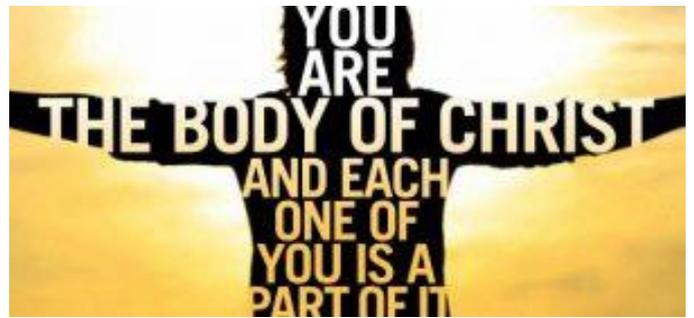


OAK HILL GROUP OF PARISHES

(Alderton, Gt. Washbourne,
Dumbleton & Wormington)

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Meeting the Risen Lord together as a
Pilgrim people

MAY 2022

Dear Friends

One of the highlights of recent weeks has been the opportunity to walk together through Lent, Holy week and Easter and to be able to do so in person. Our Lent Course, 'Why Pray' was really inspirational, thank you Karen for providing the Link for the Course. 'Walking together' is not a privilege we take for granted given the events of the past couple of years. Last year our Holy Week services were on Zoom and while it is marvellous to have the technological resources to do this and the people who so willingly Zoomed in, it is not the same as walking through these events together in person.

With regards to 'gathering,' thoughts have been expressed with regards to holding an Oak Hill homegroup for fellowship, friendship and discussion. Please do let me know your thoughts on this or any other ideas you may have which enable us to gather in fellowship.

Another event we look forward to celebrating soon will be the Platinum Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II. We hope to mark that special weekend at the beginning of June with a special service and some form of community gathering together for the celebration. Details will be published as those plans are completed.

We salute Her Majesty on this wonderful landmark and her incredible example of servanthood, steadiness and faithfulness in serving the Commonwealth over such a long period, during which, never losing sight of her faith in Christ, unlike Jesus' disciples, when the post Easter days must have been an enormous learning curve for them, and necessarily so, as they learnt what living life in the strength of the risen Christ was all about. 'Making himself known in the breaking of the bread, speaking peace to the fearful disciples, welcoming weary fishers on the shore, he renewed the promise of his presence, and of new birth in the Spirit'. The disciples had to learn that Jesus was now with them in a new way, and would be, for always.

The final outcome of the resurrection was not that they had lost Jesus, for ever, which seemed at first to be the case, but that he was with them in a completely new way, supporting them with his presence, even when they couldn't see him, everywhere, all the time. He began to teach them this as he appeared unexpectedly in places when they weren't expecting him, on the road to Emmaus, in the upper room, by the seashore, reassuring them, helping them to believe the promise that he would be with them always 'to the end of the age'.

Christ is Risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia! For me this means that Jesus is NOW. Alive in our world today, not simply a figure from the past. So it is possible to 'meet' him in the signs of new growth just outside our window and in the surrounding countryside; to know with certainty that he is alive and present in the concrete cellars of Ukraine; that he is waiting to be found in the people we might meet whilst going about our villages and towns and on the wards of our hospitals or cells of our prisons. Always available, waiting to be recognised. And this is what gives me the confidence to pray. I pray therefore, for all the people we meet in our daily lives that we may recognise and serve Christ in each other and hear God speaking in the voice of friends and strangers.

I conclude by saying that it's wonderful to see parish activities up and running both in terms of organisations e.g. Alderton Gardening Club, alongside new initiatives. It brings a real sense of vitality and encouragement as we enter the brighter days. Let us then be mindful of those in a less fortunate position and continue to pray for the people of the Ukraine and Russia still caught up in conflict and for all efforts to bring about ceasefire. May your Eastertide be full of joy. This comes with love and prayers, Julia

ALDERTON

CHURCHYARD: we had some good support when we smartened up the Churchyard in April and were lucky to be able to do so in the sunshine. The Churchyard has featured in a national newspaper where it was commented how peaceful it was with a beautiful view! **THANK YOU** to those that came along to help.

EASTER: the service was well attended and the Church was decorated beautifully with a great range of flower displays. Again **THANK YOU** to those who make it look so attractive.

