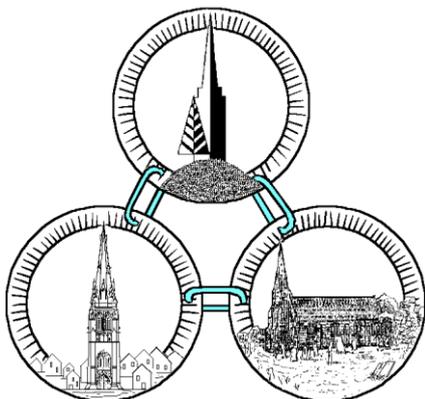


THE PARISH MAGAZINE

August 2017



15th August – The Blessed Virgin Mary



**The United Benefice of
St Michael on Greenhill and
St Mary, Lichfield
with St John, Wall**

70p

<p>Rector: The Venerable Simon Baker, Archdeacon of Lichfield</p> <p>10 Mawgan Drive, Lichfield, Staffs, WS14 9SD. Tel: 01543 416232</p> <p>E-Mail: simonbaker57@outlook.com</p> <p>Day Off: Friday</p>	<p>Associate Minister (Part-time): The Revd. Linda Collins</p> <p>17, Leyfields, Lichfield, Staffs, WS13 7NJ. Tel: 07915 091128</p> <p>E-mail: lindacollins@hotmail.co.uk</p> <p>Days: Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday</p>
<p>Associate Minister (NSM Part-time): The Revd. Denise Youngs</p> <p>10 Tame Avenue, BURNTWOOD, Staffs, WS7 9JQ. Tel: 01543 672646</p> <p>E-mail: deniseyoungs272@hotmail.com</p> <p>Days: Sunday, Monday, Tuesday</p>	<p>Associate Minister (NSM Part-time): The Revd. Ruth Bull</p> <p>36 Broadlands Rise, LICHFIELD, Staffs, WS14 9SF E-mail: dkbrlcb@hotmail.com</p>
<p>Assistant Minister (NSM) The Revd. Jeyan Anketell</p> <p>7 Wissage Lane, LICHFIELD, Staffs, WS13 6DQ</p>	<p>Reader: Lesley Allen 21 Boley Close, LICHFIELD, Staffs, WS14 9AR Tel: 01543 251654 E-mail: lesley.allen21@googlemail.com</p>
<p>Reader: Phil Clayton Glenridding, 7 Thacker Drive, Lichfield, Staffs, WS13 6NS Tel: 01543 263244 E-mail: phil@philclayton.net</p>	<p>Reader: Dr Trevor James 36 Heritage Court, LICHFIELD, Staffs, WS14 9ST Tel: 01543 258434</p>
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<p>Parish Surgery For Baptisms, Banns and Weddings, staff are available at the Parish Office in St Michael's Church, Church Street on the 1st and 3rd Monday evenings in the month by appointment only. Please telephone 01543 262211 to make an appointment.</p>	<p>United Benefice Office St Michael's Church, Church Street, LICHFIELD, Staffs, WS13 6ED Mon, Tues, Wed & Fri CLOSED Thursdays 9.00 am to 12.00 noon. Tel: 01543 262211 E-mail: office@stmichaelmaryjohn.org.uk</p>
<p>St Michael's Church Church Street, Lichfield, Staffordshire, WS13 6ED</p>	<p>St John's Church Green Lane, Wall, Staffordshire, WS14 0AS</p>

Reflections for August

Be Mindful

It's super fashionable and surrounded by hype, there are articles in almost every magazine you pick up but mindfulness has been tried and tested for thousands of years. It was practised by the desert Fathers and Mothers, it is found in the Eastern Orthodox Church and most of us know that the Buddhists are great exponents and that is where the great spiritual writer and monk Thomas Merton found it.

Modern mindfulness if that is what you want to call it is not necessarily a religious practice, psychologists would argue that is more like brain training, and clinical studies have shown that it can help reduce anxiety and chronic pain, boost your immune system, lower blood pressure, tackle insomnia, improve your memory and increase your physical stamina.

Companies like Apple and Google run workshops for their staff and some schools are beginning to teach it and an increasing number of NHS doctors are starting to prescribe mindfulness courses as an alternative to antidepressants.

So, what exactly is mindfulness and what can it bring to our Christian life?

Mindfulness can be described as being more fully aware of your own experience in the present moment in a non-judgemental way.

There are four strands to this definition: awareness, experience, the present moment and non-judgement.

Awareness is offered as an antidote to the automatic way our brains tend to work most of the time, awareness can lead to a greater choice in how we use our mind.

Our own experience is intended to counteract the brain's tendency to over analyze. Analysis is an important brain function and many problems can be solved in this way, but not all.

Emphasis on the present moment is also important, in many forms of yoga you are encouraged to think about past experiences, learn from them but not dwell on them, the same for the future, make your plans but come back to the present and appreciate the now.

Having a non-judgemental attitude helps us counter the human tendency to repress those things of which we are ashamed or embarrassed. Learning to forgive, with compassion, is a way to healing, especially forgiving ourselves and accepting forgiveness from others, including and especially God.

That brings me to how mindfulness could help our Christian life.

You are probably thinking of prayer, many of us will have been taught meditative or contemplative prayer, the stilling of the body and mind by focusing on relaxing our muscles, each set are tensed and relaxed beginning at the feet and working to the face and/or breathing techniques, again these are a common feature in yoga.

At my home church, I belonged to a "Circle of Prayer" we gathered and spent 30 minutes in silent prayer, this was not easy at first, we would use "tools" to help us focus, a lighted candle, a key word or phrase, a pebble or shell but often cabbages would disturb our thoughts. What I mean are the everyday thoughts, the washing that needs sorting, the shopping, cutting the lawn. In mindfulness, you need to recognize these thoughts, and bring yourself back to your focus. Eventually we even stopped hearing the bus that came and went during our time together.

