



The Seeker

October

2010

**The church magazine
for St Mary the Virgin,
Sixpenny Handley with
Gussage St Andrew
and St Rumbold's,
Pentridge**

Who's who?

Vicar

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The Vicarage,
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Curates

Rev Paul Skinner
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Rev Dr Michael Foster
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Churchwardens

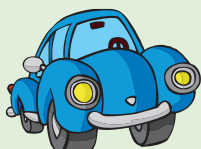
*St Mary's with
Gussage St Andrew*
Carole Wyatt 552372
St Rumbold's, Pentridge
Jane King 552231
Mary Ferguson 552222

Licenced Lay Minister

John Cullingford 516453

Lay Pastorial Assistants

Ted Cox 552801
Margaret Durrant 552608
Maureen Lockyer 552492
Jean Mayne 552692
David Salmons 552721
Carole Wyatt 552572



**Need a
lift to
Church?**

Please ring Paul Skinner on
01725 552785 and we should
be able to arrange transport.

Electrical work to begin at Gussage St Andrew's

Whilst we draw breath at St Mary's, the hard work continues at St Andrew's Chapel.

The paperwork and funding for the electrical work is falling into place and quotes for the work have been approved by the PCC. Work is expected to start by the end of the year which will involve rewiring the chapel and replacing the heating and lighting systems. The aim is to protect the delicate mediaeval wall paintings and keep the congregation warm when needed! The new lighting will be easier to use and will provide safer levels of light where needed.

50K

THE CHALLENGE

Join us in thanksgiving Harvest Festival



At this time of year we are particularly aware of the beauty and abundance of the world around us. Come along to our Harvest Festivals at;

- *St Mary's on Sunday 3rd October at 11am, followed by lunch*
- *St Rumbold's on Sunday 17th October followed by cheese and cider*

Looking Outward

Helping others is what we do as a Church and as Christians. Many people and groups within the Church give very generously.

In October, St Mary's as a Church will give £200 to The Mission to Seafarers (www.missiontoseafarers.org). This is a missionary society within the Anglican Church caring for the spiritual and practical welfare of seafarers regardless of nationality or faith. Through its network of chaplains, staff and volunteers in 230 ports, they visit ships, offering a welcome and whatever help may be needed. In over 100 ports they run centres where (often desperate) seafarers can get local information, find help and share worship and contact home.

Then in November we shall give to The Royal British Legion (www.britishlegion.org.uk) which provides financial, social and economic support for millions of people who have served or are currently serving in the armed forces, and their dependants.

Christmas Fayre



Will be held in the Village Hall,
Sixpenny Handley on
Saturday November 13th

All the traditional Christmas stalls,
foods, crafts, plants, decorations
and much, much more! If you
would like to help, please contact
Bobbie Carter or Jean Mayne



**Band of the
Royal Signals
at St Mary's Church**

Friday 8th October

Come and hear popular
top quality music from this
world-class military band

www.handleychurch.org.uk



Any Pentridge and Woodyates news for The Seeker to Maureen Swan on 01725 552561

Any other news to the Vicarage, please.

Call for Readers

If anyone is interested in doing a readings in a service please contact Mel or the churchwardens. After a recent PCC meeting it was agreed that we would try to tithe our giving (i.e. give a tenth of our income to charity). If anyone has a particular charity, local, national or international they would like the church to support please contact Mel or the churchwardens.



A full colour version of The Seeker can be downloaded from our website!

Just a minute...

Don't forget that Annual Reports and minutes of PCC meetings (St Mary's) can be downloaded from our website. These can be found in the Archive section.

Dear Friends



It takes all sorts to make a world.

I'm sure many of us have enjoyed the three 'Toy Story' films over the years. One of my favourite characters in the stories is Mr Potato Head. He is not the happiest character, and life is not easy for Mr Potato Head. Bits keep falling off, which can make doing things difficult. But things do generally work out, with a little help from his friends. And Mr Potato Head set me thinking about 'potaters'...

Some people never seem motivated to get on and actually do things. They are just content to watch while others do all the work. They are called 'Spec Taters'. Some people never do anything to help either, but are gifted at talking a great deal. They are called 'Comment Taters'.

Some people are very bossy and like to tell others what to do, but don't want to soil their own hands by doing it themselves. They are called 'Dick Taters'. Some people are always looking to cause problems by getting others to agree with negative things. It is always too hot or too cold, too sour or too sweet. They are called 'Agie Taters'.

There are those who say they will help, but somehow just never get around to it. There is always a very good reason, but it never happens. They are called 'Hezzie Taters'. And some people can put up a good front and pretend to be someone they are not. They are called 'Immy Taters'.



Then there are those who love others and do what they say they will. They are always prepared to stop whatever they are doing and lend a helping hand. They are the ones who bring real sunshine into the lives of others. They are called 'Sweet Po Taters'. What sort of potato are you?

At this time of year we celebrate harvest and all the good things that God gives us, including sweet potatoes. Let us also celebrate the people God brings into our lives – people who bring sunshine into our lives. People we see every day, occasionally, or no longer.

