

OAK HILL GROUP OF PARISHES

(Alderton, Gt. Washbourne,
Dumbleton & Wormington)

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OCTOBER 2024



Dear Friends

We had hoped for an Indian summer, but we are getting storm, rain and cloud cover... so much so that I have to turn on the lights in the middle of the day! Praying for those of you who have suffered because of flooding!

October is the month that the clocks change, the month when we reset our clocks from British Summer Time back to Greenwich Mean Time; the pleasure of an extra hour in bed on the Saturday night is quickly replaced with the reality of the nights drawing in.

As a child, I struggled to understand both how and why we changed the clocks twice a year. How could we alter time? Wasn't time - just time? How could we mess about with it, and decide that what on one day was 8.00 am was now 7.00 am? The idea of time as something that could be manipulated and shifted baffled me. It wasn't until I was much older, that I understood that the whole notion of measuring and naming 'time' was a human invention. Calendars (for reckoning intervals of time) and clocks (for measuring its passage) have a long history. The first calendars were lunar, and there's evidence of them as long as 6,000 years ago. The first clocks were a form of sundial, found in Egypt so clearly humans have long felt the need to track the passage of time.

A dictionary defines time as 'the indefinite continued progress of existence and events that occur in an apparently irreversible succession from the past, through the present, into the future.' From a human perspective, time is linear and goes in one direction. What could happen if we were freed from this constraint has long captured writers' imaginations by exploring the idea of being able to travel back in time, or even jump about in it.

So that's what time is like for human beings, but what about for God? Christians believe that God stands outside time. There was never a time when God wasn't, and there will never be a time when God isn't, but even though God exists outside time, and is not subject to it, God reveals Godself within time, because humanity and creation is. Starting with Abraham, God promised that through his descendants, all creation would know God's blessing. Some thousands of years later, and 2,000 years distant from us, God revealed Godself in human flesh, in the person of Jesus, a human being born in a specific place at a specific time.

So, as we move through the month of October - and yes, the days are shortening and Christmas is getting closer - let us take some time to marvel at the changing of the season and what it brings and remember that each season and our own time and how we use it, is precious to us.

As we continue our journey through the Autumn months may the gift of God's Holy Spirit fill your hearts, homes and your families with love and peace. Julia x

ALDERTON

HARVEST FESTIVAL: the Church was beautifully decorated with flower arrangements of autumnal colours in every window so thank you to all the flower arrangers who gave the flowers and their time to make them.

We had an informal Harvest Songs of Praise led by Rev'd Michael Hand, singing some of the lovely harvest hymns. We listened to some Harvest poems by Laurie Lee and Seamus Heaney and extracts about Harvest from the Village Diary of Bertha Nind of Church Cottage, written in the 1900s.

Geoff Agg's funeral takes place on Friday 4th October at 11.30am in Church. Amongst Geoff's various roles in the village, he was Churchwarden for many years at St Margaret's.

REMRANCE SUNDAY: November 10th at 10.50 at the War Memorial and then afterwards at Church.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

Alderton's **Carol Service:** Sunday December 8th in St Margaret's Church at 4pm.

St Margaret's Church **Christmas Fair** is on Saturday December 14th in the Village Hall from 2- 4pm. If you have any items for the Gift Stall or the Tombola, they would be very gratefully received.

From the Registers: **BAPTISMS:** 14th September: William Jay Gregory
29th September: Aaron Adam Peart

GREAT WASHBOURNE

Cafe Church: this informal service (for all four parishes) was held in Great Washbourne and the theme was Generosity where we thought about how God has been generous to us and how that might inspire us to be generous to others. We started the service with coffee, juice and croissants and a chat with our neighbours. We then enjoyed singing a few hymns, listening to readings and learnt about the work of the Cheltenham Street Pastors for whom the collection was made - this raised £110, many thanks for your generosity. It was great to have some families there with a baby, a toddler and two young boys. Our next café church will be held in March 2025.