Some of these "cabbages" may be much more than the shopping list, and need us to be aware of them; we need to acknowledge them, in that non-judgemental way.

This is where forgiveness comes in, developing an attitude of compassion or kindness, to ourselves and to others.

Mindfulness in the Christian tradition can also be seen in the Gospels, the powerful parable of the Prodigal Son, the “Waking-Up”, being fully aware, is a good illustration

“When he came to his senses, he said: “How many of my father’s hired servants have food to spare, and here I am starving to death!”

‘Being and doing’, this is seen in the visit of Jesus to Mary and Martha, so often we make ourselves so busy that we don’t make the time to just “BE”, to be in the presence of God

“There is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part.”

Also, Jesus said *“Abide in me as I abide in you.”*

I hope this may have prompted you to look again at your own spiritual practices, you may be happy where you are if not perhaps mindfulness could help you.

None of this comes easily, it does require practice but it can be learned and there are many books and courses to help.

“Be still and know that I am God”

Blessings Denise

References.

Mindfulness and Christian Spirituality – Making Space for God by Tim Stead

Mindfulness-A Practical Guide to Finding Peace in a Frantic World by Mark Williams & Danny Penman (includes a CD)



A series of courses is planned, starting this autumn, in prayer and Spiritual Direction.

Soul Food – a course for anyone who wants to grow in responsiveness to God. With an awareness of some of the Christian prayer traditions, tutors journey with participants to develop reflection (noticing the movements of the Spirit), an awareness of personality and prayer, and the use of silence, solitude, the Bible and our imaginations as helps to develop intimacy with God.

The course will be run in two alternative locations:

Wolverhampton: (12 Tues eves 7.30 – 9.30pm fortnightly starting 12 Sept)

Shrewsbury: (6 Wednesdays 10-3 mostly fortnightly starting 4 Oct).

Cost: £144 (i.e. £12/evening or £24/day)

To discuss the course please e-mail Charles Ruxton, Diocesan Spirituality Adviser charles.ruxton@trinitychurches.org

To apply visit www.trypraying.org.uk/resources/helps/the-lichfield-courses-in-spiritual-direction

Family Praise

Sunday 13th August

10am St Michael's



Come and join us at our ...



MESSY CHURCH

for craft, story, song and food.

Sunday 24th September

2.00 – 3.15pm

in St Michael's Church Hall

Ages 0-11 yrs. welcome

Magazine Deliverers

From the end of August, the magazine will be ready for collection on a Friday before the last Sunday of the month NOT Thursdays.

Delivery dates for the rest of the year will be

August 25th

Sept 22nd

Oct 27th

Nov 24th

Dec 15th

Barbara Homewood 255909

Water tap in the churchyard

People tending graves in the churchyard will have noticed that the tap near the new churchyard is no longer functioning and a new tap provides water where the path meets the drive. This is because when the work on the church toilets and kitchen was carried out, the old lead pipes had to be replaced with modern, safer ones.

If we had replaced the lead piping to the old tap, it would have cost almost £3000 pounds more – money we do not have to spare.

Some people have already said that they would like to donate towards the reinstatement of the old tap, close to the new churchyard as it is more convenient for them.

If you would like to pledge some money towards this, please contact the Parish Office on 01543 262211 or e-mail: office@stmichaelmaryjohn.org.uk

At this stage we would like pledges rather than actual donations, until we see if this is going to be feasible.

Many thanks

St Michael's PCC

FLOODLIGHTING

Sponsor St Michael's floodlights to mark a special occasion or remember a loved one!

Your donation will brighten up the skies over Lichfield for the night.

Contact Angie King, United Benefice Office

on 01543 262211



LICHFIELD INTER-FAITH FORUM

August is 'FAITH MONTH' at Lichfield's Speakers' Corner! Come along to Speakers' Corner at 11.00am on the first three Saturday's of August – 5th, 12th and 19th . Listen to presentations on three world faiths- Buddhism, Christianity, and Islam. Make your own comments and ask questions of the speakers.

Saturday 5th August - 'Christianity' led by Martin Hill, Spiritual Care Coordinator at St Giles Hospice

Saturday 12th August - 'Islam' led by Asad Saloo, Imam at the Lichfield Mosque

Saturday 19th August - 'Buddhism' led by Ajan Laow, Leader of the Thai Buddhist Temple at Kings Bromley

All sessions at Speakers' Corner begin at 11.00am. Everyone welcome. Listen, ask questions, have your say!

LICHFIELD CONCERN FOR PALESTINE

Palestine/Israel will be the focus at **Lichfield's Speakers' Corner at 11.00am on Saturday 24th June**. The main speaker will be the Revd Warren Bardsley with other people who have recently visited Palestine and Israel. Come along to hear the speakers, ask questions, and express your own views. 2017 is an important year for Palestine/Israel. It is 100 years since the British Government's Balfour Declaration, 70 years since the UN Resolution setting up the State of Israel, and 50 years since the Israeli/Arab 'Six Day' War which marked the beginning of the Occupation.

Regular Services and Worship in the Benefice

Regular Services at St Michael's Sundays

8:00am Holy Communion
10:00am Holy Communion

2nd Sunday

10:00am Family Praise

Regular Services at St John's Sundays @ 10am

1st Sunday - Holy Communion with
Junior Praise and Play

2nd Sunday - Holy Communion

3rd Sunday - Morning Prayer

4th Sunday - Holy Communion

5th Sunday - Wall Praise

Baptism @ 11.30am

4th Sunday

Other Services at St Michael's Sundays

1st Sunday 12:30pm Holy Baptism

2nd Sunday 6:00pm Holy
Communion

3rd Sunday 4:30pm Messy Church
Church Hall

4th Sunday 6:00pm Choral
Evensong

Tuesday

School Service

Music in the Benefice

St Michael's Church

Wednesdays

6.30pm Girls Choir

7.15pm Other parts &
St Michael's Singers

Monday before 2nd Sunday

7:30pm Music Group

Prayer Group, St Michael's
1st Wednesday of the month
Contact June Frayn (264920)
Brenda Liptrot (251863)



