

Parish Bulletin

July 2018

My name is Wendy May Jacobs (known as 'Wendy May' to my friends) and I am so looking forward to joining Holy Trinity with St Columba as your new curate. I am moving to Fareham in July, along with my husband Murray and three tall children-Peter 19, Judith 17 & Rory 14. I begin my curacy in September, which is a huge and exciting change for us all.



A few short words about me: I was born and bred in Dublin. In common with many Irish people of my age I became an economic migrant and lived and worked abroad in a variety of different places, including London, New York, Berlin, Hawaii, Auckland. I found myself in Portsmouth 25 years ago (for love of my husband) and I have grown to consider it my home, although my links with Ireland are still strong and I need to get back there at least a couple of times a year. For the last 12 years I have worked in libraries: as prison librarian at HMP Kingston (now closed), and since then at the University of Portsmouth.

My call to ordained ministry came out of the blue at a Candlemas Service 5 years ago. So much has happened since then, and I feel tremendously joyful and privileged to have been ordained Deacon on 30th June. Variety is the spice of life, and I am excited by the special gifts that the Church of England has to offer to the church as a whole, as we join with other Christians to seek to be a sign of God's love for all. I look forward to being part of your community, to getting to know you all, and to being allowed to serve and be served according to the gifts God has given us. See you in September! Enjoy the summer before then!

PCC Meeting on 1st May 2018



This being the first meeting since the Annual Parochial Church Meeting in April, the following officers were confirmed to particular posts for 2018/19 :-

- PCC Secretary: Daphne Armstrong
- PCC Vice Chair: Church warden Philip Dickinson
- Health and Safety Officers:
Mike Craft (Holy Trinity) &
Jim Palmer (St Columba)
- Safeguarding Representatives:
Allison Sturt (St C) &
Alan Tottle (HT) - subject to joining Electoral Roll, completing DBS check and training. Sheila Clark to be Safeguarding Officer for Parish pending these.
- Electoral Roll Officer: Clive Ellam
- John Holliday is newly-created role of Fabric Officer for HT.
- Standing Committee: The Rector, Churchwardens, Treasurer, PCC Secretary & Jim Palmer (former churchwarden & Data Protection Officer).

FINANCES

- Expenditure is currently less than predicted due to clergy vacancy & the anticipated maintenance work has not yet commenced.
- Income is down with very few funerals & weddings.
- There are encouraging signs that pledged giving is increasing following stewardship campaign.



GENERAL DATA PROTECTION REGULATION (GDPR):



Jim Palmer has done an inordinate amount of work to allow our parish to be GDPR-compliant. He provided to the PCC a thorough analysis & explanation of any risk of GDPR breaches in our current systems & procedures.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- It was agreed that we should look into the possibility of each church having its own Premises Licence for serving alcohol, with the PCC taking legal responsibility.
- A Christians Together in Fareham initiative, led by Bruce Deans (St Johns) called Fareham Community Money Advice Centre was discussed. It will require commitments to fund the set-up & ongoing costs. The PCC were asked to consider supporting this proposal.



The proposed facility would be based at St Johns Church hall, which would make it particularly accessible for local residents south of the A27. Volunteers would need training for Supervision and

Advisor roles. Some concern was expressed regarding levels of training and how holistic the service could be (a PCC member with Citizens Advice experience explained problems of debt cannot be successfully approached in isolation). The prayerful approach of the Centre that is envisaged was welcomed. The PCC proposed seeking clarifying details from Rev Bruce Dean before deciding what financial backing to provide later in 2018.

Holy Trinity Church Council (HTCC) Meeting 1st May

- Damp in chancel: a wall-meter being used to measure drying process, prior to redecoration.
- We have been advised by the electrician that the damaged socket covers on unused sockets in the Parish Hall should be removed as they are dangerous.
- Communication across parish and with wider community discussed. New Communication Group to meet. Meanwhile Magazine to be 'rested'. Bulletin continuing. Online presence & paper communication to be reviewed
- 'Welcome' to be developed by new team, following Diocesan course "Everybody Welcome". Need to rethink offer of worship across the week, to all ages, of high calibre on all occasions. Then we can be confident in inviting friends & family to come along at any time.



St Columba Church Council (StCCC) Meeting 1st May

- Recruitment of combined Parish Mission Priest with Diocesan Pioneer Development role progressing, and interviews take place on 28th June.
- Jim Palmer & Philip Dickinson to discuss how to share-out Churchwarden duties during 2018/19.



