curate) | rev.joannabarr@outlook.com | 01278 781014 |

|                |                          |                             |                                     |
|----------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <b>Website</b> | www.berrowandbrean.co.uk | <b>Church Room Bookings</b> | stmaryschurchroombookings@gmail.com |
|----------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------|

### Readings and Collect for 26th June (Trinity 2)

Faithful Creator, whose mercy never fails: deepen our faithfulness to you and to your living Word, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Galatians 5:1, 13-25      Luke 9:51-62

#### Readings for 3rd July:

Romans 8:31-39      Psalm 139:1-18 (St Mary's)  
Galatians 6:1-16      Luke 10:1-11,16-20 (St Bridget's)

#### Readings for 10th July:

Colossians 1:1-14      Luke 10:25-37

#### Readings for 17th July:

Colossians 1:15-28      Luke 10:38-42

#### Readings for 24th July:

Colossians 2:6-15      Luke 11:1-13

#### Readings for 31st July:

*TBC (Sea Sunday special service)*

### Sea Sunday benefice service on 31st July

Our next benefice service will take place at St Bridget's Breaon on 31st July starting at 10:00am. Our joint benefice services are an important time to share in worship and fellowship with one another across our 2 churches, and this service will be marking Sea Sunday.

### Diocesan Day of Prayer on 30th June

You are invited to join in a day of prayer in our diocese on 30 June. It will be an opportunity to gather together, or individually, to pray for Bishop Michael and the new chapter in the life of Bath and Wells his appointment will bring, and to pray for ourselves. It also offers a chance to think about and to pray for the challenging times we are all facing; the cost-of-living crisis, the war in Ukraine and the financial concerns of the Church and our diocese.

Bishop Ruth said, "The Day of Prayer will also be an opportunity to consider the generosity and abundance of God's grace and gifts to us alongside the need for us to face the future with realism and hope."

There are lots of ways to join in. There will be online gatherings via Zoom at 10:00am, 1:00pm, 4:00pm and 7:00pm. There is a Day of Prayer prayer wall and also resources on the final page of this newsletter.

For more information, please see <https://www.bathandwells.org.uk/news/a-diocesan-day-of-prayer-30-june.php>

### Thank you to Bishop Ruth

In the last newsletter, you may have seen details of the new Bishop of Bath and Wells who will be coming to join us in the autumn. Bishop Ruth has done an amazing job in holding the diocese during the vacancy since Bishop Peter left. There is a plan to say thank you to Bishop Ruth for all that she has done especially during this time and so anyone who would like to is invited to send messages that will be collected together and made into a book that will be presented to her. If you would like to submit a message, please send them to Jane Haslam via [alfredjewelrector@btinternet.com](mailto:alfredjewelrector@btinternet.com) by Friday 19th August. Please do contribute if you can. Thank you!

### Celebration of Lay Ministries

Celebration of Lay Ministries... for everyone! This year's special service is taking place on Saturday 2 July from 1pm at Wells Cathedral.

God calls us all and everyone is needed and this special Celebration is a recognition, affirmation, encouragement and thanks, for all that people generously give to the life of the church and their communities.

At the celebration there will be a service of worship, a marketplace of stalls with information about ministries, courses, events and opportunities that are available. But most importantly it is a chance for us to thank you for what you are doing.

If you would like to be a part of this celebration, you will need to book via <https://www.bathandwells.org.uk/celebration-of-lay-ministries-booking>

### Midweek Prayer

We have been looking at the pattern of our midweek prayer for a little while and have made the decision that from the beginning of July we will be stopping our online Night Prayer service. Now that we can meet in person, and to avoid the confusion of trying to remember which week it is, Morning Prayer will become weekly on Wednesdays at 9:30am at St Mary's Berrow.

If you have never been, this is a short reflective service based on the Northumbria community liturgy allowing lots of space to simply come and be. There is space to pray either out loud or in the quiet as you prefer. Do come along as these times of prayer together are so important.

### **Week of Prayer for Young People**

Following the Diocesan Day of Prayer there will be a 'Week of Prayer for Young People' from 3 to 9 July headed by the Go Team.

As we continue to emerge from the pandemic we are beginning to understand the impact the last few years have had on children and young people, families and schools.

Churches, groups and individuals across Bath and Wells are encouraged to join in prayer for children and young people, their families and their schools, during the week, using a simple Prayer Guide that provides themes and prayer prompts for each day.

The prayer guide is attached to this newsletter. Please do join in with this important week of prayer and especially hold in mind our young people at Little Seedlings, Little Fishers, Fun Club and Some Thing.

### **For your prayers**

As you may know, we have a Prayer Diary for Berrow and Brean, and we would love to encourage you to join us in praying each day using this as it is a really great way of being united in our prayers.

Please pray for the different things that are in this newsletter, and for the groups that offer people the chance to grow in their faith.

Please continue to pray for our community cafe and hubs, and for the young people who attend our youth and children's groups.

Please pray for those from our churches who are taking part in the deanery Exploring Worship course, and for those currently serving as Lay Worship Assistants and Lay Pastoral Assistants here in Berrow and Brean.

Please continue to pray for Bishop Ruth as she exercises ministry across the diocese, and for Bishop Michael as he prepares to join us.

The Anglican Communion Lambeth Conference is taking place between 15th July and 26th August this year. This is a once in a decade gathering of bishops from across the worldwide Anglican Communion, and represent a wide range of voices and experiences of churches and communities from around the world. Please pray for them as they come together to explore what it means to be @God's Church for God's World."