Baptism

Preparation First Tuesday at
8:00pm at St Michael's

Praise & Play

1st Friday 10.30am
St John's



Parish Surgery

Every 1st and 3rd Monday by
Appointment from 6:30pm at the
Parish office in St Michael's Church.
Please call 01543 262211

Bells Practice

Every Thurs 7:30pm, St Michael's

Benefice Diary

Tue 1 Aug 2017

10:15	Extended Communion	Beechfields
14:00	Afternoon Tea	St John's
20:00	Baptism Preparation	St Michael's



Wed 2 Aug 2017

09:30	Holy Communion	St Michael's
20:00	Darwin Singers Rehearsal	St Michael's

Thu 3 Aug 2017

All day	OFFICE CLOSED	St Michael's
10:00	Knitting Group	St John's
19:30	Bell Ringing Practice	St Michael's

Fri 4 Aug 2017

10:30	Praise and Play	St John's
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Sat 5 Aug 2017

13:00	Wedding	St Michael's
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Sun 6 Aug 2017

08:00	Holy Communion	St Michael's
10:00	Holy Communion	St John's
10:00	Holy Communion	St Michael's
12:30	Baptism	St Michael's

Mon 7 Aug 2017

13:00	Film Club	Church Hall
18:30	Parish Surgery	St Michael's
19:30	Music Group	St Michael's

Tue 8 Aug 2017

Wed 9 Aug 2017

09:30	Holy Communion	St Michael's
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Thu 10 Aug 2017

All day	OFFICE CLOSED	St Michael's
10:00	Knitting Group	St John's
19:30	Bell Ringing Practice	St Michael's

Fri 11 Aug 2017

Sat 12 Aug 2017

Sun 13 Aug 2017

08:00	Holy Communion	St Michael's
10:00	Family Praise	St Michael's
10:00	Holy Communion	St John's
18:00	Holy Communion	St Michael's

Mon 14 Aug 2017

15:00	SACRED Book Group	St John's
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Tue 15 Aug 2017

14:00	Cake and Cameras	St John's
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Wed 16 Aug 2017

09:30	Holy Communion	St Michael's
20:00	Darwin Singers Rehearsal	St Michael's

Thu 17 Aug 2017

All day	OFFICE CLOSED	St Michael's
10:00	Knitting Group	St John's
19:30	Bell Ringing Practice	St Michael's

Fri 18 Aug 2017

Sat 19 Aug 2017

Sun 20 Aug 2017

08:00	Holy Communion	St Michael's
10:00	Morning Worship	St John's
10:00	Holy Communion	St Michael's

Mon 21 Aug 2017

11:30	Extended Communion	Darwin Court,
18:30	Parish Surgery	St Michael's

Tue 22 Aug 2017

Wed 23 Aug 2017

09:30 Holy Communion St Michael's

Thu 24 Aug 2017

All day Magazine Distribution Day

All day OFFICE CLOSED St Michael's

10:00 Knitting Group St John's

18.30 Wedding Rehearsal St. Michael's

19:30 Bell Ringing Practice St Michael's

Fri 25 Aug 2017

Sat 26 Aug 2017

10:00 Walking Group: St Michael's

13.30 Wedding St. Michael's



Sun 27 Aug 2017

08:00 Holy Communion St Michael's

10:00 Holy Communion St John's

10:00 Holy Communion St Michael's

11:30 Baptism St John's

18:00 Evensong St Michael's

Mon 28 Aug 2017

BANK HOLIDAY

Tue 29 Aug 2017

Wed 30 Aug 2017

09:30 Holy Communion St Michael's

Thu 31 Aug 2017

All day OFFICE CLOSED St Michael's

10:00 Knitting Group St John's

19:30 Bell Ringing Practice St Michael's



First Steps



First Steps has been going from strength to strength in recent months, with an increasing number of pre-school children and their carers enjoying a range of crafts and activities as well as Bible stories and action songs, not to mention home-made cakes.

In July, we had our summer picnic. Unfortunately, the weather was rather overcast so we decided to eat indoors. However, we managed to go out for walk around the churchyard looking at the beauties of God's creation – the theme for the month – and ended with a game of football before going back indoors to eat.

We were delighted to see so many people there, and had to use the entire length of the main aisle as a buggy park, and even overflowed into the side aisle!

In September three of our regulars are going to school or nursery and we wish them well.



The first meeting of next term is on **Monday 11th September** at the usual time of 10am to 11.30am in St Michael's Church. All pre-school age children and their carers are warmly invited to join us then.

Ruth Bull

Allotment Update

The first arrangement created entirely with flowers from the St Michael's allotment was recently seen in church and has since been followed by others. More about the allotment can be found on the website – www.stmichaelmaryjohn.org.uk



Lichfield Festival Market Stall

For the first time, St Michael's Sewing Bee had a stall in The Close as part of the very popular Lichfield Festival Market. They sold a wide range of items made by members of the group and made a wonderful total of almost £300.



Apart from the financial success, it also created a lot of interest from those attending, about the Sewing Bee and about St Michael's in general, which is always good!

Here's to many more years of happy sewing!



United Benefice Walking Group

The June walk to Fradley Junction was held on a VERY hot day, 29 degrees centigrade. Parking at Bromley Hayes Garden Centre 15 walkers set off to walk along the canal to the Junction. With such a hot day, it was soon clear that a return walk to Bromley Hayes was



out of the question. Canalside Café, for a refreshment break, was a welcome sight. We were grateful for the men who went to get cars to taxi us back for lunch at Bromley Hayes restaurant. The restaurant had ceiling fans which we were thankful for. The walk had been checked out two months prior to the date with no thought to what the weather could throw at us.

I was informed the next day that seven soldiers fainted in the heat on horse guards parade on the Saturday at Trooping of the colours in London. Our next walk in July will no doubt be another walk to reminisce on in the future.

