

# OAK HILL PARISHES

(Alderton, Gt. Washbourne, Dumbleton & Wormington)

Vicar: Revd Julia Hook, The Rectory, Alderton,

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## SEPTEMBER 2021



### Sustainability/Responsibility!

Dear Friends

September is a time for new beginnings. We come back fresh [hopefully] from restorative [hopefully] holidays. New uniform is bought, new pencils for new pencil cases. Another school year begins, and for some that means major life changes. This is especially true of those who a few weeks ago were at a junior school and who now [gulp!] face the unknown at a secondary school.

Also for many of us, and especially for those who have been ‘furloughed’ for such a long time, having been deprived of gathering for many months, some of us are excited and some rather more cautious about this part of the journey we have come to as a nation. The necessity of waiting is one thing we all have in common since the arrival of Coronavirus, we’ve all been learning to wait. So, as we emerge from Coronavirus restrictions, I’m reflecting on what we have learned from the experience of waiting.

Deadlines had been set and future aspirations discussed; timetables had been modified; events rescheduled or cancelled altogether. There had been fewer opportunities to get out and about and our prayers for those who have suffered illness, bereavement, unemployment or financial difficulty had often exposed our own vulnerability, e.g. experiencing bereavement within my own family.

In my case, the diary was less frenetic and we had been blessed in spending more time together at home. Our usual leisure activities had been placed on hold, except for jogging, but we’ve valued our series of meetings on Zoom, catching up with family and friends whilst saving both time and expense. Closer to home, we’ve discovered the delights of the countryside and enjoyed watching birds, pheasants, bees, deer, squirrels and butterflies, with more time to watch, wait and take each day as it comes. For some, lockdown was a reminder of the value of our home and what we’ve got on our doorsteps.

But despite these advantages, we’ve been keenly aware of the restrictions that the pandemic has presented and often, like many others, found ourselves waiting impatiently for the next public announcement promising fewer limitations and greater freedom.

Yet in scripture Jesus says, “Do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today’s trouble is enough for today.” How true, as once again we hear more about the troubles of the world more so than the pandemic....the tragedy in Afghanistan, floods, wild fires, and climate change to name but a few.

With regards to us 'doing our bit' amongst our own communities, Kate Starkey, resident in Alderton has arranged a meeting to discuss **Sustainability**. Kate has managed to secure a brief talk from Raechel Kelly of The Liminality, who spearheads Planet Cheltenham. It's planned Raechel, will 'give us all a great base understanding of just how important community level effort is to reduce the impact of climate change. She will also give a taster of what's been done successfully elsewhere', says Kate. It's planned after Rachael's talk, there will be a 30-minute discussion/brainstorming session to potentially come away with a few ideas to take forward. Please do contact Kate on 07975 749141, text or WhatsApp if you are interested in attending - the date is **Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> September at 7.30pm in the village hall, Alderton.**

So as we emerge into a "living with Coronavirus world," with its greater flexibility and increased personal responsibility, may we use our freedom to live every day to the full, appreciating each present moment as a gift from God and waiting on his good time for the revealing of his purpose.

God's love for us goes on forever. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever. If all we see around us is, as the hymn puts it, 'change and decay', then the God who is unchanging is faithful and constant in his abiding and reassuring presence with us.

This eternal presence of God-with-us is not passive, but active. The Spirit of God energizes, enables, strengthens and guides. May we use our God given talents and abilities to serve Him in one another, that our lives may reflect and be a vision of God's love and glory in the world. With every good Blessing. Julia

## **ALDERTON**

**MALVERN HILLBILLIES** We had a excellent evening in the churchyard with the Malvern Hillbillies and were even lucky enough to have some sunshine after a wet day! We are so grateful to the Hillbillies to have offered to play for free to raise money for our Church and it was lovely to be able to enjoy our first social gathering after all the trials of the lockdown. Many people have said how much they enjoyed the evening sitting and listening to a great range of their Old Time American mountain music. A huge thank you to the Hillbillies and to everyone who came to support the event. We have raised a great total of around £900.

**HARVEST FESTIVAL SERVICE** This will be on **Sunday September 26th at 10.30am** and will be a service singing many of our favourite Harvest songs. So do please join us to celebrate and enjoy seeing the church decorated with a range of flowers and harvest produce.

## **GREAT WASHBOURNE**

Many thanks to all who joined us for the Wine & Cheese fundraising evening on Saturday 14th August. The weather was very kind and we had a lovely, relaxed evening in the garden of Great Washbourne house. It was lovely to do something "normal" and have the village together. We raised the very tidy amount of £500 which will go towards church funds. Thanks to the Kent family for their very warm hospitality once again.

Ann Russell will be arranging a Macmillan coffee morning in the church on Friday 24th September, 10am -12 noon, with the proceeds split between the charity and the church. Do come along and join us if you're free.