The nights are rapidly drawing in now and the clocks will change soon. In November we remember some of the darker times of our lives. On Tuesday 7th November we have our All Souls service at St Mary's for anyone who has been bereaved or wishes to remember someone who has died. Then on Sunday

14th November the whole community comes together at the War Memorial in Sixpenny Handley as we remember those who have suffered in war.

These are sad times. But remember that darkness does not last forever. After the winter comes the spring. After night comes the dawn. The trees may be bare, but that shows their beauty, and even in the blackest hour it is never completely dark. And we shall soon be thinking about Christmas when we remember the Light of the World coming to live with us, and looking forward to when he comes to be with us again.

So this harvest time, don't be a potato head. In the eyes of God you are a King Edward or a Jersey Royal. Be a Sweet Po Tater and thank the special people in your life. And thank God for all the good things he brings. Remember, thank and celebrate!

Your Friend and Vicar, Mel



3KC

King of Kings Kids' Club
Saturday 4th December

10am–12.30pm (arrive from 9.45am) St Mary's

A chance to have some fun, play games and make stuff as we look forward to Christmas. All children are welcome – but under-fives please bring an adult. Book now – Phone Maureen on 01725 552492



A little girl was learning the Lord's Prayer. For several evenings at bedtime, she would repeat after her mother the lines one by one. Finally, she decided to say the whole thing by herself. Her mother listened with pride as she carefully spoke each word, right up to the end: "Lead us not into temptation," she prayed, "but deliver us some e-mail. Amen."

If you read the Lord's Prayer carefully, it is not an easy prayer to say and really mean. It makes demands of us, and reminds us that prayer is not just about asking for the things we want – there are difficult things that we have to pray and do as well.

The Lord's Prayer stays the same, of course, but how we pray it has changed. I remember the fuss many years ago when 'which art in heaven' was changed to 'who art in heaven.' But the version we use is only a translation. It was originally written in Greek, and Jesus probably spoke it in Aramaic. So how about a really modern version?

I'm sure most of you have mobile phones, and if you do you probably send texts. And recently there was a competition to write the Lord's Prayer in text. Talk about modern translations! You may know that the longest a text message can be is 160 characters. The traditional version of the Lord's Prayer is 372 characters long, so you have to be creative and cut the prayer down by more than half without losing the meaning.

The winning entry was texted by Matthew Campbell, a student at York University; **dad@hvn,ur spshl.we want wot u want&urth2b like hvn.giv us food&4giv r sins lyk we 4giv uvaz.don't test us!save us!bcos we kno ur boss,ur tuf&ur cool 4 eva!ok?**

Another winner did it differently; Steve Seymour from Bristol texted; **r pa in evan, respect 2 u, may u rain ear as in evan. giv us r needs, 4giv rsin as we 4giv r nmes. resq us from the evil 1. 4 ur always the most xlent dude. yo**

You might like to try texting your own version, but special mention must also go to Andy Keulemans from Wrexham, who wrote the shortest version, only 48 characters; **Hi Fr, Lke 11:2-4 again pls. Cheers. c u in ch.**

The Lord's Prayer comes in the Bible as a direct answer to the request from the disciples for guidance on how to pray. And Jesus clearly intends prayer to be a living thing, a thing about relationship. That is why we can have the Lord's Prayer in text and we can pray wherever and whenever we want: Prayer is not about the exact words we use or how we stand or sit or kneel. It is about our relationship with God.

Jesus tells us to call God 'Our Father.' And it reminds us that we are part of a very big family indeed. If God is my father and your father, then we are part of the same family, part of a family that stretches over the whole world. The bottom line is that prayer is a conversation between the child and the father. The Perfect Father who delights in spending time in conversation with his children. Our Father.

And a conversation can be about the little things just as well as the big things in life. We can talk about whatever is in our heads or on our hearts. And this is a conversation that has a result. We pray 'Your kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.' That is a big prayer.

Let's pray together and make it happen. Amen.

PENTRIDGE & WOODYATES NEWS

Many new families have recently moved into Pentridge: John & Elizabeth Potter, Peter & Sandra Bates, Edwin & Jill Preston and Richard & Sophie Moore and family. We extend a very warm welcome to them all and wish them well in their new homes.

Will King & Susie Jackson were married in St Rumbold's on 14th August. They were joined by many friends and family for a very happy day. In the evening the wedding guests joined the Pentridge BBQ revelers and a great time was had by all. Many thanks to all those who helped in lots of ways to make the whole day enjoyable.

The churchyard received a highly commended award in the annual Living Churchyard competition. Many thanks to Judith Gillespie Smith for her hard work towards this and to all those who have helped during the working parties.

Mothers' Union

Christian care for families

At the start of September we thanked Jena Mayne for her hard work leading Handley's Mothers' Union with a presentation in church, and we welcome Sheila Bradley into the role. The Mothers' Union is a wonderful organisation that stretches over most of the world. We meet monthly and you don't have to be a mother to be part of it!