To see more of the Walking Group photos, visit

<http://www.stmichaelmaryjohn.org.uk/our-photos-2017.html>

We invite you to join us for our **August Walk** to Cresswell Green.

We meet at **St. Michael's at 10.00 A.M. on SATURDAY 26th AUGUST.**

We drive to **The Drill Inn**, 33 Springle Styche Lane, Burntwood WS7 9HD, for the start of the first part of the walk.

We shall be completing a short walk from The Drill Inn, going along part of the Heart of England Way which follows the Redmoor Brook for part of



the way. There are 4 stiles in this section of the walk which includes some rough ground and a hill. This section of the walk is 1 ¼ miles long.

Coffee is at The Drill Inn at 11am where we will also be able to pre-order our lunch. If you do not want to do the first part of the walk you could join us at 11am for coffee and the second part of the walk, which is less challenging.

After coffee, we will walk along a green lane, which also forms part of The Heart of England Way, to Cresswell Green where we will meet the Redmoor Brook again before we return along a minor road to the pub for lunch. **There are no stiles on this section of the walk and the ground is level and easy to walk.**

We will then return for lunch at The Drill at about 1.30pm.

The 2 walks are **3 ¾ miles long** altogether. Depending on the weather, the green lane section of the second part of the walk can be a little muddy in places so walking shoes or boots are advised.

We should be back at St. Michael's by around **3.00pm p.m.**

We look forward to seeing you for our August Walk..

Ray Allen. 01543 251654.



Mothers Union July 2017

At the end of May we hosted the Deanery Festival of Thanksgiving, celebrating the ways MU live out our faith in action. The service was taken by Rev. Kareen Lowther, making a very welcome return and our ladies' choir was swelled by some members of other MU's. These events are like family gatherings and afterwards, over refreshments we all socialised and caught up with news. This year there was the added attraction of our new kitchen and toilets which were much admired by our visitors.

The following week many of our members joined the new-ish MU at Wiggington for a service led by Rev. Debra Dyson, another of our "old girls". As always refreshments and conversation followed. Wiggington are not in our Deanery but we are building links with them.

Back in the hall in June we were treated to an outstanding talk about Costa Rica from Rev. Denise Youngs who had holidayed there. Assisted by our own cinematographer, Romulus Plimmer, they gave a very professional presentation. For those who knew little about the country it was a revelation. There is good stewardship of natural resources and eco-tourism is encouraged. Health provision and education are well funded and of a high standard. 95% of inhabitants are literate and older residents who missed out on schooling can attend evening classes. Thanks to the generosity of the old coffee barons the city boasts some beautiful public buildings including a theatre which would not look out of place in Italy. Denise visited a gold museum and another displaying the jade which is to be found in the country.

Her party stayed at a number of eco- lodges and were glad to have a guide to point out many things they might have missed. It was amazing how well many animals and birds could camouflage themselves in the lush forests. On the lower slopes of a volcano they

bathed in bubbling mud springs and later in the holiday they went white-water rafting which looked exhilarating or terrifying, according to your point of view.

She gave us a splendid evening and I, for one would happily hear and see it all again.

For our midsummer outing we visited the National Memorial Arboretum at Alrewas. Blessed with a sunny but fresh day we enjoyed a welcome talk about the origins of the Arboretum followed by a ride around a large section of the site in the land train with a commentary about the memorials and gardens as we passed them. Next came tea in the new reception and eating area. Only those who had visited recently had seen this impressive building. To finish most of us walked back across the site to see a splendid display of poppies, cornflower and yellow daisies in a wild flower meadow. The Arboretum is growing every year and it would take several days (and strong legs) to visit everything.



Betty Lyne

Minutes of St Michael's PCC meeting held on Tuesday 11th July 2017

- **Streethay** – 31st July is when welcome packs will be delivered to the new houses in Streethay and packs will be available for any other new residents in the area. The Methodist minister from Fradley will be joining us to do this.
- **Mission to new housing areas** – Simon has been asked by the Bishop to develop a policy on this.
- **Thy Kingdom Come** was a great success. The new Prayer Corner was very well used and it is likely to become a regular event nationally. Next year it is likely that more branches of Christianity will be joining in.
- **Patronal Festival** Bishop Clive, Bishop of Wolverhampton, will preside and preach on Sunday 24th September. The morning will begin at 10am when we can meet for coffee and a late breakfast, the service will be at 11am and a bring and share lunch after the service.
- **Church roof** - the repair work has been finished.
- **Office** - the phone is due to be transferred on the 19th July. The Virgin fibreoptic line is now in, which means there is now Wifi in the church office. No public access to the wifi will be available. PCC agreed a policy that young people in church should not be given access to the wifi. The code will not be generally available unless requested by an adult for a specific purpose.
- **Toilet blockage** – this is because there is not enough 'flush' to clear the system. Crofts have been out to look at the system and

a broken spring was found in the disabled cistern. Please report if any problems are observed. We may need to stop using paper towels but we cannot use blower driers because we do not have enough electrical capacity.

- **First aid** – Lyn Sheil will be going on training next week. Sue Jones is already trained. One trained first aider should be available at Lichfield Festival Concerts.
- **ICE** (in case of emergency) form – Lyn is in the process of developing a form for use in St Michael's
- **Mission Action Plan** – this should last 5 years, so this year is not a re-write, just an update. PCC broke into groups to discuss and suggest amendments. These were fed back and the MAP will be updated in light of these suggestions. A number of issues were raised that will be added to the agenda throughout the year. A lot of things have been achieved already.
- **Tuesday Club** – attendance has been very variable. Autumn Programme will be historical and cultural talks.
- **Ministry Team** – Rev Dr Stephen Barton has been attending church for approximately 6 months. His ministry has been mainly academic recently and he will be preaching at St Michael's on 27th August when he will be introduced to the congregation. PCC accepted his offer to officiate or preach once a month, starting from the next rota.
- **Church Hall** – no response has been received from the District Council so now a letter will be sent to the Chair of the District Council.