BOOKS AND CARDS: don't forget we have a good range of books for sale in Church - priced 50p and also a range of handmade cards - do pop into Church to have a look.

SUMMER FAIR: this will be in the afternoon of Saturday July 16th - more details to follow.

GREAT WASHBOURNE

THANK YOU to everyone who supported the Great Washbourne Family Fun Quiz. It was lovely to welcome so many to this event, and a huge thank you has to go to the catering team who totally surpassed themselves this year. A really fun evening with the proceeds of over £500 going to the church fund.

Plans are now well underway for the **QUEENS PLATINUM JUBILEE** celebrations which will be held in the centre of the village on the afternoon of **Sunday 5th June**. Details will shortly be circulated, please look out for them. We all hope you will be able to participate.

Finally, just a reminder that The Great Washbourne **SUMMER EVENT** will be held on Friday 24th June, please put the date in to your diary, it would be lovely to see you there.

DUMBLETON

THANK YOU to everyone who supported our Church Spring Clean and helped to refresh all areas in the building. Also many thanks to those who provided the delicious refreshments which kept the workers happy. Yet more thanks go out to the Flower Arrangers who made the church look so beautiful for Easter. The P.C.C. are so grateful to you all.

THE ANNUAL VESTRY MEETING to elect Churchwardens followed by **THE ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING** to elect representatives on the Parochial Church Council will be held in church on **SUNDAY 15th MAY at 11.45am** following the morning service. The two roles of Churchwarden are still vacant. All parishioners are invited to attend and are encouraged to put their names forward to serve on the committee if they wish to help in any way, however only persons whose names are on the electoral roll can vote at the APCM.

The next **FUN**draising **FILM NIGHT** at the **VILLAGE CLUB** is on **SUNDAY 8th MAY** when we will be showing the super film of "DADS ARMY". which stars many famous names. No need to book it's £5 on the door 7pm for 7.30pm start. Come and join us, have a drink and enjoy a good film.

THE PLATINUM JUBILEE CELEBRATION AFTERNOON TEA will be taking place on **SUNDAY 5th JUNE**. 3pm- 5pm on the Green by the church. A separate notice regarding this special event with all the details will be delivered to everyone shortly.

A date for your diary! **JENNY HUNTERS GARDEN PARTY** will be held on **JULY 16th** this year. Always a very popular event so be sure to keep the date free. More details next month.

WORMINGTON

Wedding Register: Friday 11th March - Nicholas Renwick McDIARMID, Esq and Ms. Harriet Pond RUSSELL

Baptism Register: Sunday 24th April - Archie Mark GREEN

MANY THANKS to Sarah and Mark Hughes for organising the Easter Egg hunt. It was a lovely sunny day and everyone enjoyed taking part round the village.

A big **THANK YOU** to all who helped spring clean the church and to all who helped decorate the church with flowers for Easter. It was very spring-like and uplifting for our lovely service on Easter morning.

WVS AGM Friday 6th May 7pm in the village marquee - all are welcome to attend - Bar in the tent opens at 6.30pm

Date for the Diary - Platinum Jubilee Picnic Lunch - Sunday 5th June

SERVICES FOR MAY 2022

Lectionary Year C

1 May E3 White/Cream	9.00am GT WASHBOURNE Easter Season HC	10.30am DUMBLETON Easter Season HC	Acts 9:1-6, [7-20] John 21.1-19
8 May 2 nd Sun E4 White/Cream	9.00am WORMINGTON PC TRAD	10.30am ALDERTON Easter Season HC	Acts 9:36-43 John 10:22-30
15 th May 3 rd Sun E5 White/Cream	9.00am GT WASHBOURNE Easter Season HC	9.30am DUMBLETON Easter Season HC	Acts 11:1-18 John 13:31-35
22 May 4 th Sun E6 White/Cream	10.30am ALDERTON Easter Season HC	6.00pm WORMINGTON Choral Evensong	Acts 16:9-15 John 5:1-9
29 May E7 Sunday after Ascension Day White/Cream	10.30am Oak Hill Parishes Easter Season Communion - Alderton Acts 16:16-34 John 17:20-26		

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. Stegges, Bracklin, Main St. Dumbleton 01386 882049

WORMINGTON

Mr J. Evetts, Middle Hill Farm, Saintbury, Worcs. 07799035873
Mrs A. Piercy, Dairymead, Wormington 01386 584416