

# The Parish of Christchurch



*The Priory Church of the Holy Trinity, Christchurch*  
*St George, Jumpers • St John at Purewell*

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Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> August 2021.

Dear Friends

On Thursday I had the enormous privilege of Officiating at the Wedding of Patrick and Ruth at the Priory. It was a very special service for all of us who were present and the atmosphere provided by family and friends will I am sure remain with the happy, and the now married couple, for many years to come. Like many others who had made firm plans to marry last year, Patrick and Ruth were forced to postpone their big day and I can only imagine the pain and disappointment that this must have caused them. St Paul reminded the Church in Corinth that three qualities abide in all good and healthy and fulfilling lives, "Faith and Hope and Love." I feel fairly certain that Patrick and Ruth have these three in abundance, and that they will have been the strength that had sustained them in their relationship, they were certainly present yesterday afternoon for all to see in their hearts and their smiles.

We have all had different pressures and I suspect, disappointments to deal with during the pandemic. We have coped better on some days than on others. We have given ourselves something to look forward to in the future, and hopefully, faith and hope and love combined have been the central pillars of our own lives during this time and will continue to be so as we continue to emerge cautiously from restrictions. To aid you in this, and hopefully to show that we all do have many things to look forward to, below I have compiled a list of wonderful events within the parish that are "Coming Soon!"

## **Dates for your Diaries.**

### **Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> August.**

We have a visiting choir, **St Mary's Singers** with us for Choral Evensong at 5pm on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> and then for the Sunday Eucharist at 10.00am and Choral Evensong at 6.30pm on the 15<sup>th</sup> August.

### **Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> August.**

The volunteers from our Cloister's Café have arranged a **coffee morning in aid of McMillan Cancer Care** to be held in Priory House and on Priory House lawn on Saturday morning 21<sup>st</sup> August. Do please come and support this. There is a suggested donation of £3.50 and whatever you decide to give, this can be gift aided using the yellow envelopes which will be available in the café. If you have not had the chance to see and to use the new tables and chairs on the monastic lawn, this could be just the opportunity you have been waiting for.

### **Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> August.**

**Live Streaming of the Priory Sunday 10.00am Eucharist will resume.**

## **Friday 27<sup>th</sup> August**

Simon Earl has arranged for an additional **concert to be held in the Priory given by the Ealing Youth Orchestra**. Friday 27<sup>th</sup> Aug at 7.30. Entry will be free, but there will be a retiring collection. Program includes Dvorak - New World Symphony, Rossini - William Tell Overture, Holst - A Perfect Fool. Simon adds this: "*Highly recommended!*"

## **Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> August.**

Canon Charles has invited our former Archdeacon of Bournemouth, The **Venerable Dr Peter Rouch** to preach at the Priory Eucharist at 10.00am on Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> August.

## **Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> September.**

**The Priory Choir return from their summer break.** The Gentlemen of the choir will sing at the 10.00am Eucharist and the whole choir will be with us for Choral Evensong at 6.30pm. After the Service we will be making a presentation to Geoffrey Morgan. (Please see the Vicar's letter dated 1<sup>st</sup> August on the website.)

## **Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> August**

Our Director of Music Simon Earl is launching the "**Priory Consort**" choir. A flier advertising this from Simon is attached with this letter. This new choir will support and existing choirs and will sing at Services in the Priory on six Sundays each year. This is open to everyone and no experience is necessary. The launch will be between 2.00 and 3.30pm on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> September. As the flier says, "Come along and have a go!"

## **Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> September**

Our good friends, The **Reverend Jonathan Evans and Alice Evans** will be with us for Choral Evensong and Jonathan will be preaching at that Service. Following this, there will be a reception giving us all the chance to say an enormous thank you to them both for all that they did for us all whilst they were with us in Christchurch.

## **Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> October**

Following on from the above, Jonathan is to be Inducted as Rector of Bruton, Batcombe, Brewham, Pitcombe and Shepton Montague at a Service to be held in the **Parish Church in Bruton at 3pm on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> October**. We are all invited and the good folk of his new benefice will be providing refreshments after the Service. In the not too distant future we will be asking for numbers of those wishing to attend so we can make the necessary travel arrangements and to allow Jonathan and Alice's new friends to know how many of us they have to cater for. They know that we have good appetites!

So here are a few of the events that we all have to look forward too. There will be many more and perhaps Canon Charles will add to this in his letter on 29<sup>th</sup> August.

## **Geoffrey Morgan.**

Geoffrey has asked me to say how humbled he felt to read Canon Charles' words about him in the Pastoral Letter of 1<sup>st</sup> August. He has also asked me to clarify the situation moving forward. On 31<sup>st</sup> August, Geoffrey will cease to be a salaried member of staff within the Parish of Christchurch. He is however not retiring or moving away or joining another parish. He will continue to play the Priory organ for some Services and Concerts, but not as frequently as he currently does. The position of "Organist Emeritus" reflects this change of role and status. The collection which is being taken for him is not strictly speaking therefore a leaving present, but rather a chance for us all to say thank you to Geoffrey for his nineteen years loyal service as the Priory Organist.

"And now Faith and Hope and Love abide, and the greatest of these is Love."

With my love and my prayers.

Richard.