- **Health and Safety** – ambulance service has confirmed that it now has the correct postcode.

- **Churchyard**

Maintenance Ray reported that Nick Burton will deal with the leaning pine tree on Health and Safety grounds. It will be felled on the 17th July. A condition survey of the trees will be completed soon. Payback Team have staffing issues and it is becoming very unreliable. Standing Committee have agreed that Michael Toplis will come in with a team to trim the grass, nettles and brambles. They will also raise the level of some overgrowing trees. There is a grass cutting and maintenance regime in place for the new churchyard.

Churchyard Development Plan - 62 replies to the survey have been received from the congregation and the community. John Polhill and Ray will collate the results of the surveys at the end of July. Harriet Carty, from Caring for God's Acre, is visiting on 2nd August to meet the Churchyard Group and look around the churchyard to give her opinions on what needs to be included in the plan. Some Year 6 pupils have also contributed their ideas.

The water tap is no longer working at the lower churchyard.

There is some local support from people who would like to sponsor the work to replace this. It was agreed to put a notice asking for pledges and an article in the magazine.

Maintenance money for the new churchyard comes from funeral fees and a council grant. The old churchyard is maintained by the council as it has a statutory obligation to maintain the churchyard and keep it safe but not necessarily to a 'parks' standard of care.

- **Finance** – Viv reported on the General Fund as at 30th June.

DIOCESE OF LICHFIELD PRAYER DIARY

<https://www.lichfield.anglican.org/documents/category/prayer-diary/>

Prayer for the Week:

Lord, what we know not, teach us; what we have not, give us; what we are not, make us; and all for your name's sake. Amen.

BOOKS NEEDED

We are **Friends of Good Hope Hospital** a charity dedicated to raising funds for the benefit of patients. Many local people are grateful for the services offered and have benefited from them.

The money we raise is spent on additional equipment and facilities at the hospital. We recently refurbished the day room on Ward 8

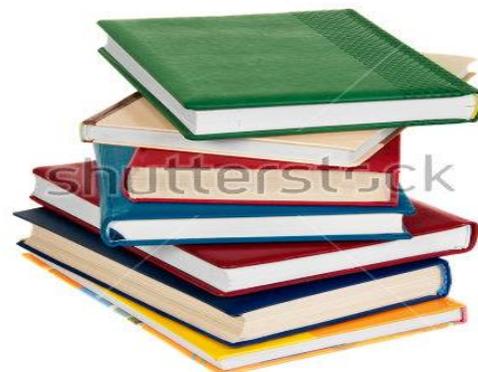
As part of our activities we run a book stall opposite X-ray in the main hospital. **We are desperately in need of books to replenish stock.**

Any donations would be appreciated.

Please contact Bob 01543 252663

or 07972 515016

or rvgreen7@aol.com. I can collect.



Bob Green

www.shutterstock.com · 87835603

SULLY



The film shown in July was "Sully: Miracle on the Hudson". We are sorry not to be able to carry our normal review by one of our volunteer reviewers. The DVD can be borrowed if you want to view this exciting movie which tells the extraordinary story of the aircraft captain, Sullenberger, (Sully) who tries to make an emergency landing in New York's Hudson River in 2009 saving the lives of 155 passengers and crew. His A324 had only just taken off from New York's La Guardia airport heading for Charlotte, North Carolina, when it hit a flock of geese which severely damaged both engines. While the media seize upon Sully as national hero, he was severely criticised (for putting his passengers' and crews' lives at risk) by the civil aircraft authorities. Much of the film is taken up with the intricacies of the inquiry which followed the incident. The film is directed by Clint Eastwood, with Tom Hanks playing Sully. The point at issue is - when and where is it possible for responsible people to over-ride official instructions and use their own discretion or instinct. Sully had been instructed to return and make an emergency landing on a runway. He claimed that he did not have enough time to do this. It also emerged that he had not had any training to prepare him for an emergency landing on water. In the final analyses should the successful avoidance of a major disaster put the ethical risks, taken against official advice, in the shade? Discuss!

This is probably not a film for anyone with a fear of flying.

Margaret Freaan

St. Michael's Film Club

1. Beauty and the Beast

(Cert PG. 120min. Family.)

Live-action adaptation of the Disney classic. Stars Emma Watson and Dan Stevens. A stunning cinematic event. All-age!

Monday August 7th. 1.30pm start

Refreshments £2.50 from 1.00pm.

St. Michael's Church Hall

(behind Aldi). All welcome.

Contact: Parish Office 01543 262211

2. The Viceroy's House

(Cert TBC. 106min. Drama.)

The story of Lord Mountbatten in India, at the time of partition. Stars Hugh Bonneville, Gillian Anderson, Simon Callow.

Monday September 4th.

1.30pm start

Festival Concert at St Michael's

On the afternoon of Saturday, 8th July, we hosted one of the Lichfield Festival concerts at St Michael's Church. **McFall's Chamber Group** came and played a range of music, from a Haydn string quartet to some toe-tapping Cuban pieces. As an encore, the cellist surprised everyone by playing the saw in a beautiful setting of *Somewhere over the rainbow*, which was met with rapturous applause.

They were a charming group who really enjoyed playing in the church and remarked on the wonderful acoustics.

Audience members commented afterwards about the warm welcome they had received at St Michael's: right from the charming parking attendants (Ron Plimmer and Martin Dewes) to the delicious cakes and drinks provided by Brenda Liptrot and her team. The refreshments must have been well appreciated as donations were made of over £180.

It is always a pleasure to host one of these concerts and this year's was particularly enjoyable.

The event also had very dapper Parking Stewards too!



WALL WOMENS' INSTITUTE

FOR JUNE/JULY - MINUTES

A big welcome to members and to our guest speaker Sue Walker. Following our A.G.M. the various posts of Committee have been allotted and agreed.

There are a number of items of interest to keep members busy in the County.

