

"I personally hope, says Bishop Rachel, that people will not shirk from celebrating St George's Day, and that the flag will be flown confidently from our church buildings with a renewed delight and confidence in the Church we want to be for and in England. We rejoice that the flag of St George is the national flag of England and contains a cross as a sign of our Christian heritage."

As we continue our journey through spring I rejoice in blue skies and warm sunshine alongside the rain, although we haven't had a lot recently; and enjoy the awakening of the spring flowers and realise that the birds had not only found their voices but remembered the tunes as well – the dawn chorus starts about 4.30am at the moment – beautiful!

The days are longer and new life is all around us. The resurrection of Jesus promises new life, to us all; it's up to us to decide how we respond to that gift, individually or together. Christ was raised from the dead; he cannot die again; death no longer has mastery over him. The death he died, he died to sin once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God; in the same way, we can count ourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus.

As we journey through the Easter season through to Ascension Day, Pentecost, Trinity Sunday and beyond, may you all daily be reminded of the transforming love of God that he has for each of us. I pray that love and hope be poured out upon us all through the power of the Holy Spirit at work within us and between us amongst the Oak Hill Team of Parishes, and in the wider world, enabling us to bring God's love to all we meet. And so, amid these most challenging times may we prayerfully live always within the breath of Jesus Christ, receiving life from him on our journeys. The Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom and new life! Happy Easter Season Blessings. Julia x

ALDERTON

CHURCH HEATING: We are delighted to say that the electrical heating system has now been installed in the Church. We have been very impressed with the Gas Engineers and the team of Electricians who kept to their time scales, kept us informed and left the Church tidy. We would like to **THANK EVERYONE** in our great village community who so generously contributed towards the heating system which is hugely appreciated. We would also like to **THANK** the Parish Council, Enover Community Trust, Benefact Trust, C of E Net Zero Hardship Fund and the Diocese of Gloucester Net Zero Hardship Fund for giving us grants towards the costs. We have tested the heaters and all is working well so we are set up for the autumn and winter. We are pleased to say that Church is now open again in daylight hours.

CONCERT IN CHURCH: Music for a Summer Evening on **SATURDAY 9TH MAY at 6pm:** The North Cotswold Singers are a c.30-strong choir based in Willersey, with a wide-ranging repertoire of songs and a passion to share the joy of singing! They are directed and accompanied by husband-and-wife team Paula Evans and Chris Long, two professional musicians from Pershore with extensive backgrounds in performance and music education, in classical, contemporary, folk and other musical styles. Their current repertoire includes music by The Beatles, Bob Chilcott, Norwegian composer Ola Gjeilo and Tomas Luis de Victoria alongside traditional English and Scottish folksong and popular favourites: a North Cotswold Singers concert is an entertaining and moving experience, suitable for all ages and tastes! There will be a paying bar and light refreshments - tickets at £10 are available from Helen West helenmarywest4@gmail.com 07941 373030 and Gill Cogzell gillian.klapper@gmail.com. 07746 970438.

Will Cook's funeral is **TUESDAY 5th MAY** at 1pm in St Margaret's Church.

History Talk will be on the medieval Marian marks that can be found all around the Church, led by a local historian with a great knowledge about them. This will be on **SATURDAY 13th JUNE at 6pm** and will start in the village hall, coming down to Church to be shown the marks. More details to follow – come and find out what they are!

A date for your diary – **SATURDAY 18TH JULY** for the Summer Fair.

GREAT WASHBOURNE

Some dates for your diaries over the coming months.

The Great Washbourne **SUMMER EVENT** takes place on **FRIDAY 19TH JUNE**, Great Washbourne House, **6.30pm. Supper, Music, Bar, Raffle and Games.**

Our **HARVEST SERVICE AND LUNCH** will take place on **SUNDAY 20TH SEPTEMBER**, at the church, a **12noon** service followed by lunch at 1pm.

Our **FAMILY QUIZ NIGHT** will be on **SATURDAY 14TH NOVEMBER**.
More details for all these events to follow.

DUMBLETON

MANY THANKS to everyone who donated items during Lent for the North Cotswold Food Bank. We have received a letter of gratitude from the Winchcombe depot, and you will be delighted to note that our donations amounted to approximately 45kgs.

Following the wonderful Palm Sunday Concert held in St Peter's we are pleased to say that after expenses both Alderton and Dumbleton churches each received £130 from the proceeds. **MANY THANKS** to Shelley and The Kenelm Singers for a lovely evening.

SATURDAY 9th MAY at 6pm. There will be a most excellent Concert in **Alderton Church given by the NORTH COTSWOLD SINGERS**, directed by Paula Evans, and accompanied by Chris Long two gifted professional musicians from Pershore. The concert is a fundraising event for both Dumbleton and Alderton parishes and promises to be an evening not to be missed. Tickets £10 are available from Tricia Steggles, email triciasteggles@icloud.com, Tel 01386 882049.

TRINITY SUNDAY 31st MAY, is the 5th Sunday of the month and the service for our four parishes will be held here in Dumbleton at 10.30am. All are welcome.

More details next month about the Village **PIG ROAST on SATURDAY JUNE 27th**.
Be sure to make a note of the date.

WORMINGTON

WVS news - A big **THANK YOU** to all participants in the Easter Egg hunt and thanks to Jim and Maggie for the use of their paddock.

Bar nights – 15th & 29th May, **Quiz Night** 13th June details to follow.

SERVICES FOR MAY 2026

Lectionary Year A

3 rd May 1 st Sunday E5 White	9.00am GREAT WASHBOURNE Easter Season HC	10.30am DUMBLETON Easter Season HC	1 Peter 2.2-10 Acts 7.55-end John 14.1-14
Wednesday 6 th May		10.00am - Alderton 'Said' Easter Season HC	
10 th May 2 nd Sunday E6 White	9.00am WORMINGTON Easter Season HC	10.30am ALDERTON Easter Season HC	Acts 17. 22-31 John 14.15-21
Thursday 14 th May	Ascension Day		
17 th May 3 rd Sunday E7 White	9.00am GT WASHBOURNE Easter Season HC	10.30am DUMBLETON Easter Season HC	Acts 1.6-14 John 17.1-11
24 th May 4 th Sunday PENTECOST RED	6.00pm WORMINGTON Choral Evensong	10.30am ALDERTON PENTECOST HC	Acts 2.1-21 John 20.19-23 or John 7.37-39
31 st May 5 th Sunday TRINITY SUNDAY White	10.30am DUMBLETON TRINITY HC		Isaiah 40.12-17, 27-end 2 Cor 13.11-end Matthew 28.16-end
7 th June 1 st Sunday [Proper 5] T1 Green	9.00am GREAT WASHBOURNE HC CW	10.30am DUMBLETON HC CW	Hosea 5.15-6.6 Romans 4.13-end Matthew 9.9-13;18-26

CHURCHWARDENS

ALDERTON

Mrs S Reid, 4 Culls Meadow, Toddington

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GREAT WASHBOURNE

Mrs J. Kent, Washbourne House, Gt. Washbourne

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Mrs Jane Harrington, Orchard View, Great Washbourne

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DUMBLETON (PCC Secretary and Wedding Secretary)

Mrs T. Steggles, Bracklin, Main St. Dumbleton

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WORMINGTON

Mr J. Evetts, Middle Hill Farm, Saintbury, Worcs.

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