**HARVEST FESTIVAL SERVICE** is planned for Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> October, 6pm - more details to follow.

## **DUMBLETON**

**GOOD NEWS!** What a wonderful evening we all had at Jenny Hunters Garden Party. **We thank both Jenny and Richard for their kind hospitality and generosity. The magnificent sum of £2,000 was raised in aid of St Peter's Church Fund. A fantastic result. Thanks to everyone who contributed and supported this event.**

**GIFT DAY SATURDAY 18th SEPTEMBER 2pm-4.30pm.** Please join us for Tea and Cake (hopefully in sunshine) on The Green by the church, or in church if wet. See the enclosed letter for full details.

We would also enjoy seeing you at The **HARVEST FESTIVAL SERVICE** the following day Sunday **19th September at 10.30am.** ( Please don't forget to book your place at this service by contacting Tricia or Paul on 01386 882049). As is customary we will be collecting non-perishable items of food to be donated to the local Food-Bank. Any donations of tins, packets etc can be left in church on Gift Day or alternatively contact Jenny Maher 01386 881474 who will be happy to collect from you during the week before.

**DATE FOR YOUR DIARY! SATURDAY 16th OCTOBER** is the date for our **HARVEST SUPER** which we hope you will come and enjoy. More details next month.

From the Registers: Holy Matrimony: 20th August, Toby James Harris and Sarah Kaye Voyce.

## **WORMINGTON**

**CARIBBEAN BISTRO EVENING** - Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> September 2021

VILLAGE MARQUEE 7pm for food service at 7.30pm - £12.50 a ticket - 2 course meal – Caribbean Reggae style! Pay Bar (card payments) – Cocktails available!

Organised by the WVS - Please book your place with Angela Piercy 584416

[angela.piercy@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:angela.piercy@hotmail.co.uk) **by Monday 13<sup>th</sup> September**

**HARVEST FESTIVAL SERVICE – Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> September 6pm** Non-perishable food items welcome for the Winchcombe Food Bank. All are invited to bring flowers to decorate the church on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup>.

## **SPONSORED WALK**

**The offer of a Sponsored Walk for the Oakhill Parishes, by Michael Hand – reminder.**

Michael is walking over three days in September, along the Thames Path from Oxford to the source of the Thames near Cirencester.

Says Michael, 'I do hope a long walk can raise much needed money for churches that I know still mean much to the communities in which they are set.' 'Any offer of sponsorship would mean a great deal to me. There are now sponsor forms in all four churches.' Thank you.

# SERVICES FOR SEPTEMBER 2021

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### ALDERTON    WASHBOURNE    DUMBLETON    WORMINGTON

1 <sup>st</sup> Sun <b>5<sup>th</sup> Sept</b> Trinity 14		9.00am HC		10.30am HC	
Green	Isaiah 35.4-7a		James 2.1-10 [11-13] 14-17	Mark 7.24-end	
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2 <sup>nd</sup> Sun <b>12<sup>th</sup> Sept</b> Trinity 15	10.30am HC				9.00am PC Trad
Green	Isaiah 50.4-9a		James 3.1-12	Mark 8.27-end	
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3 <sup>rd</sup> Sun <b>19<sup>th</sup> Sept</b> Trinity 16		9.00am HC		10.30am Harvest Service – Readings: Verses taken from Psalm 104 & Mark 4:26-29	
Green	Jeremiah 11.18-20		James 3.13-4.3, 7-8a	Mark 9.30-37	
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4 <sup>th</sup> Sun <b>26<sup>th</sup> Sept</b> Trinity 17	10.30am Harvest Service -		Readings: Verses taken from Psalm 104 & Mark 4:26-29		6.00pm Harvest Service
Green	Numbers 11.4-6, 10-16, 24-29		James 5.13-end	Mark 9.38-end	
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1 <sup>st</sup> Sun <b>3<sup>rd</sup> Oct</b> Trinity 18		9.00am HC		10.30am HC	
Green	Genesis 2.18-24		Hebrews 1.1-4; 2.5-12	Mark 10.2-16	

## CHURCHWARDENS

### ALDERTON

Mr. M. Newman, 18 Courtiers Drive, Bishops Cleeve 01242 675028

Mrs S Reid, 4 Culls Meadow, Toddington 01242 621265

### GREAT WASHBOURNE

Mrs J. Kent, Washbourne House, Gt. Washbourne 01242 620291

Mrs Jane Harrington, Orchard View, Great Washbourne 07766 483130

### DUMBLETON (PCC Secretary and Wedding Secretary)

Mrs T. Steggle, Bracklin, Main St. Dumbleton 01386 882049

### WORMINGTON

Mr J. Evetts, Middle Hill Farm, Saintbury, Worcs. 07799035873

Mrs A. Piercy, Dairymead, Wormington 01386 584416