Foxfield Railway 23rd August, Murder mystery evening at Great Haywood and a Countryside walk in September hosted by Cannock Wood and Gentleshaw.

Our speaker for June was one of our members Sue Walker who delighted us with an abundance of work she had done over the years as an embroiderer. From hats to large panels of intricate work and jewellery too. She had had a grandmother who did smocking and her mother knitted. She was born in Wales, but at the age of 9 moved to Surrey. Whilst at school in the 50's she was able to be part of a Needlework Development Scheme at Purley Grammar School which was a collaborative project between art and design education and industry with The Glasgow School of Art sponsored by J & P Coates. She trained at Eastbourne College, St. Albans, and came to the Midlands and taught in Walsall and Lichfield College. A number of us in our W.I. go to her classes once a week and thoroughly enjoy and are inspired by her work and at what we can achieve.

On 14th June we travelled to Hampton Court Castle Gardens in Gloucestershire, it was such a lovely day, the weather glorious and a place not many of us had ever heard of. This Hampton Court was 100 years older than the Hampton Court of London. It was built for Richard IV as a place of safety, but it never did see any kind of foe or enemy. The gardens and surrounding countryside were enchanting,

and our tour guide of the house delivered her knowledge extremely well. It was a delightful visit.

Our July meeting is traditionally when we have strawberries for refreshments, and even though the day had been raining and dull, we had a room adorned with lovely fresh flowers and the aroma of the strawberries to enjoy following our speaker.

Various business news, Stonnall had sent their report of the visit to Liverpool of the A.G.M. and this was read out, with the mention of the two Resolutions regarding the Loneliness and Plastic Soup, which had duly been passed. The Plastic Soup had an overall majority of 98.4%, so that was overwhelmingly a very important item.

There were reminders of the Organ Donation legacy packs.

The speaker for this meeting was Mr. Ken Knowles our very own Lichfield Town Crier, with his lady wife, both resplendent in their outfits. His coat being a copy of a Stagecoach driver's of the 18th century. He had been appointed in 2009, following the retirement of Lonza, who many remembered well. Ken has an excellent background for this post that he is so well suited to, from being a teacher, foremost, and an actor with Lichfield's Shakespeare in the Park performances for many years. He has travelled to many countries, such as New Zealand, Canada and Bermuda and won many trophies with his "Crying", and he certainly had us "Crying with laughter as he recalled his childhood stories", and his tales.

The usual monthly walk will be around Fradley on 19th July, but we will have lunch first.

The next meeting will be on August 8th with a talk entitled "Barking Mad" with Chrissy Whereat.

Reminders of our Annual Show on 16th September for plenty of entries and for the duty rota.

Margaret Wilcox, Vice President

WALL NEWS

Knowle Lodge Open Garden Sunday 2nd July

The weather was once again hot for the second opening of the garden in aid of charity. On this occasion, approximately 200 visitors passed through the gate. It was at the end of the event whilst packing up that I realised that we have never taken a photo of the event to include in the magazine. Therefore, I now include a photo taken by the gardener of the happy group of volunteers.



Unfortunately, the photo does not include the rest of the team who came together on the day to give their time helping with washing up, baking and serving. Thanks to everyone. The event

helped raise over £200 pounds towards church funds.

Again, we have Kate Cooper to thank for giving us the opportunity to assist at what is a very worth-while event.

The Sunday afternoon followed on from the Rock Choir concert held in St Johns Church, Wall the previous evening. Therefore, this weekend in July was a great success in providing two different social events helping to raise funds.



Hilary

Afternoon Tea

Afternoon Tea this month will be on **Tuesday 1st August.**

We do hope you can join us between 2-4pm for a cuppa, a piece of cake and a natter.

Denise

Cake and Cameras

I hope you will be able to join me on **Tuesday 15th August** 2-4 pm We will be meeting at St John's Church and weather permitting, we'll be taking close up photos of the plants in the churchyard, for a small display in church and if we find anything really fascinating, perhaps we could even submit our best photos to The Lichfield Mercury for their Gallery item?!

Angie

Dates for your Diary

23rd Sept - Race Night

7th Oct – Harvest Supper

8th Oct – Harvest Festival

12th Nov – Remembrance Sunday

25th Nov - Skittles Night

8th Dec – Beatus Concert

19th Dec - Wall Carols

Guarding Letocetum Part One

Marcus Tanicius Gellius hated England. He hated the rain that drummed against his helmet and soaked through his jerkin. He hated the empty rolling fields. He hated the damn natives and their refusal to see sense. Most of all he hated the fact that the rest of the army got all the glory. Every day he watched as they marched through, their armour scratched and battered from fighting and their will to go on unbroken by the hordes of rebels they were bound to face. They were heroes.

Marcus often dreamt of battle, all Romans did, or at least, all Romans without any experience or sense did. It was their *calling*, their *destiny*, their *reason*. Men like Marcus can be found in any army, they are the sort of men with dreams; the kind of men that think battle is some kind of glorious achievement rather than the bloody ordeal of screams and confusion that real soldiers knew it was. There was no telling men like Marcus that

they were lucky to be stuck on the cross-roads of war, watching as the 'real' soldiers went by from his position high on the wall, because men like Marcus didn't realise how many of those men weren't coming back.

The idle day dream of the inexperienced soldier was interrupted by the whistling of Quintus Claudius Flavillus, his fellow watchman for the night. Quintus, unlike Marcus, didn't dream of fighting. He dreamt of owning a vineyard, several bottles of wine and dying at a ripe old age in his bed – preferably in that order.

"Anything happenin'?" asked Quintus with the assuredness of a man who knew that there was, in fact, nothing happening.

"No," muttered Marcus bitterly. He stayed firmly at attention, keeping his gaze fixed on the empty fields before him. The muffled sound of laughter and drinking came from the glow of the tiny settlement that had sprung up around the military

outpost behind him. He didn't envy them... much.