Guess where the Treasure is

Saturday, 30th October

10.00am to 12 noon

Come along for this special competition and Bring-and-Buy event at Sheila Bradley's, 46, High St. This is to raise money for the Mothers' Union Overseas Relief fund. Everyone is welcome.



Bible Study

As we hope you see from The Seeker, the Bible is THE Book! Read it and understand more in good company on a Thursday evening once a month. Phone Trish (01725 5523776) for details.

Midweek Holy Communion

Join us for a gentle service in St Mary's on the second Wednesday of the month at 11.30pm, followed by coffee.

Come and meet friends

Drop in! – to the Post Office Coffee Shop on the first Wednesday of each month through the winter from about 11 o'clock for a coffee and chat with the vicar.

The St Mary's Saturday drop in will take a break after October and will return next spring – look out for details.

Soup Lunches £2 – Good soup and company on the third Wednesday of the month in the Vicarage. Profits going to the Trussell Trust in Salisbury, helping people in desperate need here and abroad.

Fellowship Group – Meeting every Tuesday for chat, laughter and biscuits, some talk around serious themes and sometimes a supper! Phone Paul Skinner (552785).

Men's Group – A beer and a chat usually on the last Thursday of the month. Phone David Lockyer (552492)

Mothers' Union – Tea, company and a good talk, usually on the second Thursday afternoon of the month, from 2.45pm. Starting again in September, phone Sheila (553133) or Mary (552041) for details.

Join us during October and November 2010

SUNDAY SERVICES	St Mary the Virgin Sixpenny Handley	St Rumbold's Pentridge	Gussage St Andrew
	Informal service includes children's time		
	9.30am ☕	11.00am 6.00pm	11.15am 9.30am
Oct 3 rd	#	Harvest Evensong	HC
Oct 10 th	MP	Informal HC	HC
Oct 17 th	HC	Informal Evensong	MP
Oct 24 th	MP	Inf & HC HC	HC
Oct 31 st	HC	Informal SP	MP
Nov 7 th	HC	Informal Evensong	HC
Nov 14 th Remembrance	10.50	HC	#
Nov 21 st	HC	Informal Evensong	MP
Nov 28 th	MP	Inf & HC HC	HC

All Saints – Sunday October 31st

HC = Holy Communion

All Souls' Service

Tuesday 2nd November, 7.30pm at St Mary's

MP = Morning Prayer

SP = Songs of Praise

St Paul's Salisbury – Sunday Nov 7th

= No Service

will be leading the Informal Service

always a warm welcome...

October 2010

Updated weekly on our website

Sat 2nd	10.30am	Coffee Morning at Marion Tozer's, Woodcutts
	2.30pm	Drop in for tea and a chat at St Mary's church
Sun 3rd	11.00am	Sixpenny Handley Harvest Thanksgiving, followed by lunch in the church
Tues 5th	7.30pm	Fellowship Group, Supper at the Roebuck
Wed 6th	11.00am	Drop in to chat with the Vicar in the Post Office Coffee Shop
Fri 8th	7.30pm	Concert - Band of the Royal Signals, St Mary's
Tues 12th	7.30pm	Fellowship Group
Wed 13th	11.30am	Holy Communion, Sixpenny Handley
Sat 16th	2.30pm	Drop in for tea and a chat at St Mary's church
Sun 17th	11.15am	Pentridge Harvest Thanksgiving, followed by bread, cheese and cider
Tues 19th	7.30pm	Fellowship Group
Wed 20th	12.30pm	Soup Lunches at the Vicarage
Sat 23rd	2.30pm	Drop in for tea and a chat at St Mary's church
Tues 26th	7.30pm	Fellowship Group
Thurs 28th	7.30pm	Men's Group
Sat 30th	10.00am	MU Bring'n'Buy and Find-the-Treasure at 46 High St
	2.30pm	Drop in for tea and a chat at St Mary's church

November 2010

www.handleychurch.org.uk

Tues 2nd	7.30pm	All Souls' Service, Sixpenny Handley
Wed 3rd	11.00am	Drop in to chat with the Vicar in the Post Office Coffee Shop
	7.30pm	St Mary's PCC Meeting at the Vicarage
Tues 9th	7.30pm	Fellowship Group
Wed 10th	11.30am	Holy Communion, Sixpenny Handley
	7.30pm	Pentridge PCC meeting
Thurs 11th	2.45pm	Mothers' Union - Frances Mayne 'Legal Healthcheck'
Sat 13th	12.30pm	Sixpenny Handley Christmas Fayre, St Mary's & Vicarage
Sun 14th	10.50am	Remembrance Service, starting at the War Memorial
Tues 16th	7.30pm	Fellowship Group
Wed 17th	12.30pm	Soup Lunches at the Vicarage
Tues 23rd	7.30pm	Fellowship Group
Thurs 25th	7.30pm	Men's Group
Tues 30th	7.30pm	Fellowship Group