- Area of church previously allocated to choir seating to be dedicated to a prayer space.
- "Who Let The Dads Out" event 14th July.

Royal British Legion (RBL)

“Silent Soldier 1914-1918”

Fareham Borough Council and RBL (Hants & IOW) are marking this defining centenary commemoration by placing a commemoration stone in the pedestrian area of West Street during Autumn half-term. Local residents will have an opportunity to take a part in this ceremony.

In addition, Silent Soldier sculptures will be erected, in five locations across the Borough that have a connection to World War I.



“**Commemorate, Educate and Heal**” are the three aims of the Royal British Legion charity.

Commemorate those who died in the First World War.

Educate all generations, particularly today’s younger generation, born nearly 100 years after the outbreak of WW1, to understand what led to the deaths of 888,246 British and Commonwealth service personnel.

Heal today’s veterans who are suffering from the mental and physical wounds of their service.

UPDATE FROM SALLY DEWBERRY

Open The Book

These assemblies at St Columba Academy continue to run well with the children taking an increasing role. We are also pleased to say that we now have a 'stand-in' on the team. However, if there is anyone else interested in helping out in bringing Bible stories alive we will be pleased to hear from you.

Mock Wedding Event

On 22nd May, Reception class and the Pandas class had a



wedding event. Before the wedding the children made posies of flowers and wedding cards. We then had a singing practise before the 'mock wedding' conducted by Rev. Lorraine Snape. The children iced and decorated cakes, before enjoying a 'wedding feast' of cakes and drinks. It all went really well.

Uniformed Organizations

The Brownies at St Columba Hall invited me to do a post Easter event with them. I talked about the Resurrection and how His disciples and Mary reacted to Jesus's appearance to them. We talked about how our faces show different expressions. We then had a painting session with the children doing portraits of their friends.

Thank you to everyone that supported this event.



Update on Diocesan Pioneer Development Officer and Parish Mission Priest Role.

We had one candidate for this role and a good discernment process with interview over 2 days on 27/28 June. Whilst there was much that would have worked, sadly the 'fit' wasn't quite right for both roles and we were unable to make an appointment. Thank you for your support and prayers. We intend to resume the search for another candidate in early September.

Events for your Diary!

Real Wedding of Bob Turner and Debbie Le Fèvre: Thursday 16th August 2.30pm at Holy Trinity

We're delighted that Bob and Debbie are 'tying the knot' next month. Debbie is our link with families and children; she master-minds all Messy Church events (assisted by Bob and the team). So Debbie and Bob are making this a Messy Wedding! None of us knows quite what that'll be like but we'll have lots of fun celebrating with them and seeing them get married.

Always ready to rise to the challenge, Debbie is organising a Messy Church event the previous day. If you can lend a hand, do get in touch with the office or Debbie. The theme, as you may guess, is weddings! The children and parents will get involved in making decorations for the church service the following day. Lots of our Messy Church families are coming – including Revd Garry Roberts, Nicky, Caitlin, Joshua and Meghan. Everyone is welcome!



Sunday 19th August 12.30pm – Parish Picnic at Manor Farm Country Park

After the success of last year's Parish Picnic, we've decided to try it again! Bring yourselves and a picnic and we'll bring some open-air activities for anyone who wants to join in.

Park in the Barnfield pay-and-display on the right at you drive in. We'll be in the field alongside. Cost of parking is £5 for the afternoon. If the weather is wet (!) we'll decide on the day what we'll do and announce in both our churches.

Goodbye and ... hello!

Last month we said a sad farewell to **Nikki Ellis**, who had our parish Administrative Assistant for 4 years. Our farewell gift to Nikki was a year's subscription to National Trust. A huge thank you to Nikki for her hard work and wish her all the best.

Hello to our new Administrative Assistant, **Jackie Pacey**, who joins us on Monday 16th July. Jackie worked for many years in adult support education at St Vincent College so is used to a busy and varied office. She looks forward to getting to know us and we her.

Finally, please note: **important clarification** about those named for **prayers on the News Sheet**: recently we've been less clear about distinguishing between those with 'short-term' and on-going' prayer needs. We will of course keep praying for people who have long term needs and will list them once a month to help us keep them in mind.



The shorter prayer needs (eg recovering from operation, sickness etc) will be named weekly for approximately 4 weeks. We know that God answers our prayers – sometimes immediately but other times we have to wait. We also know that people with long-term needs very much appreciate our prayers too. We hope to give more feedback to how people are progressing also as that is encouraging for our prayers too.