"That's alright then," Quintus grinned as he sidled up to Marcus and leant against a thick wooden beam, his armour clanking as he did so.

"Aren't you on duty?"

"Yep."

Had this been several centuries later, a tiny cigarette would have appeared from nowhere. As it was Quintus still managed to annoy his companion just as much as if he had blown foul-smelling smoke in his face.

"If the Commander saw you like that -" Marcus started.

"He ain't gonna though, he's in't baths with, what's her face? Petillia."

"That is an unwarranted accusation against a man of his station."

"No it ain't, I seen 'em. Filthy old sod, you can bet Licinia don't know either. And before you get all high 'n mighty, they all do it. Just 'cause he's a man

o' breeding don't mean he's adverse to a bit of neither."

"You're depraved."

"Thank you very much," Quintus shot him the kind of smug grin that made Marcus wonder how any kind of man like that could call himself a Roman. A decent Roman should be honourable, courageous, and respectful of the Gods, thought Marcus. That was what his father had taught him. All Quintus's father had taught him was how to covert an oxen without getting caught.

"Reckon we'll get to go home soon?" Quintus asked. Marcus glared. "What? Just tryin' to make conversation."

"We can't think of home, our duty is here. The war continues in the North, they need us here to ensure that contact with the Empire remains intact."

"A simple 'no' would've done. Gods, don't you ever wanna be anywhere else? Be somethin' else than this."

For the first time Marcus turned away from his post to look at the small man at his side. "No."

"Now you're simple, c'mon, there must be somethin'. You can't be happy standing out in the rain all day."

"I never said that I was," Marcus answered gruffly. "For your information, I hope to one day be one of those who walk through here to go on to battle. It'd be glorious. Right."

"It'd be bloody stupid, never catch me doin' that. Die fightin' a bunch of screaming nutters, no thank you."

"It is the only way to die," Marcus insisted, but Qunitus was no longer looking at him but past him. His slightly pudgy face had gone white, his jaw slack and his eyes were bulging.

"Be careful what you wish for."

Chris King

From The Registers

Baptism



St Michael's	2 nd July 2017	Dylan Dennis Andrew Clayton	3 mths
St Michael's	2 nd July 2017	Alice Rose Peck	9 mths
St Michael's	2 nd July 2017	Summer Rose Wiggins	11 mths

Wedding



--	--	--

At Rest



St Michael's	26 th June 2017	Rona May Martin	92
St Michael's	29 th June 2017	Rose Mary Wisdom	80
St Michael's	6 th July 2017	Lilian Joan Hulbert	91

Bible Readings

Sunday 6th August
Transfiguration of Our Lord
[Gold / White]

Daniel 7.9-10, 13-14
Luke 9.28-36

Sunday 13th August
9th Sunday after Trinity
[Green]

1 Kings 19.9-18
Matthew 14.22-33

Sunday 20th August
10th Sunday after Trinity
[Green]

Isaiah 56.1,6-8
Matthew 15.[10-20]21-28

Sunday 27th August
11th Sunday after Trinity
[Green]

Isaiah 51.1-6
Matthew 16.13-20

Sunday 27th August
11th Sunday after Trinity
EVENSONG

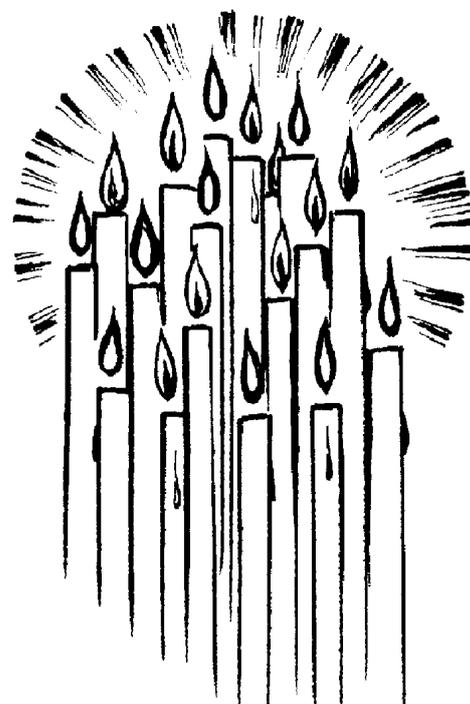
[Green]
2 Kings 6.8-23
Acts 17.15-end

Sunday 3rd September
12th Sunday after Trinity
[Green]

Jeremiah 15.15-21
Matthew 16.21-end

Sunday 10th September
13th Sunday after Trinity
[Green]

Ezekiel 33.7-11
Matthew 18.15-20



St Michael's Rota – August 2017

Sunday 8.00 am St Michael's	6 August	13 August	20 August	27 August
Sidesperson	Sandy Baker	Martin Dewes	Brian Smith	Ron Lewis

Sunday 10.00 am St Michael's	6 August	13 August Family Praise	20 August	27 August
Welcomers	Mary and Robert McAllester Jones	Margaret Goodwin	Brenda Liptrot	Anne Lingwood
Sidespersons	Caroline and Ted Green	Pat Toplis David Bull	Barbara Homewood Ray Allen	Judy and Mike Godfrey
Reader	Elizabeth Salt		Brenda Liptrot	Mike Godfrey
Servers	Elizabeth Allen Elizabeth Salt		Kay Martin David Shiel	Maggie Easton Phil Clayton
Communion Assistant	Elizabeth Allen		Kay Martin	Maggie Easton
Intercessor	Ted Green		Trevor James	Phil Clayton
Coffee	Lynn and David Edge	Alison Anketell Judy Godfrey	June Frayn Betty Lyne	Elizabeth Allen Trish Jones
Junior praise				
Healing				Sheila Vaughan David Easton
Transport	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA
Flowers	Diana Baker	Lyn Shiel	Lyn Shiel	Brenda Liptrot

Sunday 12.30 pm St Michael's	6 August Baptism	Reader	Intercessor	Server
		June Frayn	Caroline Green	Elizabeth Salt

Sunday 6.00 pm St Michael's	6 August No service	13 August Communion	20 August No service	27 August Evensong
Sidesperson		Margaret Frean		David Shiel
Reader		Ray Allen		Lyn Shiel
Server/ Communion assistant		Ray Allen		

Mary Mother of Jesus

1.) What was the occupation of Mary's husband Joseph?