The Great Washbourne **HARVEST THANKSGIVING SERVICE** will be at 6pm on Sunday 20th October with a bring and share supper afterwards, (7pm) everyone is welcome. We will be collecting dry goods for the North Cotswolds Food Bank, (we will also leave a box at the back of the church in the preceding week for any donations.) Please do join us for either, or both events.

DUMBLETON

A HUGE THANK YOU TO EVERYONE FOR YOUR WONDERFUL SUPPORT ON TWO OCCASIONS.

FIRSTLY. "The Hats Bags and Bling" stall at the Cricket Club Fete. We were overwhelmed with your fabulous contributions for this and had so much fun serving so many people on the day. We still have items to sell and will continue to do so on every possible occasion. The result was £358.70p which was amazing, and we hope the total will continue to grow as we sell more.

SECONDLY, it was lovely to see so many of you at **"The Gift Day and Teas on the Green"**. and our heartfelt thanks go to all the contributors, cake makers, Teapot helpers and washer uppers. We couldn't do it without you. The total for the day was a fantastic £3468 which includes recoverable tax. Many thanks to you all. What a wonderful result!

HARVEST FESTIVAL FAMILY SERVICE SUNDAY 6th OCTOBER. Please join us for this relaxed annual service in which we give thanks for this year's Harvest. Some well-known hymns and songs will be sung along with Harvest Poems and Readings. As usual the church will be beautifully decorated for this service and refreshments will be served. A box will be placed in church during the week before the service and until Monday 7th October for those wishing to make donations of non-perishable food and other suitable items to be passed to the North Cotswold Food Bank to help some less fortunate people.

SATURDAY 12th OCTOBER IS "THE HOT HARVEST SUPPER NIGHT" Do come and join us for this lovely village social event in aid of church funds. **VENUE, THE VILLAGE CLUB, TIME, 7 for 7.30pm, HOT TICKETS £15** available from Jenny Maher, (01386 881474) jennylynne71@icloud.com. There will be a 50/50 Raffle, a Mini Auction, a great Hot Supper and a warm Welcome. The Club Bar will be open. What better way to spend an evening. We look forward to seeing you.

Note for your Diary. **FRED INVINE** will once again entertain us by continuing his talk from last year. More details next month.

From the Registers: **BAPTISM 15th September: Harry Llewelyn WORRALL.**

WORMINGTON

A BIG THANK YOU to all who provided produce/household items for the North Cotswold Food Bank which was delivered to the Winchcombe Food Bank. It was very much appreciated and will give comfort to those experiencing difficult times. A lovely Harvest Service was held on the 22nd September with refreshments served afterwards.

SERVICES FOR OCTOBER 2024

Lectionary Year B

6th October T19 [Proper 22] Green	9.00am GT WASHBOURNE HC Trad	10.30am DUMBLETON HARVEST FESTIVAL	Genesis 2.18-24 Hebrews 1.1-4; 2,5-12 Mark 10.2-16
13th October T20 [Proper 23] Green	9.00am WORMINGTON HC CW	10.30am ALDERTON HC CW	Amos 5.6-7; 10-15 Hebrews 4.12-end Mark 10.17-31
20th October T21 [Proper 24] Green	6.00pm GT WASHBOURNE HARVEST FESTIVAL	10.30am DUMBLETON HC CW	Isaiah 53.4-end Hebrews 5.1-10 Mark 10.35-45
27th October [Proper 25] Green Last after Trinity	6.00pm WORMINGTON Choral Evensong	10.30am ALDERTON HC CW	Jeremiah 31.7-9 Hebrews 7.23-end Mark 10.46-end
3rd November White All Saints	9.00am GT WASHBOURNE ALL SAINTS HC Trad	10.30am DUMBLETON ALL SAINTS - HC	Isaiah 25.6-9 Revelation 21.1-61 John 11.32-44

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 07711 623 017
Mrs Jane Harrington, Orchard View, Great Washbourne 07766 483130

DUMBLETON (PCC Secretary and Wedding Secretary)

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

WORMINGTON

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