### **New Deanery Mission Plan**

St Mary's and St Bridget's are both part of the Axbridge Deanery which extends from the coast across to Westbury-sub-Mendip. For the last 6 years or so we have been working together as churches using the last version of our deanery mission plan which looked at identifying champions in particular areas of ministry so that churches could benefit from this expertise.

(Sort of) post-covid the world has changed significantly from when the plan was written and it is felt that now is the time to begin re-writing it looking forward to what might happen in the future.

We feel that it is right to shape the new plan around the 5 marks of mission which we have talked about here in Berrow and Brean previously and form part of the Church of England vision for the 2020s. But we need your help!

Firstly, you will find attached to this newsletter a grid with more information about the 5 marks of mission. If you could complete one and return it to Rev Jonathan Philpott (preferably online) it would be really helpful to the deanery mission and pastoral group in terms of getting a snapshot of what is already happening across the deanery in response to the 5 marks of mission. We are not expecting churches to be experts in all of them, so just talk about what you know.

Secondly, we are looking for people who have an interest in any of the 5 marks of mission to join small working groups of clergy and lay people working together to help shape the draft mission plan. So if this is something you would be interested in being a part of, again please talk to Rev Jonathan Philpott.

These are both opportunities to take part in helping to shape the future of the deanery so please take part if you can.

### **Village Hall Cleaner vacancy**

Berrow Village Hall are looking for a new part time cleaner. The role will be 8 hours a week, with a salary of £10/hour. If you are interested, please contact Owen Davies on 07889 093797.

## Diocesan Day of Prayer, 30 June 2022

As a diocese, nation and world we face many challenges: thinking about what it means to emerge from, or live with, Covid; concerns about the rising cost of living, the reduction in the number of stipendiary clergy and the threat of Climate Change.

We are also at a time of transition: some of that transition is linked to the way in which we respond to the challenges, but we are also anticipating with joy the arrival of our new diocesan bishop, Bishop Michael.

So let us bring our hopes and fears to God in prayer – joining together across the diocese. You may want to use the Four Points of Prayer leaflet ([insert link](#)) or simply use some or all of the prayers and sentences below with your church, PCC or as part of your usual pattern of worship.

### Blessing:

*'Bless the Lord my soul, and do not forget all his benefits!' Psalm 103*

*Reflecting on the blessings we have received:*

Faithful and generous God, our help in ages past, and our hope for years to come, we rejoice that you bless us with so much that is good ... We thank you for all that we see you doing and ask your blessing on all that we seek to do in your name. Amen

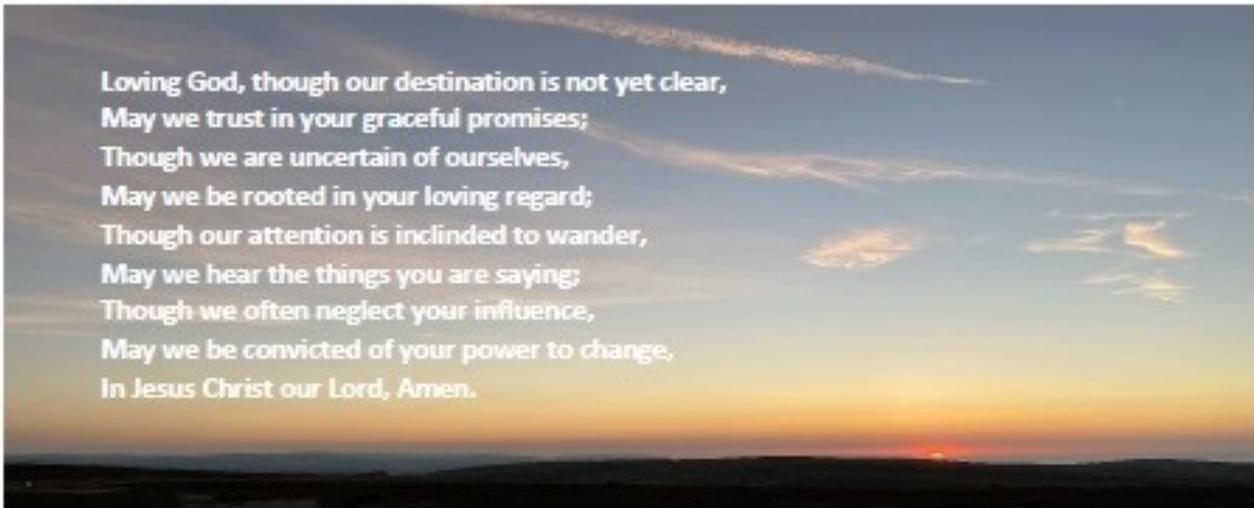
### Challenge:

*'We are afflicted in every way but not crushed, perplexed but not driven to despair' Romans 8*

*Reflecting on the challenges we are seeing or experiencing:*

Lord, as we reflect on the challenges we face, and that we see others facing, we ask you to help us to remember that you are present and that we can do all things through the strength that comes from you. We pray that you will send people to work alongside us in the building of your kingdom and that we will have the grace to work alongside those you send. Amen

### Sending out into the future:



Loving God, though our destination is not yet clear,  
May we trust in your graceful promises;  
Though we are uncertain of ourselves,  
May we be rooted in your loving regard;  
Though our attention is inclined to wander,  
May we hear the things you are saying;  
Though we often neglect your influence,  
May we be convicted of your power to change,  
In Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.