- carpenter
- fisherman
- tent maker
- tailor

2.) Which tribe of Israel did Joseph belong to?

- Levi
- Ephraim
- Judah
- Reuben

3.) What was the name of the angel who appeared to Mary?

- Michael
- Hosea
- Malachi
- Gabriel

4.) And Mary said, My soul doth magnify the Lord, And my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour, for:

- surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed.
- He hath regarded the low estate of his handmaiden.
- He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy.
- He has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich

away empty.

5.) What did Mary do right after the angel appeared to her?

- visited Elisabeth.
- married Joseph.
- went to Bethlehem.
- went to Jerusalem.

6.) What happened when Elisabeth heard Mary's greeting?

- The child she was carrying leapt in her womb.
 - Elisabeth sang a song of greeting.
 - The child she was carrying died.
 - Elisabeth was very distressed and left the house.
-

7.) How long did Mary stay with Elisabeth?

- 1 week
- 3 months
- 6 months
- 9 months

8.) Why did Mary and Joseph go to Bethlehem?

- To pick up supplies for the winter.
- To visit the temple to annoint Jesus.
- To escape from King Herod.
- To be registered in the census and be taxed.

9.) What was the feast that Mary and Joseph went to Jerusalem for each year?

- Passover
- Purim
- Feast of Tabernacles
- Festival of Booths

10.) What did Mary tell the servants to do when Jesus turned the water into wine?

- Whatever the headwaiter told them to.
- Whatever Jesus told them to.
- Get only new jars.
- Get the jars and fill them with water.

11.) Joseph married Mary, but he did not have a sexual relationship with her...

- ever.
- until after Jesus was born.
- until after Jesus was dedicated at the temple.
- until after Jesus was twelve years old.

12.) When the angel spoke to Mary, he said, Hail, thou that art highly favoured, the Lord is with thee and...

- blessed art thou among women.
 - whomever you shall bless shall be blessed.
 - your cousin Elisabeth is even now with child.
 - from henceforth all generations shall worship you.
-

JULY SAINTS ANAGRAMS ANSWERS

SEJAM = St. James

MATHSO= St. Thomas

WISHTIN= St. Swithin

INCETBED= St. Benedict

OCRAVINE= St. Veronica

RELHIE= St. Helier

HAYONTN= St. Anthony

QUAILA= St. Aquila

CRISPA= St. Prisca

THOCPRIERSH= St. Christopher

LICHFIELD WILDLIFE GROUP

Event: Lichfield Wildlife Group and the S.E. Staffordshire Bat Group will be holding a **bat walk**

On: Saturday 26th August at 8:00pm

At, Fisherwick Lake, Fisherwick Wood Lane,
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(Programme Secretary, Lichfield Wildlife Group)

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And finally:

Happiness resides not in possessions and not in gold; happiness dwells in the soul.

Democritus (c450BC)



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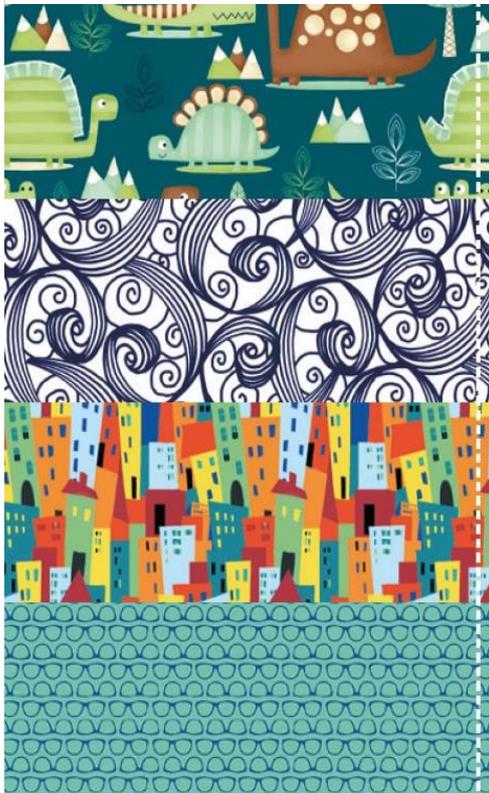
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<p style="text-align: center;">St Michael's Church</p> <p>Verger: <i>Lynn Rock 252634 or 07765 312411</i></p> <p>Sacristan and Head Server: <i>Maggie Easton 255308</i></p> <p>Organist and Choirmaster: <i>Peter Hawksworth 251938 or 07771 986538</i></p> <p>Music Group: <i>Richard Brooks 07918 906 350</i></p> <p>Transport Rota: <i>Ron Lewis 317448</i></p> <p>Pastoral Care: <i>Peter Salt 250723</i></p> <p>Flowers: <i>Diana Baker 01543 416232</i></p> <p>Safeguarding: <i>Maureen Brand 264880</i></p> <p>Junior Praise: <i>Viv Oliver 258054</i></p> <p>Bellringers: <i>Gillian Eastwood 480017,</i> Thursdays, 7:30pm to 8:55pm. gillieastwood@gmail.com</p> <p>Mothers Union: <i>Caroline Green 262342</i></p> <p>PAWS: <i>Lesley Allen 251654 or Kath Bird 253306</i></p> <p>Social Team: <i>Contact via the office 262211</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">St John's Church, Wall</p> <p>Verger: Hilary Barker 480220</p> <p>Pastoral Care: Revd. Denise Youngs 672646</p> <p>Safeguarding: Maureen Brand 264880</p> <p>Magazine Distributer: Eileen Carson 